

# CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE PANEL

## MEETING ACTION NOTES

**27 January 2021 - Via Microsoft Teams**

**Attendees:** Cllr Ian Barnes (Chair), Cllr Mahym Bedekova, Cllr Catherine Chibah, Cllr Birsen Demirel, Dr Rachel Aldred (guest), Peter Alekkou, Rafe Bertram, Matt Bowmer, Sarah Cary, Ian Davis, Joanne Drew, Tilly Ford, Amanda Grosse, Richard Hillyard, Michelle Larche, Tinu Olowe, Harriet Potemkin, Claire Reilly, Jon Sharkey, Glenn Stewart, Doug Wilkinson. *Apologies noted for Mark Bradbury, Fay Hammond, Tinu Olowe and Tony Theodoulou.*

### Introductions

Cllr Barnes welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Dr Rachel Aldred from the University of Westminster.

### Low Traffic Neighbourhoods

Dr Aldred gave a presentation with the highlights being:

- Private motorised transport use has a higher mode share in outer London.
- The People and Places survey examines whether and how proximity to mini-Holland schemes is associated with changes to travel behaviour and attitudes.
- Over 25% of those surveyed in Enfield as part of the baseline would like to cycle.
- Across 3 waves of research (2016 to 2019), people living in mini-Holland core areas spent more than 40 minutes extra per week walking and cycling.
- Health economic benefit analysis suggests that the mini-Holland interventions up to 2019 could generate £724m in benefits compared to a circa £80m investment.
- Groups least likely to use motor vehicles are most likely to be harmed by them.
- Traffic has declined on major roads but increased significantly on minor roads.
- Research on Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) in Waltham Forest showed:
  - After 3 years, LTN residents did 115 minutes more walking and 20 minutes more cycling per week.
  - Evidence of reduced car use and / or ownership in an LTN.
  - Approximately 70% reduction in road traffic injury risk per trip.
  - No impact on fire response in LTN area.

There was a follow up question about the role of e-mobility and it was noted that it is still too early to determine whether e-scooters in particular, will move people from private vehicles or shift them from active and sustainable transport.

### Climate Action Plan Progress in 2020, Priorities and Work Programme for 2021

An overview was provided of the significant progress to date with delivery of the Climate Action Plan, although it was noted that more needs to be done if the Council is to meet its forecast carbon emissions trajectory.

It was noted that in 2021 there are a number of opportunities in respect of climate action, ranging from an international governmental conference (COP 26) in the UK in November, to developing local policies and strategies.

This was followed by a summary of the top priorities for the coming year:

- Continue to improve data and monitoring
- Embed climate action culture
- Engage with schools and develop retrofit pilot
- Funding for more council corporate site retrofit
- Develop housing retrofit programme
- Encourage active and sustainable travel
- Secure low carbon new development.

There were questions about some specific areas of work: tree planting, fleet replacement and energy use in buildings outside core operating hours. It was agreed that these would be looked into and updates provided at a future meeting.

On a specific query about school streets, it was noted that 14 have been introduced and one of these, St Monica's, has seen an 18% drop in car use.

### **Energy White Paper: Powering Our Low Carbon Future**

Building on the 10 Point Plan, the Energy White Paper sets out proposed Government policy and areas where further consultation is required, in respect of the UK's energy market. In terms of energy mix and capacity, the plan is for electricity generation to be doubled by 2050, with low carbon sources becoming the norm.

Alongside this will be interventions which support the decarbonisation of buildings and transport, whilst the end consumer will have access to a market which is affordable and fair.

A range of areas were highlighted which align with the priorities in the Climate Action Plan. These include increased housing retrofit, decarbonising heat sources, building low carbon homes and encouraging active and sustainable transport

### **Updates on recent progress**

- Retrofit London Programme – Update to be provided at next meeting.
- Schools – Workshop is being arranged to go through the draft climate action handbook with schools. Also looking at a building retrofit pilot.
- Suppliers – An initial survey of suppliers is being undertaken alongside the development of an ethical and sustainable procurement policy.

**Meeting forward plan** - Next meeting date and topic to be confirmed.

**AOB** - None.