

CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE PANEL

1st September 2021 – 5.30pm to 7pm

Location: Via Teams

Notes

Introductions

Cllr Barnes (Chair) introduced Cllr Anyanwu who is joining the group in place of Cllr Chibah, who was thanked for her contributions to the Task Force.

Retrofit London Housing Stock Analysis and Action Plan

Dominic Millen gave a presentation which covered:

- Background to the Retrofit London programme which is one of seven borough led green recovery and good growth areas of work. Enfield are jointly leading this particular programme with Waltham Forest.
- Work to date including analysis of all of London's housing stock and developing an action plan to deliver on the programme target of London's homes to be an average of EPC B or equivalent by 2030.
- The analysis of housing stock looked at two pathways, the average EPC B target and net zero by 2030, which aligns with the Mayor's aspiration.
- The housing stock analysis highlighted that the estimated cost across London for bringing homes up to an average of EPC B is £49bn, while for net zero it is around £98bn. The retrofit sector will need to grow significantly and many more people will need to be skilled up; around 110,000 to deliver an average of EPC B and 196,000 for net zero. Whilst challenging figures, they represent significant opportunities for investment and employment.
- The action plan which sets out principles, actions and activities.
- The principles which provide different routes to same destination
- What role local authorities could play including pump priming the retrofit market by investing in their own housing stock.

Following the presentation there were follow up points:

- The funding requirement is significant and will likely need to be a mix of public and private investment. It will be important to make the case to Govt. pre-COP and into the spending review.
- Given limited public funding, need to consider how to best utilise it, for example by targeting investment on low income households at risk of fuel poverty. Alongside this need to determine how to encourage owner-occupiers to invest in retrofit.

The next step is to get the Retrofit London Action Plan endorsed by housing portfolio leads. There will then be a launch event in October.

This will be alongside the development of an implementation plan and work to identify the best delivery approach for such a large programme of work.

Planning Requirements for Housing Retrofit

Andy Higham gave an overview of the current approach. Following this the main topic of discussion was whether this could be simplified to support more people to undertake housing retrofit measures.

It was noted:

- Next step is to pull together some guidance including a website page.
- Having examples of positive stories and best practice would be useful.
- Could be that the future planning balance has more weight for retrofit projects.

2020/21 Climate Action Plan Progress Report and Emissions Review

Dominic Millen gave an update on the Progress Report, including an overview of carbon emissions which for Council direct emissions had seen a 19% reduction and for borough-wide had fallen by 2%.

It was noted that these figures should be viewed in context:

- 2020/21 covered the Covid-19 pandemic so, depending on how much related behaviour changes are embedded, could mean there is a subsequent increase in emissions in 2021/22.
- The borough-wide figure is from 2018 so does not reflect more recent interventions, for example in respect of encouraging walking and cycling, which should have a positive impact on emissions. To address this there will be work to identify proxy indicators to measure more recent performance.

Updates

Communications

Lee Armitt gave an overview of the current media campaigns graphics and message. There was a suggestion that it would be beneficial to have topical messaging to avoid it becoming repetitive and some active content.

Local Area Energy Plan

Dominic Millen noted that funding had been secured from the GLA to support the development of a Local Area Energy Plan for London. This will look to forecast growth in demand as well as identify options for delivering additional sustainable energy generation capacity.

AOB

It was suggested that Councillors on the CCTF could be involved with the next schools climate action network meeting.