

involve

Camden Climate Panel: Session Six

**7th November
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01. About the Panel Session

This document outlines the key discussions, questions and themes that emerged from Session Six of Camden’s Climate Panel.

The Camden Council Citizens’ Panel on Climate met in-person on the 7th of November 2024 at 18.00-20.30, in the Greenwood Centre, Kentish Town. The conversation centred around the recommendations from the Camden Climate Assembly (2019) and looking at which remained relevant for the future Climate Action Plan.

This document captures the Citizen Panel feedback under the three categories of recommendations from the Citizens’ Assembly. The recommendations are captured below.

The Home	The Neighbourhood	The Council
1. Encourage low carbon dietary choices	6. Plant more trees and create more allotments	12. Establish a Climate Emergency scrutiny panel made up of experts and residents
2. Make all new homes carbon zero	7. Pilot a community energy heating scheme	13. Make all council properties fossil fuel free
3. Create more green space on residential streets	8. Install more segregated cycle lanes	14. Improve council communications and engagement on climate change
4. Fit solar panels on as many homes as possible	9. Promote and trial car free zones and days	15. Mobilise existing community groups to work on tackling the climate crisis
5. Campaign to make CO2 reduction fun	10. Enable electric transport with infrastructure and incentives	16. Green the council’s operations
	11. Developers to fund energy efficient retrofits of old buildings	17. Plant trees and retain public spaces

02. Themes relating from the Session

The Panel looked at the three categories of recommendations from the Camden Climate Assembly and considered which of them were:

1. Recommendations which are still relevant
2. Recommendations which are less relevant
3. Recommendations which need amending
4. New recommendations which they would make in that theme

Each of the recommendations has an associated number, as listed above. This is why some of the outputs below begin with a number, to indicate which recommendation it was responding to. Where a specific recommendation number is not given it can be inferred which recommendation(s) the comment refers to.

a. The Home

Recommendations which are still relevant

- 1 - Low carbon food - lobby for change of rules for schools as it's super high impact
 - health improves, reduces carbon, community growing
- 2 - Net-zero homes, carbon reduction, thermal comfort and lower bills
- 3 - Green spaces, yes!
- 4 - Solar panels on homes
 - question of who owns the freehold and if this would be a council obligation and the role of the energy company

Recommendations which are less relevant

- 5 - Make CO2 fun
 - make CO2 communications relatable as comms and engagement is important
 - a tricky thing to do

Recommendations which need amending

- 2 - Change the wording from net-zero - move to more relatable wording e.g. removing gas, affordability / access, fossil fuel free
- 4 - Solar panels - what about bungalows and conservation areas?
- Heating decarbonisation / efficiency

New recommendations which you would make

- Exemplary new homes with green roofs etc
- Affordability

- Build resilience of homes - heat and flooding
 - Help with solutions and communicate why that is important
- Upskilling in retrofit sector
- Long-term solutions - future proofing - human costs vs carbon
- Link corporate decarbonisation with retrofit
- Concreting over green space (negative)

b. The Neighbourhood

Recommendations which are still relevant

- Low Traffic Neighbourhoods
- Continue tree planting across the borough
- Electric transport infrastructure
- 10 - electric transport incentivise private investment in charging
- 11 - yes
- 3 - Green spaces, yes!
- 4 - Solar panels on homes
 - question of who owns the freehold and if this would be a council obligation and the role of the energy company

Recommendations which are less relevant

- None captured

Recommendations which need amending

- Allotment statutory issues need to be ironed out so more allotment spaces can be provided
- To protect green spaces
- Community growing spaces promoted
- Maintain current cycle lanes
- Encourage more green roofs, bus shelter, walls
- How to decarbonise heat?
- Communication regarding tree planting
- Make sure all estates [have] community energy schemes
- Data centre to generate energy - opportunity
- Develop more community energy options and pilots
- Car free zones - striking a balance - where does the diverted traffic go?
- More messy female trees

New recommendations which you would make

- Tree planting to include permeable tree pits
- Promote greening front of gardens

- Make walking / public transport / cycling safe
- Resilience - shade, cooling, cool centres
- School playgrounds open after hours
- Shops and offices? Businesses are in our neighbourhood
- Cycle lanes often flooded - need to have proper drainage

c. The Council

Recommendations which are still relevant

- Improve council comms and engagement on climate change
- Mobilise community groups to work once
- Green the council's operations
- Make all council properties fossil fuel free
- Continue tree planting across the borough
- Electric transport infrastructure
- 10 - electric transport incentivise private investment in charging
- 11 - yes
- 3 - Green spaces, yes!
- 4 - Solar panels on homes
 - question of who owns the freehold and if this would be a council obligation and the role of the energy company

Recommendations which are less relevant

- Climate scrutiny panel

Recommendations which need amending

- Maintain trees - plant trees and retain public spaces
 - expand these for council resilience
- 4 - health and biodiversity and public fountains
- 12 - climate panel
- Remove 'green' from council's operations
- Increase access to all residents
- 15 - education on which financial institutions we use e.g. do not use those who invest in fossil fuels

New recommendations which you would make

- Crisis communication
- Circular economy infrastructure big thinking
- Divestment from fossil fuels in all areas of the council
- Emergency response planning

- Work with schools and hospitals and universities (anchor institutions?) on education, communications and resilience
- Promote more re-use / swapping / lending etc e.g. ditch scheme where you can leave out any items for others to pick up
- Earth tac big businesses to fund community resilience
- More energy networking - heating cooling etc
- Mandatory climate literacy for camden employees
- Resilience planning and resident information
- Best practice library
- Admit when wrong, accept feedback

d. New categories / themes for the CAP and what the supporting recommendations would be

The Panel considered if they would add any further themes to the next CAP and what recommendations might be added to those. These are captured below.

Suggestions for themes

- Business
 - helping with solutions e.g. zipcar
 - rationalise deliveries
 - green deliveries
- Individual
- Systemic thinking
 - health
 - air quality
 - safety
- Connecting parts of the Council
- Legislation
- Finance
- Individual responsibility
- Schools - educating the next generation
- Affordability

Suggestions for recommendations to fit in new themes

- Procurements of goods at the council and in the home
- Education
- Crisis / emergency management