

Special E&R Scrutiny Committee meeting

Wednesday 17 March 2021

Feedback from break-out groups

Workstream priority: Sustainable and Affordable Energy

Actions to see and behaviours to change

Are we using waste heat from energy (burning waste)? Not in the borough directly.

Have we done an assessment of lowest hanging fruit to prioritise to get to Net Zero Carbon?

- Has been about reducing carbon in past, moving to eliminating carbon so a bit of a step-change in what we need to do. Some easy wins (cavity wall insulation) but also a number of big steps. Will need to have multiple actions on some buildings.

Quick wins – switching to renewables, not to buy gas boilers. If you were to switch a house to the latest efficiency high payback – could we partner with someone like Nationwide with a green mortgage scheme? Could link to selling your house, etc. Can create a feeling of a movement – help create a movement and change behaviours while creating practical tools to make that switch.

- The EcoFurb scheme could help with this, London-wide, ends this financial year but it's in the strategy to do more.

Heat pumps very good, are we doing anything to help residents switch to heat pumps? I would like to but not enough space; how could we make easier to switch?

Agreed, could we see how many could be switched over quickly to start rolling out?

Would be interested to see how the council can support local businesses to support the skills development to roll out things like heat pumps. Difficult to find reliable contractors.

Renewable energy tariffs – renewable electricity great but can we work with suppliers to get renewable/bio gas in the borough?

Finding partners as a leaseholder to replace my windows – I'd love to replace my draughty windows but the council is tied in to a contract with partners and I'd still have to pay for everyone's windows. Can we streamline this for leaseholders to take more responsibility for some things without legal changes to the lease, etc?

As a leaseholder, anything we want done in the building we are told it is so far in the future it seems crazy. If I can do something (boiler) that's good, but individual. Would be good to be able to come together as a group of people to make changes, would be more impactful.

Challenges to achieving those actions and behaviours

Need to be getting more information out there. How should we communicate to people? What channels should we use?

- Covid health champions network has been good – creates ambassadors and peer to peer networks. Take the same approach to energy efficiency?
- Have done with recycling champions so potential.

- Use the existing comms from council – council bills, tax, etc.
- Have a mix of comms with bite-sized messages.

Good idea to use existing networks. Need to use many layers to make sure that everyone gets the message.

Prioritise the actions and behaviours (if time)

Any other points