

COUNCIL MEETING – 13 JULY 2023

PETITION DEBATE

Motion to debate the petition:
Greener Grade II listed and conservation area homes

Motion to be moved by: Cllr Diarmaid Ward
Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance

This Council notes that:

- A petition was received at the Council meeting on 3 March 2023 which had over 2,000 signatures.
- Procedure Rule 19.1 of the Council’s Constitution provides that, where a petition has received at least 2,000 signatures, then a debate on the petition shall be held, for up to 15 minutes, at the following ordinary Council meeting. Councillors are invited to consider the petition and debate the points raised.

This Council resolves to:

- Continue to encourage residents to participate in local democracy by carefully considering the points raised in the petition and to undertake the debate in a spirit of openness and transparency.
- Note the petition.

The text of the petition is set out overleaf.

Petition received at the 3 March 2023 meeting of the Council

Greener Grade II listed and conservation area homes

We call on Islington Council quickly to change planning regulations to facilitate the sensitive installation of solar panels, heat pumps and double-glazing on grade 2 listed and conservation area homes to make them warmer in winter and more affordable to power for all residents.

Why is this important?

The UK has enshrined its objective of carbon neutrality in law. Now, the double whammy of soaring energy bills and Russia's use of gas as a weapon of economic warfare make the development of renewables and increasing energy efficiency more urgent than ever before.

Grade 2 listed and conservation area properties are numerous and among the most energy-inefficient in Islington, which aims to become a net zero borough by 2030. With residential buildings accounting for over a third of carbon emissions, planning regulations are preventing landlords, tenants and residents from radically reducing their energy bills and their carbon footprint.

Councils such as Kensington & Chelsea are adapting their planning rules to help.

Experts agree that London will not meet its climate targets if its many listed homes and conservation areas are left unchanged, as current planning regulations demand. It also means homes are less energy-secure and more expensive to heat than they need be.

2,167 signatures received.