

Amendment to Motion C

Calling on government to support local climate action

Proposed by Cllr Hinchcliffe

Seconded by Cllr Rossetti

This Council notes:

- Haringey Council has committed to being a net zero carbon borough by 2041.
- A survey from the Local Government Association (LGA) found that residents trust their council the most to address the climate emergency.
- Haringey Council is best placed to understand and act on unique local environmental issues and is best placed to work with residents to develop creative solutions.
- The government's Environment Bill is not sufficient to address the scale of the climate crisis, but Haringey Council has set ambitious local climate targets and implemented innovative emissions-reducing policies.
- ~~Through initiatives such as retrofitting homes, developing Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, decarbonising the council's fleet of vehicles, and all new council homes being built to the highest energy efficient standards, Haringey Council is making significant progress towards our net zero carbon goal.~~
- Though Haringey Council has made progress in some areas, such as decarbonising the council's fleet of vehicles, new council homes being built to the highest energy efficient standards, and beginning to develop Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, there is still a large amount of work to be done in areas such as active travel and improving the recycling rate.
- As of November 2021, Haringey only has 33 electric charging points per 100,000 people, compared with 180 in Richmond upon Thames, or 107 in Islington.
- That the draft Walking & Cycling Action Plan outlines funding for only 2 of 34 proposed cycle routes, 3 of 25 proposed LTNs, 1 of 8 proposed walking schemes and 26 of 50 proposed school streets.
- The 2021 Healthy Streets Scorecard noted that "Haringey has promised much over the last few years on active travel but there has been little sign of delivery".
- Polling has shown that the vast majority of people want to see schemes such as recycling collection for bulky goods and improved community green spaces implemented.
- With the support of national government, local authorities can create even greater economic, social, and environmental value from the local delivery of low carbon infrastructure and green jobs.
- With more funding and support from national government, Haringey could go further and faster in addressing the climate emergency.

This Council believes:

- Climate change is a social justice issue, and the poorest in society will suffer most if the council does not take action.
- That while central government should provide more funding for councils to take climate action, there is no excuse for not keeping pace with other nearby local authorities, who are far more advanced than Haringey on this issue.
- Pollution and poor air quality are the drivers of the health inequalities in the borough, and cabinet's priorities should reflect this.

This Council resolves:

- To request that the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Opposition write to the Prime Minister, requesting that government work closely with local authorities to identify and allocate the investment and support that will empower local authorities to address the climate emergency and deliver green infrastructure projects that will make a difference in local communities.
- To introduce Climate Impact Assessments (along the lines of Financial and Equalities Impact Assessments) on Cabinet Reports.
- To increase the average number of trees planted per year to over 300, to cover the number which are felled each year and start increasing the canopy cover.
- To begin investigating the possibility introducing a workplace parking levy.
- To ensure that all council homes approved to be built from this point forwards are net-zero carbon.
- To bring forward funding for all projects outlined in the draft Walking and Cycling Action Plan within the next five years, subject to consultation.
- To rapidly increase the speed of the rollout of electric vehicle charging points, doubling the number of charging points by the end of 2022.
- To urgently review how the council can increase its recycling rate, particularly for residents in flats, which has fallen in recent years, in order to meet the target of 45% of waste being recycled by 2025.
- To include emissions from any of Haringey's waste burned in incinerators as part of the calculations of the council's progress in achieving its net zero target.