

Chairman's Notes

Joint Salisbury City and Wiltshire Council Area Board 4th November 2019

Theme: Climate Change

Executive Summary

On the 4th November 2019 Wiltshire Council (WC) and Salisbury City Council (SCC) held their first joint Area Board themed around climate change. The event coincided with an SCC facilitated Eco Fair which attracted several local and national organisations involved with the environment generally.

The Area Board's (AB) brief was threefold: -

- 1) Listen to the views of residents and community groups on the priorities for both Councils to address climate change
- 2) Ask those attending what they could contribute as groups or individuals to these priorities
- 3) Start to compile a list of volunteers willing to help deliver agreed actions.

Approximately 130 people attended and through a round table discussion presented some 70 proposals reflecting those issues they deemed most important. The proposals were recorded by the AB and will be used to inform the development of WC and SCC environmental policies and to formulate a plan to focus the activities of those individuals who have volunteered their services

As a Salisbury based event, some proposals are Salisbury-specific, but many are also applicable county-wide.

This paper is intended as information only. It is expected that each Council will initiate its own course of action and that, where appropriate, WC as the primary authority will communicate the findings to central government as a clear indication of the priorities of the local population.

Table of Proposals

For clarity every proposal has been included. Where a similar proposal was made by several tables, the number of tables from which the proposal came has been identified to highlight the order of importance in the eyes of the contributors. Otherwise, proposals have been grouped under generic headings but in no order of priority.

Proposal	No. of Tables
Transport	
Encourage / improve walking and cycling	8
Pedestrianisation	5
Buses - Use park and ride	4
Buses - better routing / more frequent / accurate timing	3
Buses - more frequent, cheaper / subsidised / free	2
Buses - zero emissions	2
Vehicles not idling while stationary	3
Congestion Charge	
Ban HGV's from City Centre	
Car free days	
Information	
Promote energy saving	
Promote renewable energy	
Lobbying / strikes to keep awareness high / awareness posters	
Climate awareness signage	
Involve young people more	
Tree Planting / Rewilding	
Plant more trees	6
Manage green spaces better	2
Recycle / Repair	
Food waste recycling / community fridges	5
More Recycling bins – plastic / clothes	3
Water refill stations	
Open HRC longer	
Recycling bins in parks	
Promote "Salisbury Repair Café"	
Education	
Education - Schools	
Education - Change public attitude	
"Save energy, save money" Campaign	
Expand "Beat the Street"	
Procurement	
Reduce meat consumption	
Sustainably sourced wood	
Housing / Planning	
Solar panels / Insulation / Air Source heating as planning condition on all houses	2
More wind and solar farms to generate self-sufficient in renewable energy	
LED lights in all / council buildings	

Public Engagement

At the start and finish of the AB it was stressed to members of the public that it will not be possible for Councils to deliver on everything that had been suggested and that they as residents, either individually or through their community groups, would need to step up and play a part in taking some of their initiatives forward.

Since the AB meeting, some 20 individuals have made contact and expressed a willingness to become engaged and work is underway to identify potential projects with which they become involved and, crucially, of which they can take ownership.

Two examples of projects suggested to date are:

Food - Allotment holders who produce more than they can consume to be put in contact with a community fridge project rather than composting their surplus. A volunteer would be given an allotment patch, engage with the holders, collect the surplus and deliver to the community fridge.

Trees - Public to identify potential areas for tree planting, Councils fund the tree purchase, volunteers do the planting and take on the ongoing management, watering etc.

It is recognised there will be a level of detail to be addressed prior to commencement on some projects, and Councils will facilitate this as required. The expectation is that, once started, most projects will run with minimal or no Council oversight.

Next Steps

Recognise and increase public engagement through regular updates: at AB and City Council meetings, through press and social media, and by staging public events to highlight the work of volunteers and their projects.

Maintain and increase the volunteer base, generating more potential climate friendly projects.

Monitor the outcomes through presentations to the AB / SCC on those projects as they develop.

End

Sven Hocking
Chair – Salisbury Area Board