

Community Stakeholder Panel

Meeting note

Agenda: Monday 11 December 2023: 6.00pm - 7.30pm.

Location: Southwark Council Office, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH (with hybrid option)

1. Welcome from the Chair
2. Panel introductions
3. Southwark Green Finance
4. Streets for People: Walking, Cycling and Electric Vehicle Plans
5. Southwark Community Energy Fund
6. Southwark Climate Day
7. Forward plan
8. AOB

Attendees

<u>Organisation/Group</u>	<u>Role</u>
Southwark Council – Cllr James McAsh	Chair
Southwark Council – Tom Sharland	Panel member
Extinction Rebellion Southwark	Panel member
Southwark Law Centre	Panel member
SDCAS	Panel member

<u>Organisation/Group</u>	<u>Role</u>
London LGBTQ Centre	Panel member
Southwark Diocese	Panel member
Southwark Council – James Senior	Supporting officer
Southwark Council – Sarah Mene	Note taker
Southwark Council – Cllr Emily Hickson	Guest
Southwark Council – Tim Long	Guest

Apologies

- Southwark Cyclists
- Living Streets
- SDA Independent Living
- SGTO
- Southwark TUC

Notes

1. Welcome from the Chair

- Welcome from Cllr James McAsh, chair of the meeting.

2. Panel introductions

- Introductions from panel members present.

3. Southwark Green Finance

Project status: Early engagement

Desired outcome: Raise awareness and seek opportunities for collaborative development.

- Presentation on Southwark Green Finance and the launch of Community Municipal Investments (sometimes referred to as green bonds) delivered by Cllr Emily Hickson (Southwark Council).
- Noted that the investor return rate is dependent on the day that the CMI is launched and is determined by the market at the time. This is to ensure a saving is made on the public works loan board. It needs to be a good offering for the council as well as an attractive enough rate for investors.
- Noted that residents and businesses can also donate back their interest, which has been seen in CMIs at other councils.
- The council's aim is to maximise investment from inside the borough.
- Noted that most other councils have all met their respective targets. The council's overall target will be issued in tranches, towards a total of £6 million by 2030.
- Noted that the council wants to identify specific schemes for the money to go towards, and the work is currently being done to map out potential projects. In the first round there won't be public voting on projects, but this suggestion was noted and could be explored for future rounds. There is a desire for projects that are public facing.
- There is some flexibility between how long projects would run for between financial years. Typically, the window for a launch is for 3 months. Currently well aligned with financial years and Southwark Council will be signing the Green Bond Pledge, which commits it to report on ongoing projects every 6 months.
- Noted that investors can use these investments as part of an ISA allowance.
- **Action:** Southwark to circulate information materials to panel once they are ready.

4. Streets for People: Walking, Cycling and Electric Vehicle Plans

Item status: Live public consultation

Desired outcome: Seek feedback on plans and guidance on how we work together to engage residents on consultation.

- Presentation on Streets for People Walking, Cycling and Electric Vehicle Plans delivered by Tim Long (Southwark Council) and Tom Sharland (Southwark Council)
- Noted that the plans and the Streets for People Strategy sit outside of planning policy and are non-material considerations.
 - Panel member asked if there could be any opportunity to update planning policy to reflect these documents.
 - Noted that there could be an opportunity to incorporate it as part of a Climate Emergency supplementary planning document that is in the pipeline.

- Panel discussed fleet management interventions the council could implement that help to make the space safer for cyclists, both for its own fleet or for businesses. Noted that behaviour of drivers is often a problem.
 - Noted that the council aims to go further than most council's by producing a Freight Plan in late 2024. This policy is new to councils as it is always business-led.
 - Council encourages 'click and collect'. It is also pioneering a bookable loading bay where businesses can book in a slot. The use of e-cargo bikes for hire has been rolled out which have proved to be popular for businesses and residents.
 - Noted that the cost of e-cargo bikes compared to vans is often because e-cargo bike riders are often paid better quality wages, which is something the council wants to support.
- **Action:** Southwark Council to re-circulate consultation links for plans.

5. Southwark Community Energy Fund

Project status: Live project

Desired outcome: Raise awareness and seek opportunities for collaborative promotion.

- Presentation on Southwark Community Energy Fund delivered by Tom Buttrick (Southwark Council)
- Noted that the design of the fund and the four streams have been produced after working with community energy groups and listening to their advice and feedback.
- It was noted for panellists that support is available to help develop applications through council officers.
- For Stream D applications, where people may wish to create a new community energy group, officers can put them in contact with existing community energy groups that can also provide help.

6. Southwark Climate Day

Item status: Early engagement

Desired outcome: Provide an update and explore opportunities to work together on marketing and delivery.

- Update on Southwark Climate Day presented by James Senior (Southwark Council) including date, location and format.
- Panel were presented with some emerging ideas for workshops before discussing ideas for workshop providers, stalls and pop-ups for the day.

- **Action:** Southwark Council to use ideas to develop the climate day programme.
- **Action:** Southwark Law Centre to consider if there is a workshop they could work on with climate justice partners as a means to have planning discussions.
- **Action:** Southwark Council to follow-up with SDCAS about a potential workshop.
- **Action:** Southwark Council to follow-up with Southwark Law Centre about connections with Latin Elephant.

7. Forward plan

Desired outcome: Review success of hybrid format and consider date and format of future meetings, length, and regularity.

- Panel requested that items could come to the panel twice this would be welcomed. To give an opportunity to feedback a second time at a later stage to learn the outcome of the feedback given.
 - **Action:** Southwark Council to consider if March's panel meeting could feature items on Walking/Cycling/EV plans, and Southwark Climate Day, to come back to the panel.
- Noted that the panel is for all members to suggest items for the agenda. If there are topics panellists would like to discuss at the next two meetings then these can be shared for consideration.
- Panel will continue using hybrid format.

8. AOB

- Mayor's Civic Awards nominations
 - Nominations are now open. This year there is a climate champions award, and panellists may have friends, family or colleagues who could be nominated.
 - **Action:** Southwark Council to share further details.