

# Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission

Monday 10 July 2023  
7.00 pm  
160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH

## Supplemental Agenda One

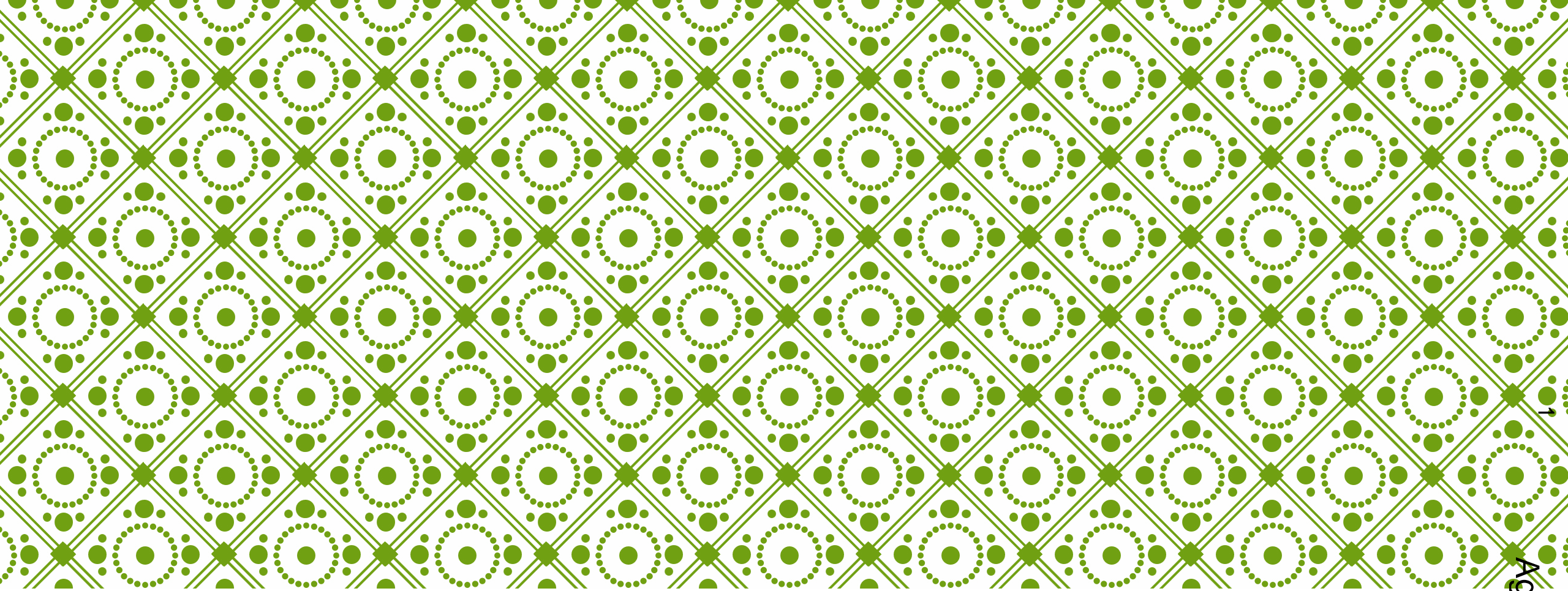
### List of Contents

Item No.	Title	Page No.
5.	<b>Sustainable Freight scrutiny review</b> A headline report, summarising the work conducted last year, is enclosed.	1 - 13
6.	<b>Work Programme</b> A covering report, work programme and review scopes are enclosed.	14 - 26

#### Contact

Julie Timbrell on 020 7525 0514 or email: [julie.timbrell@southwar.gov.uk](mailto:julie.timbrell@southwar.gov.uk)

Date: 4 July 2023



# SUSTAINABLE FREIGHT

Update

# REVIEW OUTCOMES

**That the Council has a coherent and realistic plan to deliver Sustainable Freight that dovetails with existing strategies and plans, including the Air Quality Action Plan, Movement Plan, and Climate Emergency Action Plan.**

**That the energy, skills and experience of local groups delivering and advocating for Sustainable Freight are well utilised.**

That TfL/ GLA plans to support Sustainable Freight are understood and that these bodies are lobbied effectively to support the Council's plans.

# KEY ISSUES

- **Plans to ensure the Council's internal fleet of vehicles is zero or low emissions**
- **Plans to ensure that the Council's goods and services move around the borough in a way that minimises emissions**
- **How the Council ensures that the goods and services it procures are delivered by Sustainable Freight**
- **How Planning Policy, Highways and TfL are delivering the transport and road infrastructure required support Sustainable Freight**
- **How local organisations can work with the Council in encouraging and facilitating local businesses to use Sustainable Freight**
- **How large and small business are making the switch and what can be done to catalyse this**
  - How the Council and Business Improvement Districts can deliver Nests to enable hubs to receive, and then deliver the 'last mile' of online shopping by e cargo bikes.
  - Encouraging and enabling citizens to make the switch to Sustainable Freight – for example opting for “click and collect” rather than door-to-door delivery.
  - **Establishing the principle source and destination of freight moving around the borough**
  - **Pollution data is generally based on tailpipe emissions and excludes particulates generated by tyres and brakes, especially by heavier vehicles.**

# EVIDENCE RECEIVED

- I. Peddle My Wheels : 'OurBike community cargo scheme'
- II. Fleet Services
- III. Highways
- IV. Draft Air Quality Plan 2023 – 2027

# CARGO BIKES — EVIDENCE

- I. OurBikes Community Cargo is a Council subsidised scheme, which is saving carbon and building demand.
- II. Evidence shows that local businesses and young families make most use of the scheme.
- III. Young families are a large growing market. Barriers to adoption are parking, cost, location and awareness.
- IV. Small businesses, including community and voluntary groups, also have more potential to grow their use of cargo bikes with more marketing and awareness building.

# CARGO BIKES - RECOMMENDATIONS

- I. Increase provision for cargo bike clubs and parking, utilising Planning policy and Highways programmes
- II. Council to assist in the promotion of Cargo Bikes to small business, the community and voluntary sector, and families, such as at the annual Car Free day and at venues such as Maltby Street Market

# DRAFT AIR QUALITY PLAN 2023 – 2027

## EVIDENCE

Themes relevant to sustainable freight :

- I. **Delivery servicing and freight:** re-evaluating delivery servicing and freight vehicles, as these are usually heavy-duty diesel-fuelled vehicles with high primary NO<sub>2</sub> emissions;
- II. **Borough fleet:** Southwark's fleet includes a mixture of light and specialist heavy-duty vehicles. We will continue to lead by example, making improvements in our own fleet and switching to more sustainable alternatives where possible;
- III. **Cleaner transport:** road transport is the main source of air pollution in London and Southwark. We will continue to reduce vehicle mileage by incentivising and facilitating modal shift to walking, cycling (including, where appropriate, using cargo bikes), public transport and, where other modes are inappropriate, ultra-low emissions vehicles (such as electric);



# DRAFT AIR QUALITY PLAN 2023 – 2027

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- I. Conduct more research with the GLA, other local authorities and academic institutions on particulates from tyres, brakes, road dust and other non-tailpipe emissions, particularly with regard to the links with vehicle size including EVs.
- II. Return with the Council's procurement policy on sustainable freight, currently in development.

# FLEET SERVICES — EVIDENCE

- I. Southwark Council's fleet contributes 1% of Southwark emissions
- II. There are plans to decarbonise the current fleet of 330 vehicles consisting of diesel, petrol and hybrid fuels
- III. Top action is to reduce total number of vehicles and journeys
- IV. Electrified alternatives for smaller vehicles are easier to procure; finding more sustainable replacements for larger vehicles is more challenging
- V. Switch to EVs is dependent on providing a charging network with significant infrastructure delivery costs

# FLEET SERVICES - RECOMMENDATION

Strong plan in progress that would benefit from budgeting and a delivery timescales therefor the recommendation is to work this up with SMART milestones.

# HIGHWAYS — EVIDENCE

- I. Funding for cargo bikes has been identified but kerbside space, capital and administrative costs are limiting factors
- II. The council is working with a large range of business and Business Improvement District (BID) to encourage take up of cargo bikes.
- III. Information on cargo delivered by big supermarkets and delivery companies such as Amazon is a challenging area for the council to address as not under direct control . There are pockets of information on this but the council does not currently have access to the full picture.



# HIGHWAYS - RECOMMENDATION

Commission research to establish the principal source and destination of freight moving around the borough in order to develop an action plan to reduce the impact of freight on poor air quality.



**ANYTHING ELSE?**

<b>Item No.</b> 6	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 10 July 2023	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission
<b>Report title:</b>		Cover report for the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2023-24	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		N/a	
<b>From:</b>		Project Manager, scrutiny.	

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission note the work programme attached as the Work Programme, plus appendix.
2. That the Environment Scrutiny Commission consider the addition of new items or allocation of previously identified items to specific meeting dates of the commission.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The general terms of reference of the scrutiny commissions are set out in the council's constitution (overview and scrutiny procedure rules - paragraph 5). The constitution states that:

Within their terms of reference, all scrutiny committees/commissions will:

- a) review and scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the council's functions
- b) review and scrutinise the decisions made by and performance of the cabinet and council officers both in relation to individual decisions and over time in areas covered by its terms of reference
- c) review and scrutinise the performance of the council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas
- d) question members of the cabinet and officers about their decisions and performance, whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects and about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area

- e) assist council assembly and the cabinet in the development of its budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues
  - f) make reports and recommendations to the cabinet and or council assembly arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process
  - g) consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants
  - h) liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working
  - i) review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the scrutiny committee and local people about their activities and performance
  - j) conduct research and consultation on the analysis of policy issues and possible options
  - k) question and gather evidence from any other person (with their consent)
  - l) consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the scrutiny process and in the development of policy options
  - m) conclude inquiries promptly and normally within six months
4. The work programme document lists those items that have been or are to be considered in line with the commission's terms of reference.

#### **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 5. Set out in the Work Programme and review scope appendixes are the issues and reviews the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission is due to consider in 2023-24.
- 6. The work programme is a standing item on the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission agenda and enables the commission to consider, monitor and plan issues for consideration at each meeting.



**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Held At</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission agenda and minutes	Southwark Council Website	Julie Timbrell Project Manager
Link: <a href="https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=518">https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=518</a>		

**APPENDICES**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>
	Work Programme 2023-24 Appendix A Appendix B

**AUDIT TRAIL**

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Everton Roberts, Head of Scrutiny	
<b>Report Author</b>	Julie Timbrell, Project Manager, Scrutiny.	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	15 February 2023	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments Included</b>
Director of Law and Governance	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
<b>Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team</b>	4 July 2023	

## Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission dates and work-plan 2023/34

### Proposed reviews and topics:

- Review: Biodiversity **Appendix A**
- Review: Sustainable Freight **Appendix B**
- Topic: Waste, recycling, reducing fly-tipping and street cleaning : how can we use our resources better? ( to coincide with cabinet member interview)

### Standing item – cabinet member interviews:

- Councillor Catherine Rose: Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Leisure and Parks
- Councillor James McAsh: Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Clean Air and Streets

### Dates and work-plan

Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission	Date	Item
Meeting 1	Monday 10 July 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work programme - scrutiny review topics and agenda items.</li> <li>• Sustainable Freight scrutiny review – rolled over from previous year.</li> <li>• SNAP and tree management officer report</li> </ul>
Meeting 2	Wednesday 20 September 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider / note Cabinet response to Climate Finance &amp; Resident Participation Framework (due 12 Sept).</li> </ul>
Meeting 3	Monday 27 November 2023	
Meeting 4	Monday 19 February 2024	
Meeting 5	Tuesday 30 April 2024	

## Scrutiny review scoping proposal

**1 What is the review?**

Biodiversity

**2 What outcomes could realistically be achieved? Which agency does the review seek to influence?**

The review is mainly aimed at the council but is also seeking to increase collaboration by the council with the community and voluntary sector.

**3 When should the review be carried out/completed? i.e. does the review need to take place before/after a certain time?**

Completed by the end of the administrative year 2023/24

**4 What format would suit this review? (eg full investigation, q&a with executive member/partners, public meeting, one-off session)**

Full investigation

**5 What are some of the key issues that you would like the review to look at?**

Kerbside strategy and the loss of front gardens (including related issues of pavement channels for EV charging, dropped kerbs and paved front gardens).

Food production and food consumption with reference to:

- Increasing urban food production, which is secure and affordable
- Reducing scope 3 emissions and ecological degradation caused by consumption of food produced from mono-cultures and non-carbon sequestering land use, across the UK and beyond

- Increasing consumption food produced through agroecology

Southwark Land Commission – presentation and discussion of recommendations

Is the Southwark Nature Action Plan sufficient to address biodiversity or is another strategy warranted.

Planning:

- Biodiversity net gain
- Reducing hard surfaces

Upskilling staff on biodiversity

Does the council requirement to consider the Climate Emergency in reports result in sufficient focus on the ecological and biodiversity emergency ?

Addressing biodiversity holistically including soil health, insects and vegetation.

Accelerating the phasing out of pesticides

Communicating and engaging with residents and communities on the work of the council on biodiversity, and its importance.

Nature corridors ( see <https://southwarknature.org.uk/camberwell-nature-corridors/> and <https://southwarknature.org.uk/elmington-nature-corridor-2023/> )

Increasing the strategic provision of low carbon water supplies ( eg water butts, solar pumps)

Enabling more Community Gardening

Supporting community groups and community action

## 6 Who would you like to receive evidence and advice from during the review?

Southwark Biodiversity Partnership:

- [The Conservation Volunteers](#)

- [Team London Bridge](#)
- [Walworth Garden](#)
- [Centre for Wildlife Gardening](#)
- [Surrey Docks Farm](#)
- [Bankside Open Spaces Trust](#)
- [IdVerde](#)
- [Better Bankside](#)
- [GIGL](#)
- [London Wildlife Trust](#)

#### Southwark Nature Action Volunteers

Carolyn Steel :

- Sitopia: How Food Can Save the World
- Urban Farm in Greenwich

George Monbiot

Henry Dimbleby

Pesticide free London .

Initiatives by Lambeth Council to reduce pesticide

Pesticide Action Network UK (PAN UK) : Greener Cities: A guide to the plants on our pavements

**7 Any suggestions for background information? Are you aware of any best practice on this topic?**

To be completed

**8 What approaches could be useful for gathering evidence? What can be done outside committee meetings?**

e.g. verbal or written submissions, site visits, mystery-shopping, service observation, meeting with stakeholders, survey, consultation event

To be completed



## Scrutiny review scoping proposal

**1 What is the review?**

Sustainable Freight

**2 What outcomes could realistically be achieved? Which agency does the review seek to influence?**

Outcomes

That the Council has a coherent and realistic plan to deliver Sustainable Freight that dovetails with existing strategies and plans, including the Air Quality Action Plan, Movement Plan, and Climate Emergency Action Plan.

That the energy, skills and experience of local groups delivering and advocating for Sustainable Freight are well utilised.

That TfL/ GLA plans to support Sustainable Freight are understood and that these bodies are lobbied effectively to support the Council's plans.

Agencies and partners

The review seeks principally to influence the Council, as well, potentially, as others such as TfL/ GLA to a lesser extent.

**3 When should the review be carried out/completed? i.e. does the review need to take place before/after a certain time?**

By the end of the administrative year.

**4 What format would suit this review? (eg full investigation, q&a with executive member/partners, public meeting, one-off session)**

Full investigation



**5 What are some of the key issues that you would like the review to look at?**

- Plans to ensure the Council's internal fleet of vehicles is zero or low emissions
- Plans to ensure that the Council's goods and services move around the borough in a way that minimises emissions
- How the Council ensures that the goods and services it procures are delivered by Sustainable Freight
- How Planning Policy, Highways and TfL are delivering the transport and road infrastructure required support Sustainable Freight
- How local organisations can work with the Council in encouraging and facilitating local businesses to use Sustainable Freight
- How large and small business are making the switch and what can be done to catalyse this
- How the Council and Business Improvement Districts can deliver Nests to enable hubs to receive, and then deliver the 'last mile' of online shopping by e cargo bikes.
- Encouraging and enabling citizens to make the switch to Sustainable Freight – for example opting for “click and collect” rather than door-to-door delivery.
- Establishing the principle source and destination of freight moving around the borough

**6 Who would you like to receive evidence and advice from during the review?**

The following council departments and units:

- Fleet Services
- Planning Policy
- Highways
- Procurement
- Environmental Protection (Air Quality)
- Climate Emergency

Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development

TfL / GLA

Companies and community groups providing or advocating sustainable freight, including

- Peddle My Wheels, OurBike scheme
- PeddleMe

**7 Any suggestions for background information? Are you aware of any best practice on this topic?**

Previous recommendations made on Air Quality are summarised in the attached appendix one.

Leeds have pioneered the switch to electric vehicles:

<https://takeclimateaction.uk/climate-action/how-leeds-making-all-council-vehicles-electric>

Council Air Quality Action Plans

The current Air Quality Action Plan 2017 - 2022 and includes 'a freight consolidation solution for Southwark' see section 4 points 4.2- 4.5 – with specific actions for Procurement and Environmental Protection.

The Draft Air Quality Action Plan, for the period 2023 – 2027 . Two of its seven themes are relevant to 'sustainable freight':

- *Delivery servicing and freight: Goods and service vehicles are usually diesel powered and have high NO2 emissions. Low emission logistics requires alternatively fuelled vehicles to combat air pollution from this source;*
- *Borough fleet actions: Southwark's fleet includes light and heavy duty diesel-fuelled vehicles such as mini buses and refuse collection vehicles with high primary NO2 emissions. Southwark can review its own fleet procurement to lead by example;*

The current and draft Air Quality Action Plan will be used to frame the review and a session October, with the following departments, who have all been involved in drawing up current plans contained in the Draft Air Quality Action plans will be invited to attend on 11 October including :

- Fleet Services
- Procurement
- Environmental Protection
- Planning Policy
- Highways
- Climate Emergency

The council's Movement Plan is being refreshed

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-transport-policy/transport-policy/policy-and-guidance-documents/movement-plan>

**8 What approaches could be useful for gathering evidence? What can be done outside committee meetings?**

e.g. verbal or written submissions, site visits, mystery-shopping, service observation, meeting with stakeholders, survey, consultation event

# Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2023-24**

## **AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)**

**NOTE:** Original held by Scrutiny Team; all amendments/queries to Julie Timbrell Tel: 020 7525 0514

Name	No of copies	Name	No of copies
		Julie Timbrell, Scrutiny Team SPARES <b>External</b>	10
<b>Electronic Copy</b>  <b>Members</b>  <u>Councillors:</u>  Councillor Margy Newens (Chair) Councillor Graham Neale (Vice-Chair) Councillor Cassandra Brown Councillor Ketzia Harper Councillor Leo Pollak Councillor Reggie Popoola Councillor David Watson  <u>Coopted member:</u>   <b>Reserves Members</b>  Councillor John Batteson Councillor Rachel Bentley Councillor Kimberly McIntosh Councillor Natasha Ennin Councillor Gavin Edwards Councillor Renata Hamvas Councillor Adam Hood			<b>Total: 10</b>  <b>Dated: July 2023</b>