

Meeting Name:	Council Assembly
Date:	20 November 2024
Report title:	Community Evidence on the Themed Debate
Ward(s) or groups affected:	All
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	Not applicable
From:	Proper Constitutional Officer

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Introduction

1. The council assembly business panel agreed that the theme for council assembly in November 2024 should be "The climate emergency in Southwark: a fair transition to net zero."

Community evidence on the theme

2. The deadline for community evidence was 11.59pm, 14 November 2024.
3. The following requests have been received by the deadline for consideration by this meeting and they are listed in the order received below.
4. Which community evidence shall be considered and the length of each submission will be established by way of a programme motion at the start of council assembly. Community evidence shall be conducted under the existing rules for public participation.
5. If the community evidence is not dealt with by council assembly, the matter shall be referred without debate to the relevant cabinet member who shall, after consideration, respond with an open reply to the sender.

Submissions

1. SE1 Solar

The community evidence requests states:

"Liam will explain the history and purpose of SE1 Solar (which emerged from Tenant Management Organisation Leathermarket JMB following a presentation by Cllr Dennis at the end of COVID). SE1 Solar aims to use revenues from rooftop solar on council estates to fit fuel poverty on the estates.

He will explain where we are now (just starting work with nearly £200,000 of seed funding from LB Southwark, Mayor of London, Greater South East Net Zero Hub, Centrica Energy for Tomorrow and UK Power Networks/Community Energy South).

He will explain the principal barriers to success that we are trying to overcome - the viability of rooftop solar on central London blocks of flats (solar PV is only usually viable when a single user in the building uses most of the electricity generated - we have to sell to multiple users or single large users not in the building via the grid) combined with the cost of a licence to sell to residents (around £1million).

Our feasibility work has identified several potential business models for rooftop solar on estates including Virtual Power Purchase Agreements, microgrids, and direct wire to large consumers. We are investigating the longer term challenges of energy storage and distribution network capability. At the same time, we are already supporting residents in fuel poverty with energy efficiency advice and products. We are working in partnership with community groups across London to gather best practice.

We will discuss our productive relationship with the council to jointly bid for funds e.g. the Mayor's Zero Carbon Accelerator and to solve the challenges of grid connection, rooftop leases and planning permission.”

2. JoyRiders

The community evidence requests states:

“JoyRiders are nominated for two London Cycling Campaigns (LCC) awards. I would like to give a short summary of our project in Burgess Park and its outcomes, and share a case study or two.”

3. Southwark Climate Collective

The community evidence requests states:

“In 2024, Southwark Climate Collective has supported over 140 SMEs in the borough to decarbonise their business. The project gives bespoke, one-to-one support for businesses across four programme streams: energy, waste, freight and supply chains. The project is funded by UKSPF working in partnership with Southwark Council, local BIDs and business forums.”

4. Ryan Matthews-Robinson

The community evidence requests states:

“I will be talking about how Black people in Southwark are disproportionately affected by air pollution and how our Clean Air For The Ends campaign is engaging young Black people to fight for climate justice.”

5. Community Cycleworks

The community evidence requests states:

“Community Cycleworks would like to address the council to share a short presentation on our partnership work with Southwark Council's 'Streets for People' Project, and some of our impact and participant data with the audience.

Our projects are teaching, supporting and empowering local people to repair their own bikes, with many participants from marginalised backgrounds who would typically not be able to access mainstream bike shops.

These projects have been recognised favourably by Will Norman, London's Walking and Cycling Commissioner and the honourable Mayor of Southwark Cllr Naima Ali.”

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Constitution	160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Constitutional Team constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk 020 7525 7228

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services	
Report Author	Virginia Wynn-Jones, Principal Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	15 November 2024	
Key decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer title	Comments sought	Comments included
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance	No	No
Strategic Director of Resources	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	15 November 2024	