

AMENDMENTS

ITEM 3.2: THEMED DEBATE – THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IN SOUTHWARK: A FAIR TRANSITION TO NET ZERO

(see pages 40-44 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT A

Proposed by: Councillor Graham Neale

Insert after 3.a

- b. That despite promising change, the new Labour government has continued with previously approved oil and gas licenses, and are pushing for carbon capture technology rather than focusing on reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

Insert after 3.d.vi

- vii. But that the Green Buildings Fund failed to deliver projects at pace, until the recent release of the full amount of money – following Liberal Democrat calls to do so in last year’s alternative budget – which Labour voted down.
- viii. Well documented issues with district heating systems, leading to energy use three times expected compared to traditional gas boilers, at both an environmental and financial cost.
- ix. It took three years to ban the approval of fossil fuel reliant homes since declaring a climate emergency, approving 5000 of those homes in that time

Insert after 3.e.iii

- iii. But the Labour administration refused Liberal Democrat proposals to extend Santander cycle hires south into the Borough

Insert after 3.e.iv

- v. But the Labour government chose not to take the opportunity to make the investment needed in the Bakerloo Line extension in their first budget

Insert after 3.e.iv

- v. Despite this, air pollution in Southwark exceeds WHO guidelines 316 days a year. 6.1% of deaths in Southwark are attributed to human-

made air pollution. In December 2020, the first person to have air pollution listed as a cause of death was confirmed by a decision made by London Inner (South) Coroner's Court.

Delete in 3.g “leading the way in this area” and replace with

Taking the necessary, but so far insufficient steps to that end

Insert after 3.g.i:

- ii. But the Green Finance Initiative, whilst welcome (and was agreed to in a Liberal Democrat motion in 2023), is not ambitious enough, and the speed at which the target was met demonstrates that the appetite is there to go far further.
- iii. More transparency and detail is needed on exactly how the money raised through the GFI is spent, to ensure that maximum value is gained

Insert after 3.g.v

- vi. Southwark has consistently failed to increase its recycling rate, dropping by 3.4% in 2022/2023, and the only reason food waste recycling is being rolled out is due to national legislative change, despite previous suggestions from the Liberal Democrats. Some residents are already reporting problems with the implementation of the food waste recycling points.
- vii. Action on flytipping and litter – which has an ecological impact – is not enforced enough in Southwark, with the council managing to fine less than 3% of cases

Insert after 3:

4. Noting the above, Council Assembly recognises with concern

- a. That this Labour council has dragged its feet to act with the urgency necessary. It has taken Liberal Democrat pressure to get progress on major milestones, and the administration still refuse to take on constructive suggestions from the Liberal Democrats.
- b. That the Climate Emergency should demand the full attention of every part of the council, but it's clear to both climate experts and residents that the council just doesn't take the Climate Emergency seriously enough – Southwark XR have said that since 2019, “their response has been very un-emergency-like, and more a case of business as usual”

Insert at end of 5.c:

The updated action plan should also incorporate and embed the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

Insert after 5.j

- k. Appoint “climate champions” in each scrutiny (sub) committee to ensure that the climate crisis is at the forefront of all matters of policy, recommendations, and decisions.
- l. Take action to Clean Up The Thames by:
 - i. Writing to the Government to demand action to end the sewage scandal, by transforming water companies like Thames Water into public benefit companies, abolishing the water regulator, and creating a new regulator with teeth.
 - ii. Playing its part in Cleaning Up The Thames, by investing in more litter bins along the foreshore, as pioneered by Cllr Rachel Bentley, and lobbying the London Mayor and Government for more litter barges on the river.
- m. Sign the Plant Based Council declaration, and become the first plant based council in London, making a simple change that would cut the councils carbon footprint
- n. Introduce an additional advertising policy prohibiting high carbon use products, as Hackney has done
- o. Be far more ambitious on Green Finance, so that a genuinely transformative amount of money can be raised
- p. Introduce more transparency and scrutiny of how Green Finance is spent so that both residents and investors can have confidence that the money is spent in a way that is genuinely good value
- q. Mandate that public buildings publicly display energy usage and EPC ratings
- r. Tackle the blight of flytipping by introducing community skips
- s. Set an ambition to become not just carbon neutral, but net positive by investing in solar panels, heat pumps, and other sources of renewable energy that we can sell to the grid, with residents taking a cut. Specifically, the council should work with TfL to explore using heat pumps to extract heat from the tube tunnels running under our borough – cooling the overheating tube network and providing efficient heat to homes and commercial units.
- t. Welcome Max Wilkinson MPs "Sunshine Bill" that would legally mandate solar panels as standard on all new homes – but lead the

way in Southwark by ensuring all new homes, especially its own Council homes, have photovoltaic generation.

- u. Set the highest standards for green homes, such that every new home in Southwark is built to at least Grade Four of the Sustainable Homes Code.
- v. Convene a standing Citizens Assembly to oversee and scrutinise Southwark's climate policy
- w. Explicitly commit not to use gas in any new council buildings

Renumber all paragraphs accordingly.

ITEM 5.2.1: MEMBERS' MOTIONS – Supporting older people this winter (see pages 30-31 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT B

Moved: Councillor Victor Chamberlain

Seconded: Councillor Rachel Bentley

1.b: **Delete** from “Since” to “Liberal Democrat” and **Insert**

“The previous Conservative Governments”

2: **Insert**

2.a. Condemns the change in eligibility for Winter Fuel Payments by the Labour government, and calls on the Government to immediately reverse the policy

2.b: **Insert** after “Acknowledges”

“following Liberal Democrat calls to do so”

ITEM 5.2.2: MEMBERS' MOTIONS – Rethinking winter fuel payment cuts
(see pages 32-33 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT C

Moved: Councillor Sabina Emmanuel

Seconded: Councillor Charlie Smith

Delete 1.a-c, replace with:

- a. The £22bn black hole in the UK's finances caused by reckless decisions of previous Governments.
- b. That Winter Fuel Payments should be means tested, to ensure that those most in need are supported.

Delete 1.f-i, replace with:

- f. Existing work the council is doing to encourage uptake of pension credit for those who are eligible, but have not claimed it.
- g. That the Household Support Fund (HSF), which funds Southwark's Cost of Living Fund, has been extended by the Chancellor in her Autumn Budget.
- h. That the council fund an energy support scheme to help residents impacted by the rise in energy costs.
- i. The support being provided by the council to pensioners this winter including:
 - i. A one-off payment of £150 to low income pensioners not eligible for pension credit.
 - ii. A one-off payment of £100 to residents receiving domiciliary care.
 - iii. A one-off payment of £150 to residents living in a property rated EPC D or lower.

Delete 2.a, replace with:

2. Council Assembly believes that:
 - a. The Labour Government's commitment to protect the State Pension Triple Lock, increasing the State Pension by an above inflation rate of 4.1% will benefit low income pensioners across

Southwark by an additional £470 a year.

- b. The Labour Government's commitment to increase the Pension Credit Standard minimum guarantee by 4.1% will support many low income pensioners in Southwark.

Delete 3.a-c, replace with:

- 3. Council Assembly resolves to:
 - a. Ask Cabinet to look at how the extension of the Household Support Fund can be used to continue to support pensioners on low income.
 - b. Continue to work with our voluntary and community sector partners to sign up those who are eligible for pension credit to claim their Winter Fuel Payment before 21 December 2024 deadline.

ITEM 5.2.4: MEMBERS' MOTIONS – Supporting the Climate and Nature Bill
(see pages 35-38 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT D

Moved: Councillor Richard Leeming

Seconded: Councillor Emily Hickson

Delete 1.b, and **replace** with:

- b. Alongside this, there is the looming danger of the cost of living crisis due to fuel price shocks following the pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which could be mitigated in the long-term by increases in zero-carbon energy sources.

Delete 2.a-c, and **replace** with:

2. Council assembly further notes

- a. That the Climate and Nature Bill brings forward the development of an integrated strategy to ensure that the UK's climate and environmental response is in line with the latest science.
- b. The Bill was proposed in previous forms across Parliament which received support from a cross-party coalition of politicians and organisations, including the London Assembly, London Councils and Mayor Sadiq Khan.
- c. That Private Member's Bills are the prerogative of Members of Parliament to debate in the House of Commons.

2.d: **Delete** "It would ensure that" and **replace** with "The Bill aims to ensure that"

Delete 2.e-f

Delete 3.a-b, and **replace** with:

3. Council Assembly further recognises:

- a. Existing work Southwark Council has embarked on to play its role in tackling the climate and nature crises since declaring a climate emergency in 2019 – reducing emissions year on year.
- b. This administration's success in restoring nature by expanding the borough's green spaces, including 30 parks which have been awarded Green Flag status for the 5th year running, planting thousands of trees to reach 100,000 trees on council land, and encouraging greater biodiversity through initiatives such as the

biodiversity fund.

Delete 4.a-d, and **replace** with:

4. Therefore, Council Assembly asks Cabinet to:
 - a. Continue the hard work in combatting the climate emergency in Southwark and reversing the depletion of the natural environment, including reducing emissions year on year and expanding the borough's green spaces – plantings tens of thousands of new trees and increasing biodiversity across Southwark.
 - b. Support the new Labour government in its record-breaking ambitions to tackle the climate and nature crisis, reducing the country's carbon emissions by 81% by 2035 based on 1990 levels, and working with our communities to restore the natural world.