

Full commission meeting

Meeting: 4th June 19 | City Hall, CR1, 14.00-17.00pm

Attendance

LSDC	Secretariat and GLA
Present:	Nusrat Yousuf (NY)Jude Hassall (JHa)
 David Elliott (DE) Nicky Gavron (NG) Julie Hirigoyen (JH) Nick Mabey (NM) Malini Mehra (MM) Karen Lawrence (KL) Dimitri Zenghelis (DZ) 	
 Charlie Wood (ChW) Apologies: Syed Ahmed (SA) Prof Richard Templer (RT) Dr Paul Toyne (PT) Maria Adebowale-Schwarte (MA) Cllr Claudia Webbe (CW) Jon Emmet (JE) 	

Meeting notes and actions

1. Welcome, introduction from chair

Summary:

Chair welcomed commissioners, and asked for any additional items to cover not on the agenda:

Updated status of Sam Heath's tribute, it was decided to proceed with tree planting and website tribute. Tree planting to be organised with DE. Contact to be made with Sam's family, in time for winter planting. Family preference for site can be established and DE can begin to ask for location permissions from boroughs. Contact to be initiated via LSX.

Action:

- Sec to contact LSX to initiate discussions on tree planting locations and species with Sam's family and feed back info to DE.
- MA to draft tribute to Sam for inclusion on website
- Sec to upload tribute onto website

2. Feedback from the last full commission meeting

Chair sought confirmation of minutes from the previous LSDC meeting – these were passed. Chair also confirmed that all outstanding actions were either done or in progress.

3. SDG's and Young Londoners

Summary:

Methodology summarised and noted that the survey was the largest piece of research into views of young Londoners, and as such was ground-breaking research. Respondents came from a wide range of backgrounds, representative of the London population.

Young people co-created the work and shaped the survey as it went on. Findings were clustered into 5 key areas corresponding to the relevant SDG's. Socio economic issues came top but there was a profound desire to engage more with environment issues. Young respondents felt a sense of disenfranchisement and that social structures had fallen away, and a lack of belonging was felt. Critical issue was around youth engagement in civic society and political decision making plus there were other individual topics raised around mental health, crime and homelessness. A decision was made not to put recommendations in the report. Instead the report would be produced as an evidence base, with recommendations to follow as part of a next stage piece of work. 2 options for follow up and next stage actions were presented. 1- Hone in on specific clusters of concerns and engage to unpick what the policy recommendations should be, work intensively with policy makers on those and get young people involved. 2- Engage young voices more, as part of the work to embed youth concerns and voice into the SDG mapping work. We can do a lot with LSDC to engage more young people, e.g. young commissioners. There seems to be an appetite for the voice of young Londoners to be included across a range of policy areas.

Feedback from commissioners on the 2 options was:

This is an immediate piece of work. Are we clear with outcomes for phase 2? Ideally, we want to say how not engaging with young Londoners diminishes the capacity to achieve the SDG's, and how engaging strengthens that.

What were the recommendations that were decided against?

Principal one was an annual survey which may be sensible but there is a need to assess where it fits in the SDG reporting work. Young people should be consulted on that but its unclear how as yet. Should we therefore have a young person on the commission to ensure they are part of this whole process?

The clusters of issues map well against the SDG's. We could focus on them in future It seems that there are some overarching themes of accountability and democracy, perhaps the question and direction of future work should focus on the responsiveness of the system matching the concern felt? The LSDC could look more closely at the gaps in provision for e.g. healthcare or employment opportunities, in order to join the dots between what young people's concerns and issues are and the lack of provision in those areas, there is also an opportunity to create more ladders for young people.

Do we need to bring property and homeownership into this. Young people feel very disempowered in this respect. Does it connect to sustainability? It gives power back to young people.

Should there be a Commissioner for future generations, as they have done in Wales. Does the Commission want to work towards that?

We need to make sure we're not going forward to recommendations without consultation.

The central issues coming from the work were inequality and disenfranchisement, therefore these need to be tackled, the political education piece rang out, as well as the jobs piece, the focus should be on jobs for the future.

Who are we targeting this report at? How does it get disseminated?

The audience is key decision makers -

What is the stage in between this and phase 2? How do you engage positively with young people, how do we identify the right design task, engagement and involvement are not an end in themselves. Judgements will be needed on what this means for London. Plus thought is needed on how to arrive at meaningful interventions. This work highlights how uncomfortable the intergenerational dialogue is, its full of conflict, with tensions between parent and youth groups. Are we comfortable with this conflict, will it be sanitised and not as relevant to young people? What is the role of LSDC, GLA/Mayor and those needing progress

Do we want to use the SDG report to identify the youth lens, is that the way we best take forward this work and demonstrate engagement with young people?

We really should be bringing the voice of young London through all our work

How can me make future London inclusive and opportunity focussed and how can we help young Londoners access those opportunities.

Actions:

- Sec to review the inclusion of additional case studies either as next phase work or as part of this initial report
- Sub group to identify clear set of next steps to progress option 2 outlined in the presentations

4. Comms review

Summary:

Summary presentation given of the review on comms. Whilst the comms strategy is still relevant there is a need to re-focus on key audiences and ensure we are as effective as we can be. At present the website and twitter are the main channels and though steady we need to improve our amplification. More proactive media presence is needed as work is being delivered. Broader messages from the group, tactical messaging, 1/4ly blog, use of commissioner own networks.

Feedback from Commissioners was:

Must make sure that if we decide on a social media approach to elevating then can we deliver that. Are we a push or pull comms organisation?

Discussion generally poor across London, can we leverage off other's debates. Struggling to find the debates out there? Our comms focus is about our advice to the Mayor. What role does comms have in that?

As we have a range of senior people across the SD sector. We have the potential to generate thought pieces, that might make audiences sit and listen.

There is a more practical way to look at this. There is a window of opportunity, before election season. Can't presume, who will be the new mayor. Workstreams are now committed to, we should focus on them and deliver the advice we intend to the Mayor. Young Londoners will insist on engagement. SDG

work is core to the Institution. Should focus on what we're saying on our core workstreams. What is the right political communications approach

All of our individual organisations are relay stations in the network. Commissioners should use the organisations we work with to amplify the message.

Amplification can have a halo effect, and lead to increased effectiveness by using key people, and linking to other organisations.

Comms is all of our responsibilities, we shouldn't have sub group it should be the responsibility of all workstream subgroups.

We should draw up a list, who are our multipliers in each workstream? We have offers and can build allies in each sector. There are some things we should talk about. London is going to have to raise the target, respond to XR, have a new PM. Do we write to the Mayor and make recommendations on these big issues, give independent advice to help him craft his responses accordingly?

By pursuing a couple of blue-sky thinking pieces we could provide thought leadership on some key topics.

should be doing more of the blue sky thinking. Could we find 1-2 issues each year to choose for blogs plus other media activities e.g.a series of debates, the Commission can position itself as a facilitator of new ideas and topics.

Actions:

- Discontinue the previous comms group structure and integrate fully into Exec and full commission meetings. To review including comms function into all sub group ToR's.
- Commissioners to provide Sec with list of connected organisations for linking to via social media and a core comms contact from within their own organisations for Sec to link up to.
- Commissioners to pick one 'burning' topic for this year outside of our formal workstreams which should have wider interest and audience and nominate lead for blog and related comms.
- Sec to structure a comms plan around this, including key messages, blogs, a public debate etc. Examples include; XR, outputs from LCAW, response to Committee on Climate Change
- Sec to add to the agenda for next full meeting the questions of a). if/when should we put out external comms that might in disagreement with Mayoral policy/direction, and b). if/how we should respond reactively to live (external) sustainability developments

5. Green finance work programme discussion

Summary:

Chair recapped the progress and the production of the proposal for the London Future Finance Facility. The evidence base is about to be finalised, and the political note to go in this week.

The subgroup has completed the long paper which lays out the case for doing something. The report outlines a process, but doesn't need to have all of the answers at this stage. This work responds to

issues raised by climate activists and puts London on the front foot of the response. Currently with the development taking place in London we're in danger of building the wrong London, and this is a clear evidence based report of how to respond to this challenge. The group have talked to the Green Finance Institute who have agreed to take developing the LFF as one of their 3 missions. This gives the work independence and high profile as well as potential national govt buy in.

Feedback from Commissioners was:

The summary document has to go out in the next 48 hours first for group approval and then to the Mayor's team.

Assuming the summary document plays well do we send it out to other stakeholders?

The summary document is an internal communication between us and Mayor. We have committed to a report summary and conclusions to be made available publicly.

Could we provide a briefing for the EA head.

Recommend that everyone has few paragraphs on the report for dissemination.

We will produce a public-orientated text for circulation and publicity purposes.

Do we need to get a stakeholder list together for the next stage of engagement?

That isn't needed just yet

Actions:

- AS, NY, NM, SE Group to finalise the political document within 48 hours of the meeting for presentation to the Mayor's team
- NY to confirm date for meeting with the team to present the report and political document

6. London Climate Action Week

Presentation given of progress so far with regards to the Commission event. Venue and date are now confirmed and the event will take place in the LLR on Thursday 4th July 5.30-7pm. Audience groups have been identified and initial approaches made. Potential chairs have been approached, recommendation was made to go with Tina Daheley, the sec are pursuing this through her agent, but it is subject to fee. The panel has been approached and is being confirmed and is comprised so far of a wide range of individuals from across the climate sector. An event plan has been put together for delivery.

Feedback from Commissioners was:

The panel is not balanced as it only has one man, we should seek to redress that balance. Also it is very climate focussed and would be stronger if a social justice representative were included. Could we approach NEF as they have a broad economic brief and may be able to capture some of the social justice issues. Could we also reach out to university radio stations.

Happy to include additional prospective panellists but Commissioners need to make the approaches now as time is short.

Regarding the audience, could we make some approaches to just transition related organisations, we should have representation from workers who may bear a disproportionately high level of impact from climate related policy e.g. taxi drivers, construction workers.

Could we also approach the Port of London Authority, EA are working with them at Tideway they have a young skills academy, they could make an approach for us.

We should encourage TD to do a specific podcast about the event when it is over.

Actions:

- JHa to approach Miatta Fahnbulleh NEF chief exec to appear on the panel
- JHa to update Commissioners with regards to event invite, panel approaches so far and request.
- Commissioners to communicate back to JH which additional approaches will be made to prospective panellists.
- JHa to aim for better gender balance on the panel.
- JHa to circulate event matrix to Commissioners.
- Commissioners to respond back to JH to indicate which events they are attending during the week
- JHa to collate info on central matrix and recirculate to Commissioners to allow for coordination of activity over the week
- JHa to contact CW regarding making approach to PLA young skills academy
- JHa to contact NG to identify youth assembly rep as either panellist or audience members
- JHa to discuss podcast opportunity with TD as part of contract negotiation
- JHa to investigate transition related organisations to target for additional invitations to attend

7. Sub group updates

No questions were raised relating to sub group papers submitted