Council climate action - what next?

Group 1

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	Enfield - launched 2020 then got overtaken by Covid. Low income area. As a group, struggled to build relationship because roles in the Council haven't been centralised in terms of climate. Unsure whether to be confrontational or encouraging those who are sympathetic. Lots of local things happening like food group, etc. No communication from Borough - no newsletters about climate eg. Traffic reduction was included but, parking reductions cause a lot of controversy Don't know. Controversy whether campaigning brings conflict. Prob. is Council is fragmented on climate. York - new group. Just a year. Good relationship with Council. CE declared 8 yrs ago. Now labour. Most proud of action this week - invited four of the Council leads and have 50 people coming and are invited to ask questions. Being held next week. Those councillors very approachable. There are staff for climate functions and there is a CE manager. There's a climate newsletter - monthly. More about talk than pushing an agenda. Positive place. Difficulty is the complexity of processes. Some of the great things in the Plan 'now require some funding' so they are more intentional than action. Councils so strapped for cash

	In Ris we got 6 town councillors voted onto our town council so we could get better local action. We have members attending the county council community meeting. Calderdale C Emergency dec. 5 yrs ago. Street actions. Xmas - parcels rep. Env. goals. Climate Action Plan yr ago. 5 themes each with comm. Councils. FOEs on each. Prob. with active travel - pushback Asked 5 leads of work groups to come to next meeting
What have you found difficult?	
What have you learnt from this?	
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	TW: get the council to firm up on some much more ambitious targets. Won't be easy! Need to make them aware of how many people want something to happen. Hull - focused on Green Fair at the moment. It's going to be big! Amble, Northumberland: continue to extend Green Hub membership Enfield - not sure what our next step is. Like idea of liaising with councillors. Don't know whether to campaign because of tendency to polarise or whether to be supportive. Difficultly is that climate is spread over so many staff - no clear people to target. The climate manager has no authority and has to stand in the queue. Need to network, go gently and be friendly. So struggling with what

	the right approach is. And very strapped for cash. York - much of what is said (Enfield) is familiar. Working groups set up - like Calderdale - not sure where they're going apart from discussions. Not sure of their approach either - 'campaign' isn't quite right for this work. Key is can we get in the room with decision makers - have been successful at that. Although a recent meeting with an MP - he took umbridge at what he thought was being said. The big question meeting coming up next week, will invite people to the next FoE group meeting to ask them what issues they want to push forward with. One campaign - no weed-killer on our streets - and we'll look after the weeds. FoE might try to host a meeting with various parties to facilitate this discussion.
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	TW: increasing engagement with the council. First ever Lib Dem council and MP! Sadly lost a really engaged councillor. MP has pledged support for Climate & Nature Bill Hull: raise awareness and use leverage of Hull Green Fair and inaugural Youth Environment Conference to ramp up engagement. Amble: Getting support from new Northumberland Wildlife Trust officer and collaborate with other groups and gain MP support

Group 2

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	Tunbridge Wells - raising awareness of climate change and working with other groups such as XR and the Green party. Hull - proud of our Sh*t Beach activity for its engagement with people we wouldn't normally meet and talk to. Gained a lot of traction Sue: Great to find her tribe and feel supported by FoE. Work with biodiversity in hospital grounds getting funding. Inc wild flowers. Collaboration with conservation trust Proud of stopping a bottling plant that would have used vast amounts of water & caused plastic pollution. We ran a One Planet living Festival in the town centre and explained the one planet living principles devised by Bioregional to the people of Abingdon. Under 'culture and community' we had the help of the Afro Caribbean community to share the market place with Abingdon Traditional Morris.
What have you found difficult?	TW: Council under pressure financially. Hard to have a direct effect as a local group. Hull: Often feel overwhelmed by the amount of big issues in the area, including Drax, BECCS, Pensana Fuels West Newton fracking, Humber Freeport and East Coast cluster, to name a few. Sue: Bit of a difference of views as to whether an info network or campaigners. Hard not to get into political realm.

	But frustrated that longterm campaign to stop airport expansion having no effect. Loggerheads with Council. Council waiting for tech fix eg EVs. Setting 2050 as target. I did find the working with the minorities difficult.
What have you learnt from this?	Set objectives - have clear objectives May have to rely on new leadership. Climate and Nature coalition is beneficial - something for everyone! Individuals can make a difference. Hull: A lot about positive engagement! Sue: has started a 'Greener Amble' group. Hoping to develop ways to push the climate agenda but need to take people along gently. Learnt to have different expectations.
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	Hoping to meet MP. Knows her from previous campaign. Not as approachable. Assembly of those in the town to transition net zero; schools, public service, sports, religion… 6 month assemblies to share best practice and report progress
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	Plan to include council leader to engage with MP to meet. To get the Town Council to front and host the

	assemblies.

Group 3

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	Group made a contribution to the election of new MPs, focussing on climate issues. One result was very close. Got council to produce a climate action plan and the council now have an officer for climate change. Working with council on improving quality of accommodation, partnership with local energy organisation on heat hub - providing advice to non-gas users. Invited to apply for grant for feasibility study for community heating and now have been successful. Council going to publicise the grant. Work closely with council, published two books, run events: talks and film screenings. Two of us have critiqued local plans, esp with regards to climate actions, and seem to have had some influence.
What have you found difficult?	Being in a complicated situation where you are across different constituencies Local council may be a bit defeatist and apathetic. No climate change officer

What have you learnt from this?	To be persistent
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	Hope for more funding and a stronger lead from government. Better bus service. New Mayor is willing to engage on climate action. Looking forward to more devolution and the powers that come with it.
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	Focus on county council election - asking candidates to pledge action on climate and environment, and planning to hold hustings. December Andy Burnham is holding a Green Summit Commenting on draft of pathway for 2nd five years of carbon budget. Group is ready to provide advice on how to bridge gap.

Group 4

Names	Tottenham, Derbyshire, Richmond & Twickenham
Discussion 1	

What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	T + R/T - have kept going for years (since 2008 at least) and built up good relationships with councilors and officers. Both have Climate Emergency Plans and target of Net Zero by 2041 and 2043. Commitment to divestment of pension fund D has formed a good local network since 2019. Good submission on minerals plans thanks to grant from FoE to employ expert.
What have you found difficult?	T - Council's lack of resources. Sadiq Khan now more reluctant to act at Londonwide level. Need for action on private rented sector. Lack of relevant buildings skills and training. D - lack of resources, no climate emergency, no climate plans, no targets. Two tiers of local authorities and a lot of meetings to engage in. R/T - Plan in no way sets actions that would meet the 2043 target - must act to ensure all properties get off gas as 70% of local CO2 emissions are from buildings. Londonwide target of Net Zero by 2030 is impossible.
What have you learnt from this?	All - it's a long haul! R/T - have brought in people in the industry to talk to councillors and officers as they have more credibility and expertise.
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	D - hope to lose the Tories - still control CC. Would unblock things. Also hope the Government will put money into it to encourage them.

	Hoping next draft version of Climate Emergency Plan will be improved.
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	D - looking with expert at plans for cement plants as nobody doing much on it nationally and they are massive carbon emitters. R/T - comprehensive submission on draft of next Climate Emergency Action Plan pointing out what needs to happen to have any hope of meeting Net Zero by 2043

Group 5

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	Bakewell Climate Action - have established a bus user group that allows us to escalate bus users' voices to decision makers.
What have you found difficult?	Bakewell Climate Action - we just started this year and haven't got an established framework for working with local councillors etc yet (eg no climate action plan). Having nice chats with promises of help to improve

	buses but nothing that can be nailed down.
What have you learnt from this?	
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	Further engagement with MPs and councillors.
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	Use fact that our latest MPs have small majorities! Find sympathetic councillors. Join forces with other campaigning groups and each focus on different things. Challenge local council climate action plan.

Group 6

Names	

Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	
What have you found difficult?	
What have you learnt from this?	
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	

Group 7

Names	Phil Page (Hillingdon), Paul Espley (Hillingdon), Michael Corcoran (Derbyshire)
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	Started dialogue with a number of local groups For each LA within the Derbyshire area used data to empower groups demonstrate where are emissions are coming from and how little achieved. Data now used in combined authority (Derbyshire too) Hillingdon has a strong climate action plan thanks to FoE, and has declared a Climate Emergency. Monthly meeting with the Head of Environment Specialists at Hillingdon Council, where we use a list of questions to drive agenda each month
What have you found difficult?	Cement and lime production in Derbyshire dominates emissions. Hillingdon has lost its dedicated Climate Change officer and now the role is just part of somebody's job. Hillingdon is a Tory council run by climate sceptics that is likely to water down its Plan. Not planning, not found practical ways of doing. Hard for councils to exert influence over non-council emissions in their area
What have you learnt from this?	Need to determine what they should be doing not let down UK plc (actions that should be taken that are proxies for achieving emissions reductions e.g. homes brought to heat pump readiness. Having a list of non-confrontational questions to drive. Applaud (what little!) has been done.
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	Statutory requirement for councils to take climate action and have a robust Climate Action Plan. Aim to get Tory councillors voted out by canvassing (Greenpeace Project Climate

	Vote). Use new cycle forum and other Council organised forums to influence. Flood those groups with contacts who care about climate change. Run a climate fare event with the council. Get green articles into the Hillingdon People council mag. To encourage joined up thinking. The higher up the hierarchy you go (combined authority) the fewer externalities. Local area energy plans (LAEPs) need to be developed within an overarching framework. Need to work towards a regional LAEP. Has to relate to neighbourhood plans, which are subject to the (updated) NPPF.. How to monitor EPCs and improving the levels.
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	Engage on joined up thinking (Central FoE are enablers), mayor now welcomes engagement. Hillingdon festival green event.

Group 8

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	Tewks and Port have started to get proper council engagement and councils beginning to take a broader view, beyond just looking at their own estate. Nottingham are having problems with changes in mayors and strategies

What have you found difficult?	Hearing one another, which has made the discussion very slow and incomplete.
What have you learnt from this?	
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	We've been talking about allies. Nottingham has a new Mayor - will campaign for better bus services.. And work with a Climate Justice group linked to COP29 and a Climate Action Group. The new Mayor may have some new funds. We liked the idea of broadening out the cross city Climate Coalition Group to a Climate and Nature Coalition Group.

Group 9

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	
What have you found difficult?	
What have you learnt from this?	
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	

Group 10

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	
What have you found difficult?	
What have you learnt from this?	
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	

Group 11

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	
What have you found difficult?	
What have you learnt from this?	
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	

Group 12

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	
What have you found difficult?	
What have you learnt from this?	
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	

Group 13

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	
What have you found difficult?	
What have you learnt from this?	
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	

Group 14

Names	
Discussion 1	
What are you most proud of from your local climate action campaigning?	
What have you found difficult?	
What have you learnt from this?	
Discussion 2	
What are your hopes for the next stages of the campaign?	
What is one thing you plan to do with your group as a next step for your campaign?	