

Appendix 2 Climate Assembly delivery proposal Summer 2021

What is a Climate Assembly?

An Assembly can centre around any topic; a Climate Assembly is one that centres around the challenge of climate change. Assemblies have been used worldwide to help shape the work of governments.

UK Climate Assembly

Climate Assembly UK took place over three weekends in Birmingham from January to late March 2020, and a further three online weekends from April to May 2020 following the UK's coronavirus outbreak. The 108 assembly members came from all walks of life. They heard evidence from a broad range of stakeholders and researchers and then discussed the issues in depth with other members - including those with very different views to their own. The assembly then reached conclusions on **what** the UK should do to reach net zero emissions by 2050, and **how** it should do it. More information and the UK Climate Assembly report can be found at <https://www.climateassembly.uk/>

Purpose of a Lincoln Climate Assembly would be to:-

- Share knowledge and understanding of climate change to a wide public audience, establish a better understanding of climate impacts and the range of climate mitigation measures we would need to meet the 2030 net zero carbon target.
- Listen to the assembly's comments, concerns and answer any questions related to climate change. We would expect that these concerns would be representative of the wider communities' views. This will help us understand and plan for further community engagement required over the next few years.
- Vote on preferred options, combined with expert opinion and our Lincolnshire carbon emissions monitoring toolkit we aim to reach a consensus and inform the 'Lincoln 2030 - Climate Action Plan'.
- Aim to embed climate actions identified by the community into CoLC policies and strategies (where the council have direct influence) and to work with our partners to influence/create opportunities for change city wide (where the council does not have any direct influence)

Climate Assembly expected outcomes:-

- To prepare the Lincoln 2030 Climate Action Plan - A 10 year document with an action plan to be reviewed and updated annually.
- Enable the community to take ownership of the Lincoln 2030 plan, resulting in an action plan that is both representative of aspirations and opinions of local residents.

Lincoln Climate Commission (LCC)

The Climate Commission was officially formed in September 2020 and is made up of people from the public, private and community sectors. LCC members applied to be on the commission and were selected based on their ability to provide a range of knowledge and skills on climate action, climate issues and community engagement. The LCC is chaired by Cllr Ric Metcalfe and the City of Lincoln Council provides secretariat support. With the support of the council the LCC will take a lead on setting up and delivering a Lincoln Climate Assembly.

How to establish a Lincoln climate assembly

Participants

The Lincoln Climate Assembly would consist of 30 – 40 adults, aged 18 or over, chosen so they reflect the wider population in terms of demographics (e.g. age, gender, ethnicity, social class) and sometimes relevant attitudes (e.g. their views on climate change).

The first step would be to send a survey to be circulated to the Council's Citizens panel (790 people) Lincoln Tenants Panel, resident and community groups, community newsletters, Neighbourhood Management Boards, Neighbourhood Management Team (Paul Carrick) Resident engagement team (work with Chris Morton's team), Elected Members, Lincoln Voluntary Centre Services.

Surveys and recruitment to the Climate Assembly could be delivered by CoLC due to access to software, electoral role/council tax addresses and community contacts.

Proposed timescale – early May (following local elections)

Selecting assembly members

The Council's Policy team has expertise and software required to ensure that a cross-section of the population is represented on the assembly and will assist with undertaking a digital analysis of the completed surveys and anonymously select 30-40 participants to take part in a series of four pre scheduled workshops to take place in June/early July 2021.

Participants for the Lincoln Climate Assembly will be aged 18 or over, so to ensure that the LCC also capture views of our younger residents a youth workshop will be organised over the Summer 2021. LCC and CoLC will work with the newly appointed green mentor responsible for delivering the [Green Influencer scheme](#) in Lincoln throughout 2021/22. The Green Mentor has been appointed by Green Synergy and is funded by the Ernest Cook Trust. The purpose of the scheme is to help young people realise their potential to positively impact the environment through youth social action. A youth workshop will be set up, with the support of Green Synergy, to capture the thoughts and ideas of young people in relation to tackling the challenges of climate change.

Workshops

It is proposed that consultants are appointed to help design and facilitate the Climate Assembly workshops, to ensure that they are of a high quality. The consultant's role is to provide the necessary expertise to deliver a quality engagement process, using digital technology. In particular, expert facilitators would ensure that the voices of those who are digitally excluded are considered and that people are given the ability and tools to get involved in a way which works for them through the provision of tailored support or alternative listening mechanisms.

The use of expert facilitators should increase the knowledge and confidence of assembly members and equip them to become advocates for change in the community if they wish. Based on consultancy costs to deliver Climate Assembly workshops in other locations in the UK comparable to Lincoln, the anticipated cost to provide support to design, facilitate the workshops and prepare a report with recommendations for action is anticipated to be in the region of £10 000.

The proposal is to hold online workshops over weekends, taking between 2 hours – ½ day. Workshops will be led by a facilitator and information presented by a range of specialists and experts on the different approaches to tackling climate change.

Workshop 1 (estimate 2 hrs)to cover the following topics:

- What is Climate Change?
- The impacts and challenges around reducing emissions
- Followed by Q&A

Workshop 2 (estimate ½ day)

- Introduction to the sources of green house gas emissions. Breakout rooms on the following topics:-
 - Energy (supply, renewables, efficiency)
 - Transport (sustainable travel options and infrastructure)
 - Consumerism and waste (how what we buy and how we dispose our waste impacts our climate)

Workshop 3 (estimate 2hrs)

This session will invite participants to discuss and decide on how residents of Lincoln recommendations could contribute to achieving net zero by 2030.

Workshop 4 (estimate ½ day)

Assembly members to review their decisions and accurately capture views. If assembly members are not able to reach a consensus they will be asked to vote on key decisions,

Lincoln Climate Assembly report

Following the assembly workshops a summary report will be prepared and published by September 2021.