

Sustainable Communities

LGA Labour Group submission to the National Policy Forum

Introduction

The LGA Labour Group organised three seminars for Labour councillors to participate in the National Policy Forum. These took place in Wolverhampton, London and Manchester between December 2007 and February 2008. Over 140 councillors took place, from 75 different local authorities. Hazel Blears MP, Pat McFadden MP, Liam Byrne MP, Meg Hillier MP and Beverley Hughes MP also took part in the seminars.¹

It was clear from the seminars that since 1997, the role of local government has been considerably strengthened, reflecting Labour's commitment to local democracy and improving standards in performance and local service delivery. As Hazel Blears put it, we are having a 'localist moment', which is visible through the recently signed Concordat, the empowerment agenda and moves to increase the accountability of public services at a local level.

Although there has been progress in getting respect for the role of local government, there is still a tendency to focus on central delivery mechanisms. This means the public are often not aware of who is accountable, and do not realise that it is often local government holding the ring. Local authorities can claim a unique perspective and understanding of the challenges and issues in their areas, as well as making connections between different areas of policy on the ground, finding innovative ways of working and forging new partnerships. Local government must continue to play a decisive part in transforming local communities, through the power that councils have over places and the ability to shape everything in them.

We're at the stage where we need to be even more radical and imaginative and set out a forward offer for a 'new term' (rather than fourth term) of Labour in government. The LGA Labour Group believes that local government has a vital role to play in the NPF process, showing the value of civic democracy, regeneration and public service improvement at a local level.

Our submissions to the NPF aim to show how local government can add value as we develop our policies for the next manifesto. The basis of these submissions came from the policy seminars we organised – showing that Labour in local government has energy and an important stake in the Party's policy making process.

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¹ See Appendix for a list of attendees at the NPF seminars

Creating Sustainable Communities Response to the Second Year Consultation Document

Pressing challenges remain in this area. The provision of affordable housing and increasing the availability of social housing are high on the agenda. In addition, further improvements to the transport network are required to meet expected growth. Developing strategies to tackle climate change and long term energy needs are also of crucial importance.

Local councils have led the transformation of our towns, cities and countryside over recent years with regeneration schemes to boost the economic vitality of local communities and improve the quality of life for residents. Local councils can also act as advocates of truly sustainable local communities, and ensure that all sectors of the local community under their control (eg social services, children's services) and key local partners are engaged in the green agenda.

Local government can play a specific role in the following issues:

- *Housing:* Local authorities are expected to draw up strategies for all housing in their areas, based on proper assessments of need, including the needs of homeless people and to make the best use of all the resources available in the light of local circumstances. They are responsible for the maintenance, improvement and development of housing in their local area.
- *Environment:* with regards to environmental issues, local and national government share three key environmental aims, to: tackle climate change and adapt to the unavoidable impacts; maintain a healthy natural environment and decouple growth in waste from economic growth; and make the local environment cleaner, safer and greener. Local councils can lead local action in these areas, and are ideally placed to identify risks and map vulnerabilities in their area. Climate change can only be effectively combated by community action, and local authorities should be the key local organization bringing together suppliers, customers, quangos and government representatives.
- *Waste and recycling:* local councils overseeing household refuse collection, waste management and recycling and therefore are in a position to promote green initiatives in local communities

1. Tackling Climate Change

How do we further promote and incentivise both recycling and the reduction of waste produced by households and business?

The Second Year Consultation document recognises that we must do a number of things to tackle climate change – in particular education and supporting families and individuals in reducing their environmental footprint; reducing carbon emissions; and supporting the development of green technologies.

Tackling climate change must be at the centre of local government's vision for their communities. It is clear from the scientific evidence that it is the single priority that overrides all others. Councils are already on the frontline in the climate change challenge, leading the way on waste, energy and water conservation, flooding and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. LAs can also ensure that all sectors of the local community under their own control (e.g. social services, children's services), plus key local partners (in particular schools and FE colleges), get engaged in the green agenda. Central and local government should work together to draft an environmental contract between central and local government which enshrines a *duty* of environmental well-being for both parties

The LGA convened an independent Climate Change Commission chaired by leading energy economist Professor John Chesshire OBE, which reported at the end of last year on how councils can best tackle climate change.

Proposals from the report include:²

- A new statutory framework for local government action on climate change, including a duty, is consistent with the devolution of power and autonomy to local government. It would enable action in the same way that the new economic development duty on local government is part of a wider realignment of powers and resources to promote economic development
- Demanding targets to reduce carbon emissions and drive forward adaptation in every single LAA
- The development of a carbon accounting framework by CIPFA for the public sector which will enable the appointment of chief executives of public bodies, including local councils as carbon accounting officers
- Carbon emission reductions that put local government on a trajectory to achieve a 26-32% reduction in emissions by 2020.

Our NPF seminar in Manchester also considered a number of issues regarding climate change:

- More money needs to be provided for the retro-fitting of existing building stock, making them more environmentally friendly. At present, most money is being diverted to the house-building

² A Climate of Change - <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/publications/publication-display.do?id=20630>

budget. Also, how can LAs crack down on carbon emissions from buildings? Should councils be given the power to enforce other agencies and public bodies in their areas (e.g. schools, hospitals, etc.) to produce environmental targets for their buildings?

- Flooding is an issue – how do we invest in flood defences? In Lincoln, water is moved round the city, but how can defences be made more robust in non-urban areas? Should groups of Local Authorities work together and take a lead on flood strategies instead of the Environment Agency? Councils need to have more robust planning strategies e.g. to crack down on people concreting over gardens etc.
- There is a definite need for LAs to be given stronger planning controls in an attempt to help change individual and institutional behaviours.
- All public sector tendering/procurement procedures should contain environmental targets that promote greater sustainability. At a local level, the implementation of environmental procurement could also help stimulate local/regional 'green' markets.

Waste and recycling

Britain throws more into landfills than any other European country. Without action to encourage recycling, household waste will continue to rise and we will fail to meet EU landfill targets leading to councils, and therefore local people facing fines of £150/tonne, potentially amounting to £205m in 2013.

Waste is an incredibly sensitive issue, as the political fall-out over fortnightly rubbish collections has shown. There is a range of options – and they need to be applied according to local and regional need. The mantra for the years ahead should be 'local flexibility'.

Proposals:

- Local authorities need to make it easier for local communities to recycle – door-step recycling should be rolled-out across the country.
- Recycling can be linked more closely to community leadership –local councillors and residents can be 'recycling champions, with local wards battling for the title of 'best recycler'. The best performing ward could win extra money for their community funds. (Hackney LBC runs a Green Champion scheme already: http://www.hackney.gov.uk/green_champions.htm)
- There should also be greater harmonisation of recycling practices across local authorities – for example, local authorities should work in the MAA to ensure that all methods of recycling are practiced in the MAA region.
- Local authorities need to have the ability to tackle local businesses, e.g. providing high street-side recycling facilities in an attempt to cut down on commercial/food waste littering streets.
- Instead of charging households for the amount they throw away, local authorities could come forward with incentives/rewards in an attempt to get people to throw away less. In other countries which have introduced financial incentives waste going to landfill has gone down, recycling rates

have gone up and there have been little evidence that flytipping has increased significantly over the long term.

- We need to tackle the problem of excessive packaging, possibly with legislation to promote more recyclable products. We should consider putting the onus on recycling back to producers and supermarkets, as on the continent? *e.g.* Booths, a company based in Lancashire, recycles its own cardboard packaging. Should we penalise manufacturers that over package and/or incentivise them to come up with 'leaner' methods of packaging?
- Education programmes about recycling need to be rolled-out to include all members of the community.
- Recycling facilities are often remote from where the material originates, thereby incurring both the cost and energy consumption of transporting it. Government, councils and the private sector should look to establish regional facilities and support a more stable market through longer term procurement.

2. A sustainable and integrated transport network

The Second Year Consultation document refers to the challenge of improving bus services, and promoting and enabling sustainable transport choices for every journey. Transport is a good candidate for devolution of powers to a more local level – it brings with it the possibility of new local income sources, such as income from bus fares and road pricing.

Participants at our Manchester NPF seminar considered these issues, and we have a number of proposals:

- A key issue that emerged was the re-regulation of public transport outside London. Councils need stronger powers to deliver better bus services. This includes the ability to build and maintain more effective partnerships with operators and the option of franchised local bus services. Local authorities (or groups of local authorities) need to be able to actively hold providers to account and help determine routes and modes of transport in order to provide integrated, local transport strategies that satisfy community needs and are not solely dependent upon financial considerations.
- the operation of the quality contracts system re-examined after three years to see if further regulation is required
- Higher standards on the control of emissions from vehicles should be imposed. When local authorities are given greater influence over local bus regulation, bus operators should be encouraged to meet set standards in terms of the number of 'green' vehicles in any local fleet
- There needs to be greater cross-border collaboration between local authorities (and/or Passenger Transport Authorities) to ensure that local/regional pricing disparities are phased out – if we are to get more people onto public transport, services need to be affordable.
- We also need to provide 'through-ticketing' across the country – and make sure we press ahead with the scheme to introduce a national 'smart card' system.
- Obvious problems are capacity and infrastructure – we cannot roll-out a responsive, affordable system from scratch. Should we revisit the u-turn away from road-pricing and use the revenue generated from time-limited schemes to explicitly fund capital transport projects? (e.g. AGMA is introducing a form a congestion charging in Greater Manchester in order to fund he infrastructure needed for a better transport system).
- Road pricing schemes can make sense only as part of a wider package of powers over decisions and funding that allow councils to invest in roads, buses and trains and provide better public transport to benefit the local area
- The LGA feels that greater powers over transport planning should be devolved to groups of councils in major urban areas. We want flexible transport powers devolved to groups of authorities at the sub-regional level and allow individual areas to make decisions on governance arrangements. This will give authorities realistic options for improving services and enable a more cohesive approach to transport planning.

We have also been lobbying for improvements to the concessionary travel scheme:

- The Government should review the operation of the concessionary travel scheme to ensure that councils are reimbursed for the actual costs incurred.
- The ongoing aim of a national concessionary fares scheme should be to maximise citizen mobility.
- To this end, whilst protecting the existing schemes for pensioners and disabled people, we would also the extension of national schemes for all students in full-time education (or equivalent) up to the age of 18, as well as all JSA claimants.

3. A secure and sustainable energy supply

How do we go on to eliminate fuel poverty in all households completely?

The Government should renew its commitment to ending fuel poverty and restore funding to its successful home insulation programmes, if necessary levying the energy supply companies to increase the finance available. Differential charging for meter users should be ended. Central and local government should work together to help create local, sustainable, Energy Service Companies (ESCOs)

Local authorities should complement government schemes such as Warm Front with local council schemes. From a strategic viewpoint, local authority-sponsored affordable warmth strategies can provide a focus for local action to eradicate fuel poverty. The benefits of a well-planned, organised and implemented strategy can be far-reaching, helping local authorities to:

- Raise general awareness of fuel poverty and affordable warmth issues;
- Promote cross-community participation, co-operation and wider ownership of the strategy;
- Maximise and target resources and initiatives where they are most needed;
- Set out measurable targets and timescales for action;
- Develop training and employment opportunities locally

The other important role for LAs is to join up funding streams at a local level. LAs should:

- Push for local (or regional) energy efficiency commitments, paid for by local energy suppliers
- Co-ordinate and bring together existing sources of advice and support, e.g. information provided by the energy Savings Trust and the Carbon Trust;
- Develop decentralised energy supplies, promoting micro- and renewable generation and city/region-wide district heating schemes

4. Supporting local communities

The challenge for Labour in local government is to step into the role of 'place shaping' - delivering services, leading and coordinating the local public and voluntary sector, and empowering local people to take action. Councils have a proven track record of driving up performance and giving local people a voice. Councils have led the way in delivering better frontline services, becoming the most efficient part of the public sector. We recognise that we need to go further:

- joining up and personalising services and innovating to save more money.
- Local government is now expected through LAAs to establish a single set of priorities with local partners, helping councils to deliver more locally based solutions based on the problems in their area. The Government must remain committed to strengthening the role of local authorities as strategic leaders in their communities.
- Councils need to develop scrutiny so that they can better champion the citizen and develop policy
- Councils must collaborate more effectively with each other and other parts of the public sector to drive efficiency through better procurement and shared services
- Councils also face a challenge in making services more accountable – by holding service providers to account. Councils should be able to appoint members to serve on local service bodies, alongside service users and representatives of the private and community sectors; they should ensure that such members are adequately supported; and that effective scrutiny takes place of all such bodies.
- As elected leaders of their communities, councillors have the legitimacy to mould the towns, cities and communities where people want to live and work. While supporting public engagement in decision making, transparency, and accountability, local government's role as community leaders should not be diluted by creating bodies with competing mandates, such as directly elected boards for policing and health.

Labour in local government should champion devolution and localism - transferring power from town halls to local communities in a feasible and sustainable way. We are committed to the community empowerment agenda, putting people in charge and giving them more power over their lives and shaping where they live. However, this needs to be accompanied by a clear commitment by Parliament that power will always be devolved where a lower level of government is best able to deliver the solution.

Local government finance

The Second Year Consultation document recognises that a sustainable and equitable system for local government finance is necessary.

- For councils to be accountable there needs to be a clearer relationship between what councils spend and the local taxes they levy.

- Local government should be financed by a mix of property and other taxes (such as an assigned share of income tax), charges, and government funding to overcome significant differences in revenue raising capacity.
- Council tax needs to be reformed, as it still embodies elements of the poll-tax, and it is unrealistic to base it on 1991 valuations.
- Additional top and bottom bands should be introduced, and council tax benefit, which is substantially under claimed recast as a tax allowance, with the financial limits updated. This would materially assist very many pensioner and low earnings households.
- The introduction of a Business Rate Supplement and a reform of the Local Authority Business Growth Incentive Scheme are welcome, but over time business rates should be denationalised and returned to local councils, with safeguards to avoid discrimination against business ratepayers.

5. Affordable housing

How do we increase supply of social housing to meet future needs while continuing to raise standards of existing stock where necessary?

Housing is a critical national priority, and is vital to our economic prosperity and to social and environmental well being, and we welcome the recent focus on this at a national level. Councils can rise to the challenge of providing decent, affordable homes but must have the freedom to respond to local circumstances. The issues raised in the Second Year Consultation Document were discussed in depth at two of our policy seminars.

Affordable housing

- We need to be clearer about what constitutes “affordable housing”, whether in terms of buying or renting, recognising that this will vary according to conditions, including earnings, in different parts of the country.
- There was a view that the social housing percentage (which varied dramatically from area to area) was in reality aspirational and harder to deliver in practice - there were examples given where the developer and vendor (where the site owner was not the local authority) had made a deal on sales which resulted in the local authority having its hands tied over the affordable element they could negotiate. There was a common experience that planning was often developer-led – with developers using a whip hand of walking away from a housing development.
- Bringing forward more social/affordable housing and land for development is also vitally important. Section 106 should be developed to ensure delivery of 50 per cent affordable housing where necessary. Developers too often find it possible to ‘wriggle out’ of S106 agreements. We should make the terms tougher to prevent this. S106 should be imposed on even small developments, even if only a few properties. Developers will tend to prefer to fulfil S106 by providing key worker or shared ownership housing, rather than social rented housing.
- Local authorities should be able to build council houses as a part of the target for new houses. These new houses should be ring fenced out of the right to buy for a locally agreed number of years so that councils are not seen as building to sell

Promoting mixed and sustainable communities

- We need to push the argument for mixed communities, and the approach should be to ‘scatter’ new social housing around an area, not concentrate it in zones - It was widely felt that diversity of tenure in areas was a good thing.
- New homes must be part of well-planned and well-connected neighbourhoods. There should be a compulsion on other public sector providers, eg PCTs, schools to get involved in developments
- A number of participants in our Wolverhampton seminar gave examples in their areas where high density was imposed on areas of highest need and higher social deprivation. So the challenge remains in delivering the aspiration of diversity of housing in areas where there is already a domination of social housing.

- new communities ‘in the middle of nowhere’ are very difficult to develop effectively and sustainably, and therefore at the heart of our approach should be ‘breathing new life into (established) communities’.
- Participants in our seminars felt that new housing development must be done on a basis of quality AND quantity. The housing we build now must be built to last longer and be of higher standard than that built under previous house-building drives in the last fifty years. The Government needs to look at ways to guarantee the quality of new build.
- Local authorities should seek out and buy up failing buy to let stock.
- we should bring forward incentives for councils to bring forward land for RSLs to build new housing.
- Eco towns are welcome – but the total carbon impact of place from homes to transport, businesses and public services must be taken into account.

Planning

- Participants in our London seminar felt that there are issues with accountability within the planning system. If too much is done at a regional or even national level, developers can bypass local concerns. It also makes it difficult for councillors to understand and explain what is happening in their communities to constituents.
- A more coherent framework is needed. Developers would be more willing to bring forward more mixed schemes if the planning regime was simpler, quicker and held greater clarity of outcome. Currently, there is too much uncertainty built into the system.
- There is a balance to find between development in urban areas and away from them. Too much infill can have a negative effect on quality and space. On the other hand, it was pointed out that in many places infill had had a positive, regenerative effect on streets and communities
- In terms of the countryside, there must be some scope for development in certain areas in order to meet housing needs.
- It is now time to review the green belt arrangements not least because the aims the policy was designed to deliver have changed. This should include research into how other European cities and towns deliver protection of green areas. For example, a green belt could be ‘snaked’ through cities and towns so that more people have the benefit of a green belt not the few who live near the green belt which ring many towns and cities in England.
- In the interests of promoting a more rational context within which major decisions can be taken, eg over ports and airports policy, transport infrastructure or major investment in R&D, a Planning Framework for England should be developed after consultation with Local government and RDAs

Unlocking finance and resources

- Housing finance reform is central to achieving our goals on affordable housing. Giving councils the opportunity to operate on a level playing field with RSLs through restructuring of the Housing Revenue Account is key.

- We need to develop new models for borrowing against local authority assets. Public-private partnerships allow costs to be kept off the public balance sheet – how can we make it easier for local authorities to keep housing off the balance sheet?
- It is not fair that debt free councils have to give up all of their capital receipts. Local authorities could borrow at very low risk against a good asset base, if they were allowed to.
- *Bond funding* - is there any mileage in altering the legal status of ALMOs and make them more akin to not-for-profit independent trusts? If such a policy can be implemented, an ALMO's assets and capital investment (or, maybe, those of a regional group of ALMOs) would be financed by bonds and retained financial surpluses from rental streams. There have been two notable precedents of bond funding since 2000 – the Welsh Water company Glas Cymru and Transport for London (TfL). Bonds for TfL, in particular, have proved popular in the City because insurance companies have been happy to buy long-term debt to match their increasing pension liabilities. Any such shift in policy would throw up a number of legal and financial headaches, but the Treasury's decision to allow TfL to borrow prudentially in order to invest (and categorically not in order to shore up existing deficits) is a precedent that ALMOs should look at with great interest as a means of funding long-term housing strategies (maybe on a multi-local authority basis as a means of increasing collateral).

Strategic role of local authorities

- Where local authorities do not have stock of their own, it becomes easy for them to lose sight of the need to maintain strategic overview of housing in the area. It is important for a message to be sent out to colleagues that we must stay on top of housing strategy as councillors and councils, regardless of the status of social housing in the area.
- How should local authorities deal with 'problem tenants'? It's no good moving them from one area to another, as the problem still remains. There needs to be a strong, multi-agency approach to dealing with anti-social behaviour on estates and similar problems.

Private rental sector and Buy-to-Let

- The rapid growth of the Buy-to-Let market lies at the heart of the problem of lack of affordable housing supply, and has a massive knock-on effect on the rest of the market and the affordable sector in particular. Until Government constrains the buy-to-let market, the problem will grow as investors continue to buy additional properties.
- There is a good case for local authorities and RSLs to buy up BTL properties that have become unwanted or poorly maintained at a relatively low price, particularly if and when house prices begin to drop slightly. (This is being done to good effect in Newham under the Local Spaces programme)
- There is a need for stronger regulation of private sector landlords and rental properties. The Decent Homes standard should now be applied to private rental sector.
- There is a need to strengthen local authority powers to tackle unfit accommodation in the private sector.

- Situations where the state is paying housing benefit monies to unfit landlords or for below-standard properties are wrong – this is money which would be better spent on social housing. We need to look at reforming housing benefit.

RSLs

- When housing associations were smaller, there was greater scope for tenant involvement. However, as we head towards a situation where they are increasingly large, regional or national, this becomes more difficult. Some HAs are much larger than local authority housing departments, and far more distant from their tenants than local authorities ever were.
- The relationship between local authorities and housing associations needs to be looked at. One problem is the fragmented nature of multiple HAs within one area. A strong voice for local authorities is needed within the new Homes and Communities Agency.
- RSLs should devolve more within their own structures to local boards and so on. This would aid the development of better, mixed communities.

Housing Co-Operatives

- Another solution could be the promotion of housing co-ops. Tenant-owned co-operatives (the Community Mutual or Community Gateway model of ownership) can be established as the organisation to which local authorities transfer housing stock, instead of setting up an ALMO or transferring stock in an RSL. Transfer into Community Mutuals would free-up funding mechanisms outside the remit of the PSBR whilst also striving for community control of the housing stock, thus removing the perceived accountability weaknesses associated with RSL stock transfer.
- The model has been trail-blazed in Preston, where council tenants voted for stock transfer to a Community Gateway co-op 2004, and in Torfaen and Rhondda Cynon Taff, where the vote to transfer took place in 2007. The key touted plus-point to the Community Mutual model is that it places the accountability of housing management firmly in the local community. As the Welsh Assembly Government's guidelines for stock transfer set out in 2005: 'The basis of community mutuals is that the ownership of local authority stock would transfer, following ballot, to the tenants of the new organisation... By this mechanism, there is a real sense of ownership by the local community, and a real sense of participation and involvement by the tenants. It also avoids any sense of some remote or unaccountable organisation owning and running the properties.'

Sheltered accommodation/housing for elderly tenants

- Councils and HAs struggle to move elderly long-term tenants in larger properties, who no longer need as much space, to make way for families. This is principally down to an insufficient supply of quality, suitable smaller accommodation.
- We should aim to provide more sheltered accommodation and other suitable smaller accommodation for elderly residents, in order to free up family-sized housing.

Intermediate housing

- We need greater support for aspirant first time buyers. Too many existing schemes, including shared ownership options, are still out of reach for those on household incomes lower than around £40k. There should be a more affordable 'Starter Homes' scheme for those on lower incomes than this.
- We must better support cooperative housing models.

6. Rural affairs and animal welfare

How do we ensure that all rural communities are supported by high quality local transport and have access to all the services they need?

- All Government domestic policies should be rural-proofed.
- More use should be made of modern technology to make information and services available to sparser populated areas.

7. The Arts, Culture and Sport

How do we ensure that a full range of art and cultural experiences are accessible to all?

The quality of artistic provision depends on the supply of trained practitioners in all the arts, and a better informed audience.

- The Government should initiate a review of education and training in all branches of the Arts, and support a cultural strand in further and adult education.
- Too much of the country's cultural stock is locked up in London: greater efforts need to be made to ensure the nations and regions have access to it, through, eg touring exhibitions and performances, and the location of permanent collections, as in Tate Liverpool or St Ives.

Appendix

ATTENDEES AT LGA LABOUR GROUP NPF SEMINARS

Cllr Sidney Kallar	Barking and Dagenham
Cllr Ansuya Sodha	Barnet
Cllr Jean Waiting	Barrow Borough Council
Cllr Terry Waiting	Barrow Borough Council
Cllr John Bull	Bath and North East Somerset
Cllr Clifford Morris	Bolton
Cllr David Chadwick	Bolton
Cllr Linda Thomas	Bolton
Cllr Gill Thornton	Bradford
Cllr John Gyford	Braintree
Cllr Fabian Breckels	Bristol
Cllr Helen Holland	Bristol
Cllr Mark Brain	Bristol
Cllr Keith Rothwell	Bury
Cllr Tim Young	Colchester
Cllr Ann Lucas	Coventry
Cllr Dave Chater	Coventry
Cllr Joe Clifford	Coventry
Cllr John Mutton	Coventry
Cllr John McNicholas	Coventry
Cllr Colin Lloyd	Crawley
Cllr Carole Bonner	Croydon
Cllr Tony Newman	Croydon
Cllr Robin Turner	Derby City Council
Cllr Dave Roberts	Derby City Council
Cllr David Wilcox	Derbyshire
Cllr Ben Bano	Dover
Cllr Judy Foster	Dudley
Cllr Rachel Harris	Dudley
Cllr Shaukat Ali	Dudley
Cllr Michael Elliott	Ealing
Cllr Phil Greenhead	Ealing
Cllr Sonika Nirwal	Ealing
Cllr Justin Madders	Ellesmere Port and Neston
Cllr Chris Fegan	Essex CC
Cllr Paul Kirkman	Essex CC
Cllr John Fahy	Greenwich
Cllr Daniel Kemp	Hackney
Cllr Darren Parker	Hackney
Cllr Emma Plouviez	Hackney
Cllr Lisa Homan	Hammersmith and Fulham
Cllr John Bevan	Haringey
Cllr Nilgun Canver	Haringey
Cllr Sheik Thompson	Haringey
Cllr Jerry Miles	Harrow
Cllr Andrew Cartwright	Hastings
Cllr Matt Harmer	Hounslow
Cllr Barry Edwards	Islington
Cllr Phil Kelly	Islington
Cllr Richard Watts	Islington
Cllr Liz Green	Kent CC

Cllr Mike Eddy	Kent CC
Cllr Brian O'Hare	Knowsley
Cllr Adedamola Aminu	Lambeth
Cllr Sally Prentice	Lambeth
Cllr Steve Reed	Lambeth
Cllr Jennifer Mein	Lancs CC
Cllr Manish Sood	Leicester
Cllr Helen Klier	Lewisham
Mayor Steve Bullock	Lewisham
Cllr Rod Campbell	Lichfield
Cllr Chris Burke	Lincolnshire
Cllr Alift Harewood	Macclesfield
Cllr Gill Boston	Macclesfield
Cllr Afzal Khan	Manchester
Cllr Harry Lyons	Manchester
Cllr Mary Murphy	Manchester
Cllr Maryam Khan	Manchester
Cllr Naeem Hassan	Manchester
Sir Richard Leese	Manchester
Sir Jeremy Beecham	Newcastle
Cllr Graham Lane	Newham
Cllr Susan Whitaker	Norfolk
Cllr Hayden Phillips	North Warwickshire
Cllr Mick Stanley	North Warwickshire
Cllr Susan Sands	Norwich
Cllr Tony Page	Reading
Cllr Elaine Norman	Redbridge
Cllr Julia Hughes	Redbridge
Cllr Tom Aldred	Rossendale
Cllr Mike Roberts	Rushmoor
Cllr Anne Marie Humphries, Salford	Salford
Cllr John Merry	Salford
Cllr John Warmisham	Salford
Cllr Martin Prestidge	Sandwell MBC
Cllr Terry Fox	Sheffield
	South Kirkby and Moorthorpe Town Council
Cllr Tom Allsopp	Southampton
Cllr Simon Letts	Southend
Cllr Judy McMahon	Southwark
Cllr Peter John	Southwark
Cllr Mark Glover	Southwark
Cllr Veronica Ward	Southwark
Cllr Andy Bowden	St Helens
Cllr Sharon Taylor	Stevenage
Cllr Peter Scott	Stockport
Cllr Adrian Knapper	Stoke-on-Trent
Cllr Keith Rawlingson	Suffolk CC
Cllr Sandy Martin	Suffolk CC
Cllr Roy Picken	Telford and Wreakin
Cllr David Green	Thanet
Cllr Michelle Fenner	Thanet
Cllr Joshua Peck	Tower Hamlets
Cllr Motin Uz-zaman	Tower Hamlets
Cllr Judith Lloyd	Trafford
Cllr Michael Cordingley	Trafford

Cllr Laurie Harrison
Cllr Ian Robertson
Cllr Rex Osborn
Cllr Richard Grant
Cllr Barbara Grahame
Cllr Brendan Bowen
Cllr Norman Bradbury
Cllr Peter Smith
Cllr Phil Davies
Cllr Christine Irvine
Cllr Maohar Minhas
Cllr Roger Lawrence
Cllr Tersaim Singh
Cllr Paul Denham
Cllr Roger Berry
Cllr Christina Funnell
Cllr Dave Merrett
Cllr Sonja Crisp

Wakefield
Walsall
Wandsworth
Warwickshire
Westminster
Wigan
Wigan
Wigan
Wirral
Wolverhampton
Wolverhampton
Wolverhampton
Wolverhampton
Worcester City Council
Worcester City Council
York
York
York

OTHER ATTENDEES

Sandra Samuels
Martin Rathfelder
Jack Hopkins

Jane Edbrooke
Sam Elliot

Ben Johnson
Julie Grimble
Louisa Thomson
Nathan Yeowell
Aicha Less
Gill Walton

NPF Rep for West Midlands
Socialist Health Association
Political Assistant, Lambeth
Labour Group Political Officer,
Waltham Forest
Political Adviser, London Councils
Sustainable Communities Policy
Officer, Labour Party
LGA Labour Group
LGA Labour Group
LGA Labour Group
LGA Labour Group
Political Assistant, Wolverhampton

OTHER SUBMISSIONS

Sir Robin Wales
Cllr Sandra Davies
Paul Connellan

Newham
Powys
Chair Altrincham and Sale CLP