



In the lead up to the 40:20 conference over 80 people registered to attend, on the day we saw over 100 people come along to the Heartlands High School in Wood Green (winner of 'Best Green Design' at this year's Haringey Design Awards).

Whilst registering for the event attendees were able to talk to the following stall holders and find out about green businesses, local enterprises and local community groups:

- [Ecodomus](#)
- [Evolve 2BU](#)
- [Friends of the Earth](#)
- [Hatch Solar](#)
- [HouseTech Solutions](#)
- [Integrated Heating Ltd](#)
- [Living Under One Sun](#)
- [Make My Home Green](#)
- [Muswell Hill Sustainability Group](#)
- [Sustainable Haringey](#)
- [The POOSH](#)

After an introduction from our host for the day, Perry Walker, we heard from our three key speakers:

- Liz Cox from [nef](#) who ran through the Commission Report
- Cllr Joe Goldberg, Cabinet Member for Finance & Sustainability who provided a response from Haringey and recapped some of the action from the year gone by
- Clare Hierons from [Carbon Leapfrog](#) provided an outside perspective based upon her organisations work to support community groups across the country and further afield.

All presentations from the day are now available for download as PDFs at www.haringey4020.org.uk/4020-conference

Lunch and refreshments on the day were provided by [The People's Supermarket](#); a cooperative based just outside the borough but with an ethos that was supported strongly on the day. All photos in the report were taken by [GreenLenStudio](#)

The following report outlines the key discussions that took place during the breakout sessions and summarises the main feedback received.

For more information please email haringey4020@haringey.gov.uk or call 020 8489 5691

“Go Dutch” walking and cycling upgrades needed across Haringey

Facilitated by: Gerhard Weiss (London Cycle Campaign) and Edwin Leigh (Haringey Transport Policy Officer)

This group discussed what ‘Going Dutch’ could mean for Haringey and how groups across the borough could help identify cycle routes and facilities needed.

“There was a very positive reaction to the principles and the undertaking of a thorough audit of the borough by the transport team. It was felt that care needs to be taken to ensure the importance of walking as a mode of transport is not forgotten.”

The borough-wide audit could be linked to the piloting of different local schemes once suitable areas have been identified.

Piloting **traffic-free neighbourhoods** on Sundays was discussed – something that the council would need to be seen to facilitate; encouraging and making this easier to happen.

There were wider questions asked about the **supporting role of green spaces and gardens** to the climate/carbon challenge such as a ban on turning gardens into parking spaces.

Courtesy of © GreenLensStudio



Home retrofitting and the 'Green Deal'

Facilitated by: Jessica Sherlock (Environmental Resources Manager, Haringey Council).

This popular session saw attendees discuss the potential options to achieve a 3,000 home retrofit across the borough over the next 3 years.

"A trusted service is key to people undertaking retrofitting measures but must be carried out in conjunction with behavioural education work."

Trust is essential for customers, so council endorsement is needed. However, if contractors are supported by the council they need to be **high quality**.

Providing financial incentives alone can't buy beliefs or values; an ongoing dialogue of education is needed to complement promotion of the Green Deal.

The Council needs to be seen to be **supporting smaller businesses** to grow through this initiative but if involving 'big names' then they must have **local employment requirements** in their contracts.

There was some concern as to what the cost difference between local suppliers and the 'big names' would be and how this would affect uptake of their services.

It was felt that work taking place in Tottenham should be done in assoc with football ground. Other important local action needs to involve local advocates (*I've had it done, it wasn't difficult, I saved £150 and so on*).

Marketing the idea could involve **dynamic and community based** activity such as comparing people's energy use with their neighbours, enabling people to visit houses similar to theirs that have had retrofitting work done to them, and neighbourhood-level schemes. **The message needs to be reinforced across the range of council services operating in the local area.**

To take the lead the Council needs to ensure a local brand is well known and established and that a road map through the home retrofitting process is clear and readily available for residents.



Alternative Energy Mutual

Facilitated by: Simone Sullivan (Decentralised Energy Officer, Haringey Council)

In this very popular session attendees discussed the draft proposal for an alternative energy mutual that would save 200,000 tonnes of carbon across the Upper Lee Valley area over its lifetime.

“It was evident from these breakout sessions that lots of people want to know more about the subject and future discussions are much needed.”

Feedback for a mutual was supportive but there was concern over the low rate of return and attracting sufficient investment for a project of this size from the community. It was also felt that sustainable funders should be investigated such as Triodos Bank and Ecology Building Society.

There were many general questions relating to the definition of CHP, the size of scheme, the security of supply, fuel source, budget and investment – and a desire to develop a working group to further discuss the options for this scheme.



Affordable warmth – grant funding

Facilitated by: John Mathers (Fuel Poverty Officer, Haringey)

Discussions in this session were on grants available and projects supporting vulnerable people.

“A longer-term and more cohesive council scheme is needed to increase awareness and trust – to date there have been different schemes of varying offer and duration which can lead to confusion with no clear Haringey ‘brand’ able to develop.”

A key topic of conversation in this group was the **recent Council mailing offering free insulation** to vulnerable residents, in partnership with EDF, as well as previous insulation schemes the council has run over the last decade.

Setting up a longer-term scheme was felt to be important to ensure people take advantage of funding more readily. Attendees felt that residents who want positive feedback about a scheme before committing to having work done miss out on offers available. A longer term council backed ‘brand’ would allay their concerns and provide a ‘one stop shop’ for local insulation questions.

There was a great deal of discussion about the pros and cons of the forthcoming Green Deal and ECO initiatives and their potential for take-up in Haringey.

Members of Sustainable Haringey raised the issue of **simple measures such as draught proofing and how it was a perennial problem** to get this sort of work done. Although there are a number of draught-proofing workshops being carried out across the borough by groups including Sustainable Haringey, The Haringey Timebank and The 100 Homes Project, there was an awareness that often those who might most need draught proofing might be the least able to do the work themselves.



Collective Purchasing in Haringey

Facilitated by: Cara Jenkinson (Muswell Hill Sustainability Group), Dermot Barnes (EN10ergy)

This group shared models for collective purchasing of green electricity and discussed the collective purchasing of goods and services such as the EN10ERGY low carbon buying group for boilers, solar PV and other measures.

“There is a definite appetite for collective switching of energy tariffs and for extending bulk purchasing projects like the LCBG across the borough.”

The groups started off with introductions and an explanation of the **Low Carbon Buying Group** that MHSB has set up. In general, all group participants were very positive about collective buying and the themes we discussed were barriers to take up; products that could be purchased; how to promote the low carbon buying group; and the collective purchasing of electricity.

One of the main concerns was regarding smaller installers being able to provide sufficient guarantee on the work they carried out or if their installation practices would be ethical (i.e. using sustainable materials and paying decent wages to their workers). There was also concern about the ‘future proofing’ of the work done i.e. a boiler now may not be the most efficient model in 5 years time. Finally a key concern was that many people simply don’t have the finances at the moment to undertake work, regardless of a bulk purchase discount.

In spite of this there was a real appetite to increase membership and promote the existing Low Carbon Buying Group (LCBG) through neighbourhood events like Highgate 21st Century Homes, using existing organisations such as residents associations and church groups. Attendees also felt that the LCBG should extend its offer to include low energy light bulbs/LEDs; energy monitors; draught-stripping; and energy efficient white goods although they felt a good source of guidance and advice would help them make more informed choices on measures to invest in.

Most people in discussion groups said they would be **interested in the collective switching of energy tariffs** although some are already with Green Energy suppliers and would not want to switch to non-green supplier.

Stories of home refurbishment

Facilitated by: Jackie Jones (Highgate Society – one of this year's Community Fund Winners)

This was an opportunity for people to hear about the recent '21st Century Homes Weekend' held by the Highgate Society, share their stories and learn from others who have undertaken retrofitting measures in their home, or are in the process of doing so.

“Trusted people and sources of advice are needed by householders as this is often the first step and the first barrier to having work done in the home. It was also felt that more work still needs to be done on normalising housing retrofitting.”

Most of the participants were themselves householders who had undertaken some level of energy efficiency measures, but were interested in doing more.

There was a clear message from participants who were able to pay for their installations without the need for government subsidies that they wish to do more but **don't know where to turn for advice**. It was felt more generally that many people would take up more measures if they knew what was on offer and how to find it. **Reliable information on technology and solutions, information on financing options** and a need for **trusted suppliers** were all examples given during the sessions. Being able to visit other homes and **see solutions in action** was felt to be extremely worthwhile as was being able to meet with others and swap stories.

It was also felt important to take into account the fabric of the building and materials (avoiding potentially damaging treatments that might lead e.g. to interstitial condensation, or materials whose production is in itself environmentally damaging). In some areas it was there is also a need to take into account the heritage aspects of buildings and guidance here could prove helpful.





Social Housing energy upgrade – recent activity and future plans

Facilitated by: Jacinta Walters (Homes for Haringey) & Peter Maddison (Homes for Haringey)

Discussions were wide ranging in this session and based around Homes for Haringey's recent retrofitting activity and their emerging energy strategy.

“A basic educational/behaviour change project is still fundamental to making an impact in the social housing sector – conversations are more successful and effective than information.”

The workshop was well attended by a good cross section of Councillors, Council tenants and wider resident groups interested in retrofit and concerned about impact of rising fuel prices. There was general support for the Homes for Haringey strategic aims and approach to reducing carbon emissions and tackling fuel poverty.

It was felt that there should be a focus on the 'basics' first such as low cost high impact measures like loft insulation. This needs to be combined with encouraging behavioural change through advice sessions, workshops and piloting energy monitor usage.

The increasing incidence of fuel poverty combined with impacts of welfare reform was seen as a key challenge for residents however The Green Deal is seen as very challenging 'sell' to residents especially in the context of welfare reform concerns.

There was uncertainty about how green deal/eco will benefit council tenants but there was agreement that Homes for Haringey need to maximise available funding opportunities. Specific vulnerable groups noted were the elderly and those on pre-pay meters.

How to build and develop networks – learning from nature's blueprint

Facilitated by: Servane Mouzan (Director of Ogunte Innovation)

This was a unique opportunity for people to hear from an award winning social innovator and a UK Ambassador for Women in Business about discuss how they could develop and expand networks in Haringey.

“The aims of 40:20 need to be made more relevant to a wider audience to aid a greater dialogue between the east and the west of the borough.”

It was felt that there was a **great deal of benefit to be had from increasing the level of sharing and discussion between community groups in the east and the west** of the borough in addition with groups outside of the Haringey. There was recognition that local groups can be ‘cliquey’ and to avoid this, the 40:20 messages need to be relevant to a wider audience.

The group felt there was little awareness of 40:20 amongst the general public and The Haringey Timebank, in addition to further workshops about networking could play a role in getting the message more widely understood.

Key to the process of networking is the need to drive; unite; stimulate; and support groups within the borough.



Breakout sessions topics

There were a number of breakout discussions taking place at the conference, some of which have been highlighted below.

“How can the sustainability agenda overcome the east-west divide in the borough,,

- Make it relevant – issues on the east very different to the west –specific events need to be designed
- Pockets of actions need to be shared across the borough; many places are lacking in numbers or volunteers and could benefit from wider awareness.
- School twinning should be explored www.schoolslinkingnetwork.org.uk
- ‘Village squares’ are needed for people to mix in
- Regeneration teams should have support from community based workers
- Perception is all and more needed to emphasise the human capital

“The Haringey Pound,,

- Some local currencies have not been successful (Belsize) whilst others have (Totnes, Brixton) – would a local currency work in Haringey?
- Cash/Carrot mobbing is another way to stimulate local spending – recent example occurred at the Haringey market (ladders) but could it be replicated elsewhere?
- Is the credit union able and willing to support a local carrot mobbing or a local currency?
- Could local currency be used for council tax payments, in shopping city, in addition to local shops
- Who else needs to be involved – could the 3 transition groups in the borough coordinate this?

“Reducing electricity use,,

Libraries remain a source of info for many people– how can the environmental message they provide be more coordinated? Some ideas that have been trialled before but would benefit from linking together is through providing:

- Personalised info for householders on retrofitting measures
- Shared experiences from other residents
- Real-time displays for rental from libraries
- Meter reading / energy bill deciphering workshops and information

“Making planet-saving activity an act of joy not a sacrifice,,

There was agreement across this group that people are often most happy when getting things done such as cooking, growing, mending, working; particularly if doing it with other people. Many felt that the social impact of environmental act vity was as important, as the material outcomes. A key comment was ‘do things with love and people will follow your example’.

Key Recommendations & Actions from the day

1. 40:20 working groups should be formed to take action forward on:

- Large scale borough wide housing retrofit
- Collective purchasing and advice on saving energy
- Alternative energy network and cross borough company
- Walking and infrastructure study
- Haringey Green Time Bank

2. Behaviour change work is still essential and needs to be carried out in tandem with 'hard' measures

3. 40:20 should develop its role as a trusted source of information and a locally recognised brand. Areas of particular interest are:

- The Green Deal
- Home retrofitting measures
- Financing home retrofitting
- Affordable warmth schemes

