

Strategic Influencing: Working with Councils & National Government - Sub-Group Report Back

	Morning session	
1	National campaign for local councils to communicate carbon reduction plan on climate emergency	Gabriel
2	Oppositional stance of divestment	Gabriel
3	Insulation for old and new housing is a win/win for all and a bread and butter issue	Gabriel
4	It is the leadership of the local authority and responsibility of councils on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How they influence the local community - The issue is everyone has to act and leadership is required to do this - Cease making excuses (it is outside our control, no funding etc) and influence up 	David
5	There is a requirement to avoid party politics and work to influence, include and use communication networks of businesses, associations and organisations to do this	Jay
6	Eastbourne Council and FoE are working together to set up a Community Interest Company (called Eco Action Network) – more councils could and should be doing this	Sally
7	Mole Valley have a similar model	Paul
8	Local officers are over worked and under pressure and some disengaged so bring them solutions and not problems	Jay
9	What are the different models in place and how are they working? A survey is currently taking place with a view to sharing with councils	Sally
10	No local authorities are changing building rules/regs so activities that are detrimental to environment (e.g. parking areas that are not free draining) continue	David
11	It is impossible to argue with or influence developers to do anything green because without any regulations or prospect of action for any regulation breach. Developers are not required to consider the impact to wildlife for example when they clear a site (e.g. disturbing nesting or hibernation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mid Sussex have produced a new guide for developers although it falls short of effective changes to current practice) 	John
12	How can the resources and officers' objectives (time spent and direction) be influenced	Jay
13	Content and measurements of local authorities do not include climate crisis in any direct way	Sherry
14	Sussex Greenhouse Gas monitoring is looking at different methods to measure carbon footprint by local authority. SECA plans to work with them	Sally
15	Surrey Climate Commission and Surrey CC are funding Guildford University to do similar to Sussex Greenhouse Gas. Oxford and Leeds Uni's doing similar too	Paul
16	Specific measures exist already, need to talk to the right people to obtain them	John
17	Winchester CC have commissioned a report which is thorough and accurate	Richard
18	Measurement of current carbon emissions is flawed, a campaign is needed to change this to include shipping, air and goods purchased. So long as this figure exists the public, organisations and government can hide behind this false figure	Richard
19	Everything has a carbon footprint and for people to make educated choices they need to know how their spending (outside of car and heating) adds to their own carbon footprint	Student
20	A group of people (rather than individual) to meet their MP to ask; where do you sit on climate crisis, how have you arrived at that decision. Seek to influence individual	Peter

	MPs using good models/practices to pressure to change mindset. Develop a template for other groups to do this in other constituencies	
21	Local Wellbeing Act https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Local_Government_Act_2000 Provides a statutory requirement, how can this be used in South East?	Sherry
22	British Columbia have introduced a carbo tax to bring about changes in behaviour and reinvesting the money in green technologies https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/planning-and-action/carbon-tax	Sherry
23	County and Local Councils are the proverbial oil tankers and without government instruction they will not 'turn around' in 10 years	Richard
24	Rebut to point 23 is the government did not let this stand in their way in WW2. Also, consider the ozone layer crisis which because of dogged scientific endeavour, the government brought in significant changes (listen to R4 program to hear more https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b05tl3jk)	Anne

Afternoon session: effective lobbying		
1	Get in front of Lord Debon (John Gummer) is Chairman of the UK's independent Committee on Climate Change. Sally's experience is he will meet those who have content to share For contact details go to https://members.parliament.uk/member/4154/contact	Sally Pavey
2	Opposition MPs/parties can help navigate us through the political maze. Either as constituency MPs or when on select committees	Sally P
3	Select committees set up to investigate a specific issue in detail or to perform a specific scrutiny role. They may call in officials and experts for questioning and can demand information from the government. It is possible to attend and ask to submit evidence (see point 17) Identify local MP who is onside as they can forward a letter of support to select committee	Sally P
4	Public Works Loans Award can be used to finance good local projects	Alister
5	https://citizensclimatelobby.uk Their methodology is effective – what can SECA use from this organisation	
6	Policy Connect https://www.policyconnect.org.uk/about-us are a coalition of leading businesses, parliamentarians and organisations informing better policy-making in government. The APPCCG aims to put climate change mitigation and adaptation and at the core of policy making and political activity in Parliament. The APPCCG aims to encourage effective policymaking in Westminster through a number of key events, roundtable discussions and fundamental research activity. How can SECA link in? How can we use facts on their website to better inform local MPs etc?	Peter
7	Select Committee's clerks are very open and helpful ('if you don't ask you don't get approach') and best approach of one of help and not attack, they want experts and representation groups to inform them	Sally P
8	Once SECA has established contacts and/or approaches then share 'template' with other organisations? E.g. other regional SECAs in the UK	

9	<p>Tips for contacting MPs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Three to four bullet points - No more than one paragraph - It has to be punchy and hold their attention - Sending copies of newsletters won't be read by MP although may be read by other with access to their email accounts - To influence them, fill their in box with emails (or post) from 20+ different people so that their assistants report to them 'this' is an issue with your constituents 	Sally P
10	Carrie has had training on contacting MPs from a woman in Sheffield?	
11	Go as a group of constituents rather than individuals to meet MP	Peter
12	The proposed expansion on the A27, if the opposition to it is effective, may create an atmosphere for change with in the government. There are people looking to create an encampment and experience of these before and the disruption and publicity may be influential	Chris
13	Councils have to consider the complexity of an overall strategy that enables housing, transport, etc to dovetail. Brighton & Hove are going out to tender on this	Peter
14	Horsham are working with Sussex Wildlife, employing them in fact, to input in to their strategy. No doubt other councils are also making use of specialist organisation/groups	Sally P
15	East & West Sussex are working together to deliver joint services by way of cost saving	Sally P
16	Nominate people in SECA to take of specific roles to avoid duplication and having an identified person to go to, become more efficient and effective	Sally P
17	SECA may be a reliable interest group but will need to be formalised (constitution etc) for effective communication (incl meetings) with some politicians and definitely National Government	Sally P