

Time	2023 SECA Annual Gathering: Agenda	Speakers/Chairs
10:30	Intro/Welcome – Why local democracy matters in driving climate action.	Tony Whitbread/Geoff Barnard
10:40	Existing democratic structures – How do they work, and how well do they work, in delivering climate action?	Rose Taylor (FOE)
11:00	Alternative approaches - What can we learn from Citizens Assemblies?	Chloe Clarke (Adur & Worthing Council)
11:20	Efforts to scrutinise council action – what do they tell us and how do we make more effective use of them?	Annie Pickering (Climate Emergency UK) + Alison Marshall (SECA) + Mid Sussex Climate Coalition
12:00	What have SECA members learned from their efforts to engage with and influence councils?	Table discussions, led by Brenda Pollock (FOE)
12:45	Lunch, networking	
1:45	The Insider’s view panel discussion: what can current councillors tell us about how their council has been influenced by citizen pressure, and what tactics have worked best?	Chaired by Tony Whitbread, with: Jay Mercer (Lib Dem, WSCC) + Matthew Bird (Green, Lewes) + Jonathan Chownen (Conservative, Horsham)
2.15	Table discussions on a range of other hot topics.	Led by table champions
3.45	Take home messages - what we’ve learned for the election & beyond	Tony Whitbread/ Geoff Barnard
4.00	Main session ends, tea, networking	