

Love Lambeth Air Feedback Event

Wednesday 14th June 2017

On Wednesday 14th June, over 45 local residents and stakeholders gathered in St John's Church in Waterloo to discuss the results of a community-led air quality monitoring programme in Lambeth.

The event highlighted the results of the Love Lambeth Air project, developed by Mapping for Change and Lambeth Council, and included guest speakers from other London based air quality monitoring projects. Speakers included Sarah Hudson from the Barbican Estate and Sheila D'Souza from Marylebone who presented along with Cllr Jennifer Brathwaite from Lambeth, May Van Schalkwyk from Public Health and Ben Stephenson from South Bank and Waterloo Neighbourhood Forum.

The chairman of the governors of Archbishop Sumner C of E Primary School, Adam Matthews, briefly spoke at the start of the event about the Clean Air Pledge several students have developed. [The Clean Air Pledge](#) was created by 14 children to encourage political leaders to publish a new Clean Air Act within the first 100 days of forming a new government following the General Election on June 8th. Adam's eight-year-old daughter Scarlett read out the pledge and the next steps of the project.



Claire Baldock, from Mapping for Change, started by providing a background to the Love Lambeth Air project before going on to discuss the results from the data collected from over 30 volunteer surveyors at 34 sites across Lambeth over the 6 months. Results showed that only 4 out of 34 sites were within the EU legal limits (annual mean). Further results can be seen on the one-page summary from the project.



Councillor Jennifer Brathwaite, Cabinet Member for Housing and Environment, spoke about the importance of projects like this that use citizen science to monitor air quality and went on to say that, "diffusion tubes are more friendly than the monitoring stations". She explained some of the actions Lambeth Council are taking and the importance of getting everyone involved.



Representatives from other London based air quality monitoring projects presented their experiences with local air quality monitoring. Sarah Hudson, a Barbican resident, explained in detail the air quality monitoring project Mapping for Change undertook with residents on the Barbican Estate over a 12-month period from 2013-2014. Sarah explained that the results at the Barbican were interesting as they showed that air pollution can still be bad at a considerable height above street level; residents monitored air quality on their balconies, some up to 20 stories high, as well as at street level.

Sheila D'Souza, a Marylebone resident, went onto discuss local air quality monitoring in Marylebone. Sheila explained the changes in results from their 2015 and 2017 monitoring around Marylebone station. The results show air quality worsening along the side streets and improving along main roads. The results also exposed lesser known polluted areas around local shops.



May Van Schalkwyk, from Public Health, gave the audience a more positive spin on things by stating that although we know air pollution is bad, we do have the solutions. May went onto explain that “places where people can flourish, clean air will follow”.

Ben Stephenson, from South Bank and Waterloo Neighbourhood Forum, concluded the guest speakers’ presentations with an update on the air quality policies being developed for the South Bank and Waterloo Neighbourhood Plan.

Following the presentations, all speakers participated in a Q&A panel discussion session followed by an action building session to share ideas on how to improve local air quality going forward. Event attendees established a number of ideas for individual action, collective action, action for Lambeth and action for the Mayor. From planting up outside spaces, to car free days and restricting use of HGVs at construction sites.



Below is a table created from discussion at the event highlighting actions that can be taken to improve local air quality.

Individual Action	Collection Action	Action for Lambeth	Action for Mayor
Planting	Community market	Schools involvement	Denser concentration of cycle hire
Community garden (edible bus stop)	Car free days	Scrapping green waste fees	Extend the cycle hire scheme
Balconies and windowsill planting	Cycle to work day in a team	Creative use of planning	Rigorous licensing – taxis
AQ filter planting – window box	Two main parks – need volunteers	Restrict use of HGVs in new developments	Measure impact of Waterloo station
Low Emission Zone (contribute)	Housing policy (new developments)	Refuse collection contractors for businesses	
Meeting to discuss ULEZ	Encourage living close to work	Involve/train traffic wardens to ask drivers parked with their engines on to turn them off	
Promote walking to schools	Join the organisation – Lambeth Cycling	Use electric vehicles for garbage/recycling and delivery	
Cycle to work day	Working more with schools		
Ask for a bicycle hanger near my house	Raise awareness among the youth mediums & other demographics		
Shop locally	Hedges planting – community garden		
Delivery batches and collection points	Participate in consultations		
Respond to consultation	Last km delivery only by electric vehicle		

A follow up questionnaire from the questionnaire completed by participants at the beginning of the project was distributed to participants. The results of this and comparisons between questionnaires will be made available in the final project report.

Photos from the Love Lambeth Air Feedback Event on 14.06.17



















