



Kendal Climate Change Citizen's Jury recommendations

The question considered by the Kendal Climate Change Citizen's Jury was *'What should Kendal do about the emergency of climate change?'*

Jury statement

The following statement was written by a group of jury members and then edited and discussed by the rest of the jury. All of the 18 jury members who voted on the recommendations strongly supported the statement:

We are a diverse group of 20 Kendal residents who reflect our community in terms of age, disability, gender and attitude to climate change. We hold a wide range of opinions. Over four months, in the summer of 2020, we listened to a wide range of outside experts and considered relevant information. We questioned these ideas and worked together to come to a set of recommendations.

We are in a climate crisis and believe we must all change our priorities as a matter of urgency. Climate change is a strand that runs through everyone's lives and it must become a principle that governs all decisions made. All decisions must be measured against it and money must no longer be the most important decision influencing what action is taken. This is a problem that belongs to us all and we all have a collective responsibility to question our everyday decisions and take action both as individuals and as a town. We share both a deep concern that our recommendations will not be acted upon until it's too late and a belief that this is Kendal's opportunity to be a beacon and an example for all to follow.

Recommendations	Rank within the theme and number of points	Overall Rank
FOOD AND FARMING 1) Allotments: we need more space for people to grow their own food: a) We must develop more allotments. The council must identify more land suitable for use as allotments. b) It should be a requirement of new housing developments that allotments be created as part of that development (not necessarily located at the same site) c) To satisfy demand the dividing of plots into smaller sections or the sharing of plots should be made possible. d) New allotment holders should be given the opportunity to join a free introductory course on growing your own.	1 st (99)	=8th
FOOD AND FARMING 2) Reducing Food Waste: Kendal Town Council to provide extra funding for “Waste into Wellbeing” to enable them to develop their educational work aimed at enabling their clients to make good food choices, teach cookery skills and how to avoid food waste.	2 nd (96)	=8th
FOOD AND FARMING 3) Increase the opportunities for local farmers/producers to sell their products: a) Investigate possibility of providing an outlet/shop for individual farmers/producers in town. b) Local section for local produce in local supermarkets.	3 rd (87)	=13 th
FOOD AND FARMING 4) Work with local farmers to look at land use and involve local farmers in the decision-making process to ensure that land is put to the best use from a climate and biodiversity perspective and identify ways to: a) Support organic farming (linked to biodiversity priorities and climate change) b) Further off set any emissions generated by farming (e.g. tree planting, integrated wind turbines on farms, solar panels on chicken sheds etc.) c) Incentivise a reduction in the carbon footprint of cattle farming.	4 th (85)	=13th
FOOD AND FARMING 5) Implement a new labelling system for UK produced food: Work with local/national government to introduce this system, similar to a food hygiene rating (food miles), so that consumers can make informed choices when seeking to buy more climate friendly food. This should include local restaurants and hotels (for example the carbon footprint labelling on menus at the National Trust’s Sticklebarn in Langdale)..	5 th (66)	=18th
FOOD AND FARMING 6) Encourage the sale of loose products to prevent packaging and food waste	6 th (58)	=13th
FOOD/FARMING 7) Lobby for the development of a country wide food and farming strategy to make the UK more self-sufficient, so reducing the need for imports.	7 th (42)	25th
FOOD/FARMING 8) Promote a plant-based diet, to include:	8 th (32)	27th

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A programme of education so that people better understand low carbon footprint diets. Part of this work should include an investigation into which methods of education are most effective. b) Local celebrity chefs should be encouraged to suggest seasonal meals c) Tips on how to get the correct nutrients from a plant-based diet 		
<p>HOUSING AND ENERGY</p> <p>9) New housing: We must insist on high energy efficiency in all new housing. There must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) strict energy efficiency measures applied to all new housing. All three of our councils should join with other local authorities nationwide to lobby central government to change current rules on planning to ensure higher energy efficiency standards. b) High energy efficiency on new homes must be a mandatory condition of planning permission. Companies competing for new developments must adhere to this and make it their utmost priority. 	=1 st (33)	=1st
<p>HOUSING AND ENERGY</p> <p>10) Energy efficiency: We must waste less energy through heat loss from existing homes and other buildings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Higher energy efficiency standards are needed. In other countries they are much higher (e.g. Germany, Poland). Local Councils must lobby at a national level for better standards. <p>Retrofitting homes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Local councils to work with Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAfS) and Kendal College to produce a training and accreditation scheme to enable local builders/trades people to gain the necessary skills for retrofitting homes. c) All tiers of local government and Tim Farron MP to find ways of funding a workable long-term grant scheme to enable local homeowners to retrofit their homes. Such grants must be easier to access than the current one (i.e. the current government green energy scheme). The current scheme should be extended as it is presently unworkable due to a lack of qualified tradesmen. d) Local councils to work with local hotels/guest houses to produce a scheme whereby local people needing somewhere to stay while work is undertaken to retrofit their homes can access low/reduced rate accommodation. e) Local councils to work with CAfS, and fund them if needed, to provide an ongoing awareness campaign to every home in Kendal informing owners of the steps they can take to retrofit homes, the benefits this brings (e.g. lower heating bills, more marketable property), the help available (e.g. grants / relevant information) and a list of accredited companies. <p>Retrofitting other buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> f) Strict energy efficiency measures should be applied to all existing non-residential buildings. Local councils should work with Kendal Futures and other local businesses groups to determine how local businesses can best be supported to enable them to adhere to this. <p>Kendal Town Council to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> g) independent advice and guidance on energy efficiency and retrofitting h) Manage a list of contractors with accreditation for retrofitting (in 	=2 nd (32)	=1st

partnership with other organisations - Cumbria Action for Sustainability)		
HOUSING AND ENERGY 11) Energy production: We ask that local councils (i.e. Kendal Town Council, SLDC, Cumbria County Council) do an assessment of the resources available in the area to generate our own renewable energy. (including: solar power, hydro power, wind power). a) For the solar option: identify how many buildings with suitable large roofs are available in Kendal (e.g. supermarkets) b) Kendal Town Council should identify land which could have ground mounted solar panels installed with the investment opportunity offered to people who don't have houses or land suitable for solar panels.	=2 nd (32)	=1 st
PROMOTING ACTION AND RAISING AWARENESS 12) All levels of local government (Kendal Town Council, South Lakeland District Council and Cumbria County Council) must: a) do a follow-up to our recommendations every 6 months for the next three years to report back to this jury and the town on what has been completed to sustain momentum and to keep pressure on. After this time a body should be established that continues placing Kendal residents at the centre of a vision for the town. We believe the town council should engage the wider public in scrutinising our recommendations so building wider accountability and ownership (including through existing community groups/climate change action groups). b) Kendal Town Council must: make sure an annual budget is allocated to take forward the jury recommendations.	1 st (71)	=1 st
PROMOTING ACTION AND RAISING AWARENESS 13) We need clear political leadership from our local councils with a coordinated and consistent approach. Such leadership must ensure we have accountable strategic planning on climate change across every level of local government. Such planning must recognise the role of a) individuals b) businesses/community organisations and c) local government. We are concerned that while making statements about climate change there are actions such as the decision on the coal mine or the Kendal flood defence scheme which are not compatible with the fight against climate change. We believe that climate change should be considered the most important factor in decision making above economic impact. a) The climate change impacts of any council policies/action must be transparent and publicly available for scrutiny. Every Council report must clearly state the climate change impacts of any policy/action and all decisions be transparently measured in terms of their positive or negative impact. Every council should have a regular climate change audit that offers an overview and scrutiny of how their actions/plans (internal/external) have a negative/positive impact on climate change. This audit needs to involve a wide range of stakeholders. Kendal Town Council, South Lakes District Council and Cumbria County Council should use a tool such as the Climate Change Decision Wheel to inform all decisions. b) We recommend a Climate change lead councillor and officer with clout as a focal point/convenor across every level of local govt. c) All 3 local councils should form a dedicated committee (of councillors) to	2 nd (69)	7 th

<p>discuss and implement climate change policies.</p> <p>d) The setting up of a wider permanent public group to involve a wide range of stakeholders and members of this jury. As well as an opportunity for local businesses to come together on this topic.</p> <p>e) Councillors must be equipped to take the action necessary:</p> <p>f) We strongly encourage councillors (at all levels from all parties) to talk to and learn from other councils. We have much to learn from others who are ahead of the game for example Town Councillors learning from other Town Councils such as Stroud and Frome (e.g. Frome's decision-making processes) and others such as Clitheroe (with their Park and Ride scheme)</p> <p>g) All councillors must take part in a suitable climate change education programme so they are better able to make the informed decisions required. This should be part of each newly elected councillor induction.</p>		
<p>PROMOTING ACTION AND RAISING AWARENESS</p> <p>14) Provide accessible information to make it easier for individuals to make informed decisions.</p> <p>a) Every level of government should provide access to information so people are able to make informed decisions on how best to reduce their carbon emissions for example how to compare the carbon footprint of purchases e.g. new or existing cars, qualified tradespeople, where to shop locally, what trees to plant, where to get an e-bike. Such a service should be well promoted and link directly with Cumbrian Action for Sustainability (CAFS).</p> <p>b) Create a 'one stop shop/climate change hub/info centre' using one of Kendal's shop fronts as an information centre for climate change that can give people/businesses access to the above.</p>	3 rd (62)	=13th
<p>PROMOTING ACTION AND RAISING AWARENESS</p> <p>15) Educate/raise awareness at community level about future consequences to motivate individuals, schools and businesses to act- through a pledge/commitment to take climate action. Such an awareness campaign-should include simple steps that individuals and schools can take with a balance of what is positive, not just negative</p>	4 th (56)	=8th
<p>PROMOTING ACTION AND RAISING AWARENESS</p> <p>16) The public and other stakeholders need to have the opportunity to build a collective vision of what the future might look like and develop a strategy that will continue to engage the public and individuals. Such a vision should bring alive not only the consequences of failing to act but also the wider health and community benefits from lifestyle changes, to help people feel motivated to act.</p> <p>a) Tools are available to enable the public to comment on the recommendations already made and should be used.</p> <p>b) The vision should build on what is already happening by making an audit of what activities/groups are already taking action to address climate change and then create a strategy involving citizens jury members, stakeholders, councillors. The Citizens Jury could help promote this act as a resource and keep momentum up.</p>	5 th (46)	=21st
<p>PROMOTING ACTION AND RAISING AWARENESS</p> <p>17) Educate and influence local business and their consumers through: a local kitemark scheme which rates local companies according to their local carbon footprint, similar to the hygiene rating. Advice should be made available on how to use the scheme through a central point.</p>	6 th (42)	23rd

<p>TRANSPORT</p> <p>18) Local public transport system</p> <p>We must improve the local public transport system in particular – buses, ensuring bus travel is affordable, frequent and reliable for all users. This could be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Taking all bus routes back into public ownership. Bus routes must not be at the mercy of whether or not they are profitable. b) Providing subsidised bus routes c) bus passes for young people being much more widely publicised to encourage young people to use the buses. d) Improving the provision of bus shelters on Kendal town bus routes to encourage year-round use of buses for short distance trips. Where possible, rural bus shelters should have provision for secure bicycle parking allowing users to cycle to the bus stop. 	1 ST (56)	=1st
<p>TRANSPORT</p> <p>19) Improved cycling provision</p> <p>We must shift the priority from cars to an infrastructure that prioritises pedestrians and cyclists. This will reduce car usage so reducing emissions and congestion To achieve this we must think imaginatively: we must make it easier for more people to take up cycling as a form of transport. We must increase opportunities for those who cycle, or those who could be encouraged to cycle, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Greatly improving and extending cycleways in town (and through connections with other towns). People don't feel confident to use the existing cycle routes. People must feel safe to be able to take up cycling and free up the roads from cars. b) Investigating the feasibility of an ebike hire scheme. c) Providing more secure, sheltered storage for bicycles in Kendal. d) Examining where it might be possible to give cyclists priority over motor vehicles. e) Making sure such changes include a comprehensive awareness raising and promotional campaign <p>There needs to be a practical vision for cycling in Kendal guided by Kendal residents and local business and organisations. Local councils must commit to work with this vision to make it a reality. They must draw on other examples from around the world to make sure that increased cycle provision does not discourage people who choose to walk as a form of transport by segregating motorists, cyclists and pedestrians wherever possible.</p>	2 nd (51)	=18th
<p>TRANSPORT</p> <p>20) Traffic reduction</p> <p>We must further reduce the volume of traffic in town and the surrounding area through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Encouraging car sharing - Kendal Town Council should facilitate a car sharing website with appropriate security to enable commuters or people travelling for shopping or leisure in and out of Kendal to connect and reduce individual car journeys. b) Investigate a feasibility study for a Park and Ride scheme for Kendal town centre and for the Lakes. 	3 rd (29)	24th
<p>TRANSPORT</p> <p>21) Electric Cars</p> <p>Kendal should promote the use of electric cars by facilitating the installation of</p>	4 th (24)	26th

<p>more charging points on street, in public car parks and car parks owned by local businesses. Local councils should lobby government to provide incentives for people to change to electric vehicles and disincentivise the use of petrol and diesel vehicles.</p>		
<p>OTHER ACTIONS</p> <p>22) We must protect existing trees and plant more. This should be achieved through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A Kendal Community Forest: Kendal Town Council should undertake an audit to identify new areas for tree planting (with input from the residents of Kendal - including residents groups, flood action groups, upstream communities, land owners and others). Trees planted should be decided based on biodiversity, carbon capture and food potential e.g. fruit trees for community harvest. b) An annual community tree count (like the RSPB bird count) to map the number, species, and condition of trees kept on a database for the whole of Kendal. Community tree groups should be established to cover each area of Kendal to give a sense of ownership and value to this data gathering. These groups should be consulted if there are any proposed changes to trees in their area (e.g. Sunnyside residents have responsibility for trees in Fletcher Park) c) Sponsored trees - establish a tree sponsorship scheme open to individuals or businesses to support new tree planting and on-going tree maintenance. New developments (housing or commercial) should be required to sponsor trees under this scheme. d) Schools should be encouraged to adopt an area of the Kendal Community Forest, and manage their area, including harvesting any produce e.g. fruit - apples, pears, damsons. This would also have significant health and well-being benefits. e) We recognise forestry management needs to be in place and there are times that trees have to be felled e.g. disease, over-crowding, these can be used for firewood or straight mature trees used for construction with new trees being planted at every stage. 		6th
<p>OTHER ACTIONS</p> <p>23) This jury recommends that Kendal is promoted as a single-use plastic free town and works towards ways of achieving that. For example,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Shops/ cafes be incentivised to use recyclable and re-usable take-away materials. b) Publicity campaigns surrounding Kendal being advertised as a single use plastic free zone c) Work with and learn from other towns that have done this, e.g. Penzance with 'SAS' (Surfers Against Sewage). 		8th
<p>OTHER ACTIONS</p> <p>24) Promote and support local independent businesses so offering Kendal residents the chance to support local supply chains with a lower carbon footprint and so reduce food miles. This could be done by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Financial incentives: reduced business rates for independent local shops and businesses using local suppliers. b) Publicity/marketing incentives: system for rating businesses based on local and low carbon criteria (similar to hygiene 'star' rating). Promote awareness of the rating system so local residents use it as a decision 		12th

making factor in their purchasing. Support businesses to make changes to increase their rating.		
OTHER ACTIONS 25) This jury recommends that Local and district planning departments refuse planning permission for building on any land that forms part of a flood plain or could form part of the flood defences (by diverting excess river water on to it).		13th
OTHER ACTIONS 26) We recognise these are ambitious recommendations and suggest there should be an investigation into sources of funding including the role of a tourist tax (e.g. a bed tax) / increased council funding / or an extra council tax charge, a road tax (similar to a congestion charge) or council car park charging ring fenced for funds to address climate change		=18th
OTHER ACTIONS 27) This citizens' jury rejects the coal mine decision. The decision made by Cumbria County council to approve mining for coal undermines the integrity and principles of this citizens jury. The County Council must make public the rationale of this decision. We dispute the claim that the benefits of jobs/economics/overall economy outweigh the impact on climate. It undermines the positive effects of this jury and all those trying to reduce carbon emissions and the principles of international agreements like the Paris Accord and the CoP 26 (the UN Climate Change Conference) coming up in Glasgow in 2021.		=21st

