



**The Blackburn with Darwen  
People's Jury on the  
Climate Change Crisis  
September - December 2022**

## Acknowledgements

Thank you to the members of the People's Jury who placed their trust in the process and us as facilitators. This diverse, inspiring group of local people came together week after week to share their opinions and experiences with each other and us in the hope that their efforts, openness and commitment might make a difference to their own communities.

## About Shared Future

We are a community interest company working across the UK. Our aim is to provide an excellent service that makes a difference to communities and individuals and works towards a fairer, more equal society. Our mission is to move those we engage with towards greater individual and collective authority and autonomy, by supporting their ability to act wisely, confidently and in community with others. Since setting up Shared Future in 2009, we've built a team of experienced practitioners with a diverse range of skills. We work together on worthwhile and stimulating projects that reflect our personal values.

## About the authors:

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# Introduction

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This report is a summary and explanation of the work of the Blackburn with Darwen People's Jury on the Climate Change Crisis, funded by Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and held in 2022.

Climate change is an incredibly complex problem and citizens must be at the centre of any way forward. The challenge is how to meaningfully involve the public in identifying the ideas, strategies and actions needed. The Blackburn with Darwen People's Jury is an attempt to do this through inviting members of the local population to answer the question '***What do we need to do in our homes, in business and our local area to respond to the climate change crisis?***'

The People's Jury or Citizens' Jury, (as it is often known), is an example of a deliberative process. This report explains the process followed to deliver the jury and in their own words the conclusions of the jury in the form of a statement and recommendations.

On the evening of Monday September 26th, 26 people from across Blackburn with Darwen, aged between 17 and 80, met each other for the first time. Two and a half months later, after some 30 hours of discussion, learning, listening, challenging, arguing, sharing, and deliberating, they produced a set of 15 recommendations on how to address the climate emergency in the Blackburn with Darwen area.

5,150 letters were sent to randomly chosen addresses across the borough inviting people to join the jury, 141 people registered their interest and 32 participants were chosen to reflect the diversity of the local population, including views on climate change. The jury can be seen as a mini version of the population of Blackburn with Darwen

To help them in their work, the jury received presentations from 19 'commentators', or speakers, who they questioned or cross-examined. To ensure the process was robust, fair, and unbiased, an Oversight Panel which was independent of the Council, was formed to:

- agree the recruitment methodology,
- set the question that the jury were tasked with answering,
- and identify commentators.

The 21 strong Oversight Panel included representation from the local authority, academia, the private sector, the voluntary sector, and environmental groups.

The process was designed and facilitated by the social enterprise Shared Future, working closely with the team at Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council. Shared Future has extensive experience of designing and delivering similar juries and assemblies across the country.



# Councillor Phil Riley

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**Councillor Phil Riley is the leader of Blackburn with Darwen Council.**

‘Throughout this process, the aspiration was to create an honest assessment of what can and should be done within Blackburn with Darwen to address the climate emergency being faced across the globe. As you read through this report, please keep this aspiration in mind.

The Jury – made up of 26 local residents who each contributed their valuable time and efforts – have utilised knowledge from researchers, scientists and local experts to produce a set of 15 recommendations of immense value, directly addressing the question:

*“What do we need to do in our homes, in business and in our local area to respond to the climate change crisis?”*

This report should be used by local organisations, residents and the Council as a focal point for collaboration and to strive towards a better, greener future for all of us in Blackburn with Darwen.

We know that there are changes we can all be making and, as a Council, we want to both lead by example and empower others to take these steps. In 2019, we declared a climate emergency with a goal to be carbon neutral by 2030. Delivering our climate emergency action plan is one of the organisation’s core missions.

The Jury have based their recommendations around three key themes: communication and education, transport and housing. And the potential co-benefits of taking positive steps to addressing climate change in these areas – from improving mental wellbeing, to saving money, to

increasing community cohesion – are vast. This is not only an opportunity to reduce our emissions but to also inspire positive change and conversations across the borough too.

I am not naïve to the hurdles we may come across when delivering this agenda. The financial challenges facing local authorities continue to be significant and there is no core funding for the climate emergency allocated from central government.

Lobbying for forward-thinking change in policy takes a sustained and committed effort and shifts in behaviour and attitudes often take time to yield results. Yet despite these challenges, we must remember that the cost of inaction is far greater.

I would like to thank the jury, oversight panel, commentators and facilitators for their time and contributions. It is incredibly gratifying that so many residents were prepared to give up their time to work collaboratively on this vitally important issue.

We are at the start of a collective journey and I very much look forward to seeing the development of these recommendations across Blackburn with Darwen’.



# Background

Blackburn with Darwen is located in the north-west of England in the county of Lancashire. It lies close to the West Pennine Moors, north of Manchester and east of Preston. Its population is some 150,000 people spread across the council district including Blackburn, Darwen and a number of villages.

There is a firm evidence base as to the increasing impacts of climate change and on the shifts in behaviour, culture and practice necessary to both reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to avoid the worst effects of climate change and adapt to those which are now unavoidable.

In 2022 Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council agreed to fund the People's Jury as part of its climate change action plan.

## What is a People's Jury?

The Blackburn with Darwen People's Jury on the Climate Change Crisis is one of a growing number of similar processes aiming to meaningfully engage with citizens on how to address the challenge of the climate emergency. Typically, processes such as this (e.g. citizens juries and assemblies) bring together a diverse group of between 20 and 150 members of the public to consider a particular question and produce a set of recommendations. The members, chosen through a lottery, reflect the diversity of the local population and can be viewed as a mini version of the wider public.

This engagement is a valuable process for strengthening our policy responses to the climate emergency because often members of such processes are people who may not normally take part in public consultations. The recruitment process and structure of the jury sessions ensures that the voices heard reflect some of the diversity of the local population.

At a national level, Citizens Assemblies have been used in the UK; [Climate Assembly UK](#) was commissioned by six select committees of the

House of Commons. In 2021 the [Scottish Climate Assembly](#) completed its work and similar processes have been held [throughout Europe](#), including in Spain, Austria, Germany, Denmark and Finland.

The role of local government in addressing the climate emergency is clear. As of January 2023, 409 local authorities have [declared climate emergencies](#) in the UK. In the words of the [Climate Change Committee](#), '*Combined authorities and local authorities are a cornerstone of climate change partnerships across the country that link key delivery organisations to deliver Net Zero. They are the closest form of government to local people and know what works best in their areas*'.

Citizens Assemblies and juries on climate change at a local government level are increasingly considered a way of ensuring that citizens are at the centre of local government responses to climate change. Learning from processes in [Leeds](#), [Kendal](#), [Warwick](#), [Copeland](#), [Furness](#), [Southwark](#), [Lancaster](#), [North of Tyne](#), (organised by Shared Future) [Oxford](#), [Camden](#), [Newham](#) and other similar processes, suggest that climate assemblies and juries can create a mandate for politicians to take action on climate change by creating legitimacy through their in-depth nature, their impartiality and the trust this creates. The guide '[Climate assemblies and juries: a people powered response to the climate emergency](#)' looks at these issues in more depth (Shared Future, 2020) and a [set of standards](#) aimed at developing good practice have been established.

## Structure of the People's Jury

The jury took place for some 30 hours, starting on Monday September 26th and finishing on Monday December 5th. The sessions were spread over six evenings and two Saturdays.

In keeping with good practice, jury members spent time in a range of settings, sometimes in small groups, sometimes in a large group, as well

as occasionally being offered the opportunity to reflect on their own. Participants were given the opportunity to share their opinions and hear those of other jury members, as well as hearing from and questioning 19 commentators (or outside experts).

Participants were able to shape the process by identifying three key themes which would form the focus for three of the sessions.

In the final sessions, jury members were supported to write a set of recommendations answering the question

***'What do we need to do in our homes, in business and our local area to respond to the climate change crisis?'***

Finally, participants worked their way through a voting booklet that listed all the recommendations and their collective jury statement. They were asked to express their degree of support for each recommendation and the statement.





## Oversight Panel

One of the main ways a Citizens' Jury gets its legitimacy is through the perception that it is a balanced, rigorous, and impartial process. The establishment of an Oversight Panel is an effective way of making sure there is independent, transparent scrutiny, leading to integrity and trust amongst decision makers and the wider public.

The Oversight Panel brought together a wide range of local stakeholders with a range of expertise to ensure that the jury process was robust and fair. Their role was to:

- agree upon and monitor the structure of the jury;
- set the question which the jury would seek to answer through their deliberations;
- agree the process of citizen recruitment;
- identify suitable commentators to present to the jury and to push for implementation of the recommendations.

The Oversight Panel met four times over the duration of the jury.

## Observers

As part of the Oversight Panel's commitment to transparency, a number of spaces were made available for people wishing to observe the jury process live in action. This was in addition to recordings of session presentations being made available to watch on the [council's news website 'The Shuttle'](#).

All observers were briefed to remain silent during the large group conversations, not to participate in any of the small group discussions and not to approach or contact any member of the jury at any point. They were invited to speak with each other and the Shared Future team when jury members were not present.

Observers who took up this offer included Council officers, elected members, members of the Oversight Panel and other interested parties.

### Who attended the Oversight Panel meetings?

- Abdul Alim Kheratkar & Faz Patel, Lancashire Council of Mosques
- Abdul Razaq, Director of Public Health, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (BwDBC)
- Catherine Price, Manager, Blackburn Business Improvement District (BID)
- Cllr Katrina Fielding, Deputy Member with responsibility for Climate Change, BwDBC
- Cllr Zainab Rawat, Member with responsibility for Climate Change, BwDBC
- Garth Hodgkinson, Chief Executive, Community CVS
- Helen Eaton, Vice Principal, Myerscough College
- Jake Ainscough, Senior Research Associate, Lancaster University
- Jennifer Eastham, Vice Principal, Blackburn College
- Komali Kantamaneni, Senior Research Fellow, University of Central Lancashire
- Leon Crosby, Head of Operations, Youth Zone
- Lynne Goodacre, Co-ordinator, Blackburn Food Alliance
- Martin Eden, Strategic Director of Environment & Operations, BwDBC (Chair)
- Miranda Barker, Chief Executive, East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce
- Paul Turner, Commercial Director, Transdev
- Stephen Sykes, Director of Sustainability, EL Chamber of Commerce & Director, 2030Hub
- Vicky Shepard, Chief Executive, Age UK

*Peter Bryant, Jayne McFadyen and Maria Lucien of Shared Future attend in an advisory capacity. Gwen Kinloch, Environment & Sustainability Manager, Chloe Green, Climate Change Projects Officer and Bailey Hawcroft-Hurst, Communications Officer of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council attended as observers / organisers of the Oversight Panel meetings.*

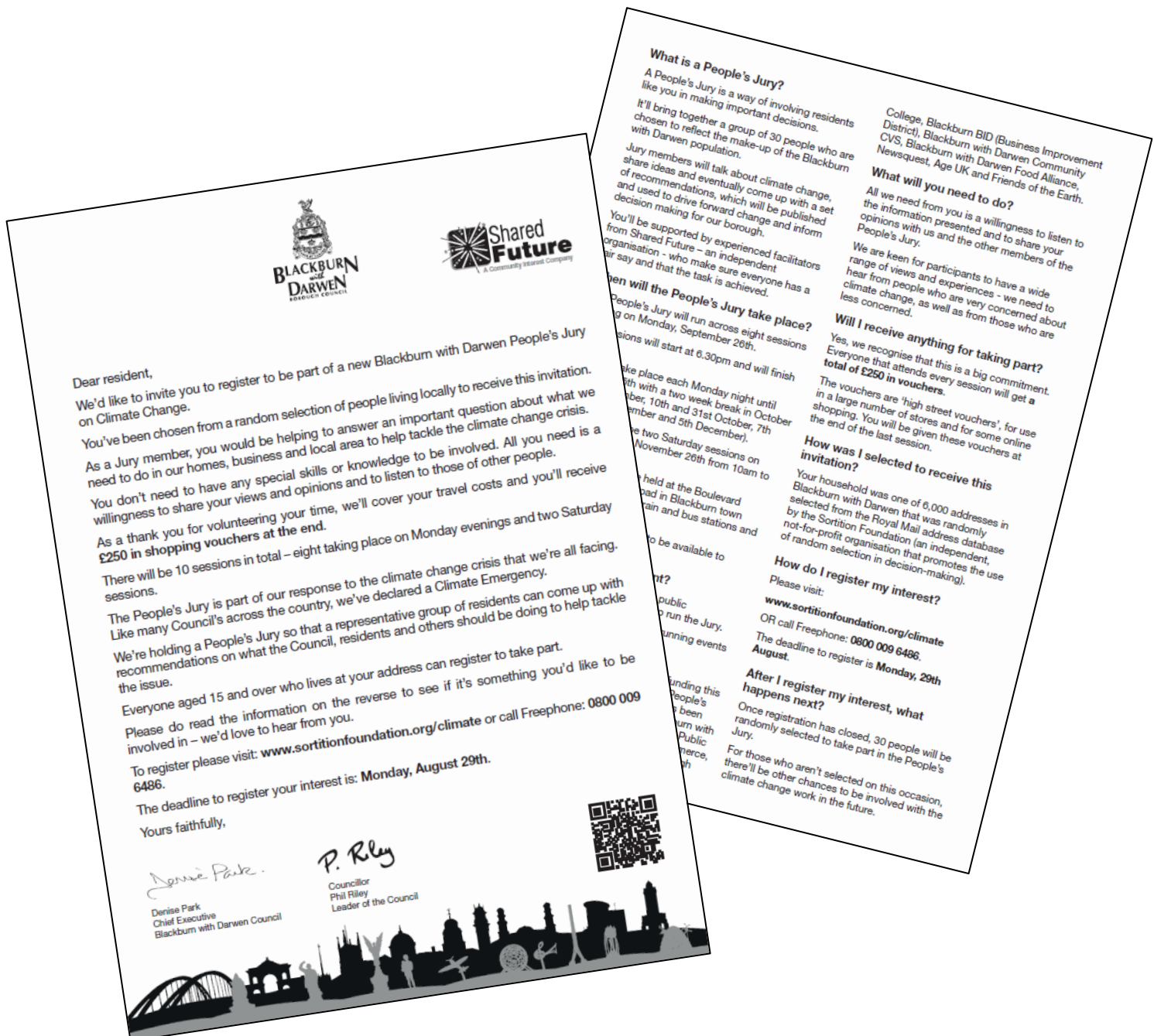
# Recruitment and participation

One of the main features of citizens' juries and assemblies (deliberative process) is the way participants are selected. A jury such as this gains part of its legitimacy through random selection and the idea that, every citizen has an equal opportunity to take part through what is sometimes called a 'civic lottery'.

A process of 'random stratified sampling' was used. The [Sortition Foundation](#) (a not-for-profit organisation that are experts in the use of stratified, random selection in decision-making) randomly selected 5,150 addresses within the area from the Royal Mail address database. Each

address received a small pack containing an invitation card, a brief letter and some frequently asked questions.

The letter made clear that participants would not need any specialist skills, knowledge or equipment to take part, the commitment required and that each participant would receive £250 in vouchers as an incentive to ensure wider participation. The provision of financial incentives as part of the process helps ensure that those who are not normally engaged are heard.





Residents who were interested were invited to either call a freephone number or go online to register their interest.

As part of the recruitment drive, two members of the Sortition Foundation also spent a day knocking on doors. They visited 150 homes which had received the original recruitment letter.

There were 141 responses to the invitation of which 32 subsequently received an invitation to join the jury. More than 30 were recruited to allow for dropouts. A process of stratified sampling was used to select the 32 invitees. Participants were selected by the Sortition Foundation so that the final profile of the jury as much as possible reflected local diversity in terms of:

- age, disability, ethnicity, gender, and geography;
- relative deprivation of an area (using indices of multiple deprivation 1-10,
- and attitude to climate change.<sup>1</sup>

The table on the next page shows in the first column the recruitment target for each element of the profile, based upon relevant local and national statistics, and in the second column the profile of those participants who were offered a place in the jury



<sup>1</sup> (Based on data from the [BEIS Public Attitudes Tracker](#), which asked the question 'how concerned if at all are you about climate change? Very concerned/fairly concerned/not very concerned/not at all concerned/other/don't know').

	Recruitment target, based upon relevant local and national statistics	Profile of those participants who were offered a place in the jury
<b>Gender</b>	Male: 50.2%. Female 49.8%	Male: 50%. Female: 50%
<b>Age</b>	15 – 24: 16%. 25 – 30: 16.7% 31 – 44: 17.26% 45 – 64: 30.92%. 65+: 19.11%	15 – 24: 18.75%. 25-30: 18.75% 31 – 44: 18.75% 45 – 64: 28.12%. 65+: 15.63%
<b>Attitude to climate change</b>	Very worried: 32% Somewhat worried: 44% Neither worried nor unworried: 19% Somewhat unworried: 3% Not at all worried: 3%	Very worried: 38% Somewhat worried: 41% Neither worried nor unworried: 16% Somewhat unworried: 0% Not at all worried: 6%
<b>Ethnicity</b>	White British 69% Asian or Asian British: 25% Other ethnic group: 5.5%	White British: 63% Asian or Asian British: 31% Other ethnic group: 6%
<b>Disability</b>	No: 74.5%. Yes: 25.5%	No: 68.75%. Yes: 31.25%.
<b>Geography</b>	Blackburn: 78% Darwen: 18% Rural: 4%	Blackburn: 75% Darwen: 22% Rural: 3%
<b>Levels of deprivation (based on indices of multiple deprivation)</b>	IMD: level 1-2: 45%. IMD: level 3 – 4: 21%. IMD: level 5 – 6: 6%. IMD: level 7 – 8: 20%. IMD: level 9 – 10: 6%	IMD: level 1-2: 53%. IMD: level 3 – 4: 16%. IMD: level 5 – 6: 9%. IMD: level 7 – 8: 22%. IMD: level 9 –10: 0%
<b>Education Level</b>	No formal qualifications: 28% Qualification below Level 4: 52% Qualification at Level 4 or above: 20%	No formal qualifications: 19% Qualification below Level 4: 53% Qualification at Level 4 or above: 28%

Unfortunately, one person withdrew before session 1 and another three withdrew after session 2 due to various health related issues. A replacement was found for the person who withdrew before session 1, but it was too late in the process to find replacements for the other three. Overall, attendance for the eight sessions was 94%, demonstrating a low dropout rate.

#### **Jury attendance breakdown was as follows:**

Session 1: 26/27 (96%)

Session 2: 27/27 (100%)

Session 3: 25/27 (92%)

Session 4: 27/27 (100%)

Session 5: 26/27 (96%)

Session 6: 24/27 (89%)

Session 7: 24/27 (89%)

Session 8: 25/27 (92%)

**Average attendance: 94%**

# Commentators

A central feature of the People's or Citizens' Jury and other deliberative processes is the 'commentator' (sometimes referred to as the 'speaker' or 'expert witness'). Their role is to offer participants a particular perspective or perspectives on the issue before being questioned by the jury members.

The identity of the commentators was decided upon by members of the Oversight Panel. Each commentator was briefed in advance of their appearance at the jury session. They were given the following guidance:

1. It is essential that you use clear, simple, easy to understand language. We are all guilty of slipping into professional language (acronyms, jargon etc.) but this is something that we must avoid if we want people to get the most out of the session.
2. We use a red card system where people are encouraged to show the red card if they are having difficulty understanding what is being said! Try to make your talk as stimulating as possible. You may want to show some pictures, but this is not essential.
3. We want you to avoid using lengthy PowerPoint presentations with lots of text and graphs - we would much rather people do not use these. Not everyone is comfortable with the written word and many people struggle with graphs which are used in climate change communication a lot. If you feel one graph is essential that's fine but please take time



to explain exactly what each axis represents (probably without using that word!) and what the data is showing. Showing occasional images is helpful as it can break your presentation up.

It was stressed to the commentators that this format is flexible and that it may change in response to the needs of the inquiry members. A record of the questions asked during the commentator sessions is included in Appendix 2 and video recordings of the presentations are available on the [council's news website](#).



# The sessions

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Strong relationships of trust are essential for the success of a deliberative process. All jury members were spoken to over the phone in advance of the first session, firstly to start to build a relationship with members of the Shared Future team, secondly to summarise the purpose and workings of the jury, thirdly, to reassure participants and answer any questions and also to identify any further support or travel needs.

The venue for jury sessions was the [Boulevard Centre](#) a fully accessible meeting venue in the centre of Blackburn close to the train and bus stations. The centre is a resource of the local Blackburn charity [Community CVS](#).

## Session one

Jury members joined the first session of the Blackburn with Darwen People's Jury on the Climate Change Crisis on the evening of Monday, September 26th, 2022.

After a brief introduction from Shared Future, jury members started to get to know each other through a gentle icebreaker activity.

The jury then heard from the Leader of the Council, [Councillor Phil Riley](#) who explained why the process had been commissioned. Councillor Riley was then joined by [Councillor Zainab Rawat](#) (member lead for Climate Change) and Martin Eden (Strategic Director, Environment & Operations) for a brief question and answer session.

Part of the aim of the first session is to create a relaxed mood and for people start to recognise that their voices, experiences, and opinions will be valued throughout the process. A mapping activity was used to help realise some of these aims.

All jury members were invited to join small groups based upon which neighbourhood they lived in. Each group was equipped with a large local map and encouraged to start a conversation about where they live. Group members were then invited to use the map as a starting point for a conversation about what locally is *'helpful in trying to tackle climate change and what is not helpful in trying to tackle climate change'*

Jury members were divided into new randomly selected groups for the next activity, a chance for them to 'dig deeper' into the issue through the use of a **problem tree**.

Small group facilitators prepared in advance a large illustration of the trunk and roots of a tree. Then members were then asked to consider the problem *'climate change has become a problem'* written on the trunk of the tree.





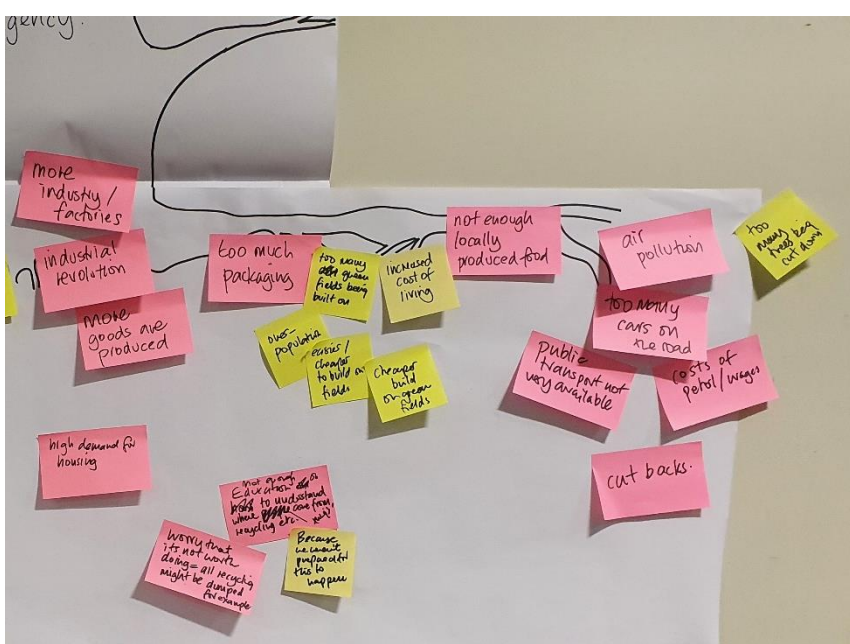
The members were invited to consider what might be the root causes of the problem. Facilitators wrote these on post-it notes placed onto the roots then repeatedly probed through the question 'why is that?' in an attempt to unpack some of the root causes, which were also recorded.

The problem tree analysis attempts to unpack the complexity of the issue, helping jury members to identify key issues, arguments, and stakeholders. This process of analysis helps build a shared sense of understanding and enables participants to move into a deeper systemic analysis of the challenge.

Jury members were then placed into further small groups and asked to individually reflect and write down 'one thing that you want us all to do to make it easier for you to be able to take part in the jury sessions'. Each person was then invited to share their thoughts in the small group. Facilitators explained that they would make use of the inputs to produce a suggested set of group guidelines for approval at the next session.

Throughout the process an attempt was made by facilitators to offer jury members a range of ways to reflect, think and share. Some of these maybe in small groups, sometimes the whole jury worked together in the main room and sometimes people were given the opportunity to reflect on their own.

To finish the evening participants had a brief question and answer session with facilitators to ask any questions about the process and how it would work.



## Session 2

Prior to the start of session 2 all jury members were sent a programme for the evening. The session started with facilitators summarising the suggested guidelines produced from the small group discussions in the previous session. In small groups participants reflected on the guidelines to check agreement and to offer the opportunity to suggest any additions.

In Session 2, the jury heard from their first commentators:

### Commentators: what is climate change and what are its impacts?

#### What is climate change? [Dr Paul Young:](#)

Senior Lecturer: Lancaster University, Environment Theme lead for Lancaster's [Institute for Social Futures](#) and the Director of Postgraduate Research at Lancaster Environment Centre.

#### Climate Change impacts: [Dr Komali](#)

[Kantamaneni](#): Senior Research Fellow, University of Central Lancashire.

#### Climate Change impacts on health & Health inequalities: [Abdul Razag](#) - Director of Public Health at Blackburn with Darwen Council

Video footage of their presentations can be seen [here](#).

After the commentator presentations members were placed into small, randomly selected groups. They were asked to consider two questions to prompt conversation:

- *Has anything struck you about what you have just heard?*
- *What messages do you take from the presentations?*

Within their small groups, the members were then encouraged to think of questions for the commentators. These questions were written on A4 pieces of paper and were then posed to the commentators in a large group question and answer session. Jury members were encouraged to ask their question in the big group, however, if

### Our guidelines for working together

The following list of group guidelines were written by facilitators drawing on notes taken from the discussions in Session 1, where members were asked to *'reflect and write down one thing that you want us all to do to make it easier for you to be able to take part in the jury sessions'*. In Session 2, jury members were asked to reflect upon these, check that they were happy with them, and make any suggested additions or edits.

The following were the agreed group guidelines:

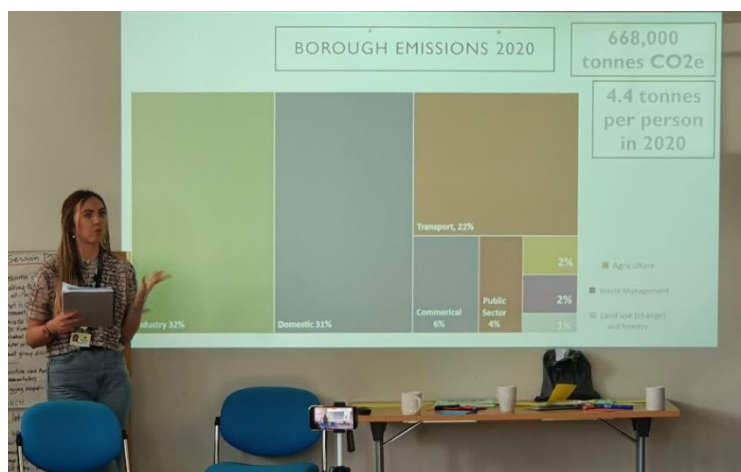
- Encourage each other to participate. Support people who may be less confident about speaking up
- Take turns in talking, take the time to listen as well as talk
- Be respectful of each other's opinions
- Agree to disagree
- Shared Future make sure that there are a mix of activities, with small groups as well as whole group discussions
- Try and stick to the topic being discussed.
- Speak up if you don't understand something, we all need clear explanations of acronyms and abbreviations – use those red cards!
- Shared Future to provide a comments/suggestions box which will be checked after each session





uncomfortable doing this, a facilitator asked the question on their behalf.

After the jury's first three commentators, participants returned to their problem trees from the first session. Jury members were invited to make any further additions and then share with the whole group 3 key learning points to remember.



After lunch the group played the 'opposites game', a fun interactive activity designed to energise but also help people to consider deliberative ways of working and the role of critical thinking.

## Commentators: The emissions in Blackburn with Darwen, where are they coming from?

**Chloe Green** is the Climate Change project officer from Blackburn with Darwen Council

**Gill Fenna:** Consultant at [Quantum](#)

Video footage of their presentations can be seen [here](#).

The day finished with an opportunity for some individual reflection, before some sharing in small groups.

## Session three

### Commentators: How does change happen?

**Stephanie Riches**, Senior Network Officer at [New Local](#)

**Stephen Sykes** - Low Carbon Programme Manager [East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce](#) and co-founder and Director of the [2030Hub](#)

Climate change is described by many as a 'wicked problem'. One which is difficult to clearly define and hugely complex. A problem with many interdependencies and one where there is no single solution.

This presents a challenge for those designing deliberative processes such as the People's Jury. Firstly, how long should the process be to enable jury members to navigate their way around the problem and the complex landscape of actors involved? Secondly, should all issues under a broad heading of climate change be considered or should there be some element of prioritisation of key themes to investigate in depth.

For the Blackburn with Darwen People's Jury on the Climate Crisis, the Oversight Panel agreed that the members of the jury should be given the opportunity to decide which themes to look at in more depth during their deliberations and that this information should then be shared with the Oversight Panel for their comment.

In order to achieve this, participants were given time for individual reflection to consider the question: *what do you feel might be some themes we should look at in more depth in the next sessions and why?* These ideas were then shared in small groups and clustered into groupings of similar themes. From the emerging pattern an attempt was made to build consensus around three themes.

Agreement was reached that these three themes should be:

- Communications and Education
- Transport
- Housing



## Session four

### Commentators: Communications and education

**Dr Stuart Capstick**, Director and theme lead for the [Centre for Climate Change and Social Transformation \(CAST Centre\)](#) Senior Research Fellow, School of Psychology, Cardiff University.

**Chandra Pankhania**, [Food for Life team, Soil Association](#).

**Councillor Jackie Floyd**, Blackburn with Darwen Council. Founder member of Keep Blackburn Tidy.

**Stuart Hammond**, Contracts Policy and Performance Manager, Blackburn with Darwen Council.

**Gary Buckett**, Health, Safety and Environment Manager, [Blackburn College](#).

Video footage of their presentations can be seen [here](#).

After an initial presentation (on zoom), and question and answer session from Dr Stuart Capstick, the jury members heard from the remaining four commentators in person.

Participants then had the opportunity to join a table with any one of the commentators for a facilitated small group question and answer session. The evening finished with an opportunity for individual reflection.

## Session five

### Commentators: Transport

**Professor John Whitelegg**, Senior Fellow at Foundation for Integrated Transport.

**Melanie Taylor**, Senior Transport Planner at Blackburn with Darwen Council

**Paul Turner**, Commercial Director, [Transdev](#).

Professor Whitelegg joined the session on zoom whilst the remaining commentators were present in the room for the question and answer session.

Jury members were then invited to reflect upon their transport conversations through a creative activity. In small groups participants were asked to create a poster illustrating their ideas about what needs to happen in relation to travel to respond to the climate change crisis. Art materials, glue, paper, post its and posters were provided. The ideas behind the completed posters were then shared in a large group discussion.



## Session six

### Commentators: Housing

**Darren Tweed**, Strategic Planning and Transport Manager, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council.

**Liam Gregson**, Member Engagement Manager at the [Northern Housing Consortium](#).

**Patrick Berry**, Technical Director of Together Net Zero, [Together Housing Group](#).

**Andrew Darbyshire**, Land Director, [McDermott Homes](#).

All commentators took part in an in-person question and answer session before joining a series of small group facilitated question and answer sessions. Once again, the evening finished with jury members taking part in facilitated small group reflection and deliberation.

## Session seven

Session seven was the second full day gathering. A day dedicated to reflection, deliberation and the start of recommendation writing. Prior to session seven, all jury members received a 'what have we been talking about?' document. This document brought together a record of the outputs from the communications/education, transport and housing sessions, where jury members were asked to share ideas for recommendations or were asked to record what has struck them and things they should remember. Facilitators grouped these into suggested sub themes.

For this session, the facilitator team experimented with a practical activity to enable participants to reflect upon change and the different ways that change can happen.

Jury members were asked to think on their own about a change they have seen in their life – it could have been a change in their personal life, work life, a change in their neighbourhood or change in the wider local area. It could have been at a national, individual, local or global level and not necessarily climate related.

What was it that made that change happen, what started it, what encouraged it?

These reflections were then shared in small groups and then in a large group discussion. In the large group setting people drew on practical experiences to talk of the role of the following factors in effecting change: legislation, rules and enforcement, community, financial motivation, incentives, working together, being with people, accountability, evidence, shock tactics, forcing business to act, educating individuals, support, making the danger of not acting clear.

Further reflection was enabled through a face to face 'speed dating' activity. Jury members sat in two rows of chairs, each person facing one other. All the people sat in row A were asked to talk to the person opposite them, uninterrupted, for 1.5 minutes about what they felt were the most important issues that need to be included within the recommendations. Row B was then asked to do the same. After the next 1.5 minutes, all in row A shifted one place to the right, so that all participants faced a new jury member. This activity gave participants a chance to articulate,



without interruption, their personal priorities. It also gave everyone an opportunity to spend time with others who up until this point they may not have had the opportunity to spend time with.

## Recommendation writing

At the end of the morning of session seven, jury members started the recommendation writing process. Participants were asked to join a themed small group on a topic they want to spend most time on or feel most strongly about.

In these facilitated small groups jury members started to share ideas for recommendations. If during any of these discussions, participants felt they had a burning question that they needed an answer to or if they felt stuck in their recommendation writing, they could request to speak to previous commentators.

In advance of the session, all previous commentators were contacted to ask if they would be available to be 'on call' for part of the day. On the day requests were made for conversations with two commentators. After lunch a second round of themed tables allowed further development of a set of ideas for recommendations.



Mid-afternoon, jury members were introduced to the idea of writing a jury statement to accompany the recommendations. It was suggested that such a statement could sum up the feeling of the jury and its overall conclusion. To stimulate thinking, the People's Jury were placed into 5 small groups and asked to chat about what they think should be



reflected in the statement and to illustrate this through the creation of a human sculpture/tableaux. A large group sharing of the sculptures (see photos on the previous page) led to a discussion of key thinking that should be included in the statement. In the session a small group was formed of jury volunteers who were willing to work with a facilitator to draw on these ideas to put together a draft statement to present back to the large group.

As a final activity, the statement writing group shared the statement in the large group. Some small changes were made and shared at the next session. The final statement was then shared with all jury members in the recommendations voting booklet where it received 100% approval. You can read the statement in full on page 21.

## Session eight: Finalising the recommendations

This final session presented jury members with their last opportunity to shape the recommendations. Prior to the final session, with the consent of the jury members, draft recommendations produced from the previous session were sent to the Oversight Panel for comments.

This was done in order to gather relevant information and suggestions from key stakeholders in the Oversight Panel that may help with expanding or clarifying the jury's recommendations. Members of the Oversight Panel were limited to a maximum of 300 characters per recommendation. It was stressed to jury members that they did not have to take on board any comments from the Oversight Panel members if they did not wish to do so.

Ahead of the session, all participants received the draft recommendations (with comments from the Oversight Panel) with an explanation that facilitators tried to 'tidy up' some of the recommendations, striving as much as possible to keep the meaning behind each of them, but making them easier to read.

Participants were given the choice of joining the following themed groups:

- Transport
- Housing
- Communication / education and other

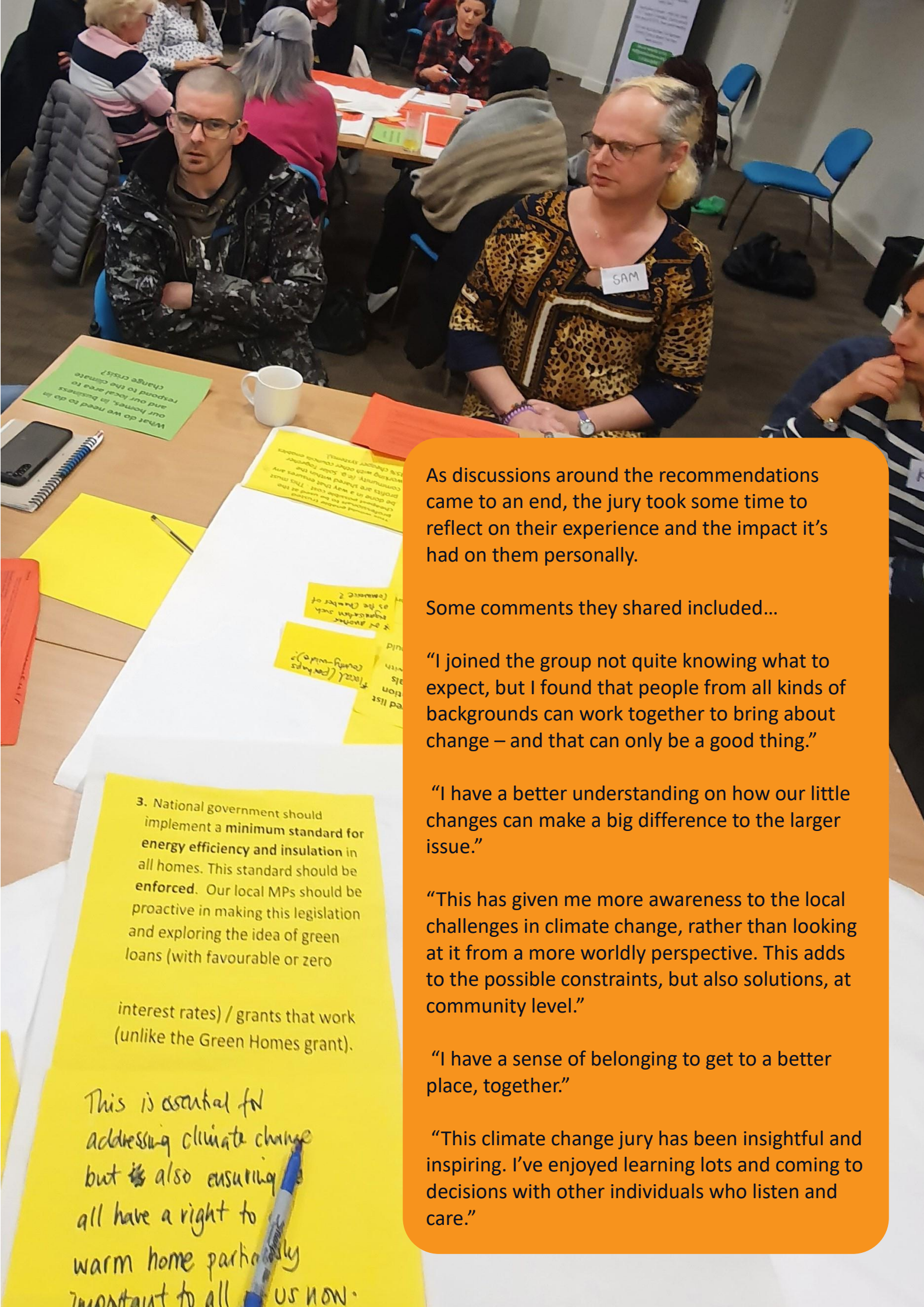
Any significant changes to the draft recommendations were then shared with participants in a large group. Small groups continued to work on recommendations where appropriate before jury members were invited to discuss, in small groups, which recommendations they felt were the most important to them and why. The facilitators encouraged members to respond to each other's priorities and engage in discussion.

In a final celebratory activity, jury members shared with each other anything positive about their experience of the jury.

Shortly after the last session, jury members all received a voting booklet listing all the recommendations and asking participants to record their level of support or opposition, and comment on why they chose to do so, for each recommendation. Their statement and recommendations form the remaining part of this report.







As discussions around the recommendations came to an end, the jury took some time to reflect on their experience and the impact it's had on them personally.

Some comments they shared included...

"I joined the group not quite knowing what to expect, but I found that people from all kinds of backgrounds can work together to bring about change – and that can only be a good thing."

"I have a better understanding on how our little changes can make a big difference to the larger issue."

"This has given me more awareness to the local challenges in climate change, rather than looking at it from a more worldly perspective. This adds to the possible constraints, but also solutions, at community level."

"I have a sense of belonging to get to a better place, together."

"This climate change jury has been insightful and inspiring. I've enjoyed learning lots and coming to decisions with other individuals who listen and care."

3. National government should implement a minimum standard for energy efficiency and insulation in all homes. This standard should be enforced. Our local MPs should be proactive in making this legislation and exploring the idea of green loans (with favourable or zero

interest rates) / grants that work (unlike the Green Homes grant).

This is essential for addressing climate change but is also ensuring all have a right to warm home particularly important to all of us now.



# Jury statement

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The following statement was written by a group of jury members and then edited and discussed by the rest of the jury. 100% of the jury members who voted on the recommendations either strongly support or support the statement. For a full explanation of the statement writing process see pages 18-19.

**We are a jury that represents the diversity of Blackburn with Darwen; different ages, genders, ethnicities and backgrounds and have all worked together to agree a way forward. We are multiple backgrounds with one message.**

**From our journey we are worried and frustrated about climate change. This issue has been ignored for far too long. Time is running out.**

**We are nervous that there are those who don't see the urgency of the issue or understand, especially the government and those in power who have a duty of care.**

**We are worried about how the changes that lie ahead will be paid for and the cost to the individual especially those struggling to make ends meet and this must be considered at every stage of what we do in our response.**

**However, we are hopeful. This process has shown us that if we break the problem down into smaller parts it is solvable. The opportunities for changes are there, there are lots of things that people can do. We can all lead the change that must happen. There is much we can do as individuals but we need those in power, such as the council, to put in place everything to make it easy for us to take this action. This must be the start of a continuous conversation.**

**We must not give up, for the sake of our future generations.**

**All of us in Blackburn with Darwen are part of a chain supporting each other. All of us are an important link. To the council, councillors and other links in the chain, we say we must get the job done.**

# Recommendations

The recommendations are listed below in order of overall rank. The overall rank score for each recommendation is based upon a calculation of the level of support each recommendation received. If it received a 'strongly support' vote it received two points, a 'support' vote, one point; 'neither' support nor oppose zero points; 'oppose', minus one point and 'strongly oppose', minus two points. All recommendations are classified by theme (the coloured heading). Jury members also ranked each recommendation within theme e.g. Housing, this is recorded in the rank in theme column.

	Points	Overall Rank	Rank in Theme
<b>COMMUNICATIONS AND EDUCATION</b>	42	1st	1st
<p>1) We have learned a lot through being involved in the Climate Change People's Jury. <b>Everyone can be educated</b> through inclusive involvement about how to make Blackburn with Darwen a better place to live, work and play.</p> <p>We think messages should be developed by and shared by people of all ages starting at ward/neighbourhood level including schools, youth groups, employers, residents (individuals and groups), local charities and community organisations and local councillors. Local councillors can start the process and other individuals and organisations must support them to do this.</p> <p>Change will be encouraged through clear and transparent communication, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why the change is needed</li> <li>- What can be done</li> <li>- What the benefit will be (at individual and local level)</li> </ul> <p>Messages could be shared through the individuals and organisations mentioned above by existing and new communication routes e.g. council messages/letter, also local media, social media, local Facebook groups, pop up shops (e.g. next to Wilkos) etc. We would like to see an interactive forum to share climate friendly tips and trips.</p> <p>Here are some things we think should be included. (This list should be reviewed and added to over time.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycling - cost benefits plus potential savings if everyone did it properly. Targets for savings and what these savings could be spent on instead in relation to other climate change related initiatives (e.g. home improvements or active travel support)</li> <li>Litter and fly tipping (quantity and position of bins) (same as above in terms of potential savings)</li> <li>Travel habits / routines – encouraging less car use, more lift sharing, public transport use and active travel</li> <li>Information about food choices and food waste</li> <li>Flash flooding awareness</li> <li>Repair cafés – existing cafés and potential for the future</li> <li>For those that are interested there should be information about how all these and other issues are linked by climate change.</li> </ol> <p>We must think about what different things will increase awareness and motivation amongst different groups of people.</p>			

<p>OTHER</p> <p>2) We ask the oversight panel of the people's jury to assign an <b>accountable</b> individual / organisation for each of our recommendations. From that we are asking for <b>regular reviews</b> to the members of the people's jury (initially after 3 months, then every 6 months) to demonstrate progress, and if no progress, why.</p>	40	2nd	=1st
<p>OTHER</p> <p>3) Improve <b>green spaces</b> around the borough</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Make it easier for people to navigate their way while walking - develop more walking maps including town centre display boards and online/printed leaflets</li> <li>- Increase the number of benches to allow resting points and enable people to be able to go further</li> <li>- Consult the community about where the 8,000 trees are planted</li> </ul> <p>Improved green spaces will directly help with climate change and will encourage people to walk more, creating new habits which could help reduce car use.</p>	37	=3rd	=1st
<p>OTHER</p> <p>4) We are aware that <b>food waste</b> is a big issue. We recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More local research about the causes of food waste, not only what food waste is</li> <li>- Local research about appropriate local solutions and implementation</li> <li>- Communicate the findings to promote behaviour change</li> </ul>	37	=3rd	3rd
<p>TRANSPORT</p> <p>5) We want improvements to public transport to make it reliable, affordable, accessible, easier to navigate, clean, and safe. e.g.</p> <p><b>1) Availability:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Increase availability of trains and buses for more people with more stops more times and more routes.</li> <li>b) A public consultation should be carried out to establish what services people need.</li> </ul> <p><b>2) Information:</b> Providers to work together to create a user-friendly app which combines train and bus services to easily plan your journey track where your train or bus is, when they'll arrive, and how busy they are. All should have an onboard tracker to link to the app an update via app, stop / station displays and on board announcements. There should be a phone number available for people who don't have smartphones and the app should be widely advertised.</p> <p><b>3) Ticketing:</b> 'One ticket' available for use across all providers and services</p> <p><b>4) Incentives:</b> There should be incentives for using bus and train services like loyalty cards or cheaper monthly passes that can be used across all services and providers</p>	36	5th	1st



<b>HOUSING</b> 6) National government should implement a <b>minimum standard for energy efficiency and insulation</b> in all homes. This standard should be <b>enforced</b> . Our local MPs should be proactive in making this legislation and exploring the idea of green loans (with favourable or zero interest rates) / grants that work (unlike the Green Homes grant). This is essential for addressing climate change, but also, ensuring we all have a right to a warm home, particularly important to all of us now.	35	6th	3rd
<b>HOUSING</b> 7) Some people are reluctant to make changes to their homes. People can be supported to make changes in a number of ways especially in terms of information, advice and affordability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) there should be an <b>approved list of local (perhaps county-wide) renewable energy installation and maintenance professionals</b> that are trustworthy, comply with health and safety etc, with a product guarantee. This list should be held by the Council, or another organisation such as the Chamber of Commerce.</li> <li>b) more <b>impartial information</b> is needed on how to make savings on energy efficiency – stressing that this is how you can save money. Residents could showcase this to each other. <i>Reward, recognise, for a better climate / change for residents.</i></li> <li>c) extend <b>bulk-buying schemes</b>. Working with communities and neighbourhoods to firstly, gauge interest in the installing of solar panels and other renewable energy options and then based on the interest putting in place a <b>bulk-buying scheme</b>. This would enable trusted professionals to be used at the cheapest possible cost. This must be done in a way that ensures any profits are shared within the community. (e.g. Solar Together working with other councils enables 35% cheaper systems).</li> </ul>	33	7th	1st
<b>HOUSING</b> 8) Blackburn with Darwen Council needs to challenge the national building regulations to ensure all <b>new homes</b> have solar panels and heat pumps. We need <b>net zero new homes by 2028</b> like Lancaster’s target (or earlier). The Local Plan should be changed to reflect this.	32	=8th	2nd
<b>COMMUNICATIONS AND EDUCATION</b> 9) We need to <b>give a sense of inspiration back to our community which will help encourage change and give them hope for a better future</b> . We need to share progress and a reason to be cheerful. This can be done through creating the Blackburn with Darwen Smile awards! These awards will recognise and encourage action and help spread change both short and long term. The process to develop these awards should happen at ward/neighbourhood level. Every ward should have at least one entry. A logo can be created through a competition involving local schools. The Smile Awards can offer recognition for all sorts of things, including people who act as ‘change champions’ in their community, place of work or education etc.	32	=8th	2nd

TRANSPORT	29	=10th	2nd
<p>10) Build upon work already being done and do more to encourage people to <b>walk, wheel, and cycle</b>, safely and accessibly. e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Stop people parking on pavements, walkways and cycleways with enforceable, significant fines</li> <li>b) Make spaces more pleasant and safe to walk and cycle in (greener spaces, walk and cycle lanes separate from traffic, cleaner)</li> <li>c) Incentive to use cycle instead of car (e.g. Voucher to help purchase of a bicycle)</li> <li>d) Secure cycle parking</li> <li>e) Investigate viable options for local 'rent-a-bike' scheme</li> <li>f) Encourage eco driving to reduce pollution and make area more healthy and pleasant to walk and cycle (e.g. 20mph zones, electric vehicles etc)</li> <li>g) Keep people informed about progress</li> <li>h) Do some work to find out why any previous schemes haven't worked and establish how to address and increase take-up</li> </ul>			
OTHER	29	=10th	4th
<p>11) Encourage people to <b>grow their own food</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Via school gardens and cooking</li> <li>b) Create more allotments from unused spaces, and support to use them for groups as well as individuals</li> <li>c) Local cook and share groups</li> </ul> <p>Take inspiration from what is already in existence here, and further afield. (This could be linked to recommendation 10 for communicating about this.)</p>			
HOUSING	26	12th	5th
<p>12) The council and local housing providers should be encouraged to use more <b>sustainable building practices</b> for example investigating the use of lime mortars, and an emphasis on reclaiming.</p>			
HOUSING	25	13th	4th
<p>13) We are worried that new homes cause emissions. There should be an <b>investigation</b> into why locally 1,000 homes are <b>vacant</b> and why the Empty Homes team doesn't have enough money to make these homes habitable.</p>			
TRANSPORT	21	14th	3rd
<p>14) Current dial-a-ride and similar services are too limited to offer a solution. Explore expansion of a <b>dial-a-ride service</b> to provide a cheaper, more sustainable solution to taxis and provide 'public transport' service to areas with limited bus services.</p>			
TRANSPORT	16	15th	4th
<p>15) We want the council to do more to encourage <b>businesses</b> to set up company car sharing schemes and we want this activity to be measured and publicly reported to encourage take-up.</p>			

# Rank within themes

During the voting process, jury members were asked to rank the recommendations in order of highest to lowest priority within each theme. This determined the ‘rank in theme’ score (the right-hand column in the table above). These results are summarised in the table below:

Recommendations - Rank within Theme

Rank	Housing	Transport	Communications and Education	Others
1st	No. 7	No. 5	No. 1	No. 2 & 3
2nd	No. 8	No. 10	No. 9	
3rd	No. 6	No. 14		No. 4
4th	No. 13	No. 15		No. 11
5th	No. 12			



# Appendix 1: Commentator questions

This appendix lists the questions asked by jury members to commentators during the sessions. Please note that in the list below some of the sessions have only a few questions listed. This is because some of the question-and-answer sessions took place in small groups when it was often not possible to make a record of those.

## Session 2: a) what is climate change and what are its impacts?

1. You explained climate change is to do with higher temperatures, but what is the most effective way to reduce the temperature?
2. Are we not already heading towards another Ice Age?
3. What proof of Lancashire coastline flooded?
4. What percentage of our coastlines have been lost so far?
5. Is there any way to do better than 1.5°C by 2050?
6. How do we know the temperature from 120,000 years ago?
7. How do we as young people starting out in our careers/lives make life choices that are environmentally friendly but still convenient?
8. Should we reduce the human population?
9. What kind of impact did the lockdowns have on climate change?
10. Where does the council draw the line regarding building on green spaces?
11. What three small changes can the average household do?
12. Everyone agrees change needs to happen but people with the power and influence to make drastic change aren't doing it or say we can't afford it. So how do we make drastic change when people in power are resistant?
13. Why did the pipe burst? (water pipe in the photo)
14. What degree of change is due to natural factors not human intervention? Position of the moon etc. some places are vulnerable to floods, this is a natural phenomenon?
15. Rather than getting everyone so worried, we should recognise our local authorities are taking action behind the scenes. Is that right?
16. If the rich are the biggest consumers what can we do about that?
17. How do we reduce coastal erosion?
18. Are electric batteries on cars difficult to dispose of?
19. Should we be teaching people about the different wind scales – Beaufort scale etc.

## Session 2: b) the emissions in Blackburn with Darwen, where are they coming from?

20. Is energy rationing something that the council is considering or planning for?
21. Why are new build houses not carbon zero builds now?
22. To reduce flood risk and ice on roadshow much is being done for drain maintenance and adaptation? By limiting frost action on roads there is a greater period length between essential repair works which adds to emissions?
23. Does the council make money from recycled waste? And how much? Could this be used as an incentive to help people and can we know the statistics?
24. Why have onshore wind turbines being banned for the last seven years?
25. Please can you go over the household waste levels/percentages again – it was quite quick.
26. If China, doesn't take action to reduce emissions we have one arm behind our back?
27. Are there any funds used to help fund these changes? How much money is there for this?
28. Do we have any say on the plans for Blackburn with Darwen?
29. Who is signing off these rebuilding/knocking down projects instead of just fixing and maintaining?
30. What have other communities chosen to do to reduce emissions (what should we do?)

31. Can we have more allotments please?
32. How have they measured the CO2?
33. Could a community come together to overrule someone in power to make changes in their Borough?
34. Would there be any local authority grants in the future for solar power?
35. The difference between an A product compared to the average, like a D product?
36. Why is business travel (3%) so high? More efficient way to overcome this?
37. What are your views on the impact of LED lights on wildlife especially bats etc?
38. Why has it taken 10 years for this to be prioritised what caused the lost decade?
39. What is Blackburn doing to prevent climate change or prepare for the worst-case scenario?
40. Why can we not have solar lights for streetlights – is it a viable option (not having a bad impact on the environment versus financial impact)?
41. If so much of our waste is food, what plans are in place to reduce/help with this?
42. How are you going to reduce the flood risk?

### **Session 3: Commentators: how does change happen?**

43. There are many claims about the future effect on precipitation – the IPCC says confidence is low, then medium, can you explain this?
44. How can the public tell if a business is compliant? As I once worked with a company who were not held accountable for polluting nearby river.
45. You said that to understand how change happens you need to be organised, need a significant amount of people for change to happen, and that change takes time to happen. Can you give examples of how your company has influenced this to happen?
46. Do you have examples of how we can ensure lasting change?
47. How do you get change to happen (advertising, i.e. simple life tips, turning lights off)
48. What is carbon footprint, can you give an example of it in business?
49. How can we be sure the council are going to take notice of our recommendations?
50. How does all these factors tie in with climate change and what role do businesses play?
51. You said that locally led change can bring results quickly, is there any hindrances that we should avoid?
52. How can we monitor progress on our recommendations?
53. In your experience what is the best way of influencing our MPs?
54. How do you get the community to take on board climate change and for them to agree to changes if they are genuinely not interested?
55. Do you think huge companies and big retailers are simply worried or talk about what they are doing in regards to climate change and being sustainable just to gain approval from consumers/carry on their business/stay on gaining more profit?
56. If there is an accident that impacts the environment, what sanctions are taken against them?

#### **Questions not asked during the session, but subsequently shared with the commentators:**

57. With businesses, what would be most relevant to work on in Blackburn with Darwen? (on top of legislation)
58. What is in place for protecting communities from flooding, cleaning drains so water is cleared?
59. Garden cities, do you agree with this idea?
60. What do you think about creating green space where Thwaites used to be? and getting Blackburn and Darwen residents to build the park. Community events could be held.
61. Is government funding available for larger projects? e.g. funding for dams or reservoirs?
62. Do you think enough is being done by national building trades to limit volatile and secondary organic compounds in building materials?

## Session 4: Commentators: Communications and education

- 63. What would you say is the loudest way to communicate - scaring or motivating?
- 64. Do people become desensitized to scare mongering?
- 65. Do you have any specific examples of really effective communication by Local Authorities to its residents?
- 66. What is the best way to communicate with local politicians?
- 67. What are the best ways on promoting the solution on climate change?
- 68. Which age group to you find it easiest/hardest to influence?
- 69. Have you got any examples of working with primary school students/children and how effective it would be?

### Questions not asked during the session, but subsequently shared with the commentators:

- 70. How do we find out the common barriers on acting on climate change?
- 71. Is it possible to bring the bicycle scheme back?
- 72. What are the barriers for people using greener choices for transport?
- 73. How can we get more warmth into our homes via climate change?
- 74. Can you tell us about other jury's activities?

## Session 5: Commentators: Transport

- 75. Bus routes frequency & timetables – where can we find more info about them?
- 76. Are they going to bring back the outer circle route?
- 77. More buses – Edgeworth – are we going to get them?
- 78. What measures are you taking to ensure the Council meets the net zero target for transport? E.g. electric cars and electric scooters
- 79. What if issues of air pollution are too much to encourage for walking/cycling? Public health, asthma
- 80. All the surveys in Denmark, Germany etc. How can this (integrated travel systems) be created in an urban built-up area?
- 81. How much money does the council have at this time to put into integrated services?
- 82. Even though there are different operators, would it be possible to have a 1 ticket for all system? (bus and trains around town)
- 83. Germany, such high standards that must have cost a lot. How did they fund it all? Did they start planning way before other countries?
- 84. Are there any plans to add any more routes to Lancashire? (because I think the Lancashire day pass is a very good idea)
- 85. Why was the bus station moved from right outside the rail station?
- 86. How often do you yourselves use public transport? And how did you get here today?
- 87. What consultations/advice do you take from local communities when making decisions about bus routes/times/initiatives?
- 88. Introduce more cycle to work programmes. Vouchers to buy bicycles. Make roads & footpaths safer with drop kerbs
- 89. Routes need to be more clearly signposted e.g. coloured lines on paths/roads – is this possible?

### Questions not asked during the session, but subsequently shared with the commentators:

- 90. Safer roads (speed limits) – are they going to be improving roads around Edgeworth, Blacksnape, Broadhead?
- 91. Introduce unlimited travel pass if non in place/ discounted rates. More buses on majority of routes. (Idea suggested by a Jury member)
- 92. What percentage of the Council's budget is allocated to transport?



93. Cycle hire – sometimes technology gets in the way, need apps etc. How do we encourage more people to use it?
94. How can the use of bikes be used to influence those in the UK to switch from riding cars to using a bicycle? What's being done to influence kids regarding use of bicycles? Can we have park and ride? Could help connect modes of transport. How do we try and adopt that kind of system when our social attitudes are different?
95. Have you considered a tram system – what are the options for one in Blackburn with Darwen?
96. Would it not be more cost efficient to bring back the tram network rather than investing in bus coaches with batteries on board which contain lithium! Trams would be safer as electricity not stored in batteries on board the vehicle.
97. Can we expect bus cost to be lowered or offer more opportunities for the price?
98. Any plans to include electric buses in the public transport?
99. Why was Harrogate chosen for the electric buses? Are there plans for Blackburn with Darwen?
100. Any plans to include electric vehicles in the taxi scheme? And charging points/stations for them?
101. Incentive to taxi drivers to switch to electric cars?

## Session 6: Commentators: Housing

102. If you are in private rented accommodation, what can you do to improve the situation - how can you put pressure on the landlord to make changes?
103. At what point does it make more sense to knock down a house rather than go through the process of retrofitting it?
104. How much on average would it cost to retrofit a 3 bedroom terraced house?
105. What are the barriers to retrofitting in social housing? (e.g. customer, price, availability of people to do the work?)
106. Is there any realistic/rough budget you can give us regarding costs/council funds? What can we afford?
107. Do housing developers have to contribute to any existing transport systems in areas they build in?
108. Will the new homes built be council homes? where new homes will be built in the Borough.
109. Where are the future houses set to be built? What about the green spaces they build over?
110. How much of our new housing is being built on brownfield sites?
111. Are they [the Council] being held to ransom by the developers?
112. Have photo-bioreactors, heat exchangers/bioenergy approaches (BIQ in Hamburg) been considered? (Algae powered buildings)
113. Is there any schemes designed for homeowners?
114. What % of current stock has the council retrofitted already? How many would it be reasonable to expect? What % of homes took the opportunities?
115. What are the biggest obstacles against BwD installing solar panels on all new builds?
116. Can tenants get access to solar panels or just insulation?
117. When are you going to upgrade my house?!
118. Does the 2023 target of no gas homes seem reasonable? Will it be a failed target in your opinion?

### Questions not asked during the session, but subsequently shared with the commentators:

119. Is there any help from the government to fund heat pumps?
120. Do the Council take into account how many school places are available? [when considering new build]
121. Zero net homes – is there a date for this in Blackburn?
122. What types of insulation are installed and does it comply with Approved Document B for fire safety?
123. In terms of heat pumps, will they be allocated per house, or is there a way that they can be shared between a block of houses/streets/flats etc...?
124. Is there more plans to provide info on heat pumps to make them common knowledge and to make informed decisions?

125. Is there enough electricity in the grid to supply the needs of the future? If not what will be done about it?
126. Do you know the cost comparison between gas boiler versus heat pumps? (in terms of buying and running costs)
127. You say no gas homes from 2025 – is that for every new build? We haven't seen any external wall insulation in the Borough – how efficient would it be?
128. How many vacant houses are there – could existing ones be modified?

# Appendix 2: Recommendations in depth

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At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice under each recommendation. The following is a compilation of all the comments received.

The **overall ranking** of each recommendation is based upon a calculation of the level of support each recommendation received. If it received a 'strongly support' vote it received two points and a 'support' vote, one point. The **percentage support** figure was obtained by calculating the percentage of 'strongly support'/'support' votes of the total number of people who recorded a vote for that recommendation.

Jury members were also asked to rank each recommendation within each theme from high to low priority, which determined the **rank within the theme**.

## Recommendation 1.

We have learned a lot through being involved in the Climate Change People's Jury. **Everyone can be educated** through inclusive involvement about how to make Blackburn with Darwen a better place to live, work and play.

We think messages should be developed by and shared by people of all ages starting at ward/neighbourhood level including schools, youth groups, employers, residents (individuals and groups), local charities and community organisations and local councillors. Local councillors can start the process and other individuals and organisations must support them to do this.

Change will be encouraged through clear and transparent communication, including:

- Why the change is needed
- What can be done
- What the benefit will be (at individual and local level)

Messages could be shared through the individuals and organisations mentioned above by existing and new communication routes e.g., council messages/letter, also local media, social media, local Facebook groups, pop up shops (e.g. next to Wilkos) etc. We would like to see an interactive forum to share climate friendly tips and trips.

Here are some things we think should be included. (This list should be reviewed and added to over time.)

- a) Recycling - cost benefits plus potential savings if everyone did it properly. Targets for savings and what these savings could be spent on instead in relation to other climate change related initiatives (e.g. home improvements or active travel support)
- b) Litter and fly tipping (quantity and position of bins) (same as above in terms of potential savings)
- c) Travel habits / routines – encouraging less car use, more lift sharing, public transport use and active travel
- d) Information about food choices and food waste
- e) Flash flooding awareness
- f) Repair cafés – existing cafés and potential for the future
- g) For those that are interested there should be information about how all these and other issues are linked by climate change.

We must think about what different things will increase awareness and motivation amongst different groups of people.



**Overall Rank: 1st    Rank within Theme: 1st**  
**Percentage support: 89%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
18	6	3	0	0

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

#### Strongly support

- The process itself has educated me on a number of issues - if more people were exposed to this type of thing change may be more likely to happen.
- Education/communication is a key tool in developing change
- All the above sounds good and achievable.
- I agree that education is key. I also think that if people feel part of a community with similar aims they will feel more motivated to make positive changes which will positively impact their local and wider environment.
- Through our sessions we have come back to the lack of awareness and communication time and time again, this is a very important part of making Blackburn with Darwen tackle climate change fast.
- Communication is key – it needs to be easy to understand and follow and to know what to do next. It also needs to be widely available and accessible. And critically it needs to be engaging
- Communication and leadership from the Council is key in supporting local change to help the climate change crisis. Many of us felt that not enough was communicated to us about the Councils work, schemes, and commitment to making this change. Councilors rarely mention this and there is no evidence of their work on this crisis.
- I am favor of everything brought up here. It's long recommendation and feels like there is more than one here. It seems to me that you are trying to send the message out in all directions at once. A clear and direct approach down limited avenues may have more impact.
- The time has come that we all need to be making small changes in our lives. I knew a lot about the subject before joining this group however I have really learnt a lot more in these past few weeks. I feel if everyone was to be made aware about what is really happening, they would want to make real and lasting change. It's just that to a lot of people Climate change is still very much in the future and they don't feel they can affect it. I feel it should be included in our everyday lives on tv programs in the form of soaps and dramas and celebrities showing us all what they do and why. Not to preach to people but to demonstrate that this is the norm and creating greenhouse gasses was something in the past. There was a massive movement towards diversity within tv and radio which has become our norm now. Why can't programs include something about climate change in all our programs to educate those that might not trust other sources.
- I think this answers the big question very well and contains lots of good details, and I'm glad that you have added the word neighborhood in as it makes it more understandable.
- Every single one should do the same thing to achieve our goal.

Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools, along with teaching institutions already teach values. Parents too constantly battle with the younger generation about money saving tips, how to save energy, in the most polite friendly way. However, young people do not readily take the advice and rebel which only creates further problems.</li> <li>Education on efforts regarding what can be done at local levels to support the climate, and encourage cleaner, safer communities - should always be encouraged.</li> <li>I also think this will help bring some communities together. I really like the idea of repair cafes as repair rather than replace is one of the best ways that has been lost over the years.</li> <li>Awareness amongst different groups of people should definitely be increased. Messages that are shared by schools, local communities and charities can have a huge long lasting impact where people are concerned making change within the environment and at their homes as they know the effect of climate change.</li> <li>We all need to change our habits to make a difference</li> <li>Fly tipping and flash flooding are a large issue. Repair cafes for the repair of electrical items is essential</li> </ul>
Neither support nor oppose
-
Oppose
-
Strongly oppose
-

**Recommendation 2.**

We ask the oversight panel of the people's jury to assign an **accountable** individual / organisation for each of our recommendations. From that we are asking for **regular reviews** to the members of the people's jury (initially after 3 months, then every 6 months) to demonstrate progress, and if no progress, why.

**Overall Rank: 2nd Rank within Theme: 1st**

**Percentage support: 85%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
17	6	4	0	0

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

### Strongly support

- This is one of the best recommendations.
- This process should be followed up to ensure our hard work and efforts have not gone to waste.
- Accountability is very important, as long as it is legally binding and completely transparent
- We need to ensure accountability and progress reports, or all this will have been for nothing. If costing becomes an issue, then local business sponsorship should be considered.
- I think it is wonderful that Blackburn with Darwen council have commissioned this climate change people's jury but if our recommendations are not listened to then it will have been largely pointless. Accountability within the council and future people's juries will hopefully ensure that climate change will remain a priority for our council.
- This needs to be kept high on agendas – it's not going to go away, and we don't want to be fobbed off and it fall down a list of priorities when budgets are tight. A lot of it isn't about spending money but it's about doing things a little different and being more responsible and thoughtful
- We appreciate that it takes effort to consider these recommendations and put them into practice, however we want to ensure that the council does commit to each one and shows accountability for attempting to implementing as many as possible.
- This for me is one of the most important parts the after monitoring; making sure promises are kept and seeing tangible progress being made.
- This has used council resources and mustn't become a tick box exercise
- We need to know that our suggestions are being listened to and if some of the above cannot be achieved, why not? It may even be that if we work together, we can modify the suggestion to actually get it put in place.
- Yes, I think this is super important as it's a great way to track the progress and ensure that these great ideas get implemented and improved as time goes on and it actually applies to every other recommendation. This can help bring our suggestions to life.
- It's important to review regularly to make sure that those measures are implemented properly.
- Regular updates are essential to keep Councils motivated
- The 3-month review should be extensive and name individuals responsible for taking things forward and reporting back 6 monthly.



Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's good to know the progress of the borough and what the borough is doing about it.</li> <li>• I would like this as we can see that we didn't waste weeks of our time and more BwD funds on these recommendation for nothing</li> <li>• I am aware that it was said that a regular review at 3 months would be hard to achieve. I can understand this. – However, this is something the individuals want. It does not sound too much of a bad idea. If a review is done at 6 months, this would be better as the report would be more detailed. An accountable individual would refer to someone who is well versed and clear. Someone who can follow through and can communicate well regarding what is being done and how all of the issues that are brought up above are resolved or dealt with.</li> </ul>
Neither support nor oppose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The notion of progress is something which must follow recommendations from the Jury. It would help to assign an organisation for each of the recommendations, and to measure progress this way, but this is something which requires perhaps a record for the recommendations of previous climate juries, and what improvements have been made since through local efforts. To make for 'accountable' organisations would mean to look to drive innovation in key areas. There must be efforts to first make the foundations before they are built on.</li> </ul>
Oppose
-
Strongly oppose
-

**Recommendation 3.**

Improve **green spaces** around the borough

- Make it easier for people to navigate their way while walking - develop more walking maps including town centre display boards and online/printed leaflets
- Increase the number of benches to allow resting points and enable people to be able to go further
- Consult the community about where the 8,000 trees are planted

Improved green spaces will directly help with climate change and will encourage people to walk more, creating new habits which could help reduce car use.

**Overall Rank: 3rd Rank within Theme: 1st**

**Percentage support: 85%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
14	9	4	0	0

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

### Strongly support

- There isn't a huge amount of green spaces/pleasant walking routes especially when compared with nearby areas such as the Ribble Valley. Improving this can only be a good thing.
- Green space is always good and will raise awareness of the importance of the environment, at the very least at a local level
- With the help of maps, benches etc. this would encourage and enable People from all walks of life to experience and enjoy the outdoor pursuits, especially beneficial for lonely people, people with mental and physical health issues and of course helps create the mindset for a better greener future.
- We are lucky to live in a beautiful part of the country and this should be celebrated and walks to explore our countryside should be made more 'public'. More trees need to be planted.
- Green spaces in Blackburn are being destroyed for new homes. We need to protect current green spaces and maybe plant fruit trees that anybody can eat from. You'll need experts who know 1. what kind of trees are needed 2. when to plant (winter or the very start of spring) and 3. how to plant them properly (needs a suitable site). The borough council of King's Lynn in West Norfolk planted 6000 trees incorrectly and they all died.
- There are so many lovely areas in Blackburn with Darwen but just not publicized enough – I've lived here for 23 years and only in the last 12 months have I realised there are 4 beautiful woods and parks close to me that I didn't actually know existed (because I used to drive everywhere and now, I walk wherever I can if I'm just 'popping out')
- As well as trees being planted, I hope that flowers and others plant would put in where possible. To encourage biodiversity within the borough. Wildflower meadow?
- Lancashire is a beautiful county and already has a lot of walkers and keen outdoor pursuits citizens by doing the above it would make it even more appealing.
- As someone who walks a lot, I completely agree it's needed, and I like how they explained the link to the bigger question within the recommendation.
- We can plant trees and flowers in public areas and private gardens to produce fresher air and improve our living environment.
- Make safe and clean up existing walkways

Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I support the planting of trees. Not in the town centre but in neighbourhoods. More benches en route to Doctors surgeries. Walking maps, not so much approve of.</li> <li>Agreed, there are challenges in particular regarding tree planting, there has only been two volunteer days in Blackburn with Darwen through the Ribble Trust this year. Perhaps more tree planting can be encouraged. The issue around benches might be for ensuring that they are strong, and not likely to be vandalised like with wooden-plank benches. And as for walking, this should focus into concerns for public health, and air pollution in particular areas around Blackburn with Darwen.</li> <li>This is not a real problem in my area the walking trails are clear, and everyone round here knows them but I would like this to happen across all BwD.</li> <li>I have seen a town center display board in the mall – this was a great sight to see for individuals to navigate their way around. This would be a great idea to implement in many areas where need be.</li> <li>Very important that residents (and especially our children) see the importance of planting trees and green spaces. This really helps their connection to the environment and also makes the borough a nicer place to live and work. Resting points are very important for those who can't walk long distances.</li> <li>Encourage exercise and the importance of these spaces to other generations</li> <li>Helping people to get around more easily on foot. Get the community involved in tree planting</li> </ul>
Neither support nor oppose
-
Oppose
-
Strongly oppose
-



**Recommendation 4.**

We are aware that **food waste** is a big issue. We recommend:

- More local research about the causes of food waste, not only what food waste is
- Local research about appropriate local solutions and implementation
- Communicate the findings to promote behaviour change.

**Overall Rank: 3rd   Rank within Theme: 3rd**  
**Percentage support: 89%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
13	11	3	0	0

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

#### Strongly support

- I understand after some of group meeting, I've attended this is a bigger problem than I realized and should be dealt with rather than just keep side stepping the issue.
- Education about food waste is needed and will hopefully then bring about change.
- Prevention of food waste can be done by encouraging individuals to only buy what they need. Mention possible ways to deal with leftover food. – This enables a solution to be provided.
- Cost savings to the individual or family can be quite substantial – just a bit of education and alternatives will help to change habits so that people can save money and there is less waste and cost to the environment
- This can not only benefit households with their expenditure, but food waste is a big part of our burgundy bin. This is costing us money to put into landfill. All households will want to improve on this so education and support will be welcome by all.
- It's Wrong to waste food, so yes mindful thinking and education are important. But when it cannot be avoided "Separate food waste bins" there has been talk about a digester?
- Behaviour change can only come from being educated about what the problem is and what we can do. We need to be promoting more cookery classes for adults with a message of 'How to save money and eat better'. Somewhere people are shown how to cook simple meals for themselves and their families. And we definitely need classes like that at every school for all ages taught as Basic survival skill.
- Find out the sources and the solution for our environment.

Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I do support this. However, I feel this should be targeted at the right age groups.</li> <li>• Working on reducing this could also save money for families in a cost-of-living crisis.</li> <li>• This is more about the individual, and how it plays an influence collectively - by making people more aware to these challenges there are increased efforts within the solutions through behavioural changes. So yes, agreed.</li> <li>• A good idea, which will hopefully be implemented at a national level</li> <li>• It is a big problem with bulk packaging, besides the Individual's responsibility, there is an onus on Supermarkets who rather than bulk packaging could cater to an Individual's needs. This could be achieved by having a manned fruit and vegetable section just like they have a butchers section. It would help reduce plastic and food waste.</li> <li>• Compost bins and loose fruit and veg!!!</li> <li>• I can see how this answers the bigger question, and I think it is still relevant.</li> <li>• Putting pressure on Supermarkets to stop offering multiple buys at bargain prices</li> </ul>
Neither support nor oppose
-
Oppose
-
Strongly oppose
-

**Recommendation 5.**

We want improvements to **public transport** to make it reliable, affordable, accessible, easier to navigate, clean, and safe. e.g.

**1) Availability:**

- a) Increase availability of trains and buses for more people with more stops more times and more routes.
- b) A public consultation should be carried out to establish what services people need.

**2) Information:** Providers to work together to create a user-friendly app which combines train and bus services to easily plan your journey track where your train or bus is, when they'll arrive, and how busy they are. All should have an onboard tracker to link to the app an update via app, stop / station displays and on board announcements. There should be a phone number available for people who don't have smartphones and the app should be widely advertised.

**3) Ticketing:** 'One ticket' available for use across all providers and services

**4) Incentives:** There should be incentives for using bus and train services like loyalty cards or cheaper monthly passes that can be used across all services and providers

**Overall Rank: 5th    Rank within Theme: 1st**

**Percentage support: 78%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
17	4	5	0	1

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

Strongly support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current public transport is very unreliable, with frequent cancellations, long waits until the next one, and not many direct routes - have to change several times to get places and the connection can again have long waits between them. Current incentives only cover certain age brackets, yet people outside of this can also be struggling with money.</li> <li>• Great ideas, I can't disagree with any of them</li> <li>• If you encourage and improve public transport you reduce vehicle emissions and would greatly help towards net zero. All public transport needs to be run on sustainable energy.</li> <li>• Public transport needs to be made as attractive as possible to entice people to use rather than using their car.</li> <li>• I think cheaper tickets are a great incentive to entice people to use public transport rather than driving. I don't think an app is worth the money or time it would take to develop when a lot of apps already exist for these services, however onboard announcements on all buses would be a huge help for everyone, even if they know their stop they can relax and not have to be alert the whole time while on the bus as they can hear the announcement.</li> <li>• This would be a way to encourage people in using public transport instead of personal cars; services need to be reliable, affordable and to be trusted.</li> <li>• If the following above was to be achieved and implemented, it would be a very big success I believe which would definitely help all of the citizens within Blackburn with Darwen. Public transport should definitely be made accessible with those that use of it. The app seems like a great idea. But this also means taking into consideration the effort and the people who make the app. Is there already an app in place? I don't really use public transport but have seen within the jury that this is an issue many people would like to be solved as they want public transport to be accessible and having many stops and times, One ticket would be a great idea. Potentially less waste if its paper??? – Also less worry for individuals. Incentives is a great idea too. – cheaper monthly passes may appeal to more individuals.</li> <li>• Need to be able to offer reliable, regular and cost effective alternatives to 'popping out' in the</li> </ul>



car or for those who don't currently have access to regular public transport. Also need to communicate what is available as a lot of people probably don't know and resort to using a car without thinking about an alternative

- It was very clear through discussions that many, many residents wanted to use public transport more, but the limited services and pricing were deterrents. One of the commentators explained that as a borough our car usage is very high and this is an area where we can make a big change.
- A lot of this is ergonomics (making it easier for people to use public transport) anything that improves the service I am all for. I do agree that the -when, where and how changes are made; would be best made by another people's Jury.
- Huge improvements are need for public transport in the borough
- If all of the above was put into place more people would travel by public transport including myself. It would also be useful if when buying a saver pass the credit on it would be valid for a few years and you can keep topping up the credit on these passes either via your phone or in local shops.
- I think it appropriately addresses the points and things they can do to help without being overly prescriptive.
- Public transports are very important part to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions.

#### Support

- More people on buses will reduce reliance on cars, so yes, agreed.
- Safe, efficient and prompt public transport is essential. If not people will continue to drive
- Would be great if this could happen. However all transport companies / services operate independently and would prefer to keep it that way to maximise profit.

#### Neither support nor oppose

- There's already an app for bus/train services that tracks them but they should be more well known. I do agree though that we should have access to a loyalty card scheme.
- I understand a lot of this is already in the works so i do support it but also think it not that much of an importance if it's being done.

#### Oppose

-

#### Strongly oppose

- I oppose this. The younger generation are already tech savvy. However there are lots of other members within the community who struggle with technology. People with dyslexia would find this horrendous, which would have a detrimental effect on their mental health. Older people who are already challenged physically and with eyesight not as good as once was find this dreadful already. I don't feel any consultation should be done regarding this matter. There is not a smart phone in existence that would support the amount of all the apps these organizations wrongly expect everyone to use. Makes a smartphone unstable. An older personal more than most needs to have their wits about them as opposed to being distracted by looking at a smart screen phone.

**Recommendation 6.**

National government should implement a **minimum standard for energy efficiency and insulation** in all homes. This standard should be **enforced**. Our local MPs should be proactive in making this legislation and exploring the idea of green loans (with favourable or zero interest rates) / grants that work (unlike the Green Homes grant). This is essential for addressing climate change, but also, ensuring we all have a right to a warm home, particularly important to all of us now.

**Overall Rank: 6th Rank within Theme: 3rd**

**Percentage support: 77%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
17	3	5	0	1

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

Strongly support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All homes identified with energy performance certificate falling below an agreed standard should be brought up to standard with a two year deadline.</li> <li>• As we are facing a crisis with energy bills we should consider that this again could happen in the Future, so if the homes are energy efficient then crisis situation wouldn't have a huge impact as the energy efficient Homes would stay at a reasonable temperature</li> <li>• I agree with this as it ensures both social and private tenants will be protected - often private landlords do not care about warmth to a property.</li> <li>• I believe this to be the most important change on the entire list it will cut down on carbon emissions from homes a lot and the people of BwD will all benefit from warmer safer homes.</li> <li>• I think this is essential for our borough due to how many old houses there are that are not as energy efficient as they probably could be. However, all people need financial support to make these changes through schemes that actually work for all people.</li> <li>• The Government should take initiative to implement these kind of measures if we want to become Energy efficient with Net Zero New Homes</li> <li>• I strongly support the last statement – it would be a good idea to implement a minimum standard for energy efficiency within all homes including insulation.</li> <li>• Essential for reducing consumption of fuels – would benefit the environment and the individual with actual cost / financial savings</li> <li>• From discussions, it was clear that many residents wanted to improve the energy efficiency of their homes but were unable to commit to this due to affordability. By giving residents financial support and loans we can encourage many homeowners and residents to invest in making this happen.</li> <li>• A change in law might have happen to make this one work but when people's Lives and health are a stake. It is important all efforts to make improvements where possible now.</li> <li>• There needs to be a minimum standard to avoid any more deaths in moldy, damp and unsafe social housing</li> <li>• Being warm is vitally important to everyone and with the change in the climate and us needing more renewable energy the government needs to take action now. We need effective change.</li> <li>• Yes I don't disagree with anything here I think it's fair</li> <li>• Central government could make higher standard for our home, it is a very important part of our goal of NET ZERO STRATEGY.</li> <li>• Home owners need support to go greener</li> <li>• Brilliant idea / scheme. However, should already be happening so won't hold my breath</li> </ul>

Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agreed, there should be standards, and there could be support if the Local Plan pairs agendas with schemes, and grants. Part of this could emphasise on supporting local businesses to provide more environmental credentials, local businesses focusing towards insulation, and other aspects of housing renovations, e.g. carpeting, building trades, etc... As an additional recommendation there could be efforts to partner local agriculture to provide a type of wool, or 'Thermafleece' as an example to double efforts in sheep farming with providing more local sources of insulation.</li> </ul>
Neither support nor oppose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A valid idea, although costs could be problematic for some, and the implementation could take considerable time</li> <li>I don't think it can be enforced because not everyone can afford it or is willing to insulate their homes properly.</li> </ul>
Oppose
-
Strongly oppose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I don't like the word enforced even though it's minimum standard. One needs to encourage and guide in the right direction.</li> </ul>



**Recommendation 7.**

Some people are reluctant to make changes to their homes. People can be supported to make changes in a number of ways especially in terms of information, advice and affordability:

- there should be an **approved list of local (perhaps country-wide) renewable energy installation and maintenance professionals** that are trustworthy, comply with health and safety etc, with a product guarantee. This list should be held by the Council, or another organisation such as the Chamber of Commerce.
- more **impartial information** is needed on how to make savings on energy efficiency – stressing that this is how you can save money. Residents could showcase this to each other. *Reward, recognise, for a better climate / change for residents.*
- extend **bulk-buying schemes**. Working with communities and neighbourhoods to firstly, gauge interest in the installing of solar panels and other renewable energy options and then based on the interest putting in place a **bulk-buying scheme**. This would enable trusted professionals to be used at the cheapest possible cost. This must be done in a way that ensures any profits are shared within the community. (e.g. Solar Together working with other councils enables 35% cheaper systems).

**Overall Rank: 7th Rank within Theme: 1st**

**Percentage support: 74%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
13	7	7	0	0

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

#### Strongly support

- I believe the more people that you can get to understand they save money will be more willing to change their ways and help combat climate change. I also feel more people need solar panels but believe they cost more to have them on their house which is not true.
- These recommendations should help greatly in solving the housing situation
- I agree with this recommendation as I think that if people could be better supported, be it through better information or financial support/incentives, to make their homes more 'green' it could have a very positive impact on climate change and could also help people to save money.
- To help residents to make informed decisions and choices knowing that they are going to receive the best advice and support from professionals. Trying to find a reputable company and impartial advice can be difficult and this would help alleviate this issue. Cost can be a huge prohibitive issue and by being able to bulk buy, the cost savings will be passed on to the individual. Also to look at interest free credit over a 3 or 5 year period
- The commentators on housing explained how 62% of local housing in BwD is energy efficiency Grade D or below, we need to improve this ASAP. The group felt that homeowners have concerns about trustworthiness and affordability when making changes to their properties – council support is needed with this.
- There are many businesses out there where we can get our energy from, what we need is a trustworthy source like the local councils to support us in finding these above businesses and the advice we need on better energy saving plans so that all our houses omit less pollution and are more energy efficient and we all save money.
- I agree with this because it is true that we need all these things. And I think it is expressed well.
- It's good idea to encourage people with incentives /rewards to save energy and money.

Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This covers all the important issues in regards to homes becoming more sustainable as well as keeping in mind the other factors such as cost</li> <li>• I support the statement above as information and advice should be provided by those that need it to ensure change can be made.</li> <li>• In general I agree with this motion but wonder about whether or not all parts of it can be implemented on a parts in practice.</li> <li>• These options should be made available to all</li> <li>• Things need to happen on a National level, and I don't see any reason that BwD cannot be a leading light</li> <li>• More pressure should be put on housing associations to do more</li> </ul>
Neither support nor oppose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communities coming together to share a common goal is a good thing. I have read with disappointment how Preston Council have no plans in place regarding new builds be future proof. Likewise there have been indications from some of the invited speakers that Blackburn with Darwen borough Council currently have no plans to adopt suggested alternatives. Maybe this is because of a perceived fear by the council, of litigation in endorsing measures that in future may be found to not have been the best. Citing each time that private companies make their own decisions, thereby limiting liability against it. And while this remains personal choice for many, some invited speakers continued to use a vehicle when close to public transport which would have reduced carbon footprint.</li> <li>• I would be interested to see the uptake of any schemes - despite being discounted, I feel that the majority of people will prioritise spending any spare money elsewhere.</li> <li>• For 'A' whilst I think it would prove useful for information on renewable energy to be held by the Council, it depends on how this plays a role in schemes, and initiatives, which plays into greater challenges regarding investment. There needs to be more done to ensure that installation, and maintenance for solar panels becomes a greater aspect of common professions. For 'B' there are many sources of reference from potentially leaflets - to DIY books, but I agree with efforts for showcasing such knowledge. And for 'C' I think this could be useful, but it would prove more important to first get houses safely insulated.</li> </ul>
Oppose
-
Strongly oppose
-

**Recommendation 8.**

Blackburn with Darwen Council needs to challenge the national building regulations to ensure all new homes have solar panels and heat pumps. We need net zero new homes by 2028 like Lancaster's target (or earlier). The Local Plan should be changed to reflect this. there should be an **approved list of local (perhaps country-wide) renewable energy installation and maintenance professionals** that are trustworthy, comply with health and safety etc, with a product guarantee. This list should be held by the Council, or another organisation such as the Chamber of Commerce.

**Overall Rank: 8th Rank within Theme: 2nd**

**Percentage support: 78%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
13	8	5	0	1

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

### Strongly support

- I believe that the people of BwD would rather be ahead with net zero homes and making BwD a better place to live for everyone than just keeping up with the minimum building regulations. We know this change is needed so we should start now if current developers working in BwD won't help make this happen why are we even using them ?
- I fully support this and it is the only way forward to achieve net zero.
- I fully agree with this statement and feel it has been a missed opportunity not to have done this sooner, especially given how many new homes have been built in the borough recently and how many are still set to be built. It is short sighted not to do this and to me would be a real selling point to buy a new home that was more climate friendly.
- Somehow, a Council or a Body should take initiative to implement these kind of measures if we want to become Energy efficient with Net Zero New Homes
- Our new builds must be of the highest standard to ensure that our new housing reflects the long term needs of the future. No point in building homes now that will need upgrades in the near future. We have no time to waste and keep delaying deadlines when tackling the climate change crisis.
- The national building regs should definitely changed and the sooner the better. We can no longer think of climate change as something that is in the future it is happening now. Which is why we need to convince Darwen Council to implement this regulation.
- Yes, that's fair and clearly written
- Use the highest standard for the new home as soon as possible.
- Serious issue. However the council will point out, national and government guidance / rules etc to avoid as long as possible (2035)

### Support

- New builds should be made futureproof, to avoid costly retrospective improvements within little time of the house being built
- A good recommendation, although perhaps others technologies and home improvement ideas should be added/considered
- Not all houses would be suitable for solar panels and for them to gain maximum benefit from them so it would need to be on a case by case / site by site basis but do support the recommendation
- It's a ambitious target to make in 5 years, although solar panels and heat pumps would be a good selling point to prospective buyers.
- We need to follow Lancaster's lead

- Homes need to be much more energy efficient

Neither support nor oppose

- I agree with the target for Net Zero in new homes by 2028 - this should be encouraged through the Local Plan with potential support from Lancaster for achieving this. I'm not sure how much I agree regarding building regulations. Approved Document L already focuses towards requirements for conservation of fuel and power. To what extent new homes can be fitted with solar panels and heat pumps is a matter of additional cost to building developers, and what pressures are put on through the balance in regulations and incentives to make implementation more achievable. It is more the focus ideally to make buildings through the materials themselves more energy-efficient.
- I am not very well versed on heat pumps – I would mostly be concerned about the costs of all new homes having solar panels and heat pumps. Is this something the residents will need to pay for? Will they be provided with any financial support if need be?

Oppose

-

Strongly oppose

- I strongly oppose. On the following grounds. Existing ageing properties continue to be given planning to erect extensions. While not a new build home, it is still a new building without any current future proof built in at the time. Thereby, leaving a legacy and burden on the next generation. I personally oppose any extension to an ageing property. However, the local planning department are currently under no obligation to decline, as there would need to be a tighter definition as regards the term (new build home) to include also new build extension on ageing property which combines a new home.



**Recommendation 9.**

We need to **give a sense of inspiration back to our community which will help encourage change and give them hope for a better future.** We need to share progress and a reason to be cheerful.

This can be done through creating the Blackburn with Darwen Smile awards!

These awards will recognise and encourage action and help spread change both short and long term. The process to develop these awards should happen at ward/neighbourhood level. Every ward should have at least one entry. A logo can be created through a competition involving local schools. The Smile Awards can offer recognition for all sorts of things, including people who act as 'change champions' in their community, place of work or education etc.

**Overall Rank: 8th Rank within Theme: 2nd**

**Percentage support: 74%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
13	7	6	1	0

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

### Strongly support

- This will form a good working practice and people will be motivated to continue doing more for the borough.
- This is achievable and inspires community action
- I think celebrating people and groups who work to protect our environment is a great idea and agree that a positive rather than fearful outlook for the future will hopefully inspire more hope that things can change.
- We are aware that the BwD awards already exist but we think there should be a separate awards or a lot more awards within BwD awards that encourage people to get involved in helping communities reduce carbon. I think it's a great idea doing it on Ward level as people will see the difference in their own area.
- Help people to be proud of where they live and want to make it a better place than what it already is. A smile goes a long way and is infectious 😊
- It is very important to send positive messages to residents about the changes they can make and the impact they can have. We feel many people are overwhelmed or despondent about the crisis – it is critical we engage people in making small changes where they can. Local councilors should lead on this: it is their ward and their constituents that they can inspire.
- People who help make difference in a cleaner world and better environment. In their local area, should be recognized and rewarded.
- I think this is a very innovative idea and I think it will help motivate people and that means there more likely to take part and actively help address the bigger question.
- It's good idea to encourage people to achieve the goal.
- Educating people that fly tipping, discarding litter is NOT acceptable

### Support

- When dealing with younger minds, this is paramount.
- Especially for children this is important. It could involve certificates that they can frame, perhaps references, inclusion with the Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, and all similar types of ideas around these efforts adding to experience whilst also making it equally fun and educational.
- If this award encourages and alters People's mindset , then that is all good.
- I like how this involves local schools creating a logo through a competition. This is a nice way to get children involved and telling them about the awards and what it stands for.

- Good in theory BUT need to make sure it isn't a box for companies to tick
- This should hopefully bring people together and give them a sense of pride in their community.

Neither support nor oppose

- I think awards will only appeal to people that are already actively making changes, but sharing progress is still positive and could hold councillors accountable.

Oppose

- For me i think this is a waste of public funds with the real problems we face. As giving someone a thumbs up for their hard work clearly will not be what people winning awards will be expecting.

Strongly oppose

-

**Recommendation 10.**

Build upon work already being done and do more to encourage people to **walk, wheel, and cycle**, safely and accessibly. e.g.

- a) Stop people parking on pavements, walkways and cycleways with enforceable, significant fines
- b) Make spaces more pleasant and safe to walk and cycle in (greener spaces, walk and cycle lanes separate from traffic, cleaner)
- c) Incentive to use cycle instead of car (e.g. Voucher to help purchase of a bicycle)
- d) Secure cycle parking
- e) Investigate viable options for local 'rent-a-bike' scheme
- f) Encourage eco driving to reduce pollution and make area more healthy and pleasant to walk and cycle (e.g. 20mph zones, electric vehicles etc)
- g) Keep people informed about progress
- h) Do some work to find out why any previous schemes haven't worked and establish how to address and increase take-up

**Overall Rank: 10th Rank within Theme: 2nd**

**Percentage support: 74%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
11	9	6	0	1

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

Strongly support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is obvious that if people walk and cycle there are no emissions but pavements, need to be cleaned, no rubbish, dog excrement and repaired. Cycle ways and public footpath need to be regularly maintained. The investment in cycle lockers in the town centre, railway stations etc. would encourage cycle use.</li> <li>As we know, car emissions contribute largely to climate change and so as much as we can do to encourage people to use greener methods of transport must be done.</li> <li>Encouraging people to walk, wheel and cycle would massively reduce our carbon footprint in Blackburn and also improve health with exercise and lowering emissions for better air quality. I think it would also massively improve people's mental health to have more green spaces dotted about.</li> <li>Heavy fines for parking on pavement, removal of 'sleeping policemen' and introduction of average speed zones (in the 20 mph areas), introduction of electrical bicycles</li> <li>I also feel safety is a major issue and it is not enough to have cycle lanes but to have slower speed limits in the areas that have cycle lanes. There are cycle lanes on such traffic heavy roads that only an accomplished seasoned cyclist would feel safe. This would probably link with above f.</li> <li>I agree with this statement and the points fully.</li> <li>Walk and cycle are good and friendly for environment and benefit people's health.</li> <li>Promote schemes already in place and expand them</li> </ul>
Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current spaces to walk feel unsafe and dirty. Cycling has no safe places to park the bike.</li> <li>Agreed, more needs to be done about air pollution to not just encourage walking and cycling, but to emphasise on those concerns for public health which put too many pressures on the NHS.</li> <li>For a) i do often walk with a double pram and people parking on the path i often have to walk into the road around cars which can be unsafe and a genuine annoyance but there also is some great ideas for helping lower carbon emissions.</li> <li>Good, although cycling is not always a viable option for long journeys</li> </ul>

- This is a difficult one because it can be so dangerous trying to cycle but cyclists also need to be more aware that they cannot be seen – they need to take responsibility for visibility and have some road sense. I'd also add for dog owners to be more responsible for picking up their pets pavement presents as this puts people off walking and cycling
- There is a wide range of reasons why residents are using cars for short and easy journeys. This recommendation aims to tackle many different reasons and will help many residents walk or cycle more and eventually use less fossil fuels to power their journeys.
- There's good stuff here, encouraging a healthy lifestyle by walking and cycling and it helps the environment but I do still have some safety concerns. Particularly with cyclists on road being knocked off a bike at any speed could be life changing.
- These measures to encourage the use of alternative transport

Neither support nor oppose

- What appeals to me the most about the above statement is point h. Research and investigation should be done to see why past schemes have not worked and their success rate. What can be done to improve this? Regarding the eco driving, I have heard many people wanting a 20mph zone – eco driving should be considered – also areas that are narrow and require the 20mph zone. Keeping people informed about what is going on and the progress that is made would be great so they also feel included.
- Not a possibility for all (families, elderly etc.)

Oppose

-

Strongly oppose

- People who don't drive already walk when they can as a way of saving money. And don't often use a taxi for three reasons. One is affordability. Two, the integrity of taxi drivers! There is currently no drug screen in place by the local authority that issues taxi license to drivers. This compromises public personal safety. Three, the integrity of the vehicle. Taxi drivers are digging in their heels under an ongoing consultation as regards borough testing at approved test centre. So I strongly oppose this.



**Recommendation 11.**

Encourage people to **grow their own food**:

- a) Via school gardens and cooking
- b) Create more allotments from unused spaces, and support to use them for groups as well as individuals
- c) Local cook and share groups

Take inspiration from what is already in existence here, and further afield. (This could be linked to recommendation 10 for communicating about this.)

**Overall Rank: 10th Rank within Theme: 4th**

**Percentage support: 67%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
11	7	9	0	0

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

Strongly support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Now is the best time to launch this with the cost-of-living crisis - people struggling to afford food could be more receptive to growing things themselves.</li> <li>I think that moving to more sustainable ways of living should be explored and encouraged.</li> <li>It will also bring a sense of community and belonging. And pride that they have grown what they eat. It helps to encourage key wildlife stages such as pollination and homes for the insects and birds. Prize for best marrow!</li> <li>Let's expand on grow your own food scheme's, it's healthy and wholesome and good for mental too. #sharingiscaring</li> <li>Adding small allotments on green areas where people can grow fruit and veg would also encourage a sense of community growth and pride too. And there are so many benefits for mental health and happiness.</li> <li>It's good idea to use own garden to plant vegetables and fruits.</li> <li>Encouraging cooking and life skill lessons in school in essential</li> </ul>
Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Especially in schools this could be encouraged. Allotments could play a greater role in aspects of urban regeneration, and green spaces. It is essential that there is a re-emphasis on what would have been considered quite normal throughout the Second World War when rationing made it necessary to encourage gardening. For a book on gardening, Monty Don's Fork to Fork is a good example.</li> <li>I don't have time to be in the garden but for some people I think this could help them out a lot with the benefits that come with growing your own food</li> <li>Self growing should be encouraged and more allotments. School Education important too, also knowing the source of your food. Encouraging organic growth therefore reducing harmful fertilisers.</li> <li>Cost of food is a huge concern for many, ways that that council can help support with this is welcome and needed. Growing more local food is much more sustainable and better for the climate change crisis too. It is an essential and forgotten life skill.</li> <li>Very niche, more for schools and community groups- lots of terraced housing in BwD</li> <li>I think this is good because it does help answer the question, as we know that travel and exporting of food plays a part in climate change, though no the biggest factor it still holds relevance.</li> </ul>

Neither support nor oppose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For those with this interest, they would naturally pursue this. I do however, encourage every school to actively be involved with growing and for the pupils who leave with a burning desire can then pursue this further.</li> <li>A valid idea, although not always practical for everyone and people may lack motivation</li> <li>I am not very well versed regarding this topic but I understand that growing food within gardens or even if people do this in their own gardens can have some possible disadvantages and drawbacks. – How would the food be protected without possibly being contaminated? Maybe sessions can be held within the local community where people can be provided training or even gain experience.</li> </ul>
Oppose
-
Strongly oppose
-

**Recommendation 12.**

The council and local housing providers should be encouraged to use more **sustainable building practices** for example investigating the use of lime mortars, and an emphasis on reclaiming.

**Overall Rank: 12th Rank within Theme: 5th**

**Percentage support: 67%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
9	9	8	1	0

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

Strongly support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, this seems like a positive step</li> <li>• The use of sustainable and reclaimed materials should always be encouraged.</li> <li>• The council should do everything they can to ensure that sustainable practices are used in all of their areas of business.</li> <li>• I am sure builders already encourage to use reclaimed materials but if this pushes them to go a bit further. I see that as only a good thing.</li> <li>• Definitely, this should be done. Small changes everywhere make a difference as an example of this look at how our moors have suffered with taking the peat out and how garden soil has now slowly started to not include peat in its material to help with this problem.</li> <li>• Take advantage of new technologies and materials for buildings to achieve our goal.</li> <li>• Sustainable building is going to be a key focus for issues regarding how entire superstructures for buildings are constructed, whether or not buildings continue to be made from bricks and mortar or there is further inclusion of timber-frame construction from sustainable foresting practices. On the issue of lime mortars, it is not that we should not use cement - but that inclusion of more lime mortars - ones proven to work, e.g. NHL 3.5 - can make buildings more repairable, reclaimable, and carbon neutral, rather than smashing both mortar and brick for chips on garden patios, only adding to requirements for firing more bricks which adds to industrial emissions. Even the standard of lime, cement, and sand, would be ideal - as it means that less cement is required, and more flexibility is given to the building itself to avoid vertical/staircase cracking through the bricks from shrinkage, and greater tension on the pointing to the brick. Builders must find that balance between avoiding lime mortars that are too weak, and cements which are too strong, and brittle, and to include this in limiting the amounts of cement used in building practice - not just for the environment, but for more sustainable buildings.</li> </ul>
Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anything that is sustainable should be encouraged at the very least. But a time has come where this should be enforced.</li> <li>• Anything that investigates more efficient and warmer homes should be encouraged</li> <li>• I support this however I am guessing current materials are chosen due to cost - if this was to increase would it be passed onto the consumer? House prices are already high.</li> <li>• I do believe this is a good way to start doing things going back to the old ways of reuse as much as possible</li> <li>• Implementing sustainable building practices would be more ideal. I agree with investigating the use of lime mortars.</li> <li>• This needs to be balanced with cost and availability of reclamation</li> <li>• It is very important that we consider sustainability in all areas of our personal lives, but more important to ensure businesses working in our area consider this too. Change needs to happen and it</li> </ul>

needs to start with businesses such as local housing providers. Businesses need to see and respect that this is important to us.

Neither support nor oppose

- I don't know enough about sustainable building practices
- I think does apply to the question that we are being asked I just don't have much knowledge in that area and despite the talks we have attended I don't really know what they are talking about.

Oppose

- That choice should be Builders', not housing Providers'. The Local Housing Provider just takes into ownership any new homes built as part of the Planning Permission.

Strongly oppose

-



**Recommendation 13.**

We are worried that new homes cause emissions. There should be an **investigation** into why locally 1,000 homes are **vacant** and why the Empty Homes team doesn't have enough money to make these homes habitable

**Overall Rank: 13th Rank within Theme: 4th**

**Percentage support: 59%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
11	5	10	0	1

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

Strongly support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is too much social housing not lived in by the tenant. This has been reported to Together Housing but empty properties remain empty. Housing benefit should not be paid to tenants who do not actively live in a home the authority pays rent for. I hear people all the time who are desperate to find a home who are on the list. But they will not be homed while there are tenants not living in the home they are supposed to be living in. A property across from me has been empty for the last nine years and only frequented with a visit by the tenant twice each year. This has been reported. Still remains empty.</li> <li>I understand that budgets are tight but it seems a shame that this team does not have enough money to make these homes habitable when so much green land is being used to build new homes.</li> <li>It's concerning to find out 1000 homes are vacant. An investigation should definitely be launched in this.</li> <li>If only to protect green spaces where new houses are being built, causing traffic congestion, lack of local amenities such as schools, healthcare and road infrastructure</li> <li>I have personally not heard about the case of these vacant homes however it does seem strange and should be investigated.</li> <li>Local government needs to take advantage of these vacant homes to be used properly.</li> <li>This should be a matter of urgency as empty homes don't pay council tax, and this could generate £150,000 approx in income, as well as the boost to the local economies</li> </ul>
Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I don't think this is essential</li> <li>Money needs to be found to bring these houses up to standard to be habitable</li> <li>Might be good to add some context to explain how we know there is 1000 homes vacant before going in with this in my opinion</li> <li>There are many empty houses in and around Blackburn standing empty. Home owners should be encouraged without being penalised. This kind of defeats the object of renovating to rent</li> </ul>
Neither support nor oppose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New homes are better rated environmentally and there is a demand for them which can't be ignored.</li> <li>There are many restraints to this particular issue. Some housing might be privately owned, and is a dispute with property owners. 'Voids' for buildings is a key issue regardless of whether or not they are housing or commercial. I'm not sure how far the Council could go with an inquiry. These are social and economic challenges. It would be the role of the MP to address issues around infrastructure, how best to improve communities through more facilities, i.e. schools, roads, pharmacies, etc., and how best to</li> </ul>

include the climate in these agendas with the primary efforts being that of homes which are 'fit for human habitation' through the Landlord and Tenant Act. This all focuses into many elements regarding why people might or might not buy or rent particular houses, the solutions for which are societal. If buildings continue to go unused without being 'listed buildings' then it is likely that there will be clearances similar to the slums of the early twentieth century to make way for more thermally-efficient/eco-friendly buildings in aspects of urban regeneration which yet again would have to balance with inflation to make housing both environmentally suitable and affordable which adds more pressure on the national government at a time when they are not continuing with first-time buy schemes.

- I'm pretty sure this has been looked at many times and there will be reasons for this doubt it's just to waste much needed funds.
- Perhaps the investigation time could be spent on other matters
- If the empty properties are owned by housing associations, then yes but the acquisition of privately owned houses is fraught with legal and moral problems.
- I can see why 1000 vacant homes may sound concerning, but as explained by one of the commentators, often the cost of upgrading an older home is more than it is worth. There may be no point spending money on this.
- Not sure on this one, Why are they vacant – could be a valid reason or temporary. As for money; there could be squeeze on finance making it difficult to make difference here.
- I think does apply to the question that we are being asked I just don't have much knowledge in that area and despite the talks we have attended I don't really know what they are talking about.

Oppose

-

Strongly oppose

- I think this investigation would prove irrelevant, with money spent without a good reason.

**Recommendation 14.**

Current dial-a-ride and similar services are too limited to offer a solution. Explore expansion of a **dial-a-ride service** to provide a cheaper, more sustainable solution to taxis and provide 'public transport' service to areas with limited bus services.

**Overall Rank: 14th Rank within Theme: 3rd**

**Percentage support: 67%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
6	12	7	1	1

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

Strongly support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This seems sensible. If such services already exist do people know about it.</li> <li>• This needs to be communicated and to be easily bookable / available – don't make it complicated for people to use. It also needs to be reliable and to do what people need it to do</li> <li>• For those that really need this service it should be available to them. If that means expanding the service, all efforts should be made to achieve this.</li> <li>• Where I live in Egworth there is very limited public transport that is mainly used by retired people and gives them around forty minutes in Harwood once a week ( note: I don't have the updated timetable but it is something like that). Consequentially everyone has to drive and every house has at least two to four cars.</li> <li>• Should be a detailed feasibility study, rather than being dismissed as un-economical.</li> </ul>
Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could pick up multiple passengers along the same line rather than taxis which work on a very individual basis.</li> <li>• The only concerning aspect is that the Dial A Ride buses are smaller than the more common buses, and can accommodate less people per journey. Also I'm not sure if the Dial A Ride buses will be electric</li> <li>• The statement is self-explanatory.</li> <li>• The limited public transport services to many areas was a very common talking point, many residents agreeing that this was a big concern, this will help many residents with more sustainable solutions.</li> <li>• Useful for the elderly</li> <li>• It makes sense and would be a good solution to this problem and cut the amount of cars on the road therefore cutting emission and answering the bigger question at hand</li> <li>• Take it to be considered and make it easy.</li> <li>• Some areas of BwD have no public transport at all</li> </ul>
Neither support nor oppose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I think this would require more explanation as to what a dial-a-ride service is - which focuses into requirements for public awareness. Some people might also find this a challenge if they do not have the technology, Apps, etc., to make this one of the key solutions.</li> <li>• I don't use dial a ride or there services so i have very limited knowledge of how this works but seems that some of the group that use this service need it.</li> <li>• This has already been covered in a previous question on public transport.</li> </ul>

Oppose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I don't think people will use this service</li></ul>
Strongly oppose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>With proper licensed taxi drivers. With a drug screen in place. Along with an approved test centre for vehicle integrity. I don't see money diverted to dial-a-ride value for money. As customers would feel more at ease with taxi licensing and testing borough firmly underly authority scrutiny.</li></ul>



**Recommendation 15.**

We want the council to do more to encourage **businesses** to set up company car sharing schemes and we want this activity to be measured and publicly reported to encourage take-up.

**Overall Rank: 15th Rank within Theme: 4th**

**Percentage support: 56%**

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose
5	10	10	0	2

At the time of voting each jury member was asked to 'write a sentence or two explaining your choice'. All comments made are listed below:

Strongly support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Again this seems a sensible thing to do to try and reduce the numbers of cars that we have on the road. This would also save people money and also has possible social benefits.</li> <li>• This would also be more cost effective for the people working there as well as encouraging fewer cars on the road.</li> <li>• It's good idea for the car sharing schemes if successful.</li> </ul>
Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measuring take-up provides a baseline that can then be used going forwards for comparisons to see if improvements have been made. Doing it within businesses - these people are generally going to the same destination, and already know each other which combats safety concerns of rolling to general public.</li> <li>• If company car sharing can be encouraged it means 'two for the price of one' if not more, but I think this is something people might do anyway. Calling it a 'scheme' only looks to influence more take-up, which might at times have to involve rewards rather than being supportive in efforts for improving the climate.</li> <li>• The less cars on the road the lower the emissions in the air I can't see reasons why this is unreasonable when most people will be going to the same areas and places.</li> <li>• Are there any problems or disadvantages that may occur whilst implementing the above statement. Whilst the above statement is a very good idea to implement, the challenges that may occur should also be considered. If I am correct individuals will need to leave their home at early hours to be picked up on time. This is what I have understood from the above statement. The activity should definitely be measured.</li> <li>• It is very important that we engage local businesses to implement and lead the change. Often businesses are left alone to work on their own schemes, council help and involvement with help both the businesses with ideas, and also initiate change much faster.</li> <li>• I have done a car share scheme before as a passenger it worked out cheaper for me. Companies could and should encourage them. But I am still mindful of the fact that people need to get on. If there is a fall out those journeys could get awkward.</li> <li>• Every little helps, more economical</li> </ul>
Neither support nor oppose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A good idea in theory but possible privacy concerns arise. It also depends how far each employee lives from each other</li> <li>• I don't believe this measure would be financially viable</li> <li>• This can be quite difficult if people travel from different areas and have different requirements and if public transport was better it might not be such a big issue. I think it should be changed to be</li> </ul>

more emphasis and encouragement on using public transport and a car sharing initiative (company car sharing gives a different message) to support and reduce the organisations carbon footprint

- This has been tried and tested with no beneficial outcomes
- I do think that this helps answer the bigger question from a business perspective but I'm not sure that this will work in practice they may require incentives as they don't do what is encouraged already from the talks we have heard.

Oppose

-

Strongly oppose

- The world has changed. Most work from home.
- This is an Individual's choice and Individuals are well aware of the benefits of car sharing and Individuals would take umbrage at being told to do so.

# **The Blackburn with Darwen People's Jury on the climate crisis 2022**

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