

Hello,

First of all I would like to say that I hope you are well and have managed to get through the last year reasonably unscathed.

The main point of this correspondence is in regards to the convening of a Carlisle Citizens Assembly/Jury. This was discussed at our Sustainable Carlisle meeting last night.

We are aware that funding to help set up such a deliberative forum on behalf of the community is available through the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership as we are part of this group. We are also aware that Kendal has successfully held such a Jury and negotiations are going ahead with Copeland, Barrow and Eden.

The Climate Emergency Motion passed by Carlisle Council commits to "convene a Citizens Assembly in 2019 and feed into the development of related action plans and budgets."

Obviously the pandemic has interfered in this process but we do not understand why the Council is not now enthusiastically forging ahead with the necessary preparations to meet its commitment to set up such a Jury in Carlisle. As the consequences of the Climate Crisis continue to mount there is no excuse for inaction and delaying the involvement of the local community in tackling them.

We ask that you immediately enter positive negotiations with the ZCCP to set up a Carlisle Citizens Jury to help us all prepare for a Cumbria wide assembly and agree a proper 'direction of travel' for the people of Carlisle. Delaying is not an option.

Thank you

Henry Goodwin

Chair

Sustainable Carlisle