

Transcript from Closing remarks

With Jim Murray, Stephen Holt, Caroline Ansell and a song from Bespoke

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Councillor Jim Murray:

Thank you very very much panel if you want to leave the stage, I'll invite.

Councillor Holt up.

So as I said right at the beginning of this session, this is the beginning of a long conversation.

This is our four years of consultation that I wanted to sort of take forward and then after that four years of action where we actually start doing something about it and hopefully in between that I can squeeze in a few bike lanes and some 20 miles an hour zones around the town as well.

So consider me challenged about enabling car travel through electric charge points as well.

I have taken that on board and I'll be looking at that in, in, in the future.

Councillor Holt.

Councillor Stephen Holt

Thank you very much, Jim.

Well, what a what a day.

What a packed day my mind is literally bubbling and fizzing with many things that have been discussed today.

I want to first of all thank the fantastic organisers behind this, the team behind the Eastbourne Eco Action Network.

Can I get them to stand up so we can actually give them a round of applause because they've given their time up freely to do so, and I think it's been absolutely outstanding.

I wanna also say of course.

Thank you to councillor Jim Murray for keeping us *roughly* on time.

Jim, you've done a great job.

So thank you so much.

There's been so much learning that I've taken from this, and indeed just from this last panel.

But for me, when I've really think is it's 4:30 on a Friday and this room is still pretty much packed with the same numbers that we had at 9:00 o'clock this morning, that to me shows the quality of the speakers we've had today and the discussions and engagement we've had.

And that, to me, is what's so important and what I've learned is I think those those three words that were reinforced at the end there, which was I think whatever we do going forward, we need to explain, we need to engage, we need to communicate, we need to feedback and we need to keep telling people why we're doing it because we need to take people on the journey and it's not always going to be easy.

And people can have different views and different opinions, and that's right with something as important as this.

But if we keep explaining, engaging and communicating, I don't think we'll go far wrong.

My final point though I suppose, is that I really like the idea of that.

Uh, that centre for transport excellence. I'm delighted to hear that Essex County Council officers said that they'd supported by the sounds, at least suggested it.

So I'm very happy.

I think Jim for us to continue those conversations going forwards into the long term.

So again, a huge thank you to everybody for attending.

Thank you to our sponsors.

Thank you to our organizers.

Thank you to our fantastic speakers for giving up their time today.

All that's left for me to do now is to ask Caroline to join us and for her final thoughts.

So thank you everybody.

If I don't see you before, I have a great weekend.

Thank you.

Caroline Ansell

Yes.

Can I add my thanks also to the organisers but I have an ask coming up. Today has been an incredibly successful day I think and I asked delegates in some of the breakout sessions what was the best thing, what was the ultimate session, what was the most insightful kind of thing brought forward and you know each and every single person said something different and I think that speaks to the incredible range of the day and the number of sort of voices with expertise and with experience and what they what they have brought. Two standouts for me was in in the this morning the miracle cure of exercise or walking and Scarlett's quite haunting words.

"We can't afford what's coming".

That's really stuck with me and a really powerful image was when Joel talked about one double Decker bus being the equivalent to 75 cars.

Extraordinary.

It just speaks to me that there are some really important frontlines ahead, so I am gonna commit today to take up Roddy's challenge, which was around that scope 3 methodology because actually for us to make progress, we do need to be able to measure, we need to see the wind, we need to see the change, to inspire the next and the next.

I'm going to take up Christina's questions, and it's not just now because I am a cyclist once again. I'm appalled that we are in the lowest 5% in terms of that safe cycling, measure. I'll also take up the 20 mile challenge or the 20 mile per hour challenge. My understanding is in Eastbourne there was consensus around this to look at this, to look to pilot this, to see the difference it can make and I and I confess and I'm embarrassed to confess now only only a little.

When I did my speed awareness course a few years ago, in lieu of picking up three points on my driving licence, I saw a film that demonstrated the impact the collision impact between car and child.was in the film and the difference between 20 miles an hour and 30 miles an hour and 40.

40 was the graveyard slot clearly, 30 was life changing injuries.

20 he lived to tell the tale.

So nothing spoke more to me about what the 20 mile might mean, so I'll I'll take that up too.

I'm also gonna take up cycling on the sea front. Now 10 years ago, I spoke on the Council about about this and back in the day this could divide the room.

Straight down the middle, it was a toxic debate.

We have to find a way through. And finally I'm going to pick up that challenge around the integration of bus and train and and various forms of of transport and and I really experienced that when a few weeks ago I had a conference in in Brighton and I went by train and I came back by bus because of landslips on the rail line, which saw the cancellation of of all the trains.

But again, I think somebody that said this morning in explaining some of the really important measures we need to take, like, duh.

And it seemed to just really communicate the whole. My ask of the organisers, who are probably thinking we are so almost there.

This has been a huge mission to achieve today. My ask for you today is can you bring us all together again around this local plan?

Because this local plan is a seriously important vehicle, it drives policy.

It determines spend.

How can you bring us all together so that contribution, the challenge or the endorsement around that local plan can really shine?

It opens late November.

It closes in February, so we have some time, but I put it to you that document is really defining and one contribution I will make and I'll be seeking your support for this is around another long held ambition and that is a direct service to our hospitals. Because the sorry truth is as we know, uh, one in four families in Eastbourne doesn't have a car, we're not in a world as Christina described, where we're looking at car ownership as the ultimate achievement.

But if you have to travel by bus, currently from Eastbourne, so Hastings, and we do believe, do we not in centres of excellence?

So not all reconfiguration is bad.

It's a 2 1/2 hour journey.

If you travel by car on a good day, 28 minutes is the estimation.

It's so so completely wrong and it's not just patients.

It's those caring for patients because all the statistics show if you don't have visitors, your hospital stay is longer because you don't have that person alongside who's

encouraging you to eat, encouraging you to follow the medical advice, encouraging you to be more mobile.

So it's patients and it's careers, but it's also staff in our hospital trust.

We have over 7000 dedicated staff and in a recent survey around transport for the hospital, what percentage said they travelled between the two sites, 74%.

It's huge and in one year alone, in terms of Miles claimed by our dedicated staff having to travel between the two. Miles, 2,519,848 miles, we're locked up in one year. So I think there's a really important case and I'm very pleased to say that Joel is working with me on Stagecoach.

But I'll be making that submission to the local plan?

And I hope I can have your support on that and all that.

It remains for me to say is have a a, a safe and sustainable journey home.

Jill Shacklock, Eastbourne Eco Action Network

Just quickly, just want to finish off. It does get a bit boring listening to lots of thank yous, but we have lots of people we really do need to thank very quickly, which is our sponsors.

Thank you very much, all of the brilliant speakers and the delegates.

There are lots of very expert speakers on the stage, but there were just as many experts, or probably twice as many experts, in in the room on the floor, and we have a I I want to also thank all the volunteers.

So not just in the transport group that helped plan this, but also the volunteers that come along to help today and three uh student volunteers who are willingly gave up a day of lectures.

So thank you to them and.

I think we all deserve a 1/2 pint after that, and that's an advantage that hasn't been mentioned of not coming by car is that you can, if you're willing, come and join us for a half pint afterwards.

We didn't anticipate that we were going to solve all of Eastbourne's traffic problems in one day, but what we did hope was that this would be the beginning of many conversations.

Continuing the conversations, did you sign up for this?

If so, we will be sending you a feedback form and asking you which conversations you want to continue to be part of.

If you snuck in without paying, well done.

But you will need to email us to ask to be added to the feedback form and we won't be judging.

Uh, the presentations and recordings - I do need to check with all the speakers of they're happy for us to share the record and slides, but we'll put those up onto the website hopefully in the next few days.

And those people who very kindly recorded the workshops, please, can you make sure we have those recordings or know how to get them before you go?

We're now just gonna play a short video that was created by the delightful Felicity from Bespoke with the help of Jake, and they made it for our event.

It's very short.

It was actually an ode to Rupert Clubb but I did ask Felicity if she could perhaps just take that out of the video.

But you'll see what I mean, when, if you've got 3 minutes to stay and listen.

Thank you very much.

[A song for our County Council from Bespoke](#)

Words by Felicity Goodson

East Sussex County Council.

What are you waiting for?

We need a seafront cycle path before we hit the floor

With climate change so frightening and economy against the wall, East Sussex County Council won't you pop it up for all.

East Sussex County Council.

Look, I have to say, A27 cycle path's a start along the way.

National highways made safe access and it shows what can be done.

So East Sussex County Council for our sake, do move it on.

East Sussex County council, we're way behind the times, the tides, they are arising still.

We need the cycle.

Fine

signs

Sea defence costs are colossal, for fear.

We'll all be swept away.

But a cycle path to separate will help to save the day, a cycle path to separate, a desperate future to negate , a cycle path to separate tick tock.
tick, tock, tick.

Councillor Jim Murray

How did you follow that?

Thank you all very much for coming.

I promise you that this conversation will carry on any counselors that are still here.

Any volunteers that say we just need a little bit of help just to tidy up the last few bits and pieces please?

So please hang around everybody else.

Thank you for your time and make sure that you check it in with Ecoaction Group where we've got your emails.

If you want to be able to keep hold of any of the information that we've been doing today, thank you all ever so much.

Bye bye.