

Council: Tuesday 19 October 2021

Opposition Motion in the name of Cllr Anne Clarke

The Energy Crisis: How we can change things to help residents, small businesses, the local economy and the environment in Barnet

Council:

(i) Recognises

- that very large financial setup and running costs involved in selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers result in it being impossible for local renewable electricity generators to do so,
- that making these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier's operation would create significant opportunities for local companies and community groups to be providers of locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people, businesses and organisations in Barnet, if they wished, and
- that revenues received by such local companies or community groups that chose to become local renewable electricity providers could be used to help improve the local economy, local services and facilities and to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions;

(ii) Notes that the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee, as a result of its 2021 Technological Innovations and Climate Change inquiry, recommended that a Right to Local Supply for local energy suppliers be established to address this;

(iii) Accordingly resolves to support the Local Electricity Bill, currently supported by a cross-party group of 266 MPs and which, if made law, would establish a Right to Local Supply which would promote local renewable electricity supply in Barnet by making the setup and running costs of selling renewable electricity to local customers proportionate to the size of the supply company; and

(iv) Further resolves to

- inform the local media of this decision,
- write to Barnet's three MPs, asking them to support the Bill, and
- write to the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, Power for People, (at Camden Collective, 5-7 Buck Street, London NW1 8NJ or info@powerforpeople.org.uk) expressing its support.