

Pre-election Assemblies: Impact Report



Our impact... in Merton

- We officially launched Merton Citizens at St Mark's Academy - and turned out over 320 people from 17 institutions. We heard powerful testimony on housing and mental health from a range of leaders - many of them taking part in public life for the first time.
- We persuaded Merton Council to work with us to build permanently affordable homes on the Borough's first ever Community Land Trust site, and to consult on the possibility of introducing a landlord licensing scheme.
- Finally, we are excited to work together with our local Clinical Commissioning Group, St George's Mental Health NHS Trust and the Council to develop a mental health kitemark for schools.

Our impact across London

Turning niche policy ideas into viable plans for the whole capital.

- Our Assemblies secured commitments for over 1,200 permanently affordable Community Land Trust (CLT) homes, a massive increase on the 23 built so far in London.
- 6 borough councils agreed to introduce landlord licensing schemes. A great win for families living in unsafe conditions, who can now ask local councils to step in and prosecute rogue landlords for their failings.
- 4 local councils joined our call for the Home Office to reduce sky high citizenship fees for young people who have lived in the UK most of their lives but cannot afford the application process. Another 3 councils will launch new ESOL strategies to make sure migrants have a better chance to learn English and find work.



Our nationwide impact

- Nearly 5,000 citizens from 270 institutions took part in 21 pre-election Assemblies. That's thousands of people who have put democracy in action – a record number! – and built relationships based on accountability and respect with their elected representatives.
- 5 local councils agreed to become real Living Wage employers, which will bring the total number of Local Authorities paying the higher voluntary rate to 95. Hundreds of low paid staff will be better off.
- 143 Syrian refugee families will be able to arrive in the UK - whether via the Government's resettlement scheme or through Community Sponsorship - and rebuild their lives after years of conflict.