

# STNF & UCL EngEx collaboration outline

**Aims and objectives:** (Agreed with STNF Chair in a funding application).

1. Provide air quality inputs to Somers Town Neighbourhood Forum (STNF) neighbourhood plan
2. Support STNF prioritise spending options for their Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

## Process

### Workshop 1: Generate ideas & identify key concerns

STNF members split into working groups to debate in detail: Traffic; Trees and Greening; and Urban Form and Street Canyons. The groups identified key concerns: reduce health risks, particularly to vulnerable groups, ensure current regulations are enforced, and leverage participation from organisations in the Knowledge Quarter to improve air quality monitoring and provide accurate baselining.

### Workshop 2: Review evidence & select research activity

Groups discussed fact sheets on Traffic; Trees and Greening; and Urban Form and Street Canyons compiled from review of current research by UCL researcher. They generated the following ranked list of actions:

- Evaluation of the current monitoring of air quality in Somers Town and future needs compared to best practice
- Review of the air quality forecasts in the EIAs for recent developments, compared to current air quality.
- Linking with the UCL-ELF Environmental Justice Inquiry findings on cumulative impacts of development on air quality and health
- Working with Knowledge Quarter stakeholders and others to reduce congestion from last-mile delivery traffic
- Citizen science 'window wipe' testing to identify pollutants
- Improving data about current street trees and identifying optimal locations for tree planting

### Workshop 3: Debate technical report and planning recommendations

Air Quality expert and UCL Senior Research Associate Dr Claire Holman presented the technical report commissioned by STNF to address the first 2 actions from workshop 2. Her review identified discrepancies in recent AQAs and identified areas for better or prolonged monitoring. This led to some tangible recommendations for the planning document and some ideas for spending CIL money which STNF discussed.

## Outcomes:

- The STNF Neighbourhood Plan is currently in process.
- Discussions continue with KQ stakeholders on best practice for last-mile delivery, AQ data sharing
- Funding for a new project on health and local pollution in Somers Town is being sought by a UCL academic

## Outputs:

- 1) Technical report & slides
- 2) Planning recommendations (2 page summary document)
- 3) Somers Town air quality fact sheets
- 4) Project method summary
- 5) Evaluation survey results
- 6) Presentation for 'Resistance is in the Air' international research symposium during 'Etats Generaux de l'Air de Bruxelles' 26-29th April 2019 [in progress]