

# Reporting and decision-making

*Phase 2 - citizens' consultation Statenkwartier on climate change – 14 June 2022*

## Context

On 14 June, the second meeting of the second phase of the Statenkwartier district citizens' consultation took place. This meeting was meant to exchange and reflect on ideas. The meeting took place in Het Couvéehuis in the Statenkwartier district, on the Frankenslag from 5 to 10 pm. The programme started with a joint dinner in four groups. The three-course dinner was provided by Stichting Lichtpuntjes.

During the meeting on 31 May, which was dedicated to gathering knowledge and information, many questions were asked. Many of these questions were answered during the meeting itself, or answered in writing and can be found on the [website for participants in the consultation](#). A number of questions, however, required further explanation. For this reason, during the dinner on 14 June, three speakers were asked to give a brief explanation of a specific topic.

The first speaker was Frank van Ewijk, participant in the consultation in the Statenkwartier. He explained how he made his own home carbon neutral and what this entailed. The second speaker was Henry Terlouw of the municipality of The Hague. He briefly explained how municipal budgets are organised and how new ideas (for example from the citizens' consultation) can find a place in them. Finally, Bas Hilckman presented a number of examples of placemaking/urban development.

You can find Frank and Bas' presentations on the [website for the participants of the citizens' consultation](#). Henry talked to the audience without a presentation. Below is a short summary of his story. The questions posed to the various speakers, together with the answers, can be found [here on the website](#).

*Short summary of Henry Terlouw's speech.*

- At this moment there is no budget reserved to execute the actions that have been taken from the recommendations of the citizens' consultation. Also, because the municipality has no idea what advice will come from the citizens' consultation. That is why it is very difficult to allocate a budget for this.
- Our community budget is divided into various small wallets. If you want to focus on traffic and mobility, we have a different budget for that than if you plan to do something with trees. Depending on the advice we get, the municipality has different budgets for that.
- Depending on the recommendations we get, the municipality has different budgets for that. When advice is given, be specific about what you expect from the municipality. Do you expect advice? Or does it involve money?
- The city council is responsible for the budgets. It determines which money is used for which budgets. You often see, however, that if something new is introduced, the budget is not allocated, or not specifically reserved. In that case, the city council must decide whether and how much money will be spent on new projects/ideas.

After the dinner and the 3 presentations, the participants worked in different groups to come up with ideas within the two themes: Housing & Energy and Mobility & Public Space. The results [can be found here](#).

## Vote on the next steps

At the end of the evening, the host presented various proposals for next steps to the citizens' consultation. Some of these questions came up during the previous meeting on 31 May and were now discussed by the entire citizens' consultation. Participants were asked to vote on them with a green (agree), yellow (disagree) or red (disagree) ballot paper.

### 1. Reaching choices and recommendations together

**Proposal:** Recommendations, or choices in the process are adopted when 75% of the voters vote for it. This is a percentage of the participants present at that evening. It is thus impossible to influence the vote by not being present to vote. As a group, we listen to questions, answer them and try - if possible - to include them in the proposal.

**Voting:** (21 people present, thus 16 votes in favour sums up to 75%)

#### Adopted

- 18 green
- 3 yellow

#### Complaints/comments

- I constantly see people who are not voting. Does the 75% refer to the people who voted or the total number of participants?
- On the one hand, 75% of the participants present are voting. Separate voting on process (50% threshold) and on content (75% threshold). In the end, not enough people agreed to this.

#### Result

- The intent is that you vote. If 75% of the people are in favour, we will adopt it. Here, everyone agrees.
- The original proposal has been accepted.

### 2. Recommendations from the citizens' consultation is presented to the entire district

**Proposal:** We present the recommendations of the public consultation to the entire district before the recommendations are submitted to the city council.

#### Voting

- 4 yellow
- 18 red
- 1 green

#### Complaints/comments

- We have no obligation to present it to the district. We are a selected representative group of the district. It would be nice to share information, that should be sufficient.

- The opinion of the district is not asked after the citizens' consultation. It is purely for information purposes after the decisions have been made. We inform the district of the recommendations and submit it to the municipality.
- We are not obliged to submit it to the district. We are a representative drawn group of the district. Nice to share, perhaps, for your information. That should be enough. Do we prefer to inform the district/city prior to the city council, who gave us the assignment? It does not seem appropriate to publish the recommendations before we send it to the client (municipality).
- Once the city council has access to the recommendations, the residents of the district should also be able to see it.
- On the one hand, we are here on behalf of the district. We should inform the residents of our gatherings and topics discussed. We should be transparent. People should be given the opportunity to have their say.
- We could submit the conclusions to everyone. It's all about democracy. A member of the citizens' consultation has no more right to present their opinion to the municipality. No more than any other resident in the district.
- Concerns are expressed that if it is decided to present the recommendations to the district again, it will become a confusing process. In any case, there will still be enough moments of participation for local residents within the democratic structure. The advice of this consultation is not immediately final.
- It must be put before the council, because the council is more representative than anyone else.
- It has been the wish of the city council to set up a citizens' consultation of selected residents. They give their advice, and the council instructs the alderman and officials to implement it. The district residents still have a formal say in this.

#### Questions

- **Question:** Why is this question being presented to us now? Wasn't it already decided beforehand?
- **Answer:** The reason why this specific question is being presented is because it came from the previous meeting.
- **Question:** I don't represent the district, but I have been included. Is this clearly communicated to the municipality in order to prevent the municipality from abusing it.
- **Answer:** This is clearly communicated to the public.

#### Result

This proposal has not been adopted. The recommendations of the consultation will not be presented to the entire district before they are submitted to the city council.

### 3. Developing ideas into recommendations

**Choice:** Do we want everyone to be present while developing all the ideas? Or do we want to split into groups.

- Yellow: everyone must be present when developing all the ideas.
- Green: we split up in groups.

#### Voting

- 4 yellow

- 18 green

#### Complaints/comments

- This is the third meeting. We have many information and ideas in our mind. Everyone can reflect on which topic he or she can give advice.
- It is important that all perspectives are included in each idea. If you divide people into groups, the risk is that there will be certain themes around which people with the same ideas converge. This means that some ideas or recommendations will not supported by the entire group will emerge. If everyone jointly discussed the ideas, the results will be better.
- Start with all of them and from there, narrow it down. Then move on to more specific ideas.
- There is a need for a more phased discussion for the third meeting.
- Would it be a problem? Developing the ideas can be done in groups. At the time of voting and the final advice, everyone can still have his or her say.
- Two tables with theme 1 on one side and theme 2 on the other. People can then move back and forth as they see fit.

#### Result

- The organisation is going to converge all the results again and then come up with a proposal for the programme of the last meeting.
- The participants will again receive an e-mail with the report of this meeting and all presentations. The programme proposal is also included in this e-mail. Participants can indicate by e-mail if they do not agree with the programme proposal. On the basis of feedback, the organisation can still adapt the programme to any wishes that come up.

## 4. Additional information

**Proposal:** Is there any case where you still need additional information? This can also be communicated by email.

#### Comments

- **Comment:** Great to get more expertise on reducing the use of a car. This can also be done by email. It doesn't necessarily have to be communicated during a meeting. But it would be nice to inform the participants about it in the meeting.
- **Answer:** The organisation looks for figures in reports and will publish them on the website.
- **Comment:** How can we convince people that there is a need for an energy transition? Next time, we will dwell more on the aspect of psychological influence.
- **Answer:** As a result of the first meeting of phase 2 (which was dedicated to information), questions were asked about behaviour and communication. Answers can be found on the [on the question-and-answer page of the citizens' consultation](#). You can also find the [presentation of climate psychologist Sara Wortelboer on the information page of the citizens' consultation](#). [If there are any questions about behaviour and psychology after the next meeting, the organisation will try to answer them in the form of a presentation, reports or additional documents.](#)
- **Comment:** We haven't spoken much about the financial context and picture. It would be nice to get more information about it.
- **Answer:** When the recommendations become more concrete, it will be possible to get a cost estimate. At the moment it is very difficult to make an estimate. During the next

meeting, Henry Terlouw from the municipality will be present again to answer questions about financing regulations. Where possible, he can also provide clarification of the financial picture during the preparation of recommendations.

## 5. Next meeting

**Question:** Are you ready for the next (and last) meeting?

### Voting

- 19 green
- 1 red
- 1 yellow

### Complaints/comments

- Everyone is ready for the last meeting, but there is doubt whether everything is ready at the end of the next meeting. Will we be able to make recommendations at the end of the next meeting? Or do the participants need more time after the last meeting?

### Result

At the end of the last meeting, the organisation will ask if everything is completed or if the participants need anything else.