Cities and Museums Fostering Climate Education and Empowerment

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Devolved policy-making

• 200 citizens contributed in 2009

- 'What's your dream Manchester'
- Zero carbon by 2050
- 700 citizens contributed in 2016

 First step to climate empowerment



Empowering and educating

No 'one size fits all'

• Ecoschools: 4-18 year olds

 UpRising Environmental Leaders: 18–25 year olds

Carbon Literacy



Museums as sites for climate empowerment

- Reach large numbers of people (460,000 a year at Manchester Museum)
- Trusted institutions
- Collections span human and environmental history
- Sites for long-term thinking, and to find out what other people value and care about



'Climate Control', 2016

- Focussed more on INSPIRATION AND EMPOWERMENT than information
- 'We cant change our past but we can change our future'
- Provided lots of opportunities for people to say what is important to them, and actions they do or might take





Climate Control by numbers

- 98,000 visitors in 4 months
- 73% of people care that the climate is changing
- 21,850 'carbon footprint' stickers added
- 69,380 votes on personal actions



Conclusions

 Civic institutions such as museums can be important sites to inform, inspire and enable people to participate in climate change action

Policy: can be a first step to empowerment

Enable: create opportunities for new initiatives and partnerships

City-to-city collaboration is key



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