

**EAST MIDLANDS ASSEMBLY
PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
CLIMATE CHANGE STEERING GROUP**

Thursday 27th January 2005

10:30 pm at Environment Agency, Trentside Office, Nottingham

Steering Group Members:

Nick King (Environment Agency) – Chair

Sue Brothwood (Environment Agency)

Jim McIlwee (UKCIP)

Jim Williams (English Heritage)

Nigel Lee (East Midlands Environment Link)

Helen Chadwick (East Midlands Regional Assembly)

Mark Fynn (East Midlands Regional Assembly)

Alison Hepworth (East Midlands Regional Assembly)

MINUTES

1. INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Apologies

Stephen Ison (Loughborough University)

Rob Crowder & Phil Keynes (Nottingham County Council)

Peter Strutton (Carbon Trust)

Yvette Dearden, (East Midlands Regional Assembly)

Gerry Metcalf (UKCIP)

Paul Fleming & Katerine Begg (De Montfort University)

2. PSD GROUP FEEDBACK – Alison Hepworth

Alison gave the group feedback on relevant points from the recent Promoting Sustainable Development group meeting:

- Keith Melton is keen on CC theme running through SD EXPO
- Keith Melton believes that the group should convince EMDA to look at CC when considering economic development
- Environment Group to hold conference and set an environmental challenge. Alison said that the theme has not been decided but CC could be considered
- The suggestion of holding a national meeting on CC in the EM was raised

3. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE – Alison Hepworth

There is a need to tie green infrastructure and sustainable development together with CC for example green corridors.

Phase 1 of the Environment Infrastructure Project is looking at green infrastructure. Phase II is focused on the wider impact of environmental infrastructure – a stakeholder workshop is planned and a set of principles for phase II will be completed by the end April.

Alison would like to make a link to the Sustainable Design and Construction Toolkit

It is noted that the EM is the only region looking at green infrastructure at regional level

Monarch II could be applied to region – links to be made with green infrastructure and flood risk management

Nick informed the group that Nottingham City was the second most active city in the UK to sign up to the EA environmental challenge world environment day website showing that there is a high level of awareness in the City.

Trees in a changing climate – forestry commission conference in Surrey - June 2005

Alison informed the group that she has organised a workshop for the RA Environment Advisory Group on 10th Feb to brainstorm the forward work programme. Alison will feedback on the outcomes and highlight the links that can be made with the Environment Advisory Group.

Action: AH

4. CC PROGRAMME REVIEW – OUR RESPONSE - Nick King

Should the group make a response?
How do we go about it?

The group agreed that we should make a formal response to the CCP review. Helen volunteered to draft the response and then send it round the group. Sue will liaise with Helen on the draft response before it is sent to the group. Alison is going to ask the Environment Advisory Group for their input to the response.

Action: HC, SB & AH

The group will seek the RA policy board views and engage with the PSD group on the final response.

Nick suggested that we hold a stakeholder event in February so that we engage with a wider audience, which would broaden our response as well as give us the opportunity of promoting/explaining the proposed business plan of the steering group.

Actions:

- Alison to help with delegate list
- Draw in LA – Sue to speak to Phil Keynes, Paul Bodenham, D. Marsden and Adam Faiers
- Sue and Helen to find venue - Date: 23rd pm or 24th am/pm

Jim W commented that the CCP Review is mitigation focused so we should engage with the energy group before we respond. Jim also noted that English Heritage are not down as consultees for the review.

Jim Mc informed the group that UKCIP will be making a response and so will the UKCIP LA group. Jim made the point that Margaret Beckett stated the importance of impacts of CC and adapting to them so this should be supported in the CCP review.

5. BUSINESS PLAN - Nick King

Nick attended the SE partnership meeting which highlighted the need to get LA support because it provides a huge resource.

Margaret Beckett mentioned the Nottingham Declaration in her Buxton speech. Nick made the suggestion that we could try and make the declaration more of a process, which would encourage LA's to engage with each other as part of a wider partnership. Nick will speak to Steve Waller (IDEA) about the possibilities of taking this proposal forward. Sue will find out who has signed up to the Nottingham Declaration.

Action: NK

Jim Mc is going to circulate a list of the LA's that sit on the UKCIP LA forum. Jim also informed the group about a CC pack, which includes case study examples that he and Paul Bodenham are developing which he will also share with the group.

Action: JM

PARTNERSHIP

The idea of a regional partnership was discussed, some of the points raised are listed below:

- The steering group would have to make it clear what partners would get out of it.
- Advantages would include a update newsletter, a partnership website and involvement with large project programme.
- Idea of a membership fee was discussed but the group decide that we aren't ready for this.
- The group needs a larger representative of fund holders around the table.
- There is a need of a project co-ordinator to get this up and running – 6 month part time post would do it. To get funding for this role it is essential to have a good project that will draw funding in e.g. Making the Nottingham Declaration into a process with a co-ordinator in place to do this.
- There is a need to find out what works have been done by those who have already signed the declaration.
- Draw in County Councils and LAs first and then reach out to business when the programme is up and running.

- The group decided that we could get the wider partnership we want through the project as people come on board.
- NOTE: EMDA setting up Energy Panel which will include Rolls Royce and EON – we could link into this group
- Jim W reiterated the need to understand where we are and map what's going on already in the region e.g. environmental infrastructure, sustainable design and construction and LA strategies
- There is a need to complete the draft business plan - Sue & Nick to discuss

Action: SB & NK

6. PRIORITISED PROJECTS - Sue Brothwood

- How to move forward?

Sue presented the group with a draft list of prioritised projects, which will eventually tie into the business plan and drive the group's agenda. Nigel believes that there is a need to form an action plan from the project list, which we can present to other stakeholders to get them involved.

Sue is tasked with tidying up the draft list of projects, which should include the original votes as well as showing the links between other projects and sector groups. She will then circulate the list to the group before sending it out to a wider audience.

Action: SB

Jim W informed the group about the Coastal Grazing Marshes Project Group based in Lincolnshire – jim asked if it would be a good idea for the group to push for a CC study looking at both inland and coastal impacts. Nick suggested that the group should look at the EA's Shoreline Management Plan for the area before undertaking the study.

7. PHENOLOGY WORK BY WOODLAND TRUST - Alison Hepworth

Alison briefed the group on the woodland trust initiative on CC indicators e.g. first sight of bumble bee and their work to encourage children to get involved at a regional level

More information can be found at the following websites:

www.media@woodland-trust.org.uk
phenology@woodland-trust.org.uk

Fran Hitchinson – contact at Woodland Trust

Jim W is responding to the EM Biodiversity Strategy consultation and he feels that CC is not mentioned in enough detail so he kindly offered to respond on the groups behalf which we accepted. Jim will circulate his draft response to the group. Sue is going to talk to Andrew Heaton about this issue.

Action: JW

8. FEEDBACK ON SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECT - Helen Chadwick/Mark Fynn

The Sustainable Design and Construction Project was launched from this group and the press release or brief doesn't mention CC so this needs to be rectified and the group also needs to advertise the success of the project.

Phase II of the project is a design competition which will help to mainstream the sustainable design and construction principles into the design stage of developments in the Ems. The competition was launched in January from the Centre of the Built Environment.

There is an opportunity for entrants to participate in a free professional development programme to increase knowledge of sustainable design principles and practices. There will also be support to entrants in the form of design advice/mentorship provided by universities and other experts.

The competition Prize: A contract to implement the design of the sustainable construction centre of excellence at Sherwood Energy Village, Ollerton. A cash reward of £2,500 to the best 4 entries.

9. AOB

- Margaret Becketts letter – Yvette and Nick have written to letter - Helen will circulate the response to the group
- Date of next meeting to be arranged after the planned workshop in Feb

Action: HC