

**EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2007 AT DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY**

**Present**

Simon Drury (Chair)	Envirowise
Bettina Lange	EMEL
Clark Field	EMFEC
David Short	Clegg Construction
Diane Whitehead	GOEM
James Luger	EMDA
Cllr Lucy Care	EMRA/Derby City Council
Miles Watkins	Aggregate Industries
Paul Fleming	De Montfort University
Phil Keynes	Nottinghamshire County Council
Cllr Joan Travis	Derby City Council
Saminder Gaheer	EMRA
Sharon Palmer	Environment Agency
Yvette Dearden	EMRA

**Apologies**

Alan Smith	Groundwork East Midlands
Andrew Jenkins	Boots plc
Cllr Eloise Finch	East Northants District Council
Hugh Fenton	EMAGE/Wellingborough LSP
James Schrodel	EMRA
Jonathan Harris	Regional Public Health Group
Keith Melton	EMAGE
Tony Marmont	Beacon Energy

<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>
	The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and the apologies were noted.  Simon Drury explained to the Group that he now has taken a position with Envirowise and, after discussions with EMRA, GOEM and <i>emda</i> , is to remain Chair of the Promoting SD Group.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Notes from Previous Meeting</b>
	The notes were accepted as a true record.

3.	<p data-bbox="261 268 1448 338"><b>Sustainable Development Champion Body</b></p> <p data-bbox="261 338 1448 407">Simon Drury explained that talks are currently underway between EMRA, GOEM and <i>emda</i> as to how an East Midlands SD Roundtable should be developed.</p> <p data-bbox="261 407 1448 506">It was decided that the Promoting SD Group is to remain as it is as it was felt that if the Group took on the responsibility of evaluating the SD work carried out by EMRA, GOEM and <i>emda</i> it would dramatically change the function of the Group.</p> <p data-bbox="261 506 1448 604">It was agreed that if the Promoting SD Group took on this additional role it was likely to weaken the main strength of the Group – i.e. as a delivery group.</p> <p data-bbox="261 604 1448 743">The possibility of the Regional Policy Board taking on the role of championing SD was also discussed and the Group discussed the best way to meet the role of a champion body within the region.</p> <p data-bbox="261 743 1448 842">There were reservations about Policy Board taking on this role, the main reasons are stated below;</p> <ul data-bbox="375 842 1448 1031" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Not an independent body</li> <li>▪ Not inclusive</li> <li>▪ May not have the capacity to take on this role</li> <li>▪ Do not have the in-depth knowledge of SD</li> <li>▪ Do they have the experience to act as a critical friend?</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="261 1031 1448 1325">To overcome some of these barriers it was felt that Policy Board may need to take on additional members. It was also discussed that an internal scrutiny role may work especially since EMRA already scrutinises the work of <i>emda</i>. Policy Board could be supported by the Promoting SD Group which could provide expert knowledge when required. Another possible solution was to form a sub-group of the Policy Board which will scrutinise. Overall, it was considered that the most effective approach would be to build on what already exists in the region.</p> <p data-bbox="261 1325 1448 1394">It was agreed that the criteria for the champion body is;</p> <ul data-bbox="375 1394 1448 1661" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To be independent</li> <li>▪ To be authoritative</li> <li>▪ To have knowledge of SD</li> <li>▪ To have knowledge of EMRA, GOEM and <i>emda</i></li> <li>▪ To be regionally focussed</li> <li>▪ To be able to identify what should be done regionally</li> <li>▪ To be able to determine who is best placed to carry out the work</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="261 1661 1448 1730">It was agreed that solutions in other regions should be investigated through ERN.</p> <p data-bbox="261 1730 1448 1873">James Luger discussed work <i>emda</i>, EMRA and GOEM are carrying out to consider SD priorities in the East Midlands by consulting key stakeholders in the region. Organisations can then see what actions they can carry out and short,</p>

	<p>medium and long term priorities can be determined from regional evidence. The idea of a function rather than a body was also discussed.</p> <p>It was agreed that when the regional consultation takes place on SD priorities, stakeholders should also be asked what type of body they would like to take this forward.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Climate Change</b>
	<p>The first phase in developing a draft Climate Change Action Plan is now underway. After the summer the programme of action will be finalised and this will determine the work of the Climate Change Steering Group. The Climate Change Programme of Action is to be launched at this year's East Midlands Expo in October 2007.</p> <p>The Climate Change Steering Group has been focussing on getting 100% of Local Authorities in the East Midlands to sign the Nottingham Declaration. Currently 38 of the 46 LAs have signed or committed to sign. There are two workshops planned for March/April 2007 to discuss the next steps and action plans for LAs that have signed the Nottingham Declaration.</p> <p>It was reported that the Climate Change Steering Group is to review the aims of the group, take forward the work programme from the Climate Change Programme of Action and investigate adaptation as well as mitigation.</p> <p>The Derby Campaign Against Climate Change was mentioned as an initiative that is trying to tackle climate change from a community perspective. As was the Derby City 7 C's which has been added to the Defra Climate Challenge funding. National projects also need to be investigated.</p> <p>The Group agreed that the successful Climate Challenge projects in the region should be invited to future Promoting SD Group meetings.</p> <p>The progress of the Sustainable Construction Group was discussed. The Group are currently developing their work programme and are focussing on improving client knowledge.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>IRS Framework Refresh</b>
	<p>The Group discussed how they could best contribute to the IRS Refresh.</p> <p>It was agreed that after the SD consultation, the Group should contribute to identifying priorities and targets.</p> <p>As some members of the Group were more interested in being involved than others, it was agreed that an IRS sub group be established to meet during the latter half of 2007.</p>

<b>6.</b>	<b>East Midlands Expo 2006 - Initial Evaluation</b>
	<p>Saminder Gaheer gave an update on the evaluation of Expo 2006 and the findings of the initial feedback were discussed. An external consultant will be appointed to carry out a more extensive evaluation in March/April liaising with the exhibitors at last year's Expo.</p> <p>The date and venue are in the final stages of being confirmed. As so as this has been confirmed the details will be circulated to the Group to forward on to their wider networks.</p>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Behavioural Change - Update</b>
	Saminder Gaheer gave an update on the progress of the Behavioural Change Steering Group.
<b>8.</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>
	There was no other business
<b>9.</b>	<b>Dates of next Meetings</b>
	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> April (rearranged), 18 <sup>th</sup> July and 17 <sup>th</sup> October