



**EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY  
PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

**9<sup>th</sup> November 2004**

**10am in the Larwood Room, New Radcliffe Rd stand,  
Trent Bridge County Cricket Ground, Nottingham  
(location map attached)**

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Notes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting
3. East Midlands Sustainable Development EXPO 2004\*
4. East Midlands Centre for the Built Environment\*
5. Climate Change\*
6. Promoting Sustainable Development in Education
7. Sustainable Public Procurement
8. DVD to Promote and Raise Awareness
9. Any Other Business
10. Dates of Meetings in 2005

\* report attached

**Promoting Sustainable Development Group**  
**8<sup>th</sup> September 2004 – School of Built Environment, University of Nottingham**

**Present:**

Simon Drury (Chair)	Center Parcs Ltd
Yvette Dearden	EMRA
Helen Chadwick	EMRA
Michael Edwards	EMRA Member (observer)
Keith Melton	Nottingham Trent University
Nick Brown	Nottinghamshire County Council
Jonathan Harris	Regional Public Health Group
Tony Marmont	Beacon Energy
Paul Fleming	De Montfort University
Andy Barron	emda
Diane Whitehead	GOEM
Sue Brothwood	Environment Agency
Clark Field	EMFEC

**1. Apologies**

Nick King	Environment Agency
Derk van der Wardt	EMRAF
Bettina Lange	EMEL
Alan Smith	Groundwork East Midlands
Hugh Fenton	EMAGE

<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting</b>	
	<p>AB reported that the PSA targets have still not been agreed for RDAs although there will be an indicator covering sustainable development and energy. <b>AB to report on progress at the next meeting.</b></p> <p>A seminar in Nottinghamshire on SEA will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> September - districts and other organisations will be attending and GOEM are giving a presentation. Data collection requirements will be considered.</p>	<b>AB</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Regional Sustainable Development Trade Fair</b>	
	<p>The group discussed the need to promote the Trade Fair on 12<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p>The event will be held in a large marquee at Sherwood Energy Village with people taking trade stands. They would also be invited to do presentations, if they wish, lasting 15 minutes.</p> <p>It was reported that there had already been interest expressed by businesses and organisations to take stands and give presentations.</p>	

	<p>As the group has a large network of contacts across the region, it was agreed that everyone would make the effort to get people to register, take a stand, or just come along and visit.</p> <p>It was discussed whether people should be contacted by email – very often these did not reach the right person. A contact telephone call would be better, but it was a matter of time. A telephone sales agency was mentioned but it was felt that this would be too expensive. On the issue of funding, GOEM confirmed they had allocated some funding. Funding from emda was considered to be important – <b>YD to complete application quickly</b> as money very tight.</p> <p>It was felt that some publicity material should be produced, including a programme of events/themes/attractions should be provided to the group so that they could sell this idea as an attraction to get people to register for a stand. This would be an excellent opportunity for businesses to meet providers and providers to meet the consumer. AB felt that we should try and gauge what businesses wanted from the day.</p> <p>There were some reservations about whether this event could be pulled together in the timescale, but it was agreed to go ahead and get as many contributors as possible for this event with a view to holding a larger event in 2005.</p> <p>It was agreed that publicity was key and that an Olympic medal winner from EM should be secured if possible. Gaining interest from radio and TV was also seen as important.</p> <p><b>Action</b>  <b>YD to complete emda funding application form</b>  <b>All to promote trade fair to contacts and networks</b>  <b>YD to circulate publicity material to group</b>  <b>AB to reserve all three Sherwood Energy Village units</b>  <b>Sub-group to meet 17<sup>th</sup> September at SEV to progress the event</b></p>	<p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><b>YD</b></p> <p><b>YD</b></p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Sustainable Public Procurement</b></p>	
	<p>JH provided a verbal report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development work with Trent Strategic Health Authority (including Lincoln/Nottingham/Derby NHS) is progressing and a paper is being prepared to take to a network of meetings with PCT Chief Executives.</li> <li>• Looking to develop work with procurement professionals.</li> <li>• In contact with Centre for Procurement Excellence to develop</li> </ul>	

	<p>expertise in local government and try to make sure they don't lose focus on sustainability objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Gershon Review was now published – disappointed with outcome.</li> </ul> <p>ME felt that from a finance perspective, there were competing demands and finance departments were under pressure, but they should work together more with procurement officers and try to make sure whole life costs are taken into account.</p> <p>The need to educate Senior Managers, procurement managers by providing practical tools/advice was agreed.</p> <p>It was also agreed that there is a need to promote the idea that investment should be viewed in light of future costs and savings, e.g. renewable energy and energy efficiency.</p>	
5.	<b>Climate Change</b>	
	<p>SB presented a report provided by Nick King . The Climate Change Group has had a full meeting and supported the regional Taking it On consultation.</p> <p>The Chair had also met with UKCIP which had led to suggestions for a short-term work plan - a copy of the plan was distributed.</p> <p>TM mentioned that English Heritage was very interested in renewables and climate change and that the Natural History Museum was very concerned about the loss of biodiversity in the UK. It was agreed that the Group would send examples of good and bad environmental practices to TM at Beacon Energy.</p> <p>It was reported that an event is being held in Nottingham on 15<sup>th</sup> October on Climate Change and Michael Fish will be presenting a weather forecast as it might be in 2050.</p> <p>The challenges in relation to adapting to climate change at county level and regional level were discussed including behavioural change and awareness of the impact of what of what we do and what we need to do to influence people.</p> <p>One suggestion to raise awareness was to hold roadshows associated with extreme weather events, i.e. long, dry summer, and what it is going to be like if this continues.</p> <p>TM updated the Group on progress with regard to the sustainable design</p>	<b>ALL</b>

	<p>and construction project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The steering group has met with the first phase of the project due to be completed by the end of September. The Group were invited to email any other examples of good practice to HC or YD. A list of projects still in the pipeline would also be compiled.</li> <li>CIBSE and RIBA are interested in being involved in further stages of the project, in particular the regional competition</li> </ul>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Energy Update</b>	
	<p>HC updated the Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The important links between energy and the climate change work of this Group are recognised by EMRA.</li> <li>A work programme is to be developed as part of the Energy Strategy's action plan and the most effective way of monitoring this is being considered.</li> </ul> <p>The need to profile the facilities we have in the region was raised as was the need to raise public awareness and public understanding of science. It was considered by members of the Group that this would also be a good way to secure some funding.</p> <p>The range of good practice activity in the region was recognised but people felt there was nothing for the public to actually see. This comes down to communication – a key message must be “time to change”.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>UK SD Strategy Consultation</b>	
	DW thanked De Montfort University for preparing the Regional Dialogue Report. This had been submitted to Government on 31 <sup>st</sup> August.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	<b>CF</b>
	<p>1. YD had been approached by James Luger about the involvement of education in this Group. It was agreed that CF would discuss this with JL further and that it would be an Agenda item for the next meeting.</p> <p>3. CF raised the idea of producing a DVD/Video to promote and raise awareness of sustainable development. It was felt that this was a good idea and needed looking at in more depth.</p>	
<b>9.</b>	<b>Dates of Next Meetings</b>	
	<p>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 10 a.m. at Notts County Council offices.</p> <p>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2005 at 10 am at De Montfort University.</p>	

# **EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

## **PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

9<sup>th</sup> November 2004

Item 3

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### **EAST MIDLANDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT EXPO 2004**

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 The need to promote and showcase the sustainable development initiatives in the region was highlighted at the UK Sustainable Development Strategy event in June. The idea of helping to achieve this by organising a sustainable development trade fair was put forward and taken on board by this Group.
- 1.2 At its last meeting in September, the Promoting Sustainable Development Group agreed to go ahead with the East Midlands Sustainable Development EXPO on 12th October. The Group was particularly keen to keep up the momentum after the June event. It was agreed that, in light of the tight timescale, the aim should be to get as many contributors as possible with a view to holding a larger event in 2005.

#### **2. The Event**

- 2.1 About 300 people in total attended the EXPO at Sherwood Energy Village. A wide range of participants from the public, private and voluntary sectors contributed to the day, including both small and large businesses, schools, universities, regional organisations and local authorities. There were 77 displays (out of an expected 82) and 21 presentations. A number of reporters from local papers visited the event and Simon Drury was interviewed on Saga Radio.
- 2.2 Paralympian Dan West, who won a silver medal at Athens in the discus event, and Campbell Walsh, who won the second canoeing medal of the Olympic Games with silver in the K1 Kayaking, also attended.

#### **3. Feedback**

- 3.1 Feedback from the event was actively sought to help the Group in its deliberations over any similar future events. The feedback has been collated and has been circulated with the papers for this meeting.

Yvette Dearden  
Head of Sustainable Development, EMRA

# **EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

## **PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

9<sup>th</sup> November 2004

Item 4

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### **EAST MIDLANDS CENTRE FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The East Midlands Centre for the Built Environment (EMCBE) is an East Midlands Construction Forum (EMCF) partnership project and is regional in nature. Funding for three years has recently been secured - the intention is that the centre will be financially self-sustaining by September 2007.
- 1.2 The partners in EMCF include emda, CITB-ConstructionSkills, Derbyshire LSC (the lead local LSC in the East Midlands for construction), Constructing Excellence, Construction Industry Council, Summit Skills, The Housing Forum, East Midlands Regional Assembly, GOEM, Jobcentre Plus and the Small Business Service. The forum is represented by major and small employers and their federations at a sub-regional level as well as by private and public sector clients and training providers.

#### **2. The Centre**

- 2.1 The EMCBE will provide a hub for the East Midlands to stimulate wholesale regional development towards the Constructing Excellence agenda, primarily:
  - Provide a framework for business support and enterprise
  - Encourage Innovation
  - Stimulate employment, learning and skills
  - Stimulate the use of information & communication technology
  - Support sector specific clusters
  - Develop international trade
  - Encourage better environmental practice and sustainable construction
  - Engage with the rural community through out-reach local best practice network.
  - Celebrate the construction industry achievement, regeneration, inspiring the community by new urban renaissance
- 2.2 The Centre will be structured around a core programme of activities and three regional sub-groups:

1. Diversity, skills and workforce development:
2. Sustainability; and
3. Process, productivity and performance improvement.

### **3. The Sustainability Sub Group**

- 3.1 The Sustainability Sub Group will form part of the centre's work - it is recognised that, although significant for the future development of the industry, sustainability has a popular perception of not forming a core business driver to most construction businesses. A great deal of scepticism also exists in terms of the tangible performance benefits that can be derived from sustainable working.
- 3.2 In addition, client groups feel that their efforts to engender more sustainable working are constrained by what the industry can deliver. Thus, it has been marginalised by many within the sector as intellectually stimulating, but requiring significant investment if change is to be generated.
- 3.3 There is also a perception that the opportunity to work in a more sustainable manner resides elsewhere within the supply chain (the client sees it as the responsibility of designers and constructors and vice versa).
- 3.4 Thus, engendering a culture where clients, designers, constructors and suppliers work together to integrate their sustainable work practices is the only way in which the sector can reduce its consumption of embodied energy and reduce waste in the future. This, in turn, demands an investment in training and education to ensure that all stakeholders understand the impact of the decisions made throughout the procurement processes.

### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The CITB and the Interim Centre Director are keen to work with the Promoting Sustainable Development Group, particularly in relation to the sustainable design and construction and showcasing good practice areas of work. Representatives will be at the meeting to discuss potential areas of joint working.

Yvette Dearden  
Head of Sustainable Development  
EMRA

# EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

## PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

9<sup>th</sup> November 2004

Item 5

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### CLIMATE CHANGE

#### 1. Introduction

1.1 The Climate Change Sub Group is currently leading two key projects –firstly, the organisation of a one-day workshop and a bigger event next spring; and secondly, the sustainable design and construction project. This report updates the Group on progress to date within these two projects.

#### 2. Workshop

2.1 The Climate Change Sub Group is organising a one-day workshop, '*Planning for Climate Change*', on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2004 in Nottingham. The workshop aims to involve a wide range of stakeholders with an interest in working together to respond to the challenges of climate change in the East Midlands. The programme for the day is included overleaf.

2.2 At the workshop, stakeholders will have the opportunity to decide on a programme of partnership projects to be taken forward by each sector group, both to raise awareness in the sector and to develop adaptation approaches. There will also be feedback on issues raised at 1<sup>st</sup> April NEC event on climate change, with presentations being given on sustainable construction and flood risk management.

#### 3. Sustainable Design and Construction Project

3.1 The first phase of the sustainable design and construction project has now been completed by ARUP Consultants. It includes a review of international, national and regional good practice with a more detailed evaluation of eight regional examples to highlight the costs and benefits of incorporating sustainable design techniques and features. Specific recommendations for stakeholder groups are also included.

3.2 The executive summary of the report produced by ARUP Consultants is attached as Appendix I to this report. The full version of the report is available on the Regional Assembly's website – go to [www.emra.gov.uk](http://www.emra.gov.uk) and click on sustainable development followed by 'What's New' or 'Projects'.

3.3 Further phases of the project are being considered by the project steering group with two key work areas currently being addressed. The first is the development of a regional competition for architects. The second work area is to further expand Phase I of the project by collecting information on projects that architects and designers are currently or had already been involved with in the region.

3.4 The aim of the competition is to mainstream sustainability within the design process of a new development. The steering group has agreed the following approach:

1. The brief to entrants will be based upon the Principles of Sustainable Design and Construction as developed for Phase I of the project.
2. The design proposal will be based upon a real site or sites and ideally include one urban and one rural site.
3. The submitted design should include an assessment of where SD principles are difficult to achieve and identify alternative solutions.
4. The submitted design should be eligible for credits towards professional CPD and should be accredited by the appropriate professional body.
5. Prizes should be offered for best urban design, best rural design and possibly a separate prize for young architects in final year or just qualified. CPD certificates would be awarded to all entrants who achieve an appropriate level.
6. The competition will be launched in January 2005 at the EMCBE event

3.5 The second piece of work to further develop the project aims to find out more about sustainable design projects in the region by further expanding the information on good practice examples collected as part of Phase I of the project. This work would be in conjunction with work already ongoing as part of CATALYSE, a pilot training programme aimed at the initial design team and would collect information on projects that architects and designers are or had already been involved with in the East Midlands.

Nick King  
Regional Strategy Manager  
Environment Agency, Midlands Region

Yvette Dearden  
Head of Sustainable Development  
EMRA



ENVIRONMENT  
AGENCY

 **East Midlands  
Regional Assembly**



**EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY  
CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-GROUP**

**PLANNING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE**

**TUESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2004**

**ENVIRONMENT AGENCY, TRENTSIDE OFFICE, NOTTINGHAM**

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**PROGRAMME**

09.30 Coffee

10:00 Welcome and update on work since the 1<sup>st</sup> April NEC workshop – UKCIP/EA

10:15 Flooding issues in the East Midlands – Ian Russell (EA)

10:30 Sustainable Design and Construction Project

10:45 Proposals for future action

11:00 Coffee break

11:15 Table Discussions

*The key areas most vulnerable to the effects of climate change were identified in ‘The Potential Impacts of Climate Change in the East Midlands’ these all need to be considered:*

- *Water Resources and Quality*
- *Flooding – Urban and Lowland*
- *Agriculture*
- *Coastal Region*
- *Biodiversity*
- *Manufacturing, Services and Retail*
- *Construction and Building*
- *Tourism and Recreation*
- *Transport*

*The session will provide an opportunity to explore options of projects and for delegates to indicate their support for future work.*

13:00 Lunch

- *Discuss project proposals*
- *Vote for those projects you feel should be taken forward*
- *Delegates to indicate support taking the lead in relevant projects*

14:00 Report back from table discussions – UKCIP/EA

14:30 Closing remarks

## SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECT PHASE I EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the results of a desktop study to highlight the benefits of sustainable design and construction, with a view to motivating regional development agents.

Best practice in sustainable design and construction is to achieve buildings that are more efficient in resource use, better integrated with their surroundings (built and natural environment), provide high-quality interior spaces that support the function of the building and can be delivered to the market at a cost that this will bear. Both designers and contractors have a role in achieving this, and the dissemination of best practice should be focused on target groups, which are defined by their role in the delivery process. The following issues will need to be addressed in order for EMRA to identify a programme of work for achieving their objectives in this area:

- Improvement of communication and access to best practice information, in order for sustainable construction to be promoted as a viable activity.
- Provision of technical demonstration of sustainable construction methods and techniques, to promote their acceptance in the marketplace, implementation and replication.
- Central and Local Government to lead by example, using their purchasing power, incentivising and motivating stakeholders, and incorporating sustainability further into the planning process.
- Research effort is required to provide suitable design and assessment tools and skills, reinforced by robust and acceptable integrated methods for predicting, evaluating and monitoring performance methods.
- The benefits of utilising whole life cycle costing needs to be promoted and reliable data needs to be made available on the operational, running and maintenance costs of materials and components.
- A shift in attitudes of all the stakeholders within the construction sector needs to be encouraged, via education and continuous training.

Qualitative sociological and broader environmental benefits of sustainable construction can often be particularly difficult to quantify. Projects such as those highlighted in this report can contribute significantly to the awareness-raising process within their communities and sectors, therefore indirectly contributing to future financial viabilities.