

MEMBERS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP

**Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate
Street, Rotherham**

Date: Friday, 9 January 2009

Time: 10.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 31st October, 2008 (Pages 1 - 7)
3. Fuel Poverty (Pages 8 - 20)
- Paul Maplethorpe, Senior Home Energy Officer
4. Allotments
- presentation by Tim Archer, Development Officer Allotments
5. Environmental Management System
- report to be tabled by David Rhodes
6. Local Action 21 (Page 21)
- David Wilde, LA21 Officer, to report
7. Environmental and Climate Change Action Plan
- report to be tabled by Emma Bridge
8. Minutes of the Sustainability Partnership held on 15th October, 2008 (Pages 22 - 26)
9. Policy Update
- verbal update by Emma Bridge
10. Future Agenda Items
11. Any Other Business
12. Date of Next Meeting
- Friday, 6th March, 2009 at 10.30 a.m.

1 MEMBERS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP - 31/10/08**MEMBERS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP
FRIDAY, 31ST OCTOBER, 2008**

Present:- Councillor Wyatt (in the Chair); Councillors Austen, Hodgkiss, McNeely and Pickering.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Walker.

79. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 8TH SEPTEMBER, 2008

Agreed:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Members Sustainable Development Action Group, held on 8th September, 2008, be accepted as a correct record.

It was noted that the planning application for the ABLE Project was to be submitted in December, 2008.

The Chair reported that LAGBI money (£25,000) had been earmarked for sustainable development themes. Spend would focus on 4 strands i.e. support to the ABLE project, general training opportunities and awareness raising, further support for World Environment Day/Rotherham Show and exploring the possibility of a car club in Rotherham.

80. NEW MEASURES TO INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN HOMES AND TO COMBAT FUEL POVERTY

Emma Bridge circulated a briefing note prepared by Paul Maplethorpe who was on annual leave.

A brief discussion took place on the report particularly on cold weather payments and what benefits individuals had to be on to qualify for certain initiatives.

Agreed:- (1) That Paul Maplethorpe be invited to the next meeting to present his briefing note.

(2) That Paul be requested to prepare a brief flier for all Members setting out what energy initiatives were available to whom and how they were entitled to them.

81. CUTTING THROUGH THE GREEN TAPE: THE POWERS COUNCILS HAVE TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

Emma Bridge, Policy Officer, gave a powerpoint presentation on the powers Councils had to tackle climate change as follows:-

Overview

- LGA publication, part of wider campaign
- Encourages Councils to:

- Take responsibility for reducing carbon emissions
- Prepare for the consequences of more extreme weather in their areas
- Councils central to tackling climate change

Purpose of the Report

- Highlight key powers
- Signpost tools, organisations and resources
- Practical examples

Wellbeing Powers

- Enables a local authority to do anything it considers likely to promote or improve the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of its area e.g. Islington Council Climate Change Fund, Watford Council Home Energy Efficiency Project

Powers to change own Estate and Operations

- Invest in more efficient and alternative energy systems
- Maintain and operate buildings at optimal environmental performance
- Change staff behaviour – within the work place, travel to work, interaction

Community Leadership Powers

- Land use policies – balanced communities, local
- Food policies – match gardeners with space, markets for local produce
- Energy efficiency standards
- Behaviour in energy use

Power of the People

- LGA poll – clear support across the country and all age groups for action to be taken at a local level
- Elected Members can support this through Neighbourhood Forums, taking part in workshops, encouraging public participation in Scrutiny, public opinion surveys

Joint Working Powers

- Joint working through Local Area Agreement and/or Multi Area Agreements
- LSP framework for joint work on climate change
- Joint committees with other local authorities e.g. single planning framework for an area with a shared climate risk, Green Award Schemes, Association of Town Centre Management Business Climate Champions

Planning Powers

- Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 should be used to support initiatives designed to tackle climate change

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- Section 39 – statutory duty re sustainable development
- Compulsorily purchase land to facilitate climate change infrastructure
- Impose climate change ‘improvements’ as part of other large scale capital projects
- Statement of community involvement
- Mitigation and adaptation into Local Development Framework
- Community Infrastructure Levy/Section 106

Transport Powers

- Local Transport Bill 2007/08 offers more powers:-
 - o Car, bike or van sharing
 - o Fixed Penalty Notices for stationary idling
 - o Congestion charging and workplace parking levy schemes
 - o High occupancy vehicle lanes
 - o Smarter driving
 - o Park and ride
 - o Section 106

Housing Powers

- Provide shops/recreation grounds/other buildings in connection with housing provision
- Lay out streets/roads/open spaces in connection with housing provision
- Provide assistance for the purpose of improving living conditions
- Build in energy efficiency
- Fuel poverty and links to health

Emergency Planning Powers

- Powers to incur expenditure and make grants or loans
- Facilitate investment in areas where potential climate change incidents are likely
- Local authority powers may change in future following Pitt Review

Environmental Protection Powers

- Provide funding/support to local groups for promotion of environmental protection
- Link air quality and transport plans
- Range of powers, duties and functions which can help tackle climate change – air quality, pollution, litter, hazardous substances, smoke, emissions trading

Subsidiary Powers

- Statutory duties including NERC Act 2007 and CC and Sustainable Energy Act 2006
- CC and/or environmental improvement targets
- Action plans by Secretary of State relating to promotion of sustainability by local authorities
- Communication and documentation of initiatives – FoI Act 2000
- Procurement – social and environmental

- School and education improvement

Next Steps/Challenges

- Development of Borough-wide Climate Change Action Plan
- Sustainable development embedded in all Service areas, not 1 or 2 "experts"
- Joint working/shared knowledge
- Integrate economic and environmental policies
- Awareness of/preparedness for future requirements from Government e.g. CAA

Emma was thanked for her presentation.

82. WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Emma Bridge reported that World Environment Day would take place on 5th June, 2009 the theme of which was "Your Planet Needs You – Unite to Combat Climate Change".

The briefing note circulated set out what had been celebrated in previous years together with ideas for 2009. These included:-

- Link with partner towns of St. Quentin, Reisa, Zabrze, Cluj-Napoca, Nashville, and Keocho City
- Set up a Council web page where schools/organisations/individuals could commit to either/all for a week or a day:-
 - Reducing energy and resources
 - Reducing waste
 - Conserving/enhancing local wildlife
 - Healthy eating options
 - Sustainable travel
- Link to a CO₂ calculator so that schools/organisations/individuals could see the benefit of their actions
- Live communication, video and audio between schools on 5th June
- Produce a video of activities

Discussion ensued on the report with the following suggestions also made:-

- o Link into the forthcoming Waterways Strategy
- o European elections
- o Inclusion on the agendas of any Council meetings taking place that week
- o Planting of fruit trees by schools

It was noted that the issue would be discussed at the International Partners meeting on 7th November and also suggested that it be included on the agenda of the International Links Committee.

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Agreed:- That the report be noted.

83. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

David Rhodes, Corporate Environmental Officer, presented an update report as follows:-

- The scheduled EMAS verification audit had been successful. On receipt of the new certificate, a presentation would be arranged for the 3 schools that had implemented EMAS (Abbey, St. Mary's RC and Wath C. of E.).
- As an interim measure all Town Centre buildings were displaying a draft Display Energy Certificate. Surveys for all applicable buildings were approximately 80% complete.
- Energy Performance Certificates were required for all new buildings or buildings that were being rented or sold. This had financial implications across the Council.
- There were no accredited EPC assessors in the Council at present
- A Climate Change Action Plan was being developed and would integrate the Corporate Environmental Policy and Action Plan.

Agreed:- That the report be noted.

84. CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENT SCHEME BRIEFING

David Rhodes, Corporate Environmental Officer, presented a briefing note on the above, the main points being:-

- Carbon Reduction Commitment – emission trading scheme which will begin with a 3 year introductory phase starting 1st April, 2010 with the aim of achieving savings of 1.2M tonnes of carbon by 2020 from business and public sector organisations. Rotherham would qualify for compulsory involvement.
- Schools would participate in the scheme with emissions with a duty placed on them to supply the Council with annual energy use data for inclusion in Council emission report.
- Private schools would only be included if their highest parent organisation passed the CRC inclusion threshold. Clarification was needed for PFI and outsourcing contracts with regard to who took responsibility for energy supply and CRC obligations.
- Transport was not included.
- Allowances would be distributed to participants by auction.
- Following the 3 year introductory phase, a limit would be placed on the number of allowances available to participants in accordance with the emissions reduction path targeted to 2020.
- Revenue raised by the sale or auction of CRC allowances would be recycled back to participants. The payment would be made in October approximately 6 months after the end of the emissions year to allow for reporting of emissions and reconciliation and to retain a

- sufficient gap between the auction and revenue recycling.
- Payments would be made via BACS transfer.
- At the end of the reconciliation period, organisations holding more allowances than they needed for compliance may wish to bank them for use or sale in future years and phases of the scheme.
- The Council will be required to submit an annual data statement through an on-line registry identifying energy consumption and CO₂ emissions.

Agreed:- That the report be noted.

85. LOCAL ACTION 21

David Wilde (LA21's), presented a progress report highlighting the following issues:-

- Sustainable Schools INSET day organised with the ESD Partnership at Kiveton Park and Wales Village Hall alongside school travel plan awards event
- Successful biodiversity project with Aston C. of E. and Lodge Lane Schools linked to school grounds and Austen park
- Successful 'global food' project at Herringthorpe Junior School
- Participation in 'Working Heroes' project with Redscope Primary School

Agreed:- That the report be noted.

86. POLICY UPDATE

Emma Bridge circulated a Policy update drawing particular attention to:-

- Launch of the new Nottingham Declaration website
- Commitment to cut emissions by 80% by 2050
- Ministerial responsibilities at the Department of Energy and Climate Change

Agreed:- That the Policy update be noted.

87. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Allotment Strategy
Fuel Poverty

88. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business

89. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Agreed:- That a further meeting be held on Friday, 9th January, 2009, commencing at 10.30 a.m.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1. Summary

Briefing note to go out to all Members on what schemes, discounts etc are currently available. For insulation / heating to prevent fuel poverty

7. Details

SAVE N WARM Scheme

Discounted Insulation installation – subsidised by Npower and administered by the South Yorkshire Energy Advice Centre.

To qualify, households must be in South Yorkshire and be able to pay the discounted, £249 fee for insulation this is an average price of a 3 bed semi. If you are an Npower customer the price drops to £199. Advise all inquirers that they should contact their energy company to see if a reduced rate for insulation applies to them.

Heating provision for free heating where the boiler is over 20y old and the person is in priority group

. Householders aged 60 or over in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Council Tax Benefit
- Housing Benefit
- Job Seekers Allowance (income-based)
- Pension Credit
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

2. Householders with a child under 16,

- Income Support
- Council Tax Benefit
- Housing Benefit

- Job Seekers Allowance (income-based)
- Pension Credit
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

3. Householders in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Working Tax Credit (with an income of less than £15,460,
- Disability Living Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (with an income of less than £15,460)
- Housing Benefit (which must include a disability premium)
- Income Support (which must include a disability premium)
- Council Tax Benefit (which must include a disability premium)
- War Disablement Pension (which must include a mobility supplement or Constant Attendance Allowance)
- Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (which must include a mobility supplement or Constant Attendance Allowance)
- Attendance Allowance

Heating system may be working or not and full funding is provided contact 01709 334964 or Freephone 0800 028 1067

Warm Front Scheme

If you own your own home or rent it from a private landlord, you may be eligible for a grant of up to £2,700 (or £4,000 if oil central heating is involved) under the Warm Front Scheme. Warm Front Grants are available in England only; other schemes operate in Scotland, [Wales](#) and [Northern Ireland](#).

If the property has previously received Warm Front improvements, the grant now available will be the balance of £2,700 (or £4,000 if oil central heating is involved) less the value of all works previously completed.

Applicants meeting the following criteria may be eligible for a Warm Front Grant.

1. Householders aged 60 or over in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Council Tax Benefit
- Housing Benefit
- Job Seekers Allowance (income-based)
- Pension Credit
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

2. Householders with a child under 16, or pregnant women with maternity certificate MAT-B1, in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Council Tax Benefit
- Housing Benefit
- Job Seekers Allowance (income-based)
- Pension Credit
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

3. Householders in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Working Tax Credit (with an income of less than £15,460, which must include a disability element)
- Disability Living Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (with an income of less than £15,460)
- Housing Benefit (which must include a disability premium)
- Income Support (which must include a disability premium)
- Council Tax Benefit (which must include a disability premium)
- War Disablement Pension (which must include a mobility supplement or Constant Attendance Allowance)
- Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (which must include a mobility supplement or Constant Attendance Allowance)
- Attendance Allowance

If you are not in receipt of one of the qualifying benefits listed above, we can offer you a full benefit assessment to establish if you are or should be receiving any benefits that would qualify you for the Warm Front Grant. Please contact the Benefit Entitlement Check team on freephone 0800 072 9006 or email bec@eaga.com with your contact details so an advisor can call you back

Hot Spots services:

1. Energy saving and grants advice, including installation of grant funded measures.
2. Home Fire Safety Check, including fire exit plan and smoke alarms.
3. Benefit Entitlement Check for aged 60 and over
4. Stop Smoking Advice & Support

This is a visiting service where the front line officers of the services above refer clients into the south Yorkshire advice centre for action on the services offered

Neighbourhood Energy Action Scheme has enabled RMBC:

- To address fuel poverty and energy efficiency; four Neighbourhood Energy Officers (NEO's) will provide a doorstep, 'One Stop Shop'.

- 4000 households in the most vulnerable wards in Rotherham will be targeted, taking advice to the communities in most need first!

At 10 Flu Clinics – 200 visitors at each

At a Housing Association

During Neighbourhood Surgeries

In Schools and homes

At Thurcroft environmental project which resulted in 50 referrals

And on the radio - 3 interviews this month

Contact Name:

Paul Maplethorpe - Senior Home Energy Officer Ext 6568

paul.maplethorpe@rotherham.gov.uk

Helping Our Communities to Save Energy in their Homes

Paul Maplethorpe
Affordable Warmth & Sustainable
Energy Co-ordinator

Time to act is now...

- 6,702 households in fuel poverty in Rotherham (6.1%) – set to rise.
- £1,287 - average dual fuel bill in GB.
– £714 / 125% increase since Jan 2003

- © 2008 Centre for Sustainable Energy, Bristol BS1 6XN
- Figures supplied by ofgem

Help and Support (1)

SAVE N WARM Scheme



Discounted Heating and Insulation installation – subsidised by Npower and the South Yorkshire Energy Advice Centre.

To Qualify, households must be in South Yorkshire and be able to pay the discounted, £249 fee.

In Rotherham, during 2007/08:

545 households benefited from loft insulation

783 households benefited from cavity insulation

158 households benefited from heating replacement

Help and Support (2)

Warm Front Scheme



Government-funded flag ship scheme for free insulation and heating

To qualify, residents must be home owners or in private rented accommodation and be in receipt of benefits.

In Rotherham during 2007/08, 1,164 households benefited.

Levered in £1.2m funding into the Borough so far.

Help and Support (3)

Sustainable Communities offer local, Expert Advice to Rotherham's Residents on:

Energy efficiency in the home,
Energy saving measures:

- How to get them
- How to use them

Grant advice, about insulation & heating upgrades.

As well as being a Signposting service to a whole range of schemes and services.



Help and support (4)

Hot Spots SOUTH YORKSHIRE

Hot Spots

- A partnership referral project, involving the Home Fire Safety Team, PCT and Benefits which offers energy efficiency advice during home visits and appointments.
- Ensuring as many people as possible, particularly the vulnerable, are able to access energy advice and benefits.

Help and Support (5)

The **Neighbourhood Energy Action Scheme** has enabled RMBC:

- To address fuel poverty and energy efficiency; four Neighbourhood Energy Officers (NEO's) will provide a doorstep, 'One Stop Shop'.
- 4000 households in the most vulnerable wards in Rotherham will be targeted, taking advice to the communities in most need first!
- NEO's will be saving on global warming by using electric bikes to get around!



Energy Roadshows

The Energy Efficiency and Affordable Warmth Team has been taking their exhibition to the communities and spreading the word:

At 10 Flu Clinics – 200 visitors at each

At a Housing Association

During Neighbourhood Surgeries

In Schools and homes

At Thurcroft environmental project which resulted in 50 referrals

And on the radio - 3 interviews this month!



And Finally...

To arrange a roadshow at a venue near you, for energy saving light-bulbs, for energy advice, for help accessing energy efficiency schemes or just to ask questions...

Please contact the:

Energy Efficiency and Affordable Warmth Team

paul.maplethorpe@rotherham.gov.uk

ron.bedford@rotherham.gov.uk

Tel: 01709 334964

**Members Sustainable Development
Advisory Group
Local Action 21 Progress Report**



1. Overview of the issue(s) you are reporting on

Progress of the LA21 project:

Specific Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) projects continue, particularly in relation to the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) Sustainable Schools Framework, together with more informal awareness raising sessions in the community. Ongoing support for projects contributing to sustainable development in Rotherham, particularly in relation to climate change and biodiversity.

2. Summary of Highlights November 2008 to December 2008:

- Town Hall Mayoral presentation of EMAS certificates to pupils on 'eco-committees' of Abbey, Wath CofE and St Mary's schools
- Aston CofE signed up to Green Check/EMAS In Schools
- Presentation on Green Check to Youth Cabinet via Public Scrutiny and Overview Committee (PSOC)
- Start of Supergrounds project at Dalton Listerdale
- Rotherham Environment Forum meeting including initial consultation on Waterways Strategy and discussion on how group might like to get involved in World Environment Day activities next year
- Attendance at proposed Ethical Town meeting
- St Ann's 'Dream Playgrounds' project approaching completion

3. Key issues for Rotherham/how this fits in with Corporate priorities

Continued focus specifically on climate change and biodiversity, in line with Council/Sustainability Partnership priorities. Continued implementation of sustainable development as a cross-cutting theme in the (Sustainable) Community Strategy, e.g. through attendance at the Rotherham Environment/Sustainable Development Partnership, Officers Group and as co-ordinator of the ESD Partnership and Rotherham Environment Forum (REF)

4. Next Steps or action required

- Celebrate completion of St Ann's Primary School Dream Playgrounds project
- Progress Supergrounds project with Dalton Listerdale Jandl School
- Proposal for closer working of LA21 programme with Social Cohesion agenda
- Continue to progress implementation of Action Plans at EMAS/Green Check Schools and enlist new schools
- Progress Green Check at Aston CofE
- Continued ESD activity as part of the DCSF Sustainable Schools initiative, including ongoing representation at Yorkshire and Humber Sustainable Schools Co-ordination Group
- Potential development of Rotherham ESD Partnership to include teachers
- Progress closer working with Children and Young People's Services at meeting with director Joyce Thacker
- Footprinting sessions with women's groups
- World Environment Day planning

Contact details: David Wilde Tel: 01226 740077 / 01709 822789

e-mail: david.wilde@rotherham.gov.uk

Date report produced: 17/12/08

**ROTHERHAM PARTNERSHIP
SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP
3.30PM ON 15 OCTOBER 2008
TOWN HALL
ACTION POINTS**

Attendees:

Councillor Ken Wyatt	Cabinet Member for Sustainability & Innovation (Chair)
Karl Battersby	RMBC - Environment & Development Services
Andrew Denniff	Rotherham Chamber of Commerce
Emma Bridge	RMBC - Chief Executive's Directorate
Janet Johnson	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Richard Walker	South Yorkshire Forest Partnership
David Wilde	Rotherham Environment Forum
Carolyn Barber	RMBC – Environment & Development Services
Jane Devine	RMBC – Environment & Development Services

Apologies:

Sue Budby	RMBC – Children & Young People's Services
John Cartwright	Rotherham Hospital
David Rhodes	RMBC – Environment & Development Services

Item	Notes	Action
1.	<p>Introductions & Apologies</p> <p>Introductions were made and apologies recorded.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.</p> <p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Carrier Bag Initiative – A report will be going to Performance Scrutiny and Overview Committee on 7 November which Youth Cabinet will be attending.</p> <p>European Funding – This is ongoing due to the secondment of the European and International Project Officer</p> <p>Native Bees - There is to be a planting scheme on Warren Vale Road to encourage bees. Discussions took place regarding the inclusion of bees in Clifton Park. KB will organise a presentation on the Clifton Park scheme for the</p>	KB

	next meeting.	
3.	ABLE Project Update The first business plan has been completed. An outline planning application will be submitted by the 17 October, and on Planning Board by the 11 December. The group had visited ABLE Wakefield on the 3 October and it had been very well received. Funding from Yorkshire Forward had not been granted. Coal Fields Regener	

	<p>31 July 2008</p> <p>Financial Report for Cutting Edge Hair Dressers</p> <p>1. Terms of Reference</p> <p>This report has been prepared for the owners of Cutting Edge Rotherham to present the financial information taken from the accounts. The completed report will be presented at the next owners.</p> <p>2. Procedures</p> <p>The report has been compiled by using the accounts for Cutting Hairdresser from 2004 to 2007. The information found in these used to calculate the following information:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gross Profit Percentage • Net Profit Percentage • Liquidity Ratios • Gearing Ratios • Return on Capital Employed • PEST Analysis <p>This information can be found in Appendix 1</p> <p>The Internet was used to gain research to produce a PEST analysis into consideration market trends, the economic position at the time and social and technological trends. Research at a local level was undertaken to give an overall picture of the hairdressing market.</p> <p>3. Findings</p> <p>1. The Gross Profit Percentage has fallen from 66.3% in 2005 to 60.3% in 2007. This is due to the cost of vehicle repairs in 2006 and 2007 and additional cost of staffing and in 2007.</p> <p>Below is a bar chart showing the Gross Net percentage and at Appendix 2 showing both Gross and Net Percentages. The Hairdresser's Association was presenting a paper to their board asking for support. The outline planning application would have to be agreed and a social enterprise status be in place for this support to be granted. UK Steel Enterprise has offered £2000 to sponsor the bee hives.</p>	
4.	<p>Waterway Strategy Update</p> <p>A consultation workshop had been postponed, and a telephone survey will now take place. A strategy document</p>	

	and action plan will now be drafted and will be circulated to all, requesting feedback to the consultants. It is anticipated that within two months the draft final report will be agreed	
5.	<p>Climate Change Action Plan</p> <p>EB updated the group on progress since the Energy Saving Trust had completed in climate change project with the Council. She advised that work this project was being broadened out to cover wider environmental issues across the borough. This work had so far taken slightly longer than planned due to the delay of the regional Climate Change Action Plan and the UK Climate Impact Profiles. A draft action plan would soon be circulated for consultation and meetings would be set up to discuss individual topic areas.</p> <p>The Climate Change Action Plan would be the delivery plan for the climate change national indicators (NI 185, 186 and 188).</p>	
6.	<p>LABGI Funding</p> <p>£25,000 has been awarded from LABGI (Local Authority Business Growth Incentive) funding to support the theme of Sustainable Development. A number of projects and initiatives have been proposed to utilise this funding. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABLE Rotherham • World Environment Day • Rotherham Show • Awareness raising and training opportunities • Reducing energy usage and eradicating fuel poverty <p>Two other areas which may be looked into further are the Dearne Eco Valley Project and investigating the feasibility of facilitating a car club in Rotherham.</p> <p>The group agreed to look at ways of funding these projects.</p>	
7.	<p>FT Fortnight</p> <p>This will be taking place the last week in February and the first week in March. Events have already been planned with RCAT, these include a black tie dinner at the Wharnccliffe Restaurant and a buffet type event for RCAT students. Healthy eating would also be promoted. It was noted that Cabinet had agreed to fund the continuation of the Jamie Oliver project for a further 12 months.</p>	

8.	<p>South Yorkshire Forest Partnership Update</p> <p>The group were updated on SYFP's achievements, these included 677 ha of new woodland and 27 businesses have received financial support. SYFP's resources were now changing and would like to engage more with RMBC and any partners to enhance its role within South Yorkshire. It was agreed that RMBC would be happy to enter into conversation to explore what could be done in the future.</p>	
9.	<p>Carbon Reduction Commitment</p> <p>This was the emission trading scheme that would be in place by April 2010, this was basically a tax on carbon emissions. The details of the scheme had not been confirmed as yet, but it was noted that RMBC would be affected by this.</p>	CB
10.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Groundwork Yorkshire & Humber Low Carbon Small Business Project – EB advised the group that Groundwork Y&H had approached her about a potential project to provide support and information to small businesses. The group agreed that this looked to be a worthwhile project and that EB would bring further details to a future meeting.</p> <p>EB informed the group of a couple events taking place:</p> <p>Monday 20 October, 2pm-4.30pm, Leeds Town Hall – Discussion of the Revised Regional Climate Change Action Plan</p> <p>Thursday 27 November, 10am-2pm, Innovation Technology Centre – Commercialising Low Carbon Technologies</p>	EB
11.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Thursday 27th November at 3.00pm.</p> <p>Please note all to bring dairies to arrange next year's meetings.</p>	