

MEMBERS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP

Venue: Rooms 3/4 (Training Room),
3rd Floor, Bailey House,
Rawmarsh Road,
ROTHERHAM. S60 1TD

Date: Friday, 11th June 2010

Time: 10.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. Introductions/Apologies for Absence.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th March, 2010. (copy attached)
(Pages 1 - 6)
3. Any Matters Arising from the previous minutes.

Presentation:-

4. The Changing Policy Context for Climate Change. (Pages 7 - 12)
Emma Bridge, Policy Officer.

Reports/Updates:-

5. South Yorkshire Climate Change projects. (Pages 13 - 29)
Oliver Hutchinson, to report.
6. NI 188 Planning to adapt to climate change.
Alan Platt, Best Value Officer, to report.
7. NI 189 Flood Risk management and wider living with water work.
Alan Platt, Best Value Officer, to report.
8. Feedback from Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Review on climate change.
Emma Bridge, Policy Officer/ David Rhodes, Property Environmental Manager,
to report.
9. LA21 update. (report attached) (Page 30)
David Wild, Local Agenda 21 Community Worker, to report.
10. Environmental Management update. (Page 31)
David Rhodes, Property Environmental Manager, to report.
11. Any Other Business.
12. Date and time of future meetings. (list attached) (Page 32)

1 MEMBERS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP - 05/03/10**MEMBERS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP
FRIDAY, 5TH MARCH, 2010**

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillor McNeely.

26. INTRODUCTIONS/APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting and introductions were made.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor Austen
Councillor Pickering
Carolyn Barber Ecologist

27. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 22ND JANUARY, 2010

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22nd January, 2010.

Agreed:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22nd January, 2010, be accepted as a correct record.

28. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

29. PRESENTATION - UPDATE ON THE SINGLE CONVERSATION AND DRAFT HOUSING STRATEGY

Gordon Smith, Quality and Design Co-ordinator, spoke to a PowerPoint presentation on the Single Conversation and Draft Housing Strategy and highlighted the following:-

- Development of a suite of documents to support the process, including Investment Mapping; Rotherham's Digest and the Revised Draft Housing Strategy.
- The Digest:- key facts relating to energy efficiencies, noting 27,000 private dwellings with no cavity wall insulation; NI 187 - survey links low SAP ratings to single pensioner households and 6,900 private households found in fuel poverty.
- Ambitions of the Housing Strategy, noting adapting to climate change.

- Feedback from workshops held during January 2010.
- Biggest issues:- existing housing stock; private landlords.
- Influencing role of planning and design; idea of 'lifetime' homes.
- Phase Two: Consultation and communication.
- Target dates: completion of Draft Strategy by end of April 2010; Workshop with the HCA 27th April; Single Conversation with the HCA – Autumn 2010.

A question and answer session ensued covering the following issues:-

- quality of current build
- current fuel costs and additional costs to home owners to introduce energy efficiency measures
- use of planning system and building regulations to encourage better standard of new build
- requirement for all new homes to be Zero Carbon by 2016
- the construction industry in Rotherham
- the role of the Council to influence home owners to up-grade their properties

Agreed:- That the contents of the presentation be noted.

30. WATER MANAGEMENT AND FLOOD RISK

Greg Lindley, Partnership Implementation Officer, spoke to the submitted report highlighting the following:-

- Link to Climate change
- Changes in Policy and roles: noting legislation coming in to effect late 2010 which would place new responsibilities on local authorities as lead flood authority for surface and ground water and to set up a SUDS approving body. Currently no guidance had been issued and local authorities were worried about resourcing, skills gaps and costs
- Requirements 2010 onwards on Rotherham
- Funding uncertainty; links into the LGA re: funding allocations
- Private sewer transfer; noting the Government's assumption that substantial cost savings will be made by local authorities with the transfer of private sewers to Water Companies, and that in fact most savings would be minimal and would not cover the total costs of the Lead Role duties
- Works required under Water/Flood Regulations 2009 and Flood and Water Management Bill 2010 with no additional funding
- Issuing by the Environment Agency of the Don Catchment Flood Management Plan and the Don Strategy

3 MEMBERS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP - 05/03/10

- Water Management and Flood Risk Policy: noting intention to prepare a policy to tie in with the Local Development Framework Core Strategy Consultation work in mid 2010
- NI 189 – Flood and Coastal erosion risk management
- South Yorkshire Water Cycle study

Those present commented on:-

- possible scrutiny review of the EA Catchment Flood Management plans and the Don Strategy
- Elected Member involvement
- the need to tie in to the LDF work
- the EA definition of 'flood' vs. what it means to people in the community
- Environment Agency and Council responsibilities:- Environment Agency = overview and rivers; Council = surface water and drains
- how to ensure riparian land owners assume and fulfil their responsibilities
- scope of the consultation

Information was provided in respect of a forthcoming Flood Fair for Elected Members and officers being hosted by Barnsley Council. Members requested that officers from Rotherham Council attend the event to see whether a similar event should be organised in Rotherham.

Agreed:- That the contents of the submitted report be noted.

31. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

David Rhodes, Environmental Property Manager, distributed a report to those present and highlighted the following:-

- EMAS energy awareness training
- 10:10 project
- Display Energy Certificates:- noting additional staffing now having an impact and position improving. Still no requests from the general public.
- Carbon Reduction Commitment – Energy Efficiency Scheme: noting the completion of a trial project with Carbon Trading Yorkshire/CO2 Sense, resulting in a final trading day on 3rd March. Work continued to prepare for registration on 1st April 2010
- Engaging the 3rd Sector:- noting request for extension to October 2010 from RIEP
- Sustainable Procurement policy:- noting establishment of working group to develop and implement the policy
- Feed in Tariffs/School PV:- noting a project was underway to fit PV panels on 80% of Rotherham's Schools in partnership with a private renewable company

Those present commented on:-

- the impact on the Council's budget and need for accurate projections for the first 2 years in respect of the Carbon Trading Scheme
- funding of the fitting of PV panels in schools
- the Council's accommodation strategy

Agreed:- That the contents of the submitted report be noted.

32. LA21 UPDATE

David Wilde, Local Action 21 Community Worker, spoke to the submitted report highlighting the following:-

- Continued work re: Green Check at established primary schools and commencement at Rawmarsh Community School, Milton Special School and Swinton Fitzwilliam.

Use of the Area Assembly Devolved Budget to enable Rawmarsh Community School to sign up to EMAS Green Check; Milton School had signed with money from the Sustainability Partnership; Swinton Fitzwilliam had funding from the Sustainability Partnership and from the Dearne Valley Green Heart Project.

- Leadership Academy:- presentation by Abbey School re: NI 185 – their work to reduce CO2 emissions.
- Meeting re: Education for Sustainable Development Partnership – co-ordinating sustainable schools activity in all directorates.
- Attendance at an Open Day re: possible re-opening of the Earth Centre as a centre for true sustainable development.
- Attendance at Brinsworth Comprehensive School's Eco Challenge event organised by the School Travel Planning officer.

Future work:-

- to progress the implementation of audits/action plans at EMAS/Green Check schools in preparation for possible external audit in September.
- Continue work with the Education Co-ordinator for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Schools to enlist further schools to Green Check and to improve communication and integration of sustainable work.
- Further awareness raising and foot printing activity with the Dearne

5 MEMBERS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP - 05/03/10

Valley Eco-vision Core Group.

- Potential Social Cohesion work in the context of LA21.
- Attendance at the Sustainable Schools regional conference and also Rotherham Environment Forum.
- Tree planting at Wath C of E school.

Those present commented on:-

- input from pupils in secondary schools and commitment of staff and Governors
- development of links between schools to share good practice
- involvement of the Youth Cabinet

Agreed:- That the contents of the submitted report and continuing progress be noted.

33. POLICY UPDATE

Emma Bridge, Policy Officer, reported on:-

- Recent national policy announcements including the publication of the Government's strategy for household energy management over the next decade.
- South Yorkshire Leadership Academy – a workshop was taking place on 24th March in Doncaster to look at NI 188 Adapting to Climate Change
- Local activity around National Indicator 188, included:-
 - a workshop in November 2009 for Council officers and partners to start to look at what adaptation activity is already being undertaken and what further action is needed.
 - an extreme weather media trawl undertaken for Rotherham by Sheffield Council (funded through RIEP). This information would be further built upon, possibly through interviews with Service Areas.
 - looking at including adaptation to climate change in the Council's Service Planning guidance.

The work was being lead by the Area & Environmental Planning Team Leader and the Best Value Officer, in Environment and Development Services.

- Sustainability Partnership:- confirmation of funding for 11 voluntary

community projects. Ideas for allocation of the remaining funding were invited. Examples of funded projects included:- Green Check; Living Churchyards; Urban parks; Aquaponics; Swinton Lock Activity Centre.

The view was expressed that this funding and what the funding was helping to provide should be publicised in Rotherham News.

34. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Group noted the suggestion made by the Partnership Implementation Officer that, in view of the wide distribution of Council agendas, all future agendas should include a reference to the Climate Change target of 10% and asking what people were doing about it.

35. DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING:-

Agreed: That the next meeting be held on Friday, 11th June, 2010 at 10.30 a.m. – Bailey House.

The Changing Policy Context for Climate Change

Emma Bridge, Principal Policy Officer
Chief Executive's Directorate

Energy Security and Green Economy Bill

- **Implementation of a “Green Deal” – to deliver energy efficiency to homes and businesses**
 - Potential incentives to energy suppliers and households by enabling a ‘pay as you save’ approach
- Secure low carbon energy supplies and production
- Fair competition in the energy markets

Energy Security and Green Economy Bill (2)

- May also contain measures to:
 - Regulate the carbon emissions from coal-fired power stations
 - Deliver security of supply and ensure fair competition
 - Guide the development of a smart grid
 - Require energy companies to provide more information on energy bills
 - Ensure that North Sea infrastructure is available to all companies
 - Create a Green Investment Bank
- Concern over fuel poverty definition change

Coalition Programme for Energy and Climate Change

- Push for the EU to demonstrate leadership in tackling international climate change
- Seek to increase the target for energy from renewable sources
- Full system of feed-in tariffs in electricity and maintenance of banded ROCs
- Promote a huge increase in energy from waste through anaerobic digestion
- Retain EPCs while scrapping HIPs

Coalition Programme (2)

- Introduce measures to encourage marine energy
- Cancel the third runway at Heathrow
- Refuse permission for additional runways at Gatwick and Stansted
- Replace Air Passenger Duty with a per-flight duty
- Measures to improve energy efficiency in businesses and public sector buildings
- Reduce central government carbon emissions by 10% within 12 months

Coalition Programme (3)

- Annual Energy Statement to Parliament
- Deliver an offshore electricity grid
- Encourage community-owned renewable energy schemes
- Create green financial products
- Explore the creation of new international sources of funding
- Bring forward the National Planning Statement for ratification by Parliament
- Incentivising household recycling through rewards rather than penalties

South Yorkshire Climate Change Network

Partnership Projects

Oliver Hutchinson
Project Manager



South Yorkshire Climate Change Network

Engaging the Third Sector



Engaging the Third Sector



Extension of Every Action Counts

Maintain awareness of climate change
within the sector

Reduce emissions from the Third Sector



Engaging the Third Sector Why?



Huge reach into the community

Contributes to NI's 188 and 186

Development of community networks

Vulnerable communities hardest hit



Engaging the Third Sector How?



Simplified & accessible series of guides

Engaging all audiences

Supported by results



Engagement principles



Advice is more widely accepted...

- With evidence of its success
- When it isn't delivered by preaching
- When it avoids facts and figures that mean nothing to the individual
- When assessments of its impact are honest
- When it benefits the target audience/individual



4 Guides



Energy Management

Transport

Procurement

Waste & Recycling

Second Chance Waste

**“How Bad For The Environment
Can Throwing Away One Plastic
Bottle Be?” 17,000 South Yorkshire
Third Sector Workers Wonder**



3 Trials



Third Sector organisations use the advice for 1 month and record their progress

- Energy Management
- Waste and Recycling
- Transport



South Yorkshire Climate Change Network

Climate Change Leadership Program



South Yorkshire Climate Change Leadership Programme

3 workshops across South Yorkshire

NI's 185, 186 and 188

Participation from LA's and LSP's

Wide variety of speakers – local and national



South Yorkshire Climate Change Leadership Programme

Raising awareness and understanding of climate change amongst
Councillors and senior officers

Explore the potential for further collaboration between LSP's and
LA's in South Yorkshire in response to climate change

Identify the key opportunities and challenges associated with climate
change

Promote confident and **knowledgeable action** and gain greater
commitment to improving performance



South Yorkshire Climate Change Leadership Programme

Final workshop

46 delegates



Event 3: NI 186

Reducing per capita CO2 emissions

Promoting Sustainable Travel – *David Hall*

Transition Town Totnes – *Jacqi Hodgson*

Engaging Large Organisations – *Futerra Sustainability Communications*

Energy in Communities – *Dr. Stephen Connolly*



South Yorkshire Climate Change Leadership Programme

Outcomes

- Action plan ideas from across the regions authorities and LSPs
- Offer for joint venture research program with the University of Sheffield



+



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

=

Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP)?



South Yorkshire Climate Change Leadership Programme

Short Term

Education Officers, Engage Planners, Free Public Transport day

Medium Term

Work closely with local businesses to grow green economies

Long Term

Ring Fence funding for renewables, Engage LSPs in decision making,
Invest in non car transport infrastructure



South Yorkshire Climate Change Network

Website

- Leadership Program
- Eco Schools Program
- Engaging the Third Sector
- South Yorkshire LCLIP



Thank you



Members Sustainable Development Advisory Group



Local Action 21 Progress Report

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

Specific Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) projects continue, together with more informal awareness raising sessions. Complimenting this there is ongoing support for projects contributing to sustainable development in Rotherham, particularly in relation to climate change, biodiversity and with a likely food focus in future.

2. Summary of Highlights March to May 2010:

- Rotherham Environment Forum meeting on energy efficiency and housing led regeneration funding (the 'Single Conversation')
- After a proposal presented to the Sustainability Partnership by VAR and CYPS, LA21 is giving support to a developing food focused project using 'Incredible, Edible Todmorden' as inspiration
- Continued work on Green Check at Rawmarsh Ashwood Juniors, Rawmarsh Rosehill, Rawmarsh Community School, Abbey, Aston CofE, Aston Lodge, Thorpe Hesley and Swallownest, with interest from Wingfield.
- Within the Rotherham Dearne Valley Eco-Vision area, Swinton Fitzwilliam, Wath CofE, Milton and St Pius are also undertaking Green Check
- Continued chairing of the Rotherham ESD (Delivery) Partnership and attendance at the newly formed Sustainable Schools Strategic Group
- Discussion on sustainable development awareness raising amongst country park ranger staff

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

Continued focus specifically on climate change, biodiversity and more recently food, in line with Sustainability Partnership/LSP priorities

Continued implementation of sustainable development as a cross-cutting theme in the Sustainable Community Strategy, e.g. through attendance at the Rotherham Sustainability Partnership, Sustainable Development Officers Group and as co-ordinator of the ESD Partnership (RESDP) and Rotherham Environment Forum (REF)

4. Next Steps or action required

- Continued support for new food project
- Continued support for ESD Dearne Valley Eco-Vision, e.g. footprinting session at awareness-raising event
- Rotherham Environment Forum meeting at Herringthorpe Valley Park on 22nd June
- Progress implementation of audits/action plans at EMAS/Green Check schools and enlist further new schools to Green Check, dependant on funding
- Explore potential for Milton, St Pius, Swinton Fitzwilliam, Aston CofE etc to be included in councils's EMAS accreditation
- Attendance at South Yorkshire Climate Change workshop with communities focus

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Date report produced: 1.6.10

Sustainable Development Advisory Group

Rotherham
Metropolitan
Borough Council



Environmental Management System

1. Overview of the issue

Environmental Management is an ongoing activity within RMBC with a current priority of legal compliance and CO₂ reductions.

2. Summary of key events in the period – up to 11 June 2010:

Green Electricity

RMBC will no longer purchase green electricity from 1 November 2010. We will purchase 'Good Quality Combined Heat and Power'. Green electricity is classed as brown in the CRC and NI 185.

Display Energy Certificates

	RMBC		PFI	
	03/10	11/06	03/10	11/06
Lodged	10	82	2	27
To be lodged	70	7	0	0
Surveyed	25	28	11	0
Awaiting Survey	20	1	5	0
Total	125	130	18	27

Note: Differences in 'Total' is due to changes in DEC criteria and additional DEC's required for sites e.g. schools could be classed as one site under the transitional arrangements, this has now ended and often multiple DEC's are required on one site.

Carbon Reduction Commitment – Energy Efficiency Scheme

RMBC are in the process of registering for the CRC and developing evidence packs, improving monitoring, analysing early action gains, developing a trading strategy etc.

Sustainable Procurement and Commissioning Code of Practice

Initial draft developed and presented to the working group so that procurement / commissioning specialists can develop the document. Collated version will be presented to the working group 8 July 2010 and the draft CoP will be presented to Procurement Panel on 26 July 2010.

Feed in Tariffs / School PV

Project with Ashadergreen stopped due to funding issues. Now sourcing alternative organisation.

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

Legal compliance with EPBD and achieving the 2% reduction target for NI 185.

4. Next Steps or action required.

Taking forward all current projects reported on above.

Contact details: David Rhodes tel. 2166 e-mail: david.rhodes@rotherham.gov.uk

Date of report production: 11 June 2010

MEMBERS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP

FUTURE MEETING DATES

FRIDAYS AT 10.30 A.M.

30TH JULY, 2010

3RD SEPTEMBER, 2010

29TH OCTOBER, 2010

7TH JANUARY, 2011

4TH MARCH, 2011

3RD JUNE, 2011