

Reading Climate Change Partnership Board Meeting
Friday 4th March 2011
Civic Offices, Reading

Attendees:

Sally Coble - Environment Agency (Chair)
Summreen Sheikh - RBC (minutes)
Maria Noguer - University of Reading
Ben Burfoot - Reading Borough Council
Paul Harper - Greater Reading Environmental Network
Kim Wilkins- NHS Berkshire West - Primary Care Trust
Tracey Rawling Church - Kyocera Mita
Joanna Laynesmith - Reading Christian Ecology Link

Apologies:

Councillor Ricky Duveen

1/2	Minutes from last meeting / Matters arising
	<p>1. The Public Sector energy group is set to meet in April. RBC has had responses from four agencies so far.</p> <p>3. DEFRA information has been obtained for the segmentation criteria to help the behaviour change groups works.</p> <p>Kyocera is a partner on LOCUS, to contribute to the match funding. Tracey is finding it hard to get hold of Jane Wallis.</p> <p>RGBN - Tracey is not sure if they can get this off the ground as more content is needed. Kyocera are able to moderate it but they can't contribute content. The aim is to get information to and from green business teams in SME's.</p> <p>Is it possible to get a group of local business to network? Tracey said that they might not get big organisations (Oracle, Microsoft) and the small ones won't have resource to input. Connect Reading did an event on sustainable / green issues. Could target people who attended this event.</p> <p>The LOCUS team could start this group. The private and public sector are becoming more similar in reporting of environmental impacts they have.</p> <p>Ben will speak to Jane Wallis about where this can fit in with Locus.</p> <p>5. Climate Berkshire are focusing on renewable energy at a borough-wide level and have a report from TVE to summarise their options.</p> <p>They are interested in behaviour change, and were interested in the Green Doctor scheme but have not been successful in funding it. They want to understand what is being communicated on Climate Change and are calling in Futerra to deliver training on this issue.</p> <p>BIEP want to see some promotion of the work they have contributed to Climate Berkshire. BIEP, and therefore Climate Berkshire, is linked to SEEDA / Local Enterprise Partnerships of</p>

	<p>which there are 30 in the country. These are regionally based businesses. The Thames Valley is leading the partnership in determining spend for the region.</p> <p>Reading also has a ‘Business Improvement District’ (BID) which is run by UKCIC. A BID involves businesses contributing a proportion of their income / profit to improve the town centre environment, both physically and through schemes like collecting food waste. Guy Douglas is in charge of the BID in Reading.</p> <p>It was suggested that RCCP connect its program to Climate South East. Adaptation is a strand local authorities don’t have to continue with, at the current time, but businesses should be doing if they are in a flood risk area. Householders will be covered under the adaptation plans of the health service.</p>
3	Action Plan
	<p>The Action Plan for RCCP should include actions where it is most influential. Responding to consultations is one of these area’s.</p> <p>Kim said that the PCT also do this and link into other agencies agenda’s: for example with fuel poverty, PCTs promote this through the flu jab promotions.</p> <p>Ben said that the RBC Sustainability Team is under resourced on fuel poverty but pointed out that the LSP reward grant capital may provide an opportunity for a fuel poverty project.</p> <p>Another strand of action is to act as a catalyst for certain work, FIT’s for example. This group can identify barriers and look for funding to take programs forward and also support work already happening.</p> <p>Therefore, three major themes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Influencing local strategy, plans and consultations-Climate Change Strategy, minutes from SCS and consultations. 2) Act as a catalyst for programs. Also feed into Climate Berkshire regularly. 3) What’s missing - overview of what is out there and being covered and what is being missed. <p>Paul offered to update the action plan.</p>
4	Behaviour change - update from working group
	<p>Paul circulated a paper called ‘Translating behaviour theory into practical effective action to mitigate Global Warming’ and asked if the meeting was happy for the behaviour change group to apply for funding to do the research.</p> <p>Ben said that he had recently been to meetings at DECC regarding Green Deal and there is a possibility of some income into Reading: they are looking at behavioural economics and will be interested in Readings work and may fund something we implement.</p> <p>Reading is coming into the Green Deal early and there are some pilots already but they are not focusing on engagement with business.</p>

	<p>Ben will send a letter to chase people.</p> <p>The board agreed that this paper needed to have more references to the Green Deal and the phrase ‘global warming’ replaced by climate change and be more effective in its use of resources. Maria and Paul to make these changes and finalise the paper.</p> <p>NB British Gas have a ‘streets ahead’ program. Ben also mentioned that RBC have access to a profiling tool called Mosaic, into which you can ask questions on environmental issues and can map the answers to geographical areas in Reading. This is to be added to the action plan?</p>
5	Feed in Tariffs - community initiatives
	<p>Following the paper provided by Paul outlining community renewables initiative, Ben presented a new project using the LSP’s capital reward grant, which could start the process.</p> <p>Ben explained that the Performance Reward Grant offered a £750k fund that could be used to start the initiative. The initiative would be designed to apply solar to community buildings, houses and SME buildings to provide wide benefits and the revenue generated would be used primarily to tackle fuel poverty. Kim Wilkins will add a paragraph on fuel poverty.</p> <p>Ben will link to Steve Belam and Richard Byard to develop the SME element. He will also set up meeting with housing related people on this (Sarah).</p> <p>The project depends on LSP board taking these forward. The next LSP board meeting is 25th March, Sally will attend. Take it to the next management group meeting.</p> <p>Ben explained that his paper proposes to allocate £750,000 of the LAA reward grant to apply solar panels to three types of buildings-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Housing - fuel poverty (Kim Wilkins will add another paragraph to this) 2) RBC community buildings 3) Business sector <p>The voluntary sector has another meeting prior to the LSP- Paul will attend this meeting to influence it in favour of the paper.</p> <p>Paul and Ben need to produce papers to take to LSP - others need to see them before they go.</p>
6	Any other business
	<p>Paul said that he has come across a local recycled furniture company and would be good to have them on board - can we expand SME involvement in group?</p> <p>Tracey told us about ‘carbon voyage’ who combine out and return journeys of taxi’s and other transport.</p> <p>At the last Green City and Open Spaces (public) Forum, Ben said that the RCCP was seen as an important engagement body following the discontinuation of the forum. An annual report back event needs to happen. To be added to the action plan for September time.</p>
7	Date of next meetings

Proposed dates and times accepted:

Tues 24th May, 9 to 11am.

Wed 7th September

Wed 7th December