

Reading Climate Change Partnership Board Meeting
Thursday 9th June 2010
Reading University

Attendees:

Sally Coble - Environment Agency (Chair)
 Summreen Sheikh - RBC (minutes)
 Paul Harper - Greater Reading Environmental Network
 Maria Nogueer - University of Reading
 Sallie Bacon - NHS Berkshire West - Primary Care Trust
 Ben Burfoot - Reading Borough Council
 Jonathan Riggall - Peter Brett Associates
 Tracey Rawling Church - Kyocera Mita

Apologies: Richard Lownsborough - Reading Christian Ecology Link; Cllr Warren Swaine - RBC

1	Minutes from previous meeting and matters arising
	<p>In order to press on to complete the LSP Vision, Sally asked the meeting to bring up any matters arising or clarifications from the minutes of the last meeting by email after the meeting.</p>
2	LSP Vision
	<p>The majority of the meeting was taken up by the discussion to complete the feed in to the Vision for the Reading 2030 Visioning process.</p> <p>This is due to be complete in time for the workshop on the 6th July and will be taken forward as part of the wider LSP consultation process.</p> <p>The opportunities and challenges of the priorities listed is the next step.</p> <p>Sally and Ben are attending the Reading 2020 workshop on the 6th of July when they will feed in the work to date and develop the vision moving forward.</p> <p>The partnership agreed that the vision, that the input from the climate change partnership should be ‘challenging, robust and ambitious’.</p> <p>Action Ben to put together a ‘pie chart’ based display for the workshop on 6th July.</p>
3	LoCUS Project - Jane Wallis
	<p>Jane is the Project manager for LoCUS which stands for Low Carbon Understanding for SME’s. Jane has a history in advising businesses in sustainability.</p> <p>LoCUS is using European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) match funding. Match funding means that the funder will contribute 50% of the costs of the project and the activity partners will contribute 50%.</p> <p>LoCUS is a 3 year programme ending in December 2012. There are 19 partners involved in the LoCUS project from across the South East of England. Reading is the lead partner and is working with Oxford County Council, Medway (North Kent), Berkshire and Basingstoke. The aim</p>

of this project is to bring landlords and business tenants together to overcome the difficulties of developing carbon reduction approaches.

SMEs who use of buildings often wish to implement carbon reduction approaches but are unable to make changes to the structure of the building as these are owned by a landlord. Landlords, conversely own buildings but are not responsible for the use of energy within them. Often tenants are required to return the building to the condition it was in when the lease started. Despite this barrier to businesses implementing energy efficiency measures, landlords have a requirement to do this and SMEs want to do it.

The delivery target for LoCUS is 1000 businesses, at the lowest level of assistance. They will not be reinventing the support that the Carbon Trust offers but will be linking to their programmes. This will include telephone support, visits to site and on line facilities and support. Landlords will be encouraged to see the value of their building in a different light, and they want to develop some ESCOs (Energy Service Companies) and make money available to retro-fit / renovate. They will create a website for a more integrated delivery, carbon management tools will be on this. LoCUS will produce environmental reviews for SME's and a resource efficiency action plan.

The project seeks to get 600 businesses engaged at a more intensive level across the project area all three authorities involved, although they want to get more in Reading as it is the lead authority. It is believed there are around 1800 SMEs in Reading who would be suitable.

LoCUS will be proactive in recruiting business interest. The Slough Trading estate and Winnersh Triangle have been engaged so far. The project seeks to get a few pioneer companies to look at easy savings first, to set an example to others to follow suit. Through this project, environmental reviews will be done for businesses and the potential for renewables explored.

The team will work to develop place based clusters of SMEs and landlords. The model will then look to develop a scaleable approach that could be rolled more widely. This will inspire others to act. The project will offer a free service and it is hoped that a large number of businesses in the Borough will act on it and a number of clusters will be developed.

A 'carbon army' is needed to approach businesses and make sure as many as possible know about it. Already there is some engagement in most businesses but implementation is needed to take interest forward. The project will aim to encourage more businesses by selling the business case to them, helping with legislation such as CRC, reducing energy costs and carbon and developing incomes from the feed in tariff.

The big landlords in Reading include PruPIM, RBC and the University. The majority of CO₂ emissions in Reading are from CO₂ from electricity from businesses and SMEs are a significant part of this.

LoCUS are using Futerra's research to inform their approach especially looking into the psychology of marketing and what makes businesses tick. Paul suggested that RCCP invite Jane back to talk about effective marketing after this research has been completed.

4	Remaining Agenda items
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	The research into behaviour change agenda item will be brought forward and Maria will lead on it.
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	The LSP website is being developed and is a good place to store such documents on, like the Futerra research papers.
5	DONM
	Wednesday 15 th September, 9am to 11am, Kyocera offices.