

## Reading Climate Change Partnership Board Meeting



Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2012  
University of Reading

<b>Attendees:</b>	
Sally Coble	Environment Agency (Chair)
Summreen Sheikh	RBC (minutes)
Ben Burfoot	Reading Borough Council
Tracey Rawling Church	Kyocera Document Solutions
Jill Marston	Reading Borough Council
Kim Wilkins	NHS Berkshire West - Primary Care Trust
Paul Gittings	Councillor, RBC
Tom Yearley	University of Reading
Chris Rhodes	Transition Town Reading (TTR)
<b>Apologies:</b>	
Paul Harper	GREN
Jenny Allen	Peter Brett Assoc.

<b>1</b>	<b>Minutes &amp; Matters Arising</b>
	No comments
<b>2</b>	<b>Governance documents and guiding principals</b>
	<p>Sally went through the governance documents and guiding principals, and stressed that RCCP comes under RBC and LSP principals, as we are a subgroup of the LSP, we adopt their protocols. Board members are reminded that equality and fairness when representing the community of Reading are key principles. The partnership will make this more explicit in RCCP Guiding Principals when these are revised under the new strategy.</p> <p>The new CC Strategy focuses on representative roles. In light of reviewing the documents, there are 3 seats on the Board which are currently unfilled (12 in total.)</p> <p>Potential areas to fill these seats include businesses, young people (youth cabinet) and 'public health' (after merger with RBC in April).</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> all to look at guiding documents and suggest amendments to Summreen</p>

3	<p><b>Climate Change Strategy consultation launch event</b></p>
	<p>The Board chose a logo from some mock ups produced by RBC.</p> <p>The program for the 1<sup>st</sup> of November was agreed. Each theme lead is to be present to talk to attendees about their chapter. Chris agreed to present a summary of the draft strategy. A live artist, to draw the strategy summary as Chris delivered the summary, was requested. These pictures can then be reused in the draft and the final document.</p>
4	<p><b>Climate Change Strategy</b></p>
	<p>The LSP Board have had sight of the CCS and they suggested emphasising the opportunities from climate change especially in relation to businesses and developing the green economy, so the outlook of the strategy is not ‘doom and gloom’. Tracey is looking for opportunities in each chapter for businesses.</p> <p>The introduction to the strategy is in progress. The comments on the strategy from Thames Water were discussed. TTR, RBC and RGBN agreed to putting the link to the consultation on their websites but the EA are not able to due to transfer of their site to the central government site.</p> <p>The chair stated that whilst the editing of the chapter is not a popular process it is essential to make the strategy consistent and temper strong views on issues people are passionate about, for a wider audience. The Board thanked Jill for her work on the strategy.</p> <p>The strategy’s carbon emission reduction target needs to be realistic, and therefore a 34% target was agreed on. This target was against an up to date baseline however and for most this will be after 2008. Discussed the use of wording in the target - ‘significant reduction’ is not as specific and therefore 34% was chosen even though many organizations are likely to go beyond this. There was also a discussion about zero carbon. It has a specific meaning in the context of planning but the strategy uses the term more generally. The financial cost of zero carbon in the context of new build is difficult to calculate. The Zero Carbon Standards work carried out by Climate Berkshire could help with this. The financial cost of retrofitted and adapted infrastructure to enable zero carbon living less understood still.</p> <p>Sally talked about the positive effect of the Bicester Eco-Town where developers now willing want to reach a higher standard locally.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Integrate green skills back into the strategy and link to the LEP Berkshire wide Interclimate Network program next year.</p> <p>In regards to a process to edit the chapters, RBC are happy to adopt this. This means that it will be overseen by the public stakeholders group and not the council.</p> <p>At this stage, the consultation process is live and content is open to amendments. Theme leads input should be considered with other consultees responses.</p> <p>Some work will be done on the action plan but it will not be finalised until the consultation</p>

	<p>is closed. The action plans will sign post to other organisations action plans and will be reviewed every three years, with timescales being public and subject to change. For RBC 2013 / 2014 targets can be agreed but beyond commitment cannot be made due to budget allocations and other factors.</p> <p>The first action plans will be launched with the Strategy at the end of April.</p> <p>For the council to adopt the CCS, it needs to be launched, with a draft action plan, at a full council meeting - the 26<sup>th</sup> of March. PG believes that all Political Parties in Reading will support it and it will be passed by all of them. He offered the GCOSF meeting as a place to launch the strategy.</p> <p>Discussed the use of the words ‘mitigation’ and ‘adaptation’. The Board were happy with the word ‘resilience’ but stressed that it’s important to use language that implies action.</p> <p>RBC will use ‘snap survey’ to capture responses with 1 to 5 ratings.</p>
6	<p><b>Any other business</b></p>
	<p>Reading University’s Green Week is taking place between the 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> November for students and residents around the university. Attractions include the ‘skip cinema’ and ‘battle of the bins’ activity.</p> <p>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> is the community engagement evening were NAGS, businesses and other local groups / organisations have been invited. Councillors from Wokingham have confirmed attendance, and Tom would like to have a councilor from Reading too. Paul offered to invite Ward councilors to this.</p> <p>The Green Exhibition on Thursday includes sustainable suppliers and another lecture. Tom offered RCCP a stall.</p> <p>The suggestion to recruit a university student onto the Board was made - maybe one from a UoR green / horticulturalists / People &amp; Planet. A local resident would be ideal so continuity during holidays and after study is possible.</p>
7	<p><b>Date of Next of Meeting:</b></p> <p>23<sup>rd</sup> January 2013 - University of Reading - Room 1 L14 in Agricultural Building</p>