

Reading Climate Change Partnership Board Meeting
Wednesday 23rd January 2013
University of Reading



Attendees:	
Sally Coble	Environment Agency (Chair)
Summreen Sheikh	RBC (minutes)
Ben Burfoot	Reading Borough Council
Tracey Rawling Church	Kyocera Document Solutions
Paul Gittings	Councillor, Reading Borough Council
Jenny Allen	Peter Brett Assoc.
Tom Yearley	University of Reading
John Booth	GREN
Apologies:	
Kim Wilkins	Primary Care Trust
Chris Rhodes	Transition Town Reading

1	Minutes & Matters Arising
	No comments
2	Pioneer Places
	<p>RBC have won £280,000 from the Department of Energy and Climate Change to deliver an early Green Deal project which is intended to test the water for GD uptake. They will spend the money on employing 10 advisors to visit homes and carry out initial assessments that will lead to a Green Deal Assessment - 500 of which are free. They are writing to 28,000 properties who meet certain criteria, to give information on the scheme.</p> <p>In addition, possible target houses include Reading University students and landlords. Council stock is not on the list as measures should have been completed on these. HMOs (Houses in Multiple Occupation) are difficult to reach but will be contacted.</p> <p>In the GD scheme, there is an aspect that targets fuel poverty where people who take up the scheme are protected from energy price rises, which are only allowed to increase by 2% a year if a GD loan is taken up.</p> <p>It was recommended that a phone line be set up to deal with enquiries.</p> <p>Houses will be chosen by groups of people identified by the software 'Mosaic', which has profiles on local peoples social and property types. A marketing company will post out letters and manage the appointments that come through.</p> <p>RBC are employing someone to give presentations on Green Deal giving information only and not selling anything. Tracey suggested advertising through Reading Football Club and businesses. Jenny suggested linking it into Climate Week events.</p>

	<p>Sessions presenting to community groups were also being arranged along side a series of 'super home' visits where people get the opportunity to see the energy efficiency work a homeowner has done to their home first hand and hear about how beneficial it has been.</p> <p>The EA, PBA, Kyocera and the University are possible avenues of advertising for this scheme.</p>
3	Social Enterprise
	<p>A report has been completed which includes a detailed business case. It is based on a 25 year commitment and they are discussing a shorter term investment. Discuss at next meeting.</p>
4	Circular Economy
	<p>The transformation model highlighted in the Circular Economy is not considered in Climate Change Strategy. In summary, the model demonstrates the recycling of waste into raw materials and its return to the economy.</p> <p>ACTION: Include this concept in the strategy.</p> <p>Tracy is taking this forward with the Berkshire LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership). It will be appealing to businesses at a Berkshire wide level. Eila McCartha came up with this idea. (These goods made from renewables).</p> <p>TRC has circulated a chapter on this. It is to be put in as an introduction and referred back to in the Purchasing & Waste chapter.</p> <p>A mapping exercise between the chapters to pull out cross references is needed.</p> <p>ACTION: Consider how put actions against it: local actions in next 3 years ie providing a way to collect and distribute waste.</p>
5	Process of approval - from RCCP
	<p>Tom raised a query around the discontinuation of two projects in the past which had not received quick approval from the Board. The frequency of meetings made this more difficult. Sally clarified that she as chair makes decisions for the partnership. Sally is able to respond between meetings if needed.</p> <p>Board members can not approve spending of funding. The RCCP doesn't hold funds and is not constituted. Under the LSPs guidelines and approval the RCCP have £100K to spend which remains from the LAA Reward grant after funds were spent on solar panels.</p> <p>A relatively quick approval process to connect to the RCCP and use its brand is needed as meeting agenda's get very full.</p>
6	Climate Change Strategy

The consultation is open until 31st January as some key stakeholders need to be engaged further.

Target

Discussed having a target of 50% as its more ambitious but it may be off putting. In addition, the definition of 'Zero Carbon' keeps changing so it is unhelpful to use that term - 'Low Carbon Lifestyles' is considered more appropriate.

Decided on a 6-7% annual reductions which totals 34% in 7 years.

Things to consider

Have an approach where all activities are considered.

Absolute or relative reduction.

Want businesses to give us data using communities of practice.

How to monitor/report this?

Business/individuals involvement.

To note

RBC achieved 7.5% reduction when it took part in 10:10 - targets shouldn't be taken too seriously, reduction in general is good and should be sought.

Strategic Priorities and targets are different.

'Annual awards' can be used to get an annual response and can be used as a way of engaging people.

Structure

Proposals to combine chapters: Built Environment and Communications and Water and Natural. Adaptation to be dispersed and be included in all the chapters.

ACTION: Ben & Jill will look at this restructure.

Action plans

There will be a mid term / three yearly review of action plans - they are the baseline for new developments.

In general, Jill highlighted that more time is needed to complete the writing and editing of the strategy. Discussed having RBC sign up to the strategy at a special full council meeting in July. Possibly a public launch in June, or a combined launch with the council meeting.

7 AOB

Sub groups - these are to be set up as necessary to meet the aims of the climate change strategy action plan.

Remove mention of Behaviour Change Group from the strategy.