

## CORNWALL COUNCIL

# ENVIRONMENT KERNOW

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Environment Kernow held at Environment Agency Offices, Sir John Moore House, Bodmin on Friday 2 October 2009 commencing at 10.00 am.

Present: - Steve Crummay (Chairman)  
Ian Smith (Vice-Chairman)

Paul Bright, Manda Brookman, Stephen Cirell, Tim German, Bill Holiday, Ian Jones, Dave Lewis, Mark Marriot, Peter McGregor, Dave Owens, Judy Proctor, David Rodda, Jon Rolls, Ben Simpson, Wesley Smyth and Alison Ward.

Also in attendance: - Adrian Dawson.

Apologies for absence: - Rachel Bromley, Mike East, Tom Flanagan, Councillor Julian German, Lucy Harris, Alex Huke, Phil Mason and Councillor Carolyn Rule.

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4 SEPTEMBER 2009

(Agenda No. 2)

EK/17 The Minutes of the meeting held on the 4 September 2009 were agreed as a correct record, subject to the following: -

(i) add Mike East to the attendance list;

(ii) Matters Arising (ref. EK/181) – line 2: delete 'Easy to Treat' and substitute 'Hard to Treat'; and

(iii) Matters Arising (ref. EK/181) – last sentence be amended to read, "... Dave Lewis advised that the 'resilience forum' had been established."

### ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROJECT BOARD

EK/18 Several Members advised that a Project Board should be established to consider projects, especially within the LAA, prior to submission to Environment Kernow.

It was **RESOLVED** that (a) a Project Board be established to consider projects, especially within the LAA, before submission to Environment Kernow;

(b) the membership to comprise: Outcome Leads (i.e. Dave Owens, Dave Lewis, Manda Brookman and Ian Smith); a representative of the private sector (Mark Marriot); scrutiny by government agencies (Wesley Smythe

and Judy Proctor); the community sector (Ian Jones); and advisors (Alison Ward and Lucy Harris); and

(c) arrangements be made for the Project Board to meet before the next meeting of Environment Kernow.

### **CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENT AND GREEN CORNWALL TRANSFORMATION PROJECT**

(Agenda No. 3)

EK/19 Stephen Cirell (Programme Director, Creating a Green Cornwall), in his introduction, advised that he had been invited by Kevin Lavery (Chief Executive, Cornwall Council) to provide coordination and leadership to ensure that the "green agenda" was ingrained into all aspects of the work of the Council. He would be working in a cross cutting role which was not based in a particular Directorate and he did not have a managerial role as such. However, he did have direct access to, and contact with, the CLT and was prepared to ensure that key messages were forwarded to the key politicians.

To achieve the aims of closer, more integrated working, Stephen Cirell had produced a work plan and would establish a "green team" from across the Authority, comprising staff who had "green aspects" to their jobs. One of the main priorities would be to develop a Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) with which the Council must comply.

In respect of the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC), the themes were wide ranging and cross cutting, and included creating the low carbon economy, strategic infrastructure and partnership working. There was currently a considerable amount of preparatory work ongoing within most directorates of the Council.

Environment Kernow was advised of the consequences of non compliance with the regime, the first being a financial penalty in that the Council would be required to buy carbon allowances based on its predicted footprint and a payment would be made dependent on the performance of the scheme within a national league table. The amount that the Council would receive back from this payment would depend on the Council's rating within the league table. If the Council was at the bottom of the league table in the first year, it would lose 10%; however, if it was at the top, it would gain 10%. Over the following five years, this would increase by 10% each year to 50%. The scheme itself was cost neutral, which meant that monies from allowances bought would be redistributed to organisations based on their performance during the year. There were therefore, implications for the Council's performance and finances.

In answer to questions, the Programme Director, Green Cornwall, replied as follows: -

- i. The CRC was only part of the programme's focus in creating a green Cornwall and had been highlighted in the first instance due to its potential incentives and penalties. Transport was currently excluded from the CRC.
- ii. There was a great deal of work to be undertaken to meet the required 10% carbon reduction by 2010; however, officers were confident that this target could be achieved, particularly bearing in mind that there was a great deal of support within the Council and the community for environmental issues. Work would be undertaken with the Council's partners and the community; however, in the first instance it was important for the Council to address its own performance, to enable it to lead by example.
- iii. A great deal of work had already been undertaken and the programme was currently looking at areas of good practice and the way in which this could be more broadly applied. Decisions regarding priorities and resources would need to be made to ensure the Council's success.
- iv. Initially, the most effective way of producing a reduction was to find ways of using less energy, such as ensuring good insulation levels. The next step would be to consider energy generation from renewable sources.
- v. The Council had to determine its own carbon footprint in the first instance as it would be required to buy its carbon allowance from the CRC regime. The regime's current consultation document included various ways in which this could be calculated.
- vi. In conclusion, Stephen Cirell advised that he would report to each meeting of Environment Kernow, if required.

It was **RESOLVED** that Stephen Cirell be thanked for his report, which was noted.

#### **ENDORSEMENT OF LAA OUTCOMES - WASTE**

(Agenda No. 4)

EK/20 Dave Owens (Head of Waste Management), in presenting an update of the outcomes of the work being done regarding the minimisation of waste production and maximisation of the re-use of materials, stated that the actual results were on target with the indicators; in fact, the out-turn for year 1 was ahead of target for year 2. He suggested that waste production had been reduced, both as result of the successful campaign but also because of the economic recession.

He added that the achievement of the waste management stretch targets had generated £1.2m in LAA reward monies fund. Such monies were distributed through a bidding process and a business plan was currently being prepared by the Waste Section for future activities which would outline the way in which the waste minimisation outcomes achieved to date could be developed, e.g. commercial and tourism waste, support for the Clean Cornwall Campaign and other community sector activities. Such

work would cover questions raised regarding the effects of the recession on consumption and the production of waste.

During the discussion, various points were raised, including the following: -

(i) Dave Owens reported that discussions were being held with Ian Smith (CEP) regarding the scheme for the provision of insulation for another 5000 dwellings which, subject to their participation in the scheme, would receive a free waste food digester; and

(ii) Dave Owens would also be reporting to the Cabinet: Waste Panel regarding the payment of waste credits to the community sector.

### **EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND (ESF) - FRAMEWORK REFRESH**

(Agenda No. 5)

EK/21 Adrian Dawson (EkosGen) reported that it was necessary to "refresh" the ESF Frameworks for the South West and Convergence Areas so that the ESF could address any changes to regional employment, the skills required as result of the economic downturn and to support the economic recovery, especially new jobs and, in particular, 'green jobs'.

As part of the refresh exercise, a range of strategic stakeholder consultations had been held to gain a detailed and wide ranging insight of the progress and barriers to date, together with views on the regional priorities for the ESF over the remainder of the Programme. The report set out the key questions which should be addressed.

During the discussion, various points were raised, including the following: -

(i) qualifications required in respect of anaerobic digestion systems;

(ii) the need for short training courses to focus on existing operators;

(iii) the need for there to be appropriate coordination of training between levels and across sectors;

(iv) consideration of the provision of appropriate qualifications for jobs rather than NVOs; and

(v) skills development should be linked to carbon reduction, e.g. loft insulation.

Adrian Dawson asked that any further comments should be forwarded to him.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE - DRAFT**

(Agenda No. 6)

EK/22 Steve Crummay (The Living Environment Manager) presented the amended draft terms of reference for Environment Kernow which incorporated responses received. Subject to consideration of any further comments received at this meeting, the amended draft would then be forwarded to Legal Services for clearance in line with the other Thematic Partnerships. The document would be submitted to the next meeting for final approval.

It was **RESOLVED** that (a) the report be noted; and

(b) the membership of Environment Kernow be amended by the addition of (i) a representative of the Cornwall Association of Local Councils; (ii) South West Water's Operations Manager; and (iii) the Chairman of the Council's Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee as an observer.

## **WORK PLAN**

(Agenda No. 7)

EK/23 Steve Crummay (The Living Environment Manager) presented the updated work plan for Environment Kernow which would need to be reviewed and amended as necessary to reflect key priorities, particularly in relation to the potential effect of a future change of government. The document should be clearly written, easily understood and link with other more detailed documents.

The document would be considered at the next meeting of Environment Kernow, and members were invited to send their comments to Dave Lewis.

It was **RESOLVED** that (a) that the draft work plan be considered at the next meeting of Environment Kernow; and

(b) the organisation of a conference/ large event be considered at the next meeting of Environment Kernow.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

(Agenda No. 8)

EK/24 Ben Simpson (Carbon Policy Officer – Low Carbon Cornwall) submitted an update report on progress being made in respect of the CSP Cornwall Climate Change Action Plan (3CAP), a summary of the main points being as follows: -

**(a) Confirmation of the Public Sector Low Carbon leadership Group's 5 Key Priorities:**

1. a 'whole house' Cornwall energy efficiency installation programme in domestic housing (aligned with 3CAP Headline Output – No Homes Left Behind);
2. low carbon sector estates management and local energy ownership (aligned with 3CAP ESCO Project);
3. a renewable energy generation programme based on a strategic overview of appropriate technologies and agreed spatial planning (aligned with 3CAP Strategic Approach to Sustainable Energy Planning);
4. increased development and deployment of low carbon skills and research in Cornwall (aligned with 3CAP Headline Outputs including Carbon Literacy, Skills 4 Low Carbon and Research Partnership);
5. develop and demonstrate an integrated ultra low-carbon and public transport infrastructure network (exact wording to be confirmed, although it will be aligned with 3CAP Sustainable Transport Programme).

b) **Basecamp** (project participant password access web resource)

The 3CAP Basecamp website, which was now operational, would give project participants (and any members of Environment Kernow who had not been involved but wished to have access to the materials). Lisa Goodall managed this site and had issued log-ins and passwords for all who had been involved to-date; however, any other EK members who wished to have access please contact Lisa Goodall (tel. 01209 617009 or email [lisa.goodall@cornwalldevelopmentcompany.co.uk](mailto:lisa.goodall@cornwalldevelopmentcompany.co.uk)).

c) **3CAP Risk Scope**

Socio-economic

As reported at the September meeting, the 'interviewee' feedback was being processed and integrated into a new draft of the document. Unfortunately, as a result of the effect of other work pressures on Low Carbon Cornwall, there had been a delay in the processing work; however, it was expected to engage in the second (stakeholder) round of consultation towards the end of October, at which point the draft risk scope would be opened up for feedback from the full membership of EK.

Physical

Peter McGregor had now submitted a draft version of the 'Species Range' section of the 'Physical Risk Scope' and was awaiting peer review of this paper. Also received was the awaited UKCIP09 update from Stephan Harrison (UoE/ Climate Change Risk Management) which would be packaged together with the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the Physical Risk Scope and Peter McGregor's 'Parasites and Pathogens' section prior to finalising the complete 'Cornwall Climate Change Risk Scope' document following the completion of the Socio-economic consultation.

All drafts were available via the Basecamp, and it was intended to release the combined 'Cornwall Climate Change Risk Scope' document during winter 2009/ or early 2010 at the latest.

**d) Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership (CSEP) Restructuring**

As part of the 3CAP process and the transition of the managing partner of the CSEP (from CEP to CDC), the partnership had been better aligned with the CSP/ CSP Thematics, reinforced, further democratised and rationalised as part of its transition from a largely sector based consultative partnership into a more tightly focused Priority Delivery Partnership (focused on facilitating co-delivery of the 3CAP action sets). A finalised paper had now been produced and approved by Tom Flanagan prior to being sent to the Cornwall Council Corporate Leadership Team (CLT), which would include a much closer integration with the work of Environment Kernow. Further details were available from Ben Simpson [ben.simpson@cornwalldevelopmentcompany.co.uk](mailto:ben.simpson@cornwalldevelopmentcompany.co.uk)).

Ben Simpson was thanked for the work that he had undertaken in this respect.

**MEETING DATES 2010**

(Agenda No. 9)

EK/25 It was **RESOLVED** that (a) the following dates be agreed for 2010, namely: 8 January, 12 February, 5 March, 2 April, 7 May, 4 June, 2 July, 3 September, 1 October, 5 November; 3 December 2010 – commencing at 10am in each case; and

(b) the date of next meeting be changed to 10am on 13 November 2009 (instead of 6 November)

The meeting ended at 12.55 pm.

[The agenda and reports relating to the items referred to above are attached to the signed copy of the Minutes].