



## **ENVIRONMENT KERNOW**

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Environment Kernow held on Friday 9 January at 10.30 am at CSEP Offices, Tolvaddon Energy Park, Tolvaddon, Redruth, Cornwall

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

Paul Bright, Manda Brookman, Colette Holden, Bill Holiday,  
Alex Huke, Ian Jones, Dave Lewis, Peter McGregor, Michelle Pearce,  
David Rodda, Sophie Hosking, Judy Proctor, Justin Olosunde and  
Tamsyn Butler

Apologies for absence: Mike East and Wesley Smyth

### **WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed Tim German and Ben Simpson, Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership and Sophie Hosking, Cornwall County Council to the meeting. He advised that Tim German would update the meeting with regard to the Low Carbon Unit (Agenda Item 3.) and Sophie Hosking would lead the discussion regarding the Partnership Review (Agenda Item 4.)

The Chairman advised the meeting that he and Dave Lewis would meet with Wesley Smith, Natural England, who had given his apologies for this meeting, to discuss the involvement of Natural England with Environment Kernow and the LAA. It was a duty for such bodies as Natural England to cooperate and contribute and it was hoped that greater connectivity would be achieved.

### **ACTION SHEET AND MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 DECEMBER 2008**

(Agenda No. 2)

EK/118 The Action Sheet and Minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2008 were agreed as a correct record, subject to Bill Holliday being recorded as having given his apologies.

### **CORNWALL CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN UPDATE AND THE LOW CARBON UNIT - TIM GERMAN/BEN SIMPSON**

(Agenda No. 3)

#### **EK/119 *Low Carbon Unit***

Tim German, Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership advised that a Low Carbon Unit was about to be set up. Its work would be relevant to that of Environment Kernow and its future coordination and delivery. In brief, it was heard that the County Council's bid to become a Unitary Authority had highlighted the need for a more cohesive approach to Carbon Management. Cornwall Energy Partnership (CEP) was identified to take this forward. In December 2008, the County Council's Executive had approved funding for the creation of the Low Carbon Unit,

to which, some existing CEP staff would be transferred. The transfer process was being undertaken at present and a building was yet to be identified. Some roles currently undertaken by CEP would continue within the Unit. However, delivery would be more focused on the delivery of the Climate Change Action Plan, encapsulating the right skills and knowledge to achieve this. A pictorial chart showing the expected structure of the Unit was tabled at the meeting. (A copy of the chart is held on file attached to the minutes). There were some concerns as it was felt that Low Carbon had not been made a significant enough priority at the present time. It was explained that a Meta Partnership would be formed by partner agencies and organisations formally agreeing to the ways in which they would contribute. The Core Team would include Tim German, Ben Simpson, Stuart Farmer and Lindsay Knuckey. Other posts had also been identified, with funding having been secured. Alongside the Unit's Core Team there would be opportunities for positions from partner agencies such as the Health Authority and University of Exeter's Environmental Sustainability Institute, funded by their respective agencies. Procurement would form a major focus of the Unit's work initially. The social aspect in lowering carbon also needed to be addressed, which was not the case at present, but was linked to the Action Plan.

During discussion the following points were raised:

1. The potential for a Member of staff from the new authority to join the Unit's Core Team was raised. The Chairman agreed to discuss the matter further with Tim German and raise the possibility with the Cornwall Council's Head of Service. Linkages with organisations and agencies were important to ensure that the Unit did not become siloed. Functional capacity would need to be built into the service design of the new authority.
2. The responsibility for Low Carbon Economy targets within the new authority was that of the Corporate Director for Environment Planning & Economy and the Head of Service for the Environment. This was included within the corporate ambitions of the Council.
3. A discussion was had regarding economic development being a driver for negative impacts on the environment. Previous work had been undertaken in the past with regard to the link between environmental limits and economic growth.
4. An event had been held by Cornwall County Council 'One Cornwall One Planet' to raise awareness. Greater recognition of strategic priorities was beginning to be achieved with the Climate Change Strategy setting priorities for the whole of Cornwall within the LAA. This aspect needed to be addressed within the review of the thematic partnerships and how they fed into the LAA Board. This had to take place to ensure that CAA performance targets were achieved.
5. Fuel Poverty and Microgeneration were areas which had to be addressed.
6. The LAA target Econ 2 was in place to address the Energy Bill, currently awaiting decision.

A detailed presentation regarding the Unit would be given at the next meeting, where it could be decided how the Unit would ensure direct links to Environment Kernow.

### ***Cornwall Climate Change Action Plan (3CAP)***

Ben Simpson, Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership, advised that in relation to defining and measuring progress towards the 'Low-Carbon Economy'; the Low-Carbon Unit would be looking into a range of metrics. To include a 'Stern

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Measure' (i.e. measuring economic activity in the low-carbon sector), a carbon productivity indicator against absolute emissions reductions of GHG's (i.e. progress against 3CAP target of 30% to 35% GHG reduction by 2020 – against a 1990 baseline year).

Ben Simpson thanked those involved in the development of the Action Plan, with special thanks offered to Dave Lewis and David Rodda. It was a CSP Priority to address climate change and develop ways to adapt to and mitigate the effects. Workload had been split with CSEP undertaking mitigation work, and Dave Lewis coordinating on behalf of Environment Kernow in-order to facilitate the development of the adaptation side of the plan.

It was pointed out that at present it was expected that the 2010 target of 10% Renewable Energy would not be met, and that a step-change in resourcing would be required if both current and future targets are to be met. Thus the new structure and plan would need to help accelerate the progression of the 2020 target. The Action Plan would form a Countywide route-map outlining the pathway towards GHG reductions inline with the Government's 2050 Climate Change Act target of 80%. It would also include targets of 20% for the County's energy demand to be supplied by Cornish renewable energy generation, and a 20% increase in energy efficiency was included. A concern was expressed that if the targets were not achieved Cornwall's reputation as a European Leader would be lost.

Further commitments included:

- Public sector to show leadership through reducing its emissions and through its supply chain.
- Production of work towards a Cornish Business Declaration on Climate Change modelled on the 'City of London Climate Change Pledge' would be undertaken.
- The public and private sectors had to work in partnership regarding Carbon disclosure and the installation of Carbon Productivity as a parallel metric to GDP and GVA.
- Mainstreaming of Carbon Literacy and Management principles.

With regard to the project's governance structure, there were two content guidance groups (CCGs). These groups, peer reviewing content, one covering mitigation and the other adaptation. In relation to the 'risk scope' the University of Exeter and Climate Change Risk Management (CCRM) would be commissioned to manage physical and socio-economic risks. Peter McGregor (Cornwall College) would be undertaking work in relation to the evidence scope, whilst and a policy framework would be put in place where a database and reports could be accessed. In relation to visioning exercises, these had begun with a public consultative exercise at Royal Cornwall Show, and continued with a stakeholder consultation. The Food, Farming, Biodiversity & Rural Land-use papers and Regional Climate Impacts Overview papers had been accepted Whilst 4 'Task & Finish' papers had been returned for further work. Anybody wishing to be involved in forming the Action was asked to contact Ben Simpson with comments and suggestions.

The following points were raised during discussion:

1. Environment Kernow needed to ensure that its targets and ambitions were embedded within other programmes and work areas, enabling cohesion through all sectors. The Chairman added that, being closest to areas of

work regarding biodiversity, food and farming he felt confident that the plan in relation to this was achievable and could be evidenced.

2. Ben Simpson advised that the review was similar to that of a peer review. There was a concern that there would be too little capacity for understanding and in funding creating a knock on effect on delivery as there was too little resource. This was the first attempt to produce a county wide approach and resources were already stretched. Long term issues had to be addressed for the Action Plan to work.
3. The Action Plan had to be supported politically within the new authority.
4. In response to a query regarding private sector provider involvement, the meeting heard that work had been undertaken in partnership with the Economic Forum and currently 20 businesses had indicated their intention to attend the next workshop. Sector partners were providing assistance within their remit. Some national companies had already hit some targets and begun discussions with supply chains requesting life cycle analyses. It was hoped that this work would continue in parallel with a mechanism for support being set up.

A discussion was had with regard to government development targets and their impact on targets within the Action Plan. Concerns were expressed that due to the likely hood of deteriorating climate conditions in other areas, the south west would become more heavily populated, requiring additional housing and impacting on possible achievements.

#### **PARTNERSHIP REVIEW: CORNWALL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AND THEMATIC PARTNERSHIPS - STEVE CRUMMAY/SOPHIE HOSKING**

(Agenda No. 4)

EK/120 Sophie Hosking, One Cornwall, advised that work was being undertaken to put in place a framework and use relationships in a better way to achieve the targets of the LAA. Until now activity had been dispersed and there had been concern about the ability of the Cornwall Strategic Partnership (CSP) to deliver. During the last year an exercise had taken place with the public and voluntary sectors to produce a restructuring paper. The new constitution of the CSP was approved by the County Council's Executive, being the accountable body, in December 2008. All members of thematic partnerships are now members of the CSP. The Executive Board of the CSP will carry out the functions of the previous LAA Board. Specific task and finish groups would be set up, with membership drawn from the thematic partnerships. The profile and focus of the Thematic Partnerships would be raised and work would increase. How to manage this in future would need careful consideration. The principal role of thematic partnerships (extracted from the CSP constitution), was read to the meeting:

- Defining their terms of reference, their Member Organisations and the rationale for selecting the Member Organisations.
- Preparing and implementing thematic strategies under the umbrella of the SCS.
- Commissioning delivery of action linked to the thematic strategies, including appropriate LAA objectives.
- Performance managing thematic strategies, in particular specific LAA objectives within those strategies.
- Engaging with and promoting the interests of their sector.
- Developing mechanisms to work with local communities, community networks and other thematic partnerships.
- Engaging with communities of interest (e.g. Diversity network, Faith Forum).
- Ensuring that sustainability is at the heart of all their work.

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- Ensuring that partner organisations are able to raise issues at the Cornwall Strategic Partnership and that views of partners are properly represented by the thematic partnership.

The government has been specific that the Local Authority is the lead agency responsible for the LAA targets and in providing a leadership role. The budget was currently not set, but an ambitious bid had been submitted. It was hoped that this would enable the formation of a Partnership Support Team. It was envisaged that four policy officers would be appointed to support the 8 Thematic Partnerships. Therefore, each policy officer would take on the work of two of the thematic partnerships. There was the possibility to identify partnerships with the closest links to be dealt with by a specific officer. Committee Services would also continue to provide support regarding meeting management. It was expected that partnerships would be requested to undertake a branding exercise, to bring consistency and create a joined up identity.

The following matters were raised during discussion:

1. Currently Environment Kernow had strong links with the Economic Forum and an opportunity to strengthen links with Housing and Communities was highlighted.
2. The Partnership Review Team Policy Officers would provide better cohesion between the partnerships.
3. There were some areas where Environment Kernow would need to increase its activity. However it was felt that things were already moving forward in the right direction.
4. Cohesion between the Review Team and the LCU should also be considered and a meeting had been arranged between Tim German and Sophie Hosking to discuss this.
5. It was expected that the process would enable the thematic partnerships to engage more closely. All public sector agencies now have a duty to cooperate.
6. It was queried whether there would be a funding capacity for knowledge and expertise building as intellectual capacity was essential. It was heard that the extent of this would depend on the final budget. It would also be necessary for partners to contribute where possible. It was commented that partners currently contributed time and knowledge and contributed to delivery through their own organisations' work.
7. The intellectual capacity of Environment Kernow was highlighted. It was noted that political influence was required to strengthen the partnership.
8. It was important that the partnership did not lose the ability to set the agenda and to undertake real work, even when not in direct alignment. High level management had to engage and meetings had to consider strategic and practical issues.
9. Concerns were raised with regard to the ability to deliver. However, it was emphasised that the new authority had a duty to ensure delivery of the LAA targets.
10. A move away from grant funded posts which could not be continued was necessary. Firm commitments or defined projects were required.

The meeting was advised that the Annual Conference of the CSP would be held on 17 July 2009. The new CSP would hold its first meeting in the second week of March 2009, its theme being 'Indebtedness'.

It was agreed that the Chairman would produce a paper in response to the principles set out by the CSP, to be presented to the next meeting for discussion.

This would include the partnership background, funding and membership expectations, terms of reference and a draft work plan.

**ESN PROJECT UPDATE REPORT - JUSTIN OLOSUNDE**  
(Agenda No. 5)

EK/121 Justin Olosunde reported that the project was on target, with 58 NVQ starters. 83 technical companies had been engaged in 6 months and all had taken up Membership. The target for 2010 was 183 and it was expected that this would be exceeded. Some administrative problems had been encountered regarding definitions being too restrictive. A list of workshop dates would be circulated to all members.

**RESPONSE TO THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC DOWNTURN/CRISIS - ALEX HUKU**  
(Agenda No. 6)

EK/122 Alex Huke circulated a draft for consideration as Environment Kernow's response to the Economic Downturn for comment [a copy of the response is held on file]. The response comprised ten bullet points. The paper would be circulated by email to all members after the meeting, who should reply to Alex Huke with their comments.

**CORNWALL SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT OUTCOMES - DAVE LEWIS/DAVID RODDA**  
(Agenda No. 7)

EK/123 Prior to the meeting an informal discussion had been held where members had considered the Cornwall Sustainable Community Strategy and LAA Outcomes. At that meeting members had reached agreement on the scope of the Outcome and the Chairman would feedback to the Partnership Review Team.

**TO AGREE A SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2009**  
(Agenda No. 8)

EK/124 The following schedule of meetings for 2009 was agreed:

- Friday 6 February 2009, 10.00am, Environment Agency Offices, Sir John Moore House, Bodmin, Cornwall\*
- Friday 6 March 2009, 10.00am, CSEP Offices, Tolvaddon Energy Park, Tolvaddon, Redruth, Cornwall
- Friday 3 April 2009, 10.00am, Environment Agency Offices, Sir John Moore House, Bodmin, Cornwall
- Friday 1 May 2009, 10.00am, CSEP Offices, Tolvaddon Energy Park, Tolvaddon, Redruth, Cornwall
- Friday 5 June 2009, 10.00am, Environment Agency Offices, Sir John Moore House, Bodmin, Cornwall\*\*
- Friday 3 July 2009, 10.00am, CSEP Offices, Tolvaddon Energy Park, Tolvaddon, Redruth, Cornwall
- Friday 7 August 2009, 10.00am, Environment Agency Offices, Sir John Moore House, Bodmin, Cornwall\*\*\*
- Friday 4 September 2009, 10.00am, CSEP Offices, Tolvaddon Energy Park, Tolvaddon, Redruth, Cornwall
- Friday 2 October 2009, 10.00am, Environment Agency Offices, Sir John Moore House, Bodmin, Cornwall
- Friday 6 November 2009, 10.00am, CSEP Offices, Tolvaddon Energy Park, Tolvaddon, Redruth, Cornwall

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- Friday 4 December 2009, 10.00am, Environment Agency Offices, Sir John Moore House, Bodmin, Cornwall

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Further to the meeting it was agreed that:

\* 6 February 2009 meeting be rescheduled to 13 February to accommodate the Cornwall Enterprise Staff Conference.

\*\* 5 June 2009 meeting be rescheduled to 12 June 2008 as Royal Cornwall Show was being held on 5 June.

\*\*\* The August meeting was cancelled due to Members' summer commitments.

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**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

(Agenda No. 9)

**EK/125 "Land for the Future" a workshop involving regional development agencies and other organisations on Monday 9 March in Exeter, organised by Michael Winter**

The meeting heard that the Land for the Future workshop would be held on Monday 9 March 2009. The conference was being supported by the RDA. Alex Huke agreed to circulate details to all EK members.

The meeting ended at 1.15 pm

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