

“Enabling climate action in a can-do city”

STRATEGY GROUP

Monday 10th December 2018 16:30 – 17:30
ITV - Television House, 106 Kirkstall Rd, Leeds LS3 1JS

NOTES

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| 1 | <p>Welcome, introductions and apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Following the recent membership refresh, we would like to thank the following members who have stood down from the Strategy Group, for their contribution to the Commission during its first phase: Simon Bullock, Friends of the Earth; Louise Ellis, University of Leeds; David Ellis, Leeds Civic Trust and Paul Connell, Smartklub. ➤ A number of new members have been appointed to the Commission’s Strategy and working groups. A special welcome was extended to the new members of the Strategy Group, Elizabeth Edgington, BiTC and Helen Thompson, who has extensive experience of social finance. | |
| 2 | <p>Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Notes of the last meeting had been circulated. ➤ Position paper on H21. Richard Knights, Tom Knowland, Neil Whalley and Andy Scott had worked on the first draft and a second draft for comment would be circulated to members for comment. The position papers would likely follow the format of the Aldersgate Group. <p><i>ACTION: Tom Knowland to finalise the second draft and pass to Margo Hanson to circulate.</i></p> | TK |
| 3 | <p>Standing Item: Future funding and resourcing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The £3 million P-CAN bid had been successful. This five year UKRI funded project led by LSE and Leeds would involve Commissions being set up in Edinburgh and Belfast and enable green finance programmes to be delivered across the 3 cities. Lord Deben, Chair of the CCC would Chair the Advisory Group and Polly Billington, Director of UK100 would be Vice Chair. Lord Deben would like to expand the network to include Bristol and Cambridge. A press release was being prepared and a note would be circulated to all members. <p><i>ACTION: Andy Gouldson to forward press release and note to Margo Hanson for circulation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Leeds City Council had been awarded 40k to work on a business case for crowdfunding low carbon projects. The proposal had been developed with Abundance and People Powered Solutions. ➤ A bid, ‘Strength in Places’, had been submitted for a revolving fund on retrofits. It had been unsuccessful on a technicality but might be revised and resubmitted to the same or another funder. ➤ An Innovations in Climate Resilience bid was made in late November, the outcomes of which would be known in January. | AG/ MH |
| 4 | Leeds Climate Commission Annual Report 2018 | AG |

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| | <p>➤ The draft annual report had been circulated for comment and would be presented to Leeds City Council in Spring 2019. The Council had also requested the Commission produce an annual statement of activity across the city as a means of tracking progress. A roadmap with KPIs, milestones and deliverables was to be prepared in 2019 and it was likely Leeds would be the first city to do this. It was proposed that an investment strategy be developed in conjunction with this, comparable to the Bristol investment portfolio with projects and programmes.</p> <p>➤ Highlights of the 2018 report were presented. It included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project Development and Finance Initiative workshops from February – May 2019. <p>ACTION: All members to forward invitations to appropriate contacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Investing in Local Energy national conference on 31st January aimed at local authorities followed by 5 regional workshops. ○ Success stories celebrating organisations in the city. ○ A 3 year programme on the economics of climate resilient cities, initially looking at the vulnerability assessment for factors such as floods, heat and wind. ○ A crowd funded solar PV business case with a green bond for the city. ○ A raft of student projects. <p>ACTION: All members to look at list of projects on the website and consider whether their organisation can host.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Plans to develop a roadmap for the future to develop carbon budget and targets. ○ University of Leeds led work on carbon emissions from consumption <p>ACTION: Kate to note that the annual report is a draft.</p> | <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>KL</p> |
| 5 | <p>Implementation Plan Priorities for 2019</p> <p>➤ Feedback on the annual report led into the discussion of priorities for 2019. The main areas of focus for the Commission as a whole would be:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continuation of 2018 Implementation Plan projects ○ Preparing a ‘roadmap’ by March 2019 to deliver city wide carbon reduction targets ○ Preparation of proposals for city level carbon budgets consistent with the roadmap ○ Consumption (Scope 3) emissions ○ Preparing a climate change risk assessment and subsequent adaptation strategy report. <p>➤ Members gave detailed feedback on how best to tackle these priorities with the following comments being noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regarding the IPCC 1.5 degrees report giving 12 years to act, it would be useful to set out the current projection for Leeds. <p><u>The Low Carbon Roadmap</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recognising that there is often little coordination between local, regional and national initiatives, any framework must have a coordinated approach to avoid system inefficiencies. Transport is a prime example where collaboration needs to happen across the north and regionally. | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The roadmap could include process indicators eg. recommending that all top emitters have carbon targets or that residential areas pledge a level of commitment / action rather than an outcome. ○ The Commission should have conversations with the city's biggest energy emitters to understand their plans and highlight their leadership role. Leeds City Council and WYCA both have a role to play in brokering these discussions. ○ Organisations are looking for advice on effective actions to include in their commitments and are likely to respond well to the Commission's input. <p><u>The Climate Resilience Roadmap</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The structure and approach for a low carbon roadmap could subsequently be adapted for climate resilience. It could illustrate baseline impacts at a city scale and the range of measures which organisations and households can take, such as creating living walls, improving biodiversity and green roofs. ○ Demonstrating adaptation at a street level would be a valuable way of illustrating risks as there is a dearth of understanding on what is meant by resilience. Crowd funding of resilience projects could play a role. There is a whole theme on planning in the Green Blue Delivery Plan which sets out 12 key areas for action and should be drawn on when creating the roadmap. <p><i>ACTION: Noel Collings to provide Andy Gouldson with the four page executive summary.</i></p> <p><u>Communicating the Commission's work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Commission needs to consider a targeted communications plan to engage with different audiences. ○ The roadmap needs to make clear actions the people of Leeds need to take to deliver their share of emissions reductions. Emphasising the benefits of actions to households will be key to their uptake. ○ The scope for crowdfunding low carbon projects may be an effective hook for the people of Leeds. ○ Zero Carbon Yorkshire has asked people to use a template letter to write to their local councillors asking what the city plans to do regarding the climate emergency. ○ The City Council should be briefed and provided with standard text for members to refer to when replying to members of the public. <p><i>ACTION: BiTC are interested in doing a project on green infrastructure. Elizabeth Edgington to speak with Rosa Foster.</i></p> <p><i>ACTION: A simple draft roadmap would be circulated in advance of the March Strategy Group. Feedback would be incorporated into the second draft which would be presented to Leeds City Council. Further comments would be incorporated before the final draft would be reviewed by the Strategy Group in June 2019. This would be the basis for an investment strategy linked to an investment portfolio such that by the end of 2019, the Commission would have finalised a roadmap which would include KPIS with targets and deliverables and investment plan.</i></p> | <p>NC</p> <p>EE/RF</p> <p>AG/TK</p> |
| 6 | Standing Item: Student research projects: | |

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| | <p>➤ A list of possible student research projects had been circulated for comment.</p> <p>ACTION: Any member whose organisation is willing to host a student should contact Tom Knowland.</p> | ALL |
| 7 | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>➤ Veolia and CEG kindly offered to host Strategy Group meetings. The meeting at Veolia could be combined with a visit to the RERF.</p> <p>ACTION: Margo Hanson to liaise with Karen Stafekis and Nazneem Grogan.</p> | MH |
| 8 | <p>Local Initiatives Presentation: Leeds City Region Energy Strategy and Energy Accelerator</p> <p>➤ Noel Collings (West Yorkshire Combined Authority) presented on the development of the Energy Strategy for the City Region and associated Energy Accelerator initiative providing project development finance for a pipeline of low carbon projects in the region that the Commission's own Project Development & Finance Initiative hopes to feed into.</p> <p>ACTION: Presentation to be circulated to all members with notes.</p> | MH |