



LEEDS CLIMATE COMMISSION

“Enabling climate action in a can-do city”

STRATEGY GROUP

Monday 9th December 16:30 – 18:30

Merrion House Meeting Suite Room 21 & 22, Merrion Way, Leeds LS2 8PD

AGENDA

No.	Time	Item	Lead
1	16:30	Welcome, introductions and apologies	AG
2	16:35	Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda <i>Notes of last meeting attached</i>	AG
3	16:40	City Conversation <i>The City Conversation online survey has now concluded, reaching c7,000 respondents, supplemented by attendance at a number of events and focus groups</i>	PC / KL
4	16:50	Citizens Jury <i>The Citizens Jury recommendations were launched on 25 November (attached) and will inform future action by the Commission (Item 8). The recommendations correlate strongly with the content of the carbon reduction roadmap.</i>	KL
5	17:10	Council Tax / Business Rates <i>Leeds City Council have recently secured funding for a research and feasibility study into whether CT / BR can be used to incentivise energy efficiency. Consultants (Alma Economics) have been appointed and their preliminary work has identified the following options for further consultation and modelling.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Option A1: set council tax and business rates to be driven mainly (70%) by the current property valuation but also partly (30%) by EPC rating. Apply only to council tax band D upwards to reduce risk of regressive design.• Option B1: give a 1-year council tax or business rates holiday to properties that invest in an energy efficiency incentive from a specified list of options (focused on significant expenditures, e.g. excluding cavity wall insulation, loft insulation and boiler replacements).• Option C1: provide an interest-free “loan” equivalent to 100% of the cost of energy efficiency interventions from a specified list of options, then recoup this via increased council tax or business rates on the property for 15 years.• Option D1: raise council tax and/or business rates to cover grant funding for property owners engaging in net zero compatible retrofit.	TK

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		<p><i>Focus this particularly on Housing Associations and local authority-owned properties.</i></p> <p><i>Alma Economics have already been in contact with some members of the Commission and would like to engage with other interested parties.</i></p>	
6	17:20	<p>BEIS: City Decarbonisation Delivery Plan Project</p> <p>Leeds, Arup and University of Leeds / Leeds Climate Commission have been invited to join a project with 5 other cities. Leeds will focus on heat decarbonisation (with a probably emphasis on retrofit and insulation) to achieve the following outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A high-level assessment of technical feasibility and financial viability;</i> • <i>Identification of potential funding and delivery options (which will be supported by a separate package of work);</i> • <i>Identification of stakeholder roles and initial stakeholder engagement;</i> • <i>Next steps for taking these interventions forward to practical delivery;</i> • <i>Recommendations for BEIS in relation to the development of a repeatable process for other cities;</i> • <i>Report and recommendations to BEIS on stakeholder engagement; and</i> • <i>Recommendations in relation to national policy measures to support heat decarbonisation projects.</i> 	
7	17:30	<p>Aviation Position Paper</p> <p><i>The Commission's Position Paper on aviation has been completed and circulated for final sign off by the Strategy Group before publication on Tuesday 17th December</i></p>	AG
8	17:40	<p>Climate Readiness Index and Commission refresh</p> <p><i>An update on how the recently launched Climate Readiness Index can inform the work of the Commission in its role of providing independent advice and oversight on the implementation of the Carbon Roadmap and catalysing enabling actions. Working Groups have been involved in this process and a paper will be presented for discussion</i></p>	AG / TK
9	18:00	<p>Standing Item: Student research projects</p> <p><i>The process of linking students to potential Commission projects as commenced. In addition, Catherine Graves (Commission Secretariat) would like to invite the strategy group to participate in her PhD research</i></p> <p><i>Pro-Environmental Behaviour Change research project:</i> <i>Changes to individual and societal behaviour are going to be increasingly necessary to mitigate runaway climate change. Understanding behaviour change mechanisms is a significantly under-researched area in relation to pro-environmental behaviours, and this PhD research aims to increase understanding of the psychological barriers on an individual level, in order to create more effective behavioural interventions (e.g. campaigns, policy etc.). This research examines the use of Virtual Reality as a behavioural intervention specifically. This will be done through a large-scale experiment (phase 1) where 200 participants will each be invited to a 20-30 minute session where they will complete a short questionnaire before and after experiencing climate-focussed visual content, which may be a Virtual Reality experience. The second phase will take a smaller cohort through a similar study every month for 5 months. This research will focus on individuals in Leeds and participant recruitment will start in March 2020, with experiments running in May (second phase running through to October). In the New Year</i></p>	TK

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		<p><i>I will be looking for organisations to be involved in this research. This will simply involve sharing with colleagues and encouraging participation within your organisation as well as providing space for the sessions. No remuneration is available but organisation recognition will be included in all outputs. If your organisation would like to be involved or for more information, please email Catherine (ee14cg@leeds.ac.uk).</i></p>	
10	18:10	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates & Venues for future workshops and meetings to be confirmed 	ALL