

Leeds Committee on Climate Change Update Summary

The commencement and activity of the 3 Working Groups of the Leeds Committee on Climate Change have been deliberately staggered so as to take account of the existing resources available, and to ensure that the work of the LCCC takes account and adds value to existing relevant initiatives.

Low Carbon Working Group: Purpose

- Overseeing the process of monitoring the performance of actual and proposed carbon reduction projects in the city
- Capturing carbon reduction data in an agreed format and preparing reports summarising this information.
- Update the mini-Stern report for Leeds and extend this methodology to include consumption based emissions to give a more complete picture of the contribution of the city to carbon emissions.
- Identify the top ten carbon contributors in the city
- Taking a city-wide view of carbon reduction projects and how funding could be secured to support their development, implementation and co-ordination.
- The group will also take an interest in securing funding for the work of the Leeds CCC.

The Low Carbon Working Group met on 20th March and 10th May and will meet in October and December. Remaining dates to be scheduled. Progress to date:-

- that there is much to be learned from ODI Leeds on the experience of using Open Data to share successes and opportunities on carbon reduction;
- Andrew Sudmant and Andy Gouldson are starting work on the refreshed Mini-Stern for Leeds. Information will be relayed as findings are made with the aim to have a draft completed by September 2017;
- the Low Carbon Working Group agreed to pilot a process for engaging with the largest carbon emitters in the city, using the early results from the Mini-Stern to identify a potential area of carbon reduction (such as solar PV or LED lighting). Workshops to arrange this will be carried out in July 2017;
- MSc Student Rafael Luviano will be working to assemble local data on the carbon reduction data and activities of the largest organisations in the city

Communications and Engagement Working Group: Purpose

- Responsible for overseeing the process of providing guidance on authoritative and influential city wide communication material on climate change in the city.
- To provide guidance on what constitutes best practice for climate change related communications so that organisations in the city are encouraged to devise appropriate communication programmes accordingly.

The Engagement and Communications Working Group will meet in on 19 June, September, October and December. Later dates to be scheduled. Progress to date:-

- Good progress is being made on establishing and commissioning some of the fundamentals of Leeds CCC's digital presence. A short animated film introducing the Leeds project and partners, set in the wider context of cities taking empowering action, is underway and a set of infographics illustrating key take aways from the Mini Stern Review for Leeds City Region (around economic benefits, etc.) has been commissioned. Communications Officer, Kate Lock, is currently working with Andy Gouldson on the brief for the website. She is also setting up some filmed interviews, which will be used on the website and across social media.
- This year's Earth Week theme was 'Environmental and Climate Literacy'. In response, the University co-ordinated a series of events in central Leeds during late April. These were well

attended and included a public survey which included questions gauging responses to different climate interventions based on the current portfolio of city projects. The results of this survey will be available soon

- MSc Student Daniel Ward will be undertaking a project linked to the work of this group
- Amanda Crossfield (Yorkshire Water) has provided the useful update recommending the work of Climate Outreach who do excellent research-led comms about climate change.

<http://climateoutreach.org/>

Climate Resilience Working Group: Purpose

- Taking an overview of the many climate resilience projects (particularly flooding related as well as heat, winter, wind etc) and climate-related initiatives already being implemented and developed in the city in a multi-agency environment operating at a regional geography.
- Taking a city-wide view of resilience projects and how funding could be secured to support their development, implementation and co-ordination.
- The Working Group will define a role for the Leeds CCC in relation to these projects ensuring that it avoids duplication and adds value to initiatives.

The Climate Resilience Working Group will meet in September, October and December. All dates to be scheduled.

An important related initiative on which the Leeds Committee on Climate Change has representation is Yorkshire iCASP (Integrated Catchment Solutions Programme) which is a new 5 year research programme, focussed on the Yorkshire Ouse Catchment, which aims:-

- To improve climate resilience in the region's cities through the policies and investment strategies of local authorities, and major infrastructure owners.
- To work towards improved management of drought and flood risk
- To support regional flood forecasting, working closely with the Environment Agency and the Met Office on meeting regional challenges of upland terrain, rapid response catchments and urban flooding
- To develop novel approaches to improve water quality
- To enhance carbon storage in soils and woodlands

An agreed priority will be to collate existing information on the various plans, strategies and initiatives relating to local climate resilience Amanda Crossfield (Yorkshire Water) has provided the useful update that YW, Northern Power Grid, Northern Gas, the NHS, Network Rail, National Grid and other infra orgs publish their risk assessments and adaptation plans via the Defra website here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/climate-change-adaptation-reporting-second-round-reports>

Other useful sources of info are the annual S18 reports and the post-event S19 reports submitted to the EA and required under the Flood and Water Management Act. These set out what activity has taken place on an annual basis to comply with the FWMA (eg £xm investment in local flood defences) or what lessons were learnt and implemented after a flooding event.

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