

Item No.2

DECISIONS OF A MEETING OF THE GM LOW CARBON HUB BOARD HELD ON FRIDAY 1 APRIL 2016 AT MANCHESTER TOWN HALL

PRESENT:

Councillor Sue Derbyshire	GM Combined Authority (Chair)
Councillor Eunice Smethurst	TfGM
Julian Packer	GMCA
Louise Blythe	BBC Academy
Paul Maher	Siemens
Ian McAuley	Viridor
Patrick Allcorn	DECC
Mark Atherton	AGMA/GMCA
Gordon Whitaker	Environment Agency
Steve Johnson	Energy Group
Robin Lawler	Northwards Housing
Steve Waterworth	University of Salford
Roger Milburn	Arup
Susan Ford	AGMA/GMCA
Helen Smith	TfGM
Sarah Davies	GM Environment Team
Steve Annette	GMIST

Also In Attendance

Jaise Kurialease	Tyndall Centre
Phil Korbelt	The Carbon Literacy Project
Dave Coleman	The Carbon Literacy Project

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Steve Rumbelow, GM Lead Chief Executive, Environment, Councillor Elaine Sherrington, GMWDA Alison Gordon, New Economy, Anne Selby, Wildlife Trust/Local Nature Partnership and Simon Warburton, TfGM.

LCH15/ WELCOME

The Chair extended a warm welcome to those present.

LCH15/ MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Low Carbon Hub Board, held on 22 January 2016, were agreed with the exception that: Robin Lawler, Northwards Housing, and Steve Johnson, ENWL to be added to the list of attendees of the previous meeting.

Matters arising were:

- i.) Noted that it is anticipated that the Annual Meeting of the GMCA would appoint deputies to portfolio positions, including for Cllr Derbyshire.
- ii.) Noted that we expect the Life IP contract with Environment Agency to be signed off by Salford on 3rd May.
- iii.) Noted that work was ongoing with health colleagues in relation to Health, Food and Warmer Homes and it was proposed that a further position paper be presented to the July meeting on Health, Warmer Homes and Fuel Poverty.
- iv.) Noted that Tony Lloyd (Interim Mayor) had recently signed the Green Alliance clean energy pledge on behalf of GM.
- v.) The Chair reported that a request had been received for the LCH Board meeting to be live-streamed. She added that in the interest of transparency and openness this ought to be welcomed, however a broader discussion was needed given the technical issues that this may present.

Resolved/-

To approve the Minutes of the Low Carbon Hub Board held on 22 January, 2016 as a correct record and note the matters arising.

LCH 15/46 PERFORMANCE UPDATE - Q4

Mark Atherton introduced a report that provided an update on progress of the Low Carbon Hub in the last quarter, and outlined the priorities for the forthcoming quarter. He added that the annexes to the report provided a general overview on progress and also highlighted a number of key successes across various activity themes including:

- It was reported and noted that the domestic energy efficiency work under the Green Deal Communities Project was soon to be completed, achieving more outputs than expected, on time and within budget. An information paper to be brought to the meeting in July.
- The Chair noted that the quarterly registration of electric vehicles had increased 7833% from Q4 in 2011 to Q3 in 2015.

Resolved/-

1. To note the overview of progress and latest KPI information.
2. To note the updates from across the Low Carbon Hub's accountable bodies as detailed in Annex 2 of the report.

3. To welcome an information report at the next meeting on the completion of the Green Deal Communities project and a report to a future meeting on potential EU funding bids.
- That future Quarterly reports should split out the columns for Targets and Progress to aid clarity..

LCH15/47 GM - NEW DATA FRAMEWORK

The Board received a report from Sarah Davies and a short presentation from representatives from Anthesis, the consultant firm developing a new data framework for GM to become compliant with the Covenant of Mayors reporting protocol. It is proposed that the information and approach presented by the Consultants is used to provide the core dataset for onward reporting by Greater Manchester.

Brad Blundell, Director Anthesis, provided a brief overview of the proposed framework and circulated a slide-deck. The work has identified a small number of areas where Greater Manchester has poor or no data (e.g. Commercial and Industrial Waste, Agricultural emissions and non CO₂ Greenhouse Gas emissions). If not available this year, these will be estimated and improved for future reporting periods.

The following further key comments and observations were drawn out from the paper and presentation:-

- It is important to manage, measure and understand external drivers/factors behind the data, such as governmental policy, however it is recognised this is often very difficult to track.
 - It would be useful to evaluate the data trends *vis a vis* annual degree days to determine the scale of influence of the weather on carbon emissions;
 - Similarly, an analyse of the data regarding average decarbonisation of the electricity grid over time would help to disaggregate passive carbon reductions versus proactive interventions;
 - It would be possible to normalise the data by economic/GVA data by Borough over time.
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- It was noted that, once complete, GM would be complaint with Covenant of Mayors data requirements.

Resolved/-

1. To note the report and presentation and agreed to use the headline information for future KPI and reporting purposes.

LCH15/48 AIR QUALITY CONSULTATION

The Board received a presentation from Helen Smith, TfGM, on the current position regarding the Air Quality Action Plan Consultation and the air quality issues that are faced across GM. Helen reported that there was synergy between the Climate Change and Low Emissions Implementation Plan and Air Quality Action Plan. The Board noted that a main focus for reducing emissions would centre on emissions from the road network as road vehicles were the major contributors.

Following discussion and based on the questions raised she agreed to undertake the following:

- Make clear the difference between Part A and Part B regulated emissions.
- Define the difference between emissions from `boilers' and `combustion'
- To ascertain what research has been undertaken into exposure and impact on poor or disadvantaged communities and to consider quantifying the tangible benefits that may be achieved from a health perspective.
- To ensure there is linkage with green and blue infrastructure strategies and to 'Place Making' programmes
- To consider how to best engage and raise awareness with motor vehicle drivers.

Resolved/-

1. To note the report and presentation and agreed to receive an update at a future meeting.

LCH15/49 CARBON LITERACY PROPOSALS FOR SUPPORT

The Board received a report from Louise Blythe, which provided an overview of the forthcoming main strands of Carbon Literacy activity in the next year with proposals for support and likely outcomes. She added that strong employer leadership was essential to help kick-start and sustain a programme of activity and the need to replicate the CL sectoral consortia approach.

Robin Lawler endorsed the view that adopting a collaborative approach would add real benefit both within and between organisations. He added that in excess of 300 Northwards employees had recently undergone CL training and that this had resulted in positive behaviour change amongst staff and tangible savings to the organisation.

The following key comments and observations were drawn out from the paper and presentation and general discussion:

- There was a general view that the financial 'ask' of £15 k was a modest sum, however it was felt that more detail of the benefits of the programme needed to be provided to assist in seeking the financial support required from individual organisations. Organisations agreed to

share their own experiences as well as data sets/KPI's with Cooler Projects.

Resolved/-

1. To note the report together with the comments as detailed above.
2. To agree that a business case to define the outputs as well as costs should be prepared.
3. That where is necessary, delegated authority be granted to support the Carbon Literacy Task and Finish Group either for immediate action or after further development as detailed in the report..

LCH15/50 CLIMATE CHANGE AND LOW EMISSIONS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN - SETTING THE VISION, GOALS AND TARGETS BEYOND 2020.

The Board received a report from Mark Atherton, which outlined how responses received from the Climate Change and Low Emissions Implementation Plan (2016-2020) consultation have been taken into account in the revised Plan and set out a range of options as the basis for establishing the future greenhouse gas emission reduction goals and targets for GM on which future strategies, policies, plans and delivery actions could be based. He added that the consultation had highlighted a number of opportunities and challenges that GM needed to consider if substantial progress was to be achieved by 2020. The report had also been reformatted to improve clarity and take on board some of the comments received. In particular, there was a shift from a thematic based approach to an outcome based approach.

The Board noted that the report would be considered at Scrutiny Committee on 8 April and it being submitted to GMCA on 29 April, 2016.

Sarah Davies circulated a 'work in progress' update paper on the Low Carbon Wedges analysis of potential carbon reduction impacts.

Resolved/-

1. That the consultation feedback and how it has been incorporated into the format and content of the revised draft of the Implementation Plan as detailed in the report be noted and agreed.
2. To note that there is a need to set a definitive goal and targets for greenhouse gas emissions beyond 2020.
3. To note the approach to setting future targets agreed by the GMCA, namely to:

- Adopt methodologies for data collection and disclosure based on international city protocols;
- Place an action in the current Plan to undertake a future piece of work on setting a specific future target by Autumn 2016, ready for the 2020+ Strategy, to align timings with the development of other cross cutting strategy proposals (GMSF, Transport Strategy etc);
- Implement new requirements for LA operational data collection implicit in these protocols and emerging national policy.

LCH15/51 DEVOLUTION UPDATE - ENERGY

The Board received a report from Mark Atherton which provided an update on the development of the ongoing devolution opportunities for GM as they pertain to the energy and low carbon agenda. He drew the Board's attention to Annex 1 to the report that provided details of the draft Statement of Intent between DECC and GM. He added that, as a first step, GM had received funding from DECC to pilot mechanisms to accelerate the deployment of local community energy schemes to increase uptake.

Patrick Allcorn, DECC added that he welcomed the devolution opportunities as a means of partnering with and finding out what works with local active groups in this field.

Resolved/-

1. To note the progress made and the draft 'Statement of Intent', and to welcome a further update on Community Energy at the next Board meeting in July.

LCH15/52 ENERGY COMPANY FOR GM

The Board received a verbal update from Julian Packer on the current position regarding Energy Company for GM. He added that, since the last Board meeting, he had met with representatives from six different supply companies. Over the coming weeks a report will be prepared and presented to WLT and GMCA that details the findings from the research exercise and recommends a way forward.

Resolved/-

1. To note the latest position and the proposed next steps.

LCH15/53 CLEAN AIR ZONE

The Board received a verbal update from Helen Smith TfGM on the current position regarding the Clean Air Zone. She added that funding had been approved by DEFRA and that a steering group had been established to set out options going forward. It was anticipated that, by the end of summer, a

proposition would be submitted to GMCA for approval and implementation by 2017.

Resolved/-

1. To note the latest position and the proposed next steps.

LCH15/54 RESIN (Resilience) – PROJECT UPDATE

The Board received a report from Mark Atherton, which provided an update on the development and delivery of the Horizon 2020 funded 'Climate RESilient and INfrastructures' (RESIN) project, which brings European cities and scientists together to investigate climate resilience and develop more effective climate strategies to adapt and cope with our changing climate.

He added that the project was a circa three year study and that by the end of the project the objective is to have developed a baseline climate change risk assessment of GM's urban critical infrastructure and to identify and prioritise adaptation options for prominent climate change risks.

Resolved/-

1. To note the report and the proposed next steps and to receive a further report to a future meeting of the Board

LCH15/55 FUTURE MEETING DATES

The Board agreed the following future meeting dates –

- Friday 15 July 10 -12 am - Scrutiny Room, Manchester Town Hall
- Friday 7 October 10 -12am - Scrutiny Room, Manchester Town Hall
- Friday 20 January 2017 - 10- 12 am – Scrutiny Room, Manchester Town Hall

LCH15/44 AOB

1. The Chair reported that members would be asked for their views regarding the use of Board members' organisations logos being used on LCH communications materials.
2. The Chair wished to place on record her thanks to Sarah Davies for her contributions to the work on the Low Carbon agenda and wished her well in her future role with Rossendale Council.
3. It was suggested that, for future Board meetings, the Board may wish to receive brief presentations on the work being delivered by the partner organisations represented on the Board.