

North East Scotland Climate Change Partnership

1 June 2009

2pm

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service, North Anderson Drive

Present: Cllr Martin Ford (chair), Roddy Matheson, Kelly Fairweather, Fiona Graham (all Aberdeenshire Council), Fraser Lovie (Aberdeen University), Kate Yuill (Chamber of Commerce), Bill Slee (Macaulay), Alex Tait (NHS Grampian), Alan Owen (Robert Gordon University), Peter Murray (Grampian Fire & Rescue),

Apologies: Robert Collier, Mike Salter (both Chamber of Commerce), Cllr Clark, Jan Falconer (both City of Aberdeen), Ewen Cameron (SNH), Andy Willox (FSB), Lorna Paterson, Phil Sleigh (both NFUS), Gavin Miles (Cairngorm National Park Authority), Christine Gore (Aberdeenshire Council), Iain Gabriel (Aberdeenshire Council), Tom Anderson (SEPA), Alastair Graham, Alan Cormack (Grampian Police), Ian Carstairs (Scottish Enterprise)

	Minutes DRAFT	Action
1	Apologies as above. Apologies were given for the short notice of the meeting, which was being held to have an early discussion on the outcomes of the carbon footprint workshop.	
2	The minutes of the meeting of 12 January 2009 were agreed as accurate subject to two comments: under item 5, Geoff Runcie had now left the Chamber; under AOCB, the group referred to by FL was the Environmental Association of Universities and Colleges.	
3	Matters arising – Covered in Agenda	
4	<p>Workshop on carbon budget methodology and next steps (paper circulated). Bill Slee explained the main outcomes of the workshop held on 1 May at the Macaulay. Excellent panel of speakers set out the different ways of calculating footprints and the approaches used in terms of data used and their availability, and area coverage. Further work was needed to decide the best next steps on carbon footprinting for the Partnership area.</p> <p>BS general advice was to work out cost effective reduction measures and implement these rather than concentrating solely on footprint measurement. This still took us back to the marginal abatement cost of carbon: trying to measure this on an organisational or regional basis is a challenge. Need to know where emissions are coming from and what needs to be done to reduce them.</p> <p>BS recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. find out which initiatives are working most effectively2. give more power to existing organisations doing a good job eg SCARF, rural development partnerships3 there is scope for more projects to support businesses eg from Carbon Trust4. work through links with appropriate groups eg Macaulay workshop on low carbon rural economy, use trade organisations. <p>The chair thanked Bill Slee and others from the Macaulay Institute for organising and hosting the workshop and for preparing the paper.</p> <p>A discussion took place on what individual members of the Partnership could do to help. Topics included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fire Service do domestic fire safety audits also could do environmental issues in	

	<p>the home. English colleagues had a link with Eon to do environmental audits. Inclusive projects – social workers also giving out leaflets to clients on energy efficiency (fuel poverty)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training for plumbers/builders on energy efficiency/renewables. Accreditation schemes and the high cost of these. - The footprinting project needed to have: accounting principles; clear boundaries to avoid double-counting; real data rather than divided national data; carbon monitoring, tracking database. Use elements of all of the approaches to get baseline. - Richard Aspinall had 6 'guiding principles' from the workshop. BS would send a copy of these to FG for circulation to the Partnership. - Space heating, as an inefficient use of electricity, could be a target issue. Information and costs to tackle this. <p>PhD student (supervised by Pete Smith & Bill Slee) was looking at footprinting.</p> <p>MF proposed that a one page paper was prepared on the principles of a baseline, a list of attributes of the different methods and a conclusion. This would help identify priorities for tackling the key areas. A paper would be drafted and circulated prior to the next meeting.</p> <p>PM offered to take the paper to the Joint Public Sector Group in due course.</p>	<p>BS FG</p> <p>MF, BS AO, FG and KF</p>
5	<p>Funding sources for regional footprinting (paper circulated) Alan Owen was concerned at the accuracy of the aggregated data used in the footprint methodologies set out in the workshop. He suggested that despite the workshop, getting an accurate area baseline was vital. Better to have local data for the North East rather than data extrapolated from national averages. Should be possible to do this locally from easily available data but it would require funding. Best approach may be to break down the project and access different funding sources. EU funding sources, co-financing. An initial project could pave the way to further funding.</p> <p>BS suggested looking at the option of a fellowship/researcher; some funding from DTI, 30- 40% from Councils, rest from local businesses.</p> <p>Macaulay also working on project with the Sustainable Development Research Centre.</p>	
6	<p>It was agreed that the Universities and Macaulay Institute would progress a more detailed paper on funding opportunities for a baseline footprinting project.</p> <p>Raising Awareness: An update of work and events by individual organisations and joint projects.</p> <p>NHS Grampian – Biomass element to Forresterhill project, which would save c4,500t CO2 and would encourage others to follow. Working to reduce travel, including video conferencing for consultations.</p> <p>Macaulay Institute – Raft of projects, including: fuel poverty, GILDED launched, Smile, energy in Cairngorms National Park, deforestation vs peat protection, paper on historic water power sites, demand for wood energy, Cairngorms National Park as flag ship for Climate Change Adaptation with low carbon estates, Carbon Reduction Project with rural partnerships.</p>	<p>AO, BS, FL</p>

	<p>Aberdeen University – Working on Carbon Trust Carbon Management programme. Successful ‘Sustainability week’, Energy Controversies series of lectures and ACES workshops. CSR benchmarking visit.</p> <p>Grampian Fire and Rescue – The Carbon Trust have done a survey on the potential for a wind turbine at Portlethan. Cost c£250,000 & could recoup money in 8 years. Also encouraging tree planting associated with Portlethan. Using BEP Placement scheme for two students to work on energy management policy and transport and travel policy. Scottish group of fire services will be having a common web site: opportunity for awareness raising.</p> <p>Aberdeenshire Council – Working with Macaulay on several projects, eg watermills, Carbon Reduction Project. Funding energy audits for Village Halls project. Project to reinstate Garlogie Watermill; cost c£125,000 but has good payback period. Biomass schemes (ref to a number of hotels committing to biomass in off-gas areas). Lobbied government to remove LA rates on pipework on district heating schemes. WorkSmart scheme, insulation of council housing and awareness raising amongst staff. Signed up to EU wide ‘Covenant of Mayors’, sharing best practice etc. Participated in WWF ‘Earth Hour’ in March.</p> <p>Aberdeen City – Working on updating carbon management, with a proposal to address the internal waste management issue more fully this time. Participating in EU ‘Build with CaRe’ project. WWF ‘Earth Hour’. Signed ‘Covenant of Mayors’. Workshop on energy efficiency in existing housing being co-hosted on 9 June. FG to forward information to interested members.</p> <p>Chamber of Commerce – Hosted All-Energy Conference business breakfast which included climate change speakers. Northern Star Awards 2009 have ‘renewable energy’ and new category of ‘sustainability’. Bulletin, available online, has various articles on eg transport.</p>	
7	<p>Update on NESCCP work programme ‘route map’. The update was taken as set out in the circulated paper.</p> <p>Geoff Runcie was to have contacted local PR company contacts on the ‘marketing’ side of awareness and all members were to consider an ‘ambition statement’ for the Partnership. It was agreed that the behaviour change/marketing issues should be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	All
8	<p>AOCB:</p> <p>It was agreed that the Partnership should minute its thanks to Geoff Runcie for his role, when Chief Executive of the Chamber of Commerce, of actively supporting the Chamber becoming involved in the NES Climate Change Partnership, and for his valuable contributions to the meetings. A letter of thanks would be sent by the chair.</p> <p>MF thanked Peter Murray for hosting the meeting and those managing to attend despite the short notice.</p>	MF
9	<p>Next meeting will also be the AGM and election of chair of the Partnership for the coming year. FG to circulate options of dates for mid/late August to all members. Agreed that it would be an opportunity to have speaker(s) and widen the event. Some suggestions for speakers were discussed. FG to ask for suggestions.</p>	FG
10	<p>Venue: offers were made by Aberdeen University and Macaulay Institute. FG to liaise with contacts depending on speaker and venue availability.</p>	