



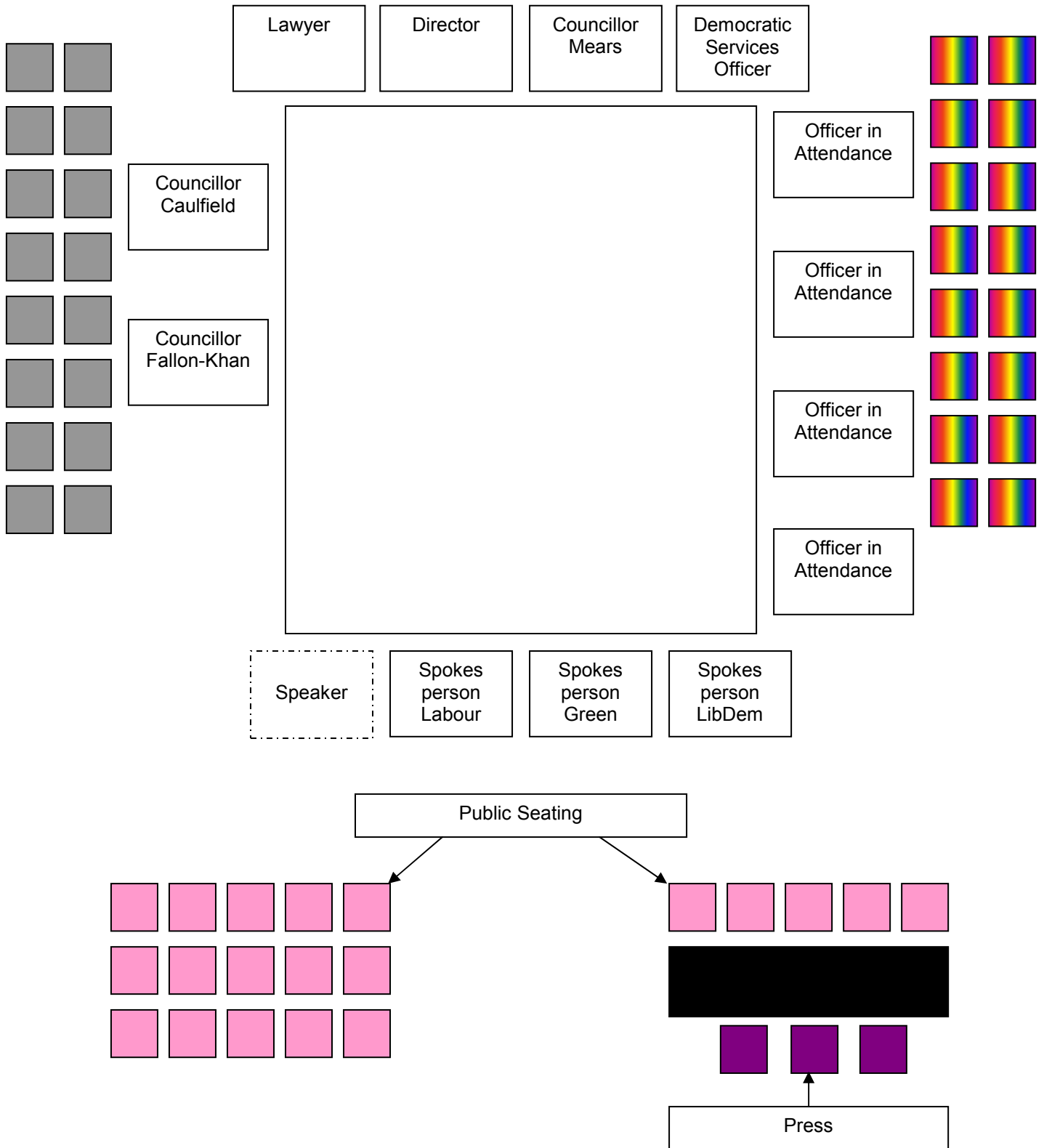
**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Cabinet Committee

Title:	Sustainability Cabinet Committee
Date:	23 July 2010
Time:	3.00pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: Mears (Chairman), Caulfield and Fallon-Khan
Contact:	Tanya Massey Acting Democratic Services Manager 01273 291227 tanya.massey@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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Democratic Services: Meeting Layout



AGENDA

1. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

- (a) Declarations of Interest by all Members present of any personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Members regard the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.
- (b) Exclusion of Press and Public - To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the public.

A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1 - 8

Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2010 (copy attached).

3. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

4. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION

- (a) Items reserved by the Members of the Cabinet Committee
- (b) Items reserved by the Opposition Spokespeople
- (c) Items reserved by Members, with the agreement of the Chairman.

NOTE: Public Questions, Written Questions from Councillors, Petitions, Deputations, Letters from Councillors and Notices of Motion will be reserved automatically.

5. PETITIONS

No petitions have received by date of publication.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

(The closing date for receipt of public questions is 12 noon on 16 July 2010)

No public questions have received by date of publication.

SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

7. DEPUTATIONS

(The closing date for receipt of deputations is 12 noon on 16 July 2010)

No deputations have received by date of publication.

8. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

9 - 10

(a) **Sustainable Procurement.** Letter from Councillor Kennedy (copy attached).

9. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

No written questions have been received.

10. NOTICES OF MOTIONS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

No Notices of Motion have been received.

11. SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE 2010

11 - 18

Report of the Director of Strategy & Governance (copy attached).

Contact Officer: Mita Patel

Tel: 29-3332

Ward Affected: All Wards

12. OFFSHORE WIND FARM

19 - 26

Report of the Director of Strategy & Governance (copy attached).

Contact Officer: Thurstan Crockett

Tel: 29-2503

Ward Affected: All Wards

13. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT UPDATE

27 - 34

Report of the Director of Strategy & Governance (copy attached).

Contact Officer: Lisa Shaw

Tel: 291131

Ward Affected: All Wards

14. BRIGHTON & HOVE FAIR TRADE STEERING GROUP

35 - 42

Report of the Director of Strategy & Governance (copy attached).

Contact Officer: Thurstan Crockett

Tel: 29-2503

Ward Affected: All Wards

15. COMMUNITY LAND BANK FEASIBILITY STUDY

43 - 58

Report of the Director of Strategy & Governance (copy attached).

Contact Officer: Francesca Iliffe

Tel: 29-2246

Ward Affected: All Wards

SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

16. CESP - COMMUNITY ENERGY SAVING PROGRAMME

59 - 66

To note the draft extract from the proceedings of the Housing Cabinet Member Meeting held on the 7 July 2010 (copy attached).

- (i) Report of the Director of Housing Culture & Enterprise (copy attached).

Contact Officer: Caroline De Marco *Tel:* 01273 291063
Ward Affected: All Wards

17. REPORT OF THE CITY SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP

67 - 86

- (a) To note the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2010 (copy attached).
- (b) To note the minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2010 (copy attached).
- (c) To note the draft minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2010 (copy attached).

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

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For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Tanya Massey, (01273 291227, email tanya.massey@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Date of Publication - Thursday, 15 July 2010

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

3.00PM 21 JANUARY 2010

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Mears (Chairman), Fallon-Khan and Young

Also in attendance: Councillors Janio (Lead Councillor for Sustainability), Mitchell (Opposition Spokesperson, Labour) and Steedman (Opposition Spokesperson, Green)

Other Members present: Councillors Simson

PART ONE

15. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

15A Declarations of Interest

15a.1 There were none.

15B Exclusion of Press and Public

15b.1 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ('the Act'), the Sustainability Cabinet Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press or public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100I(1) of the Act).

15b.2 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting.

Note: Councillor Young, Cabinet Member for Finance, substituted for Councillor Caulfield who was unable to attend the meeting due to other council business.

16. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

16.1 The Chairman reported that, in response to Councillor Mitchell's request for a Members Seminar on carbon reduction, a free seminar had been arranged on 16 February with support from the Energy Saving Trust and would concentrate on broader climate action planning, hopefully including carbon trading. She added that a more specific seminar

could be arranged, but would take a little time as the Council's new Energy Manager would lead on this and had only been in post since the beginning of January.

- 16.2 The Chairman advised that the issue of school participation in the Carbon Reduction Commitment was due to be explored with the Schools' Forum of headteachers and governors.
- 16.3 **RESOLVED** – The minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

17. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 17.1 The Chairman reported that the national 10:10 Campaign team and Director, Eugenie Harvey, had thanked the council for being one of the first 100 councils to sign up to the 10:10 commitment and asking the council to urge others to do the same. She also advised Members that the University of Brighton had signed up to 10:10 and had welcomed the council's leadership. The South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) had also written to the council to endorse the commitment made to achieving 10:10.
- 17.2 The Chairman reported that she had received an invitation to the city's Business 10:10 launch on 9 February. Brighton-based eco designer Oliver Heath and national campaign partnerships director James Grugeon would be speaking at the event. It was important to see local business people at the forefront of not just the city campaign, but local versions of the campaign. The council would be supporting the launch and city campaign and would be represented on the steering group by Thurstan Crockett, Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy.
- 17.3 The Chairman announced that the council had heard from Crown Estate in relation to the selected developer for the windfarm off the Sussex coast. The successful bidder was Eon Climate and Renewables and local offshore energy specialists, Searoc were involved in the Eon bid. When fully operational the wind farm would generate 600 megawatts of electricity. Site selection within the zone & submission of the planning application for site would take place in 2010, with construction expected from 2014-2016. It was expected to be fully installed and operational from 2020. The council would be organising a briefing with both Crown Estate and Eon and both would be presenting at the Sustainability Conference in April. Eon would be part sponsoring the conference thanks to some quick work by Mita Patel in the Sustainability Team.

Officers from Economic Development would be attending an offshore wind supply chain event at Gatwick on the 23 February and it was being promoted to local businesses as part of the council's push to maximise the economic benefit to the city. The event would act as a 'marketplace' to enable all those involved in developing the offshore wind sites to do business.

18. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION

- 18.1 **RESOLVED** – That all items be reserved for discussion.

19. PETITIONS

19.1 There were none.

20. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

20.1 There were none.

21. DEPUTATIONS

21.1 There were none.

22. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

22.1 There were none.

23. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

23.1 There were none.

24. NOTICES OF MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

24.1 The Chairman reported that two Notices of Motion had been referred to the Cabinet Committee and that as both related to the 10:10 commitment, which would be dealt with under Item 25 on the agenda, it would be appropriate to move to that item.

24A 10:10 Campaign

24a.1 The Cabinet Committee considered the following Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Phillips:

“This council notes that 10:10 is a mass movement that has seen people and organisations from across the country sign up to reduce their carbon emissions by 10 per cent in 2010. From councils and hospitals to faith groups, scout troops and national newspapers, organisations across the UK have joined what it commonly being seen as the start of the journey to a low-carbon society.

Leaders of the national Green, Liberal Democrat, Labour and Conservative parties have all committed to 10:10. Councils from across the political spectrum including Greenwich, Hackney, Islington, Richmond, Oxford, Slough, West Sussex, Stroud, Eastleigh, Kirklees have also signed up.

This council notes that:

- Cutting global carbon emissions is vital if we are to stave off runaway climate change.
- The Lancet earlier this year published a report warning that climate change is the biggest threat to global health of the 21st century.
- There are compelling business reasons for joining the 10:10 campaign, not least that cutting our spending on energy is one way to reduce costs and increase efficiency.

- The importance of the outcome of the Climate Change talks in Copenhagen in December this year cannot be overstated, and early commitment to the 10:10 Campaign has the potential to influence those talks to make urgent cuts in global emissions a reality.

Therefore this council requests the Cabinet to consider the possibilities of Brighton & Hove City Council signing up to the 10:10 campaign.”

24a.2 **RESOLVED** – That the Notice of Motion be noted.

24B 10:10 Carbon Commitment

24b.1 The Cabinet Committee considered the following Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Fallon-Khan:

“This Council recognises the progress that has been made in recent years to reduce the Council’s and City’s carbon emissions and on wider sustainability initiatives. In particular:

- Launching a £6 million energy efficiency grant scheme over three years to help householders cut costs and carbon emissions
- Committing to installing a network of electric car charging points in the city
- Running a successful Carbon Management Programme, saving more than £50,000 to date in energy efficiency measures, with more to follow
- Committing the council and the city to tough, short-term targets to cut carbon dioxide emissions – by 12% over three years
- Helping secure £180,000 from the Department for International Development for Climate Connections, a three year city-wide public engagement project
- Committing to introduce a network of park and rides sites at key strategic locations in the City
- Launching an impressive bid at an internationally-recognised conference to become the world’s first Urban Biosphere
- Playing an integral part in helping the city’s Food Partnership secure a grant of £500,000 over four years
- Launching a major Be Local Buy Local campaign to support local jobs and the environment.

This Council welcomes the national 10:10 campaign to persuade every sector of British society to work together to achieve a 10% cut in their carbon emissions in 2010. The 10:10 campaign is receiving growing support from a wide range of organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors as well as from individuals and households.

Therefore, as part of its continuing drive towards achieving a low carbon Brighton & Hove, this Council resolves to:

- Call on the Cabinet, as soon as possible, to sign up to the 10:10 campaign to reduce the City Council’s carbon emissions by 10% in 2010/11.

- Request that the Cabinet considers calling for a report to be brought to the meeting of the Sustainability Cabinet Committee in January 2010 outlining the measures which will be taken to attempt to achieve this ambitious goal.”

24b.2 **RESOLVED** – That the Notice of Motion be noted.

25. MEETING THE 10:10 COMMITMENT

25.1 The Cabinet Committee consider a report of the Director of Finance & Resources outlining the proposed measures to be taken by the council in order to reduce carbon emissions from its operations by 10% in 2010/11 (for copy see minute book).

25.2 Councillor Steedman welcomed the report and reported that the Cabinet Member for Housing’s energy efficiency working group had been enthusiastic about working towards 10:10; tenants had suggested that a proportion of the estate development budget be devoted to energy efficiency projects.

He asked for confirmation of whether the council would be committing to longer term targets and when the council would have an indication of whether the measures proposed would deliver the 10:10 target.

25.3 The Chairman explained that it was important for the council to benchmark itself and show that it could deliver 10:10 before committing to longer term aspirational targets that it would be able to consider in the future.

25.4 The Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy explained that no indication of whether 10:10 would be delivered could be given yet as baseline data was still being gathered. He added that 10:10 was a challenging target and the council would do everything it could to achieve it, but that the focus should be on developing measures, not just measurement.

25.5 In response to questions from Councillor Mitchell, who welcomed the report, the Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy advised that the steering group for the city 10:10 campaign had obtained permission from the national campaign to tweak their branding, and an agreement had been secured to use it across the council and the whole city.

25.6 Councillor Janio emphasised the importance of considering the data that was being collected for the 10:10 target in order to determine where best to concentrate resources in order to achieve longer term targets. He added that many people were driving the campaign forward across the city and that the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) should be leading the way.

25.7 Councillor Young commented that if the council achieved the 10:10 target, it would continue to set more ambitious targets going forward.

25.8 Councillor Fallon-Khan commented that it was encouraging to see that the proposals had received cross-party support and he hoped Members from all groups would attend the business 10:10 launch. He advised that the council had a close working relationship with the Carbon Trust and was exploring with them how energy savings by local businesses might be re-invested in apprenticeships.

25.9 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Committee accepted the following recommendations:

- (1) That the importance of the 10:10 campaign in terms of city leadership be recognised, and that the council's challenge to the members of Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership to sign up to 10:10 and the development of a city-wide campaign be noted.
- (2) That 10:10 be used as an internal communications tool to actively engage staff in saving energy and fuel and hence carbon emissions and taxpayers' money.

26. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

26.1 The Cabinet Committee received an update from the council's Policy Team in relation to the Sustainable Communities Act.

26.2 The Policy Development Officer reported that of the nine proposals submitted by the council to the Local Government Association (LGA), the following eight had been shortlisted to go forward to the next stage of the process:

1. That the council is given the power to offer discretionary business rate relief to encourage and sustain small and medium local businesses.
2. That legislation is changed to allow allotment holders to sell their surplus produce to local businesses.
3. That national planning policy, specifically planning policy statement 1 is changed to explicitly support localised food systems.
4. That the legal restriction that prevents councils which own housing to borrow against the Housing Revenue Account (rent) is removed.
5. That legislation is amended to release existing and accumulated capital receipts from the sale of council housing to councils to build new affordable housing or invest in existing affordable housing.
6. That the installation and use of renewable energy by households is made more accessible and affordable.
7. That the council is given the power to set vehicle speed limits on public roads at any maximum below existing regulations, according to local needs.
8. That legislation is introduced that requires supermarkets –
 - To reduce their use of food packing that is non-recyclable;
 - To provide recycling facilities for plastic not recycled by the council;
 - To ensure that the plastic is recycled or, where this is not practicable, to bear the cost of treating it as landfill waste.

He explained that the news had been communicated to the people and groups that had submitted the proposals and to community groups.

The next stage would involve negotiation between the LGA and the Secretary of State over the implementation. No timetable had been issued, but council had been informed that the LGA was lobbying central government to complete the process by the end of March 2010.

26.3 In response to a query from Councillor Mitchell in relation to the selection process, the Policy Development Manager explained that the LGA had already checked the proposals for eligibility and that no detailed selection criteria had been announced by government. 198 proposals had been shortlisted and these had been grouped into themes; it was expected that some financial modelling would be involved in the selection process.

26.4 **RESOLVED** – That the update be noted.

27. BRIGHTON & HOVE FAIRTRADE CITY STATUS

27.1 The Cabinet Committee considered a report of the Director of Strategy & Governance concerning Brighton & Hove's 'Fairtrade City' status (for copy see minute book).

27.2 Councillor Mitchell stated that the Labour Group had devised a Notice of Motion asking the council to renew its Fairtrade impetus; there were many more Fairtrade shops and products available in the city, however, the situation within the council remained mixed. She added that it was important to revisit the issues in order to support developing countries that had been affected by the global recession.

27.3 Councillor Steedman emphasised the need for the council to put minimum standards in place in relation to procurement. He contended that the issue ought to be revisited because officers were not consistently seeking out the best ethical and sustainable options.

27.4 The Chairman agreed that the council needed to do more work on its procurement and that officers could learn from the experiences of colleagues.

27.5 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Committee accepted the following recommendations:

- (1) That a steering group be formed to examine the benefits of continued 'Fairtrade City' status and develop a city programme, with a remit to report its findings to the Committee for approval.
- (2) That delegated power be granted to the Head of Sustainability and Environmental Policy to establish the steering group.

28. FOOD GROWING ON COUNCIL LAND

28.1 The Cabinet Committee considered a report of the Director of Adult Social Care & Housing exploring issues around growing food on council housing land (for copy see minute book).

28.2 Councillor Steedman welcomed the report and asked for confirmation of when details of identified land would be made available.

- 28.3 The Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy explained that despite the enthusiasm for the initiative, it was a complex issue involving a number of council departments and the local community. Work was currently focussed on one area, which would act as a model for future projects; those involved would learn from the experiences of the first project.
- 28.4 The Chairman commented that it was important to ensure that tenants were actively engaged in the initiative.
- 28.5 Councillor Mitchell welcomed the work taking place in her ward and commented that there were many indirect benefits of such projects. She stated that it was encouraging to see tenants asking to be involved and taking ownership of the work and that she understood the need for such projects to be sustainable.
- 28.6 Councillor Janio advised that Councillor Smart was the lead councillor for allotments and would be driving the initiative forward.
- 28.7 Councillor Fallon-Khan emphasised the need to actively involve young people in order to help combat rising levels of obesity.
- 28.8 Councillor Young asked whether the council was also helping tenants with gardens that they found difficult to maintain to be put in touch with other tenants who wished to tend to gardens.
- 28.9 The Head of Housing Management for East Brighton confirmed that the council had been promoting this among tenants and that it would be reported at the next round of area housing panels.
- 28.10 The Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy advised that the Food Partnership was promoting the issue locally with the 'Grow Your Neighbours Own' campaign.
- 28.11 **RESOLVED** – That the report be noted.

29. REPORT OF THE CITY SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP

- 29.1 The Cabinet Committee considered the minutes of the City Sustainability Partnership (CSP) held on 19 October 2009 and the draft minutes of the CSP held on 30 November 2009 (for copy see minute book).
- 29.2 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes be noted.

The meeting concluded at 3.57pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of



Councillor Amy Kennedy

Brighton & Hove City Council
King's House
Grand Avenue
Hove BN3 2LS

John Barradell
Chief Executive
Brighton & Hove City Council
King's House
Grand Avenue
Hove BN3 2LS

12th July 2010

Dear John

Sustainable Procurement

I would be grateful if you could place this letter on the agenda of the Sustainability Cabinet Committee which will meet on 23rd July 2010.

At the meeting of the Sustainability Cabinet Committee on 16th March 2009 Cllr Paul Steedman asked for details of the environmental performance of the Council's purchases over the preceding year, judged against some simple criteria. The answers were not wholly encouraging.

While in some areas (such as the purchase of timber furniture) there were clear benchmark criteria, in many other areas of purchasing it was clear that the Council did not know or record the relevant information on environmental performance; or its performance was poor.

By way of example, the Council could not tell members how energy efficient any of the white goods it had purchased were, and confirmed that none of the chicken it bought was free range. At the time, Cllr Steedman was also promised further information on the performance of our vehicle fleet which I understand he never received. (The full extract from the minutes is appended for reference.)

At that meeting Cllr Steedman suggested the '*Procurement Code of Practice – Sustainability*' was failing and that, as many Whitehall departments have done, we should set minimum standards for the environmental, social and ethical performance of our purchasing.

Cllr Mears informed the meeting that: "*Setting minimum standards could have a negative effect with suppliers doing the bare minimum, instead of striving for higher standards. We want to ensure that we can demand higher standards wherever possible.*"

The pilot Environmental Management System adopted at the same meeting (and greatly welcomed by Green councillors in its own right) was also to play a role in driving up standards.

I have not seen any evidence over the year following that meeting that much has changed, and nor do I believe that, freed from the supposed lowest common denominator of minimum standards, officers or suppliers have striven for the very highest standards in ethical procurement.

The Council's purchase of goods and services adds up to a significant sum which could be a powerful force for driving up sustainability standards in the marketplace. The Council is also in a unique position in being able to set an example and a benchmark for local business and enterprise in this respect.

As it stands, taxpayers' money is, in some cases, being used to support mediocre or poor ethical performance by suppliers. This does not support the authority's corporate objectives, nor its LAA targets, nor the ambition set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy of living within environmental limits.

Like Cllr Steedman I believe that minimum standards have a key role to play in driving up performance; but the issues concerning Council procurement (such as its highly fragmented and devolved nature, and whether this delivers value for money) are much more wide-ranging.

In consequence, I would request that the Sustainability Cabinet Committee writes to the relevant Scrutiny Chair, asking that a scrutiny panel be created to investigate the issue of the Council's procurement processes and outcomes, with a particular focus on sustainability.

I feel that this is an opportunity for the Executive to benefit greatly from Scrutiny's policy development function in pursuit of greater efficiency, better value for the taxpayer, stronger accountability on public spending and the improved environmental, social and ethical standing of the Council.

I offer my thanks in advance for the Sustainability Cabinet Committee's consideration of my request, and for your time and attention in this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'A'.

Cllr Amy Kennedy

Subject: Sustainability Conference 2010
Date of Meeting: 23 July 2010
Report of: Director of Strategy & Governance
Contact Officer: Name: Mita Patel Tel: 29-3332
E-mail: mita.patel@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Key Decision: No
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to brief members on the outcomes of the Sustainability Conference 2010.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee notes the report.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The Sustainability Conference, titled the Evolving Seas was held on 15-16 April 2010. It was a two day event focusing on the marine and coastal theme and was supported by and held at the University of Brighton. The conference was agreed upon by Sustainability Cabinet Committee in February 2009 and particularly links in with the Leaders priority for supporting the Sussex offshore wind farm – a subject that was a significant component of the programme.

- 3.2 The conference was structured into three broad themes:

- Marine & coastal policy including the new Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009 and the implications for the city council, the local marine space, and the shoreline.
- Climate change in the impact of sea-level rise and stormier weather events for our marine and coastal space.
- The new offshore wind farm development planned off the Sussex coast – the impacts and opportunities this will be bring for the marine space and for Brighton & Hove.

See Appendix 1 for the complete conference programme.

- 3.3 The conference included exhibition stalls from over 20 organisations, environmental interest groups and projects. Also, two coastal ecology tours were conducted on Shoreham beach for delegates from a local marine educator and also from the council's Keeper of Natural Sciences from the Booth Museum.

- 3.4 A total of 230 delegates attended over the two days of the conference. The delegate profile was incredibly varied including local residents, representatives from local community groups, businesses, national organisations, NGOs, local authorities (including officers from BHCC), government agencies, media, education, and academic institutes.
- 3.5 Delegate feedback was very positive, particularly for opportunities for networking and on the speakers/presentations. Also delegates gave very high marks to 'potential long term value' of the conference and to the conference agenda as a whole.
The conference report detailing the entire conference, including summaries of all the conference presentations, a detailed analysis of the delegate feedback and photos from the event, is downloadable from the conference website (see Appendix 2 for website link).
- 3.6 **Sponsorship & support**
Organising the conference in partnership with the University of Brighton, provided expert input into the conference programme, contributions to the delivery of aspects of the programme as well as provided the venue and covered catering which significantly reduced the overall conference costs.
The conference was sponsored by E.ON Climate & Renewables (the developers of the Sussex offshore wind farm) who sponsored an evening reception for speakers, conference organisers and special invited guests; Searoc (a offshore energy consultants based in Brighton) who sponsored USB memory sticks to all delegates; the Sea Life Centre who provided the schools art competition prizes; and finally CleanUp UK who supported the council in organising a beach litter-pick for local primary schools.
- 3.7 **Next conference** – City Parks and the Sustainability Team will be providing organisational support to the Big Nature biodiversity conference that will be held on the **10 November 2010** at Dorothy Stringer High School. The conference titled 'Big Nature: A big deal for Brighton & Hove' will be a key event within a whole calendar of biodiversity events being held in the city throughout 2010 to celebrate 2010 - International Year of Biodiversity (see Appendices 3 & 4 for relevant website links)
The conference will include international & national speakers on biodiversity as well as provide opportunities for show-casing local case study biodiversity projects from across the city.

4. **CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Coastal Protection Engineer, City Parks, Legal

5. **FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The University of Brighton provided the location and catering for the sustainability conference, and other support was provided by sponsors. The actual costs incurred by the council was approximately £1,000 and related to bus hire, ecological tour leader, speaker accommodation and travel expenses, and was

met from the sustainability budget. The staff time incurred on the conference was covered within existing workloads and resources

Finance Officer Consulted: Peter Francis

Date: 12/07/10

Legal Implications:

5.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Lawyer consulted: Oliver Dixon

Date: 12/07/10

Equalities Implications:

5.3 None.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 As a coastal city, Brighton & Hove has a real impact on the local marine ecology and protecting the natural environment is a key component of sustainability. Development of the Sussex offshore wind farm is also like to have significant social, economic and educational opportunities for the city.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 None anticipated.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 n/a

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 The Sustainability Conference was a free event for the wider Brighton & Hove community. It raised awareness on a broad range of current marine and coastal sustainability issues.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

6.1 The council could in theory choose not to support the scheme or to look to maximise local employment.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Raising public awareness on issues relating to our local marine and coastal environment is important for improving the environmental quality as well as the opportunities.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendix:

1. Sustainability Conference 2010 programme

Documents In Members' Rooms

None.

Background Documents

1. www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/sustainabilityconference2010
2. Brighton & Hove City Council website on www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=b1157084
3. Brighton & Hove Big Nature website: www.bigbiodiversitycount.org.uk



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Brighton & Hove Sustainability Conference 2010

**The Evolving Seas:
Policy, climate change and the impacts and
opportunities for marine resources and ecology**

15th & 16th April 2010,
Cockcroft Building, University of Brighton, Brighton



University of Brighton



Climate &
Renewables

Programme

Day 1: Marine and coastal implications to policy and climate change

8.00–9.00	Setting up of stalls (Cockcroft Hall)	
9.15–10.00	Registration / coffee / networking (Cockcroft Hall)	
10.00–10.05	Conference open / Welcome	Prof. Julian Crampton, Vice Chancellor, University of Brighton
10.05–10.15	Chair's introduction	Prof. Stuart Laing, Pro-Vice Chancellor, The University of Brighton
10.15–10.20	Leader's welcome	Cllr Mary Mears, Leader of Brighton & Hove City Council
10.20–10.40	Keynote Speaker Marine Spatial Planning – Marine and Coastal Access Act and some related issues	Dr Peter Jones, Department of Geography, University College London
10.40–11.00	Marine Conservation Zones - Implications of the Marine and Coastal Access Bill for nature conservation at the regional/local level	Kate Bull, Project Officer, Marine Conservation Zones, Natural England and Sue Wells, Project Manager, Balanced Seas
11.00–11.30	Refreshments / networking / stall holders	
11.30–11.50	Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authorities (IFCAs),	Tim Dapling, Chief Fishery Officer & Clerk, Sussex Sea Fisheries Committee
11.50–12.20	Question & Answer session	Panel including all morning speakers and Oliver Dixon, Legal Officer, Brighton & Hove City Council
12.20–14.00	Lunch / networking / stall holders / film screening*	
14:00	Afternoon open & welcome	John Barradell, Chief Executive, Brighton & Hove City Council
14.00-14.05	Chair's introduction	Thurstan Crockett, Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy, Brighton & Hove City Council
14.05–14.25	The Changing Sea & Coast	Prof Andy Cundy, School of Environment & Technology, University of Brighton
14.25–14.45	Local implications of coastal erosion for Brighton & Hove	Ian Nunn, Asset Systems Management Team Leader, Environment Agency
14.45–15.05	Brighton Marina – its construction & strategy for future maintenance with environmental considerations	Jon Orrell, Managing Director, HOP Consulting,
15.05–15.35	Refreshments / networking / stall holders / short films*	
15.35–15.55	Marine ecology in Brighton & Hove	Steve Savage, Local Marine Educator
15.55-16.15	The Blue Gym	Chris Hines, Environmental Campaigner/ Co-founder of Surfers Against Sewage
16.15–16.30	Short films*	
16.30–17.10	Question & Answer session	Panel (including all afternoon session speakers)
17.10–18.00	Stall holders / networking	
18:00	Conference day 1 close	

Day 2: Opportunities from offshore energy generation and technologies

8.00 – 8.50	Setting up of stalls (Cockcroft Hall)		
8.50 – 9.40	Registration / coffee / networking / stall holders (Cockcroft Hall)		
9.40 – 9.50	Conference Open/ Chairs Welcome	Cllr Ayas Fallon-Khan Deputy Leader, Brighton & Hove City Council	
9.50 – 10.10	Keynote speaker – Offshore wind energy	Peter Madigan, Head of Offshore Renewables, Renewable UK	
10.10 – 10.30	UK Round 3 offshore wind development	Ian Bryan, Contract Manager, Crown Estate	
10.30 – 10.50	Sussex offshore wind farm	Dave Rogers Regional Director for Renewables E.ON Climate & Renewables UK, (Developer of Hastings Zone / Sussex offshore wind farm)	
10.50 – 11.20	Refreshments / networking / stall holders		
11.20 – 11.40	Offshore energy generation	Tom Frood, Engineering Manager, Searoc	
11.40 – 12.00	Artificial reef / Poole Harbour	Roger Brown, Head of Leisure Services, Bournemouth Borough Council	
12.00 – 12.40	Question & Answer session	Panel (including all Day 2 speakers)	
12.40 – 15.15	Lunch / networking / stall holders	13.45 – 17.30	Coastal ecology tour, Shoreham Beach - Led by Steve Savage (supported by Dr Gerald Legg, Keeper of Natural Sciences, Booth Museum of Natural History, Brighton & Hove)* ₂
	Film screening: 'The End of the Line'		
15.15	Stalls and Conference close		

*** A range of short films will be shown including some on underwater landscapes from Natural England**

***₂ The coastal ecology tour will be repeated twice. Transport will be provided for delegates participating in tour to and from conference venue.**

Subject: Offshore Wind Farm
Date of Meeting: 23 July 2010
Report of: Director of Strategy & Governance
Contact Officer: Name: Thurstan Crockett Tel: 29-2503
E-mail: Thurstan.crockett@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Key Decision: No
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform members about the successful bid to the Crown Estate for the development of an offshore wind farm near Brighton & Hove.
- 1.2 This will help in meeting the UK's legally binding target of 15% energy generation from renewable sources by 2020.
- 1.8 The delivery of the wind farm has major job creation potential for the area and it is vital to build a long term relationship with E.On at the most senior level. This has been established early to ensure that the council takes the opportunity seriously and helps secure a range of benefits locally.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee instructs and authorises the Chief Executive to lead work by the council to help Eon:
 - Engage with officers across the council and stakeholders across the city to ensure the potential benefits of the scheme are secured locally
 - Establish an office base in the city to support the windfarm development programme
 - Develop a strong community engagement and consultation programme to ensure their plans win strong public support locally
 - Develop strong local supply chains through skills development work with the universities, colleges and employers
 - Rename the windfarm to give it a stronger local identity.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The leader of the council has made supporting the offshore wind farm and maximising its economic benefit to the city one of her top priorities for 2010.
- 3.2 The windfarm also fits clearly under the first council priority "protect the environment while growing the economy" and ties in well with ambitions for a low

carbon city and one that optimises employment in a growing local environmental industries and services sector.

- 3.3 The Crown Estate (landowners of the UK's marine estate) formally announced the successful bidder for the wind farm zone in January 2010. The local zone was identified after extensive mapping exercises that involved consideration of a whole series of factors including shipping, fishing, wildlife, etc. and commits to engaging more holistically with stakeholders, boosting the supply chains, and will involve more active involvement working with industry.
- 3.4 The Sussex wind farm will be sited in Zone 6, known temporarily as the "Hastings" zone, which is located 8–16 miles off the Sussex Coast and covers a site area of 270.2km² (104.3 square miles). The water depth within the site area ranges from 19m–62m and it is expected that when fully operational the wind farm will generate up to 650 megawatts of electricity. Although the site was initially referred to as the Hastings Zone it is nowhere near Hastings and work is underway locally to come up with a more appropriate name.
- 3.5 The winning developer for the Sussex offshore wind farm is E-on Climate & Renewables. Local offshore energy consultants, Searoc, are acting as advisors and survey work has begun in earnest. All parties have now signed exclusive Zone Development Agreements with The Crown Estate, which has responsibility for renewable energy in UK waters, to take the proposals through the planning and consenting phase. The next stages will involve identifying the exact sites within the zones for locating the wind farms by the developers, who have control over where the site is located.
- 3.6 Initially E.On has been carrying out development work to find out whether permissions and / or consents can be granted within the approved timescale as they see the scheme has the potential for an early delivery and a flagship Round 3 project. They have been working with the council's economic development team to compile a list of key personnel within the city council and key stakeholders in the city who they need to make contact with during the early stages of the development process.
- 3.7 The delivery timetable is set out as follows:

2010-13 Site selection within zone & submission of planning application for site:
Stakeholder engagement
Environmental Impact Scoping;
Baseline surveys including bird survey, mammal survey, geophysics, conservation, archaeology;
Pre application discussions – leading up to the submission of a formal application.

2014-16
Financial close;
Formal tendering;
Procurement;
Construction;
Delivery.

The supply chain networks need to be active through all of the above processes

2020 Wind farms installed and operational

- 3.8 In total the whole of Round 3 across the country is expected to create between 50,000 and 70,000 new jobs. There is great potential for the two ports of Newhaven and Shoreham with regards to the offshore wind farm together with wider supply chain networks servicing its development.
- 3.9 The key challenges that have been identified include raising the manufacturing capacity and skills availability for design, manufacture, construction and Operation & Maintenance.
- 3.10 Economic Development Officers attended an offshore wind industry supply chain event at Gatwick on 23 February 2010, organised by SEEDA and EnviroBusiness. This event was planned as a 'marketplace' to enable all those involved in developing the offshore wind sites to do business – creating opportunities for local and regional companies to do business right across the UK. Contact at the conference was made with the Stakeholder Manager from e-on introducing the role and function of the economic development team.
- 3.11 E.On has appointed a Zone 6 liaison officer, Chris Tomlinson, to be the face of their operation locally and work has been going on to investigate a potential location for him and E.On within the city.
- 3.12 The new Government has announced changes to planning which will affect the planning process that E.On would have been seeking permissions through. In the Coalition Agreement, the Government confirmed its commitment to an efficient and democratically accountable fast-track process for major infrastructure projects.
- 3.13 The Government aims to bring forward legislation next year to replace the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), introducing a revised structure within Government, which will put the fairer, faster decision making that national infrastructure planning requires, on a democratic footing. It is not yet clear whether or not this will affect E.On's overall timetable for Zone 6 development.
- 3.14 Both the Crown Estate and E.On presented at the Sustainability Conference (15th-16th April 2010) and E.On took a stand in the conference hall and part sponsored the conference: their presentations were well received. The presentations will be available from the council's website shortly via:
<http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1209854>
Eon also gave a presentation to the City Sustainability Partnership on May 10:
[http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/downloads/bhcc/Presentation for Brighton Sustainability Conference Eon.pdf](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/downloads/bhcc/Presentation%20for%20Brighton%20Sustainability%20Conference%20Eon.pdf)

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Officers in Economic Development and City Planning and Property Services.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The Council will facilitate and support the stakeholder through officer support. At present there are no direct financial costs associated with the Council, however, as the project progresses further detailed work will be required to assess the financial impact upon the Council.

Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen

Date: 31/03/10

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The target of sourcing at least 15% of UK energy from renewable sources by 2020 derives from the UK's compliance with the EU Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC), and is at the heart of the government's Renewable Energy Strategy published in 2009.

Lawyer Consulted:

Oliver Dixon

Date: 13/07/10

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 None.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 This is a significant UK renewable energy project that will have a direct impact on reducing CO2 emissions from electricity generation, as well as generate employment.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None anticipated.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 There are risks to the project if its community engagement programme is unsuccessful and a campaign against the visual impact grows, threatening local support for the scheme, which initially seems strong.
- 5.7 There are some risks relating to the planning process, with changes announced recently.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.8 As a major construction and renewable energy project just off the coast near the city, this has significant potential for linked education, tourism and training programmes leading to job opportunities; and also for secondary employment.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 The council could in theory choose not to support the scheme or to look to maximise local employment.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Supporting the offshore windfarm and optimising the economic benefits of it to the city is one of the leader's priorities for 2010.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendix:

1. Location of Offshore Wind Farm and Process of Development of Offshore Wind Farm

Documents In Members' Rooms

None.

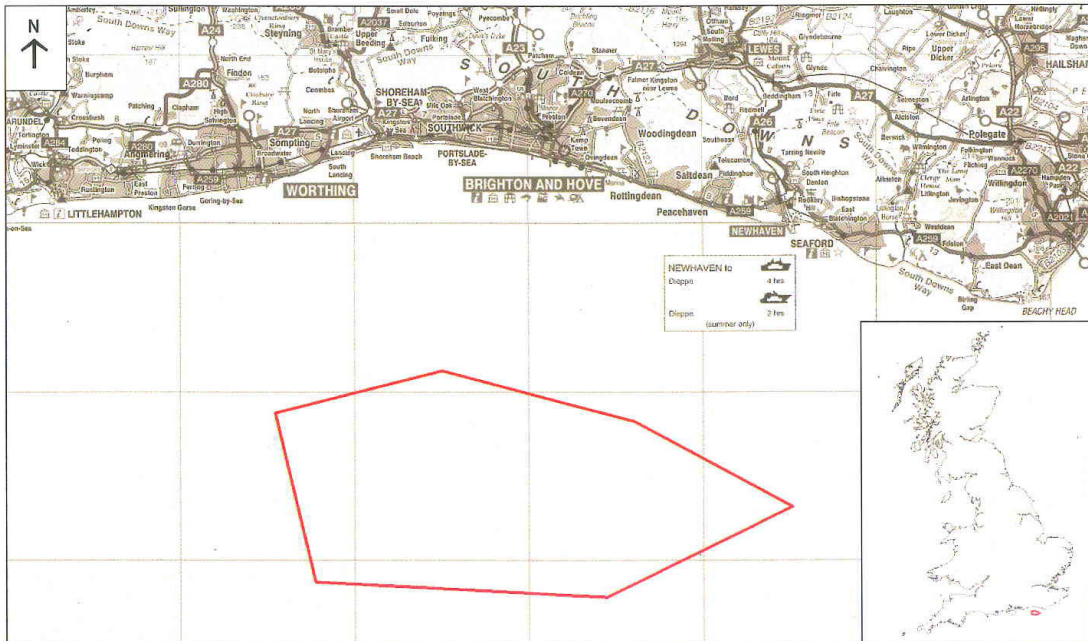
Background Documents

None.

Location of Offshore Wind Farm Round 3 Zone 6

The extent and location of the Offshore Wind Farm is shown in red below.

Site location



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Offshore processes in the development, installation and operation of a Round 3 wind farm



Subject: Sustainable Communities Act
Date of Meeting: 23 July 2010
Report of: Director of Strategy & Governance
Contact Officer: Name: Lisa Shaw Tel: 29-6805
E-mail: Lisa.shaw@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Key Decision: No
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 Brighton & Hove City Council made the decision to 'opt in' to the Sustainable Communities Act in October 2008. The Act gives the Government a legal duty to 'assist local authorities in promoting the sustainability of local communities.' Individuals, community groups and councils can put forward proposals on how they feel that the Government could carry out this duty.
- 1.2 Cabinet submitted 9 proposals to the Local Government Association for consideration in July 2009. The expectation was that a decision would have been made by now by Government on which proposals to implement and so this paper provides an update on the progress made to date, including lobbying at national and local level. The new Government is showing renewed enthusiasm for both the Act and the devolution of power to local communities.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee notes the progress made to date on the council's proposals made under the Act in 2009 and instructs officers to keep the Committee informed of Government announcements on:
- (i) the implementation of any outstanding proposals; and
 - (ii) plans to invite councils to submit a second set of proposals.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The Sustainable Communities Act 2007 gives councils and communities the opportunity to ask national government to devolve more power to local councils so they can improve the well being and sustainability of local areas. The Act places a legal duty on the Government to 'assist local authorities in promoting the sustainability of local communities'. Government is required to meet this duty through holding periodic calls for ideas from communities and individuals via their local councils and from local councils.
- 3.2 Brighton & Hove 'opted in' to the Act in October 2008. Local organisations and residents in Brighton & Hove were given the opportunity to come up with

proposals to improve the areas where they live, supported by the city council and Stronger Communities Partnership.

- 3.3 The council received 23 proposals in total. Following feedback and negotiation with a Local Panel (as per the requirements of the Act), in July 2009 the Administration recommended that nine proposals be submitted to the Local Government Association (LGA). In summary the nine proposals were:
1. That the council is given the power to offer discretionary business rate relief to encourage and sustain small and medium local businesses.
 2. That legislation is changed to allow allotment holders to sell their surplus produce to local businesses.
 3. That food growing, either on or off school sites, be introduced as part of the national curriculum.
 4. That national planning policy, specifically planning policy statement 1 is changed to explicitly support localised food systems.
 5. That the legal restriction that prevents councils which own housing to borrow against the Housing Revenue Account (rent) is removed.
 6. That legislation is amended to release existing and accumulated capital receipts from the sale of council housing to councils to build new affordable housing or invest in existing affordable housing.
 7. That the installation and use of renewable energy by households is made more accessible and affordable.
 8. That the council is given the power to set vehicle speed limits on public roads at any maximum below existing regulations, according to local needs.
 9. That legislation is introduced that requires supermarkets:
 - To reduce their use of food packing that is non-recyclable;
 - To provide recycling facilities for plastic not recycled by the council;
 - To ensure that the plastic is recycled or, where this is not practicable, to bear the cost of treating it as landfill waste.
- 3.4 Eight of the nine Brighton & Hove proposals submitted were short-listed by the LGA for negotiation with the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. 301 proposals were submitted nationally from all the councils who opted into the Act and these were short listed down to 199 by the LGA.
- 3.5 The only proposal from Brighton & Hove that was not shortlisted was 'that food growing, either on or off school sites, be introduced as part of the national curriculum'. The LGA Selector Panel felt that the national curriculum does not prohibit this currently and therefore the proposal does not require legislative assistance from the Secretary of State under the Act.
- 3.6 The proposal requesting a freedom that would allow surplus produce from allotments to be sold to local markets and shops is the only short listed proposal from Brighton & Hove (to date) where a decision has been made. On 3rd March 2010, the previous Government clarified that there are no legal restrictions on allotment holders selling genuinely surplus produce, within a package of measures that set out the previous Government's support for gardeners and growing food in with the community.
- 3.7 On 6 April 2010, John Denham, former Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, published a written ministerial statement responding to and supporting 17 out of the 199 proposals shortlisted by the LGA. The allotments

proposal from Brighton & Hove was one of the 17 proposals.

- 3.8 In response to this announcement the Chairman of the LGA Selector panel wrote to John Denham on 8 April 2010 to express disappointment at the extent of the interim announcement and concern around clarity and timetable for moving forward to comprehensive and formal decisions.
- 3.9 At a local level, on 31 March 2010 Cllr Dee Simson signed a letter (initiated by Local Works, an organisation campaigning for the Sustainable Communities Act) from 55 council's who opted in to the Act also asking the former minister, John Denham, for action to complete round one before the general election in May, however no further announcement was made.
- 3.10 The new Coalition Government is in the process of setting out their policy agenda for the term in parliament. They have signalled a commitment to implementing the Act in their first formal paper, 'Our Programme for Government', as part of their proposals to promote decentralisation and democratic engagement. Furthermore, a number of stated national policy changes fit with subjects that are addressed in the proposals submitted by Brighton & Hove under the Sustainable Communities Act. Appendix 1 gives an account of these areas of fit, though it should be noted this does not necessarily determine which of the SCA proposals will specifically be approved.
- 3.11 On 8th June 2010 a further piece of legislation, the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill became law and the Act became a continual rolling process. This requires that The Secretary of State must give notice to local authorities by 1st January 2011 of the latest date that he intends to invite proposals under round 2 of the Act.
- 3.12 In June 2010, 184 MPs signed an Early Day Motion (EDM) expressing disappointment that although proposals were initially submitted by local authorities on 31 July 2009 and were submitted by the LGA to the then Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in December 2009, not one had yet been agreed, which is likely to cause disillusionment in many of the communities who put ideas forward. The EDM notes that the Department for Communities and Local Government supports a new timetable for implementing the Act, although no detail has yet been announced on when this will be.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Stronger Communities Partnership was consulted about the local process to promote the Act and develop a local panel for considering proposals. This is the lead partnership in the city for improvement of community engagement.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The proposals set out in paragraph 3.3 if implemented by the Government and used by the Council would in some cases result in additional costs falling on the Council for which it currently has no budget provision. Before deciding to use any of the new powers the costs would need to be fully identified and an appropriate and affordable budget provision agreed. The decision set out in paragraph 3.6 to

allow surplus produce from allotments to be sold to local markets and shops does not have direct financial implications on the Council.

Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley

Date: 12/07/10

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 Relevant provisions of the Sustainable Communities Act 2007 and the Sustainable Communities Act 2007 (Amendment Act) 2010 are referred to in the report.

Early day motions (EDMs) are formal motions submitted for debate in the House of Commons. However, very few EDMs are actually debated. Instead, they are used for reasons such as publicising the views of individual MPs, drawing attention to specific events or campaigns, and demonstrating the extent of parliamentary support for a particular cause or point of view.

Lawyer Consulted:

Oliver Dixon

Date: 13/07/10

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The meaning of sustainability under the Act has 4 strands: (i) improvement of the local economy, (ii) protection of the environment; (iii) promotion of social inclusion, and (iv) participation in civic and political activity. Proposals must fall into one or more of these categories. During their deliberations the local panel considered any potential unintended negative impacts the proposals could have in terms of sustainability, for example promoting economic sustainability at the expense of social inclusion or civic participation.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 The primary aim of the legislation is to enhance and promote the sustainability of local communities, as per the definition of sustainability in the Act as stated above.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 Within this definition of sustainability, proposals had the potential to include action to reduce crime and disorder. There are no specific implications in the 9 proposals submitted by Brighton & Hove under round one of the Act.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 The Act has introduced for the first time a co-operative element to decision making between local communities and national government with all decisions negotiated between relevant parties. However, as there are several tiers of negotiation there is an element of risk in terms of managing communities' expectations. Moreover, since it is now one year since the proposals were initially submitted, it may appear as if proposals have been unsuccessful. However, given the new Government's plan for decentralisation of power there may be opportunities arising from the proposals.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 As the Act allows for proposals that request the transfer of power from national to local government and from one public agency to another the implications of the Act are relevant to all key public agencies in the city.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 The process by which proposals are to be submitted under the Act was defined in the legislation and associated guidance. Opportunity for an alternative approach was limited.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 To ensure that the Sustainability Cabinet Committee is kept up date on progress of proposals under the Act and also any opportunities that may arise through the Act to enhance and promote sustainability in the area.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Brighton & Hove Sustainable Community Act proposals – comparison with the Coalition Government’s policy paper, ‘*Our Programme for Government*’.

Documents In Members’ Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

Brighton & Hove Sustainable Communities Act proposals – comparison with the Coalition Government’s policy paper, ‘Our Programme for Government’

1.1 The table below compares the proposals submitted by Brighton & Hove City Council in response to round one of the Act with recent policy statements from the new Government. This does not mean that a proposal will necessarily be implemented but indicates where national thinking is proposing action on similar issues to those that have been put forward locally.

Sustainable Communities Act proposal	Policy statement(s)
1. That the council is given the power to offer discretionary business rate relief to encourage and sustain small and medium local businesses.	“We will find a practical way to make small business rate relief automatic”. (Page 10) A separate announcement in the Budget that small business rate relief will be increased and extend for 1 year
2. That legislation is changed to allow allotment holders to sell their surplus produce to local businesses.	The LGA has approached the council to seek its views on separate changes proposed to allotment legislation by CLG
3. That food growing, either on or off school sites, be introduced as part of the national curriculum	This proposal was not short listed by the LGA
4. That national planning policy, specifically planning policy statement 1 is changed to explicitly support localised food systems.	No related statement
5. That the legal restriction that prevents councils which own housing to borrow against the Housing Revenue Account (rent) is removed.	“We will phase out the ring-fencing of grants to local government and review the unfair Housing Revenue Account”. (Page 12)
6. That legislation is amended to release existing and accumulated capital receipts from the sale of council housing to councils to build new affordable housing or invest in existing affordable housing.	“We will phase out the ring-fencing of grants to local government and review the unfair Housing Revenue Account”. (Page 12)
7. That the installation and use of renewable energy by households is	“We will establish a full system of feed-in tariffs in electricity – as well as

Item 13 Appendix 1

<p>made more accessible and affordable.</p>	<p>the maintenance of banded Renewables Obligation Certificates”. (Page 16)</p> <p>“We will encourage community-owned renewable energy schemes where local people benefit from the power produced. We will also allow communities that host renewable energy projects to keep the additional business rates they generate”. (Page 17)</p>
<p>8. That the council is given the power to set vehicle speed limits on public roads at any maximum below existing regulations, according to local needs.</p>	<p>No related statement</p>
<p>9. That legislation is introduced that requires supermarkets –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce their use of food packing that is non-recyclable; • To provide recycling facilities for plastic not recycled by the council; • To ensure that the plastic is recycled or, where this is not practicable, to bear the cost of treating it as landfill waste. 	<p>“We will introduce honesty in food labelling so that consumers can be confident about where their food comes from and its environmental impact”. (Page 13)</p> <p>“We will work towards a ‘zero waste’ economy, encourage councils to pay people to recycle, and work to reduce littering”. (Page 17)</p>

2.2. In addition, the Government paper pledges to give local councils the general power of competence (page 12). This will enable councils, where there is not prohibitive legislation to the contrary, to carry out any activity so long as there is a demonstrable benefit to the community, where previously they would have required specific legislative permission to do so.

2.3. Page numbers in this appendix refer to the relevant pages in the Coalition document which can be found at the following web-link:
<http://programmeforgovernment.hmg.gov.uk/files/2010/05/coalition-programme.pdf>

SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 14

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Brighton & Hove Fair Trade Steering Group
Date of Meeting: 23 July 2010
Report of: Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy
Contact Officer: Name: Thurstan Crockett Tel: 29-2503
E-mail: Thurstan.crockett@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Key Decision: No
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This is an update on the work of Brighton & Hove's Fair Trade Steering Group following this committee's decision in January to help establish the group.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee welcome the progress made by the steering group to date.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 Brighton & Hove City Council was the first Fairtrade town in the UK. It achieved Fairtrade City status in 2004. The original steering group lost momentum over the years and on January 21, 2010 the Sustainability cabinet Committee accepted the following recommendations:
- (1) That a steering group be formed to examine the benefits of continued 'Fairtrade City' status and develop a city programme, with a remit to report its findings to the Committee for approval.
 - (2) That delegated power be granted to the Head of Sustainability and Environmental Policy to establish the steering group.
- 3.2 The city council went ahead and has attracted a broad and very experienced range of people to form the group, drawing particularly on the significant number of Fair Trade retailers now established in the city. The council has hosted three meetings of the steering group, which includes the following people:

Maria Antoniou (Development Manager - Friends Centre)
Ian Chisnall (Churches Together in Sussex)
Christine Gent (External Affairs, World Fair Trade Organisation)
Helen Burrows (World Development Movement)
Deborah Miarkowska (EcoChic Collection - an online ethical and fairtrade fashion boutique and eco glossy magazine)
Barb Wilson (LovethatStuff Fair Trade Shop & Internet business)

Siobhan Wilson (owner of FAIR & Kolkata Fair Trade shops)
Naz Harrison, President, University of Brighton
Alison Hadfield, Brighton & Hove High School, representing Eco Schools
Vic Else, Director, Brighton & Hove Food Partnership
Ruth England (Education Coordinator - Brighton Peace & Environment Centre)
Tamsin Jones (FAIR volunteer) - administrator

- 3.3 The group has agreed a core aim: “To support, encourage and celebrate Fair Trade, so that Brighton & Hove becomes well known as a place that fosters and is closely associated with Fair Trade” , as well as a clear set of aims and goals (See Appendix 1).
- 3.4 Key projects being worked include targeting many of the 120 churches in the city – nineteen are already registered as Fair Trade churches and there is great potential to add to this number.
- 3.5 The Friends Centre is also developing both learning about fair trade and work for Fairtrade Fortnight in 2011, including collaboration with the Co-Op on an Eat with Ethics evening and a fairtrade show.
- 3.6 The local Fair Trade website is being overhauled and improved and a new leaflet “Celebrating Fair Trade Businesses in Brighton & Hove” has been produced to promote Fairtrade shops and other outlets and their locations in the city centre, including Kolkata, FAIR, Shared Earth, RYico, Lovethatstuff, and the Friends Centre; as well as locally-based Fair Trade businesses: Before You Can, Ciel, Ecochic Collection and Fairly Covered.
- 3.7 Future agenda items include working with the national Fairtrade Foundation, The Sussex Fairtrade Network, Brighton & Hove Albion, on procurement, marketing and publicity work with the city council, and work towards Fairtrade Fortnight events.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The following departments were consulted: Procurement, the Sustainability Team, Communications and Food Partnership.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are limited financial implications arising from this report. Staff time and associated meeting costs in relation to the operation of the steering group will be met within the existing budget of the Sustainability Team.

Finance Officer Consulted: Peter Francis

Date: 13/07/10

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The recommendations at paragraph 3.1 are consistent with the Sustainability Cabinet Committee’s terms of reference. The Committee therefore has proper authority to give effect to those recommendations.

5.3 There are no other legal implications arising directly from the report.

Lawyer Consulted:

Oliver Dixon

Date: 13/07/10

Equalities Implications:

5.4 Fairtrade issues focus on international social justice.

Sustainability Implications:

5.5 This report addresses sustainability issues by encouraging and promoting the use of fairtrade products within the local community and in the City Council.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.6 None

Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

5.7 The reputational risk is if that if the City Council had not taken steps to ensure fairtrade activity in the city is co-ordinated, sooner or later the city's commitment to fairtrade would have been questioned and challenged in more depth and detail. However, now more time and resources are committed to the promotion of fairtrade and the city will retain its fair trade status, with an external partnership lead, and council backing.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.8 Fairtrade City Status is a citywide accolade showing that the city cares about international issues and the welfare of producers in developing countries.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

6.1 If we had done nothing Brighton and Hove City Council could have been in danger of losing its status as a fairtrade city.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The Sustainability Cabinet Committee called for work on this to be developed at its January meeting.

7.2 A dedicated group promoting fairtrade polices on a regular basis will enable the City's populace to continually be reminded the importance of buying fairtrade products.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Aims and core Five Goals for the Fair Trade Steering Group: Brighton & Hove in Sussex

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

1. Brighton & Fairtrade city website: <http://www.bhft.org.uk/home.htm>

Our Name

Fair Trade Steering Group: Brighton & Hove in Sussex

Aims

To support, encourage and celebrate Fair Trade, so that Brighton & Hove becomes well known as a place that fosters and is closely associated with Fair Trade.

1. To maintain our Fairtrade City Status by continuing to commit to the five goals laid down by the Fairtrade Foundation.
2. To inform, promote and raise awareness of Fair Trade among residents, in particular the idea of becoming Fair Trade Citizens. To ensure our promotion of Fair Trade in Brighton & Hove is enthusiastic, positive and engaging.
3. To encourage local businesses, the council and other organisations to be ambassadors for Fair Trade, by buying Fair Trade where possible and by helping us to communicate the Fair Trade message to consumers.
4. To collaborate to create local partnerships so that businesses and organisations can share benefits from their joint support of Fair Trade. By working together, to encourage Fair Trade to become part of their structure and ingrained in their thinking.
5. To encourage Community groups, e.g. clubs, churches, schools, and universities to also give 100% backing to Fair Trade in their activities.
6. To support schools, universities and all educational centres to include Fair Trade in their curriculum, ensuring it is taught in exciting and innovative ways, so that students become enthusiastic proponents of Fair Trade.
7. To show how Fair Trade complements Environmental Sustainability, and to ensure that Fair Trade is at the forefront of the Council's Sustainability remit.

The core Five Goals are:

1. **Local council passes a resolution supporting Fairtrade, and agrees to serve Fairtrade products (for example, in meetings, offices and canteens).**
2. **A range of Fairtrade products are readily available in the area's retail outlets (shops, supermarkets, newsagents and petrol stations) and served in local catering outlets (cafés, restaurants, pubs).**
3. **Local workplaces and community organisations (places of worship, schools, universities, colleges and other community organisations) support Fairtrade and use Fairtrade products whenever possible. A flagship employer is required for populations over 100,000.**

- 4. Media coverage and events raise awareness and understanding of Fairtrade across the community.**
- 5. A local Fairtrade steering group is convened to ensure the Fairtrade Town campaign continues to develop and gain new support.**

APPENDIX 1

Criteria For Achieving Fairtrade Status and How B&HCC Compares as at November 2009.

The criteria of achieving fairtrade city status are listed below with a brief overview of the current situation.

1. The local council passes a resolution supporting and promoting fairtrade. This was passed in 2004.

2. A range of at least two fairtrade products are readily available in the area's shops and are served in local cafes/ catering establishments. Fairtrade teas, coffees, sugar are being served within the council offices. The possibility of local cafes and shops using fairtrade products is very high but research should be initiated to monitor how many cafés and restaurants are currently involved. For businesses that are not involved the reasons they are not should be addressed.

3. Fairtrade products are used by a number of local work places and community groups. Yes this is particularly true of community groups such as churches. However for local work places again research may be needed to determine how many do this.

4. Media coverage and popular support is attracted for the campaign. The Local Authority press office is not actively involved in promoting fairtrade issues. However, there is evidence that the Sustainability Team still actively promotes fairtrade in schools, within the council and with some community groups by organising competitions, events and loaning out games with a fairtrade theme. But due to other commitments having to be met this can only be done within a limited time frame (2 weeks in March). There is also a Brighton and Hove website on fairtrade issues but this needs updating and to be regularly maintained.

5. A local fairtrade steering group is set up to ensure continued commitment to its Fairtrade City status. It was set up but it is now defunct. Setting up a new one is recommended in this report.

Subject: Community Land Bank Feasibility Study
Date of Meeting: 23 July 2010
Report of: Director of Strategy & Governance
Contact Officer: Name: Francesca Iliffe Tel: 29-0486
E-mail: Francesca.iliffe@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Key Decision: No
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The Federation of City Farms & Community Gardens (FCFCG) is a national not for profit organisation who are undertaking a consultation and feasibility study into the creation of a Community Land Bank (CLB).
- 1.2 The study will explore the value in setting up a national body to support the development of new local community growing initiatives. Brighton & Hove City Council was one of three local authorities invited to be involved in this study. FCFCG may seek a pilot agreement between a landowner and a group following the study.
- 1.3 The leader of the council endorsed council involvement with FCFCG in the consultation in March 2010.
- 1.4 The first stage of this consultation took place with a roundtable held in Brighton, June 2010. This report introduces the Community Land Bank study and brings feedback of the roundtable.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the council's participation in the Community Land Bank initiative.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The Federation approached Brighton & Hove City Council requesting involvement in the CLB study in early 2010. As forerunners in this area, the council was recognised as being in a position to offer experience and insight into the usefulness of a community land bank. Two other authorities are involved: Bristol and Nottingham.
- 3.3 The leader of the council, Cllr Mears, endorsed council involvement in March 2010 in the interest of pursuing innovative ways to facilitate community access to land for food growing. Proposed involvement was to include:

- interviews with key stakeholders;
 - round table discussions with various stakeholders, exploring the demand for land, how a land bank would work, what services it would offer, the collection of sample leases, ways of working, etc. that would all inform the development of a CLB;
 - exploring the drawing up of leases;
 - exploring risk assessments.
- 3.4 Brighton & Hove City Council is recognised as a forerunner in the area of Food Policy for its history of achievements. In the city there is a strong desire from residents to access land for food growing evidenced by an oversubscribed waiting list for allotments; frequent requests for parcels of land for community agriculture and food projects; and the presence of a thriving Food Partnership, Community Food Projects and Allotment groups.
- 3.5 The council's innovations in food work include: being instrumental in the creation of the Brighton and Hove Food Partnership (2004); producing with the Food Partnership a pioneering food policy document: *From Spade to Spoon: a Food Strategy and Action Plan for Brighton & Hove* (2006); and supporting and becoming a partner in citywide project *Harvest* to increase food growing across the city (2009 onwards).
- 3.6 As a landowner the council is committed to extending the availability of land for food growing. Particularly through: improving and extending the allotments service; responding to requests from residents for land for new growing projects on housing land and from community groups for community supported agriculture on the agricultural estate; and supporting the development of innovative demonstration gardens (Preston Park). The city benefits from at least four long established community food groups all existing on land leased from the council. Despite headway made in the city, the council is seeking to go further in accommodating new growing projects.
- 3.7 A roundtable discussion was held in Brighton in June 2010 (see notes at appendix 1). Next steps for the feasibility study are for the federation to produce an interim report of findings. The results of the research may indicate that a Community Land Bank would prove beneficial in which case the federation will seek further funding for a pilot study possibly in Brighton & Hove.
- 3.7 This report covers: the Community Land Bank proposal; progress with the study; and background on the Federation.

Community Land Bank proposal and study

- 3.8 The federation have been funded by the Department of Communities and Local Government to undertake a feasibility study on creating a national CLB. The study will cover market feasibility and investigation of legal and governance structures. Consultants and Federation staff will be carrying out the research.

- 3.9 The Bank would act as an independent, not-for-profit agency, supporting access to unused land for food growing on either a temporary or long term basis. More detailed information on the background to this study and proposals for a land bank can be seen on the federations website: www.farmgarden.org.uk/news/474-community-land-bank-solution
- 3.10 The draft services that a Community Land Bank could provide include:
- To promote wider and more flexible access to land on affordable terms for community farms and gardens;
 - To act as a trusted intermediary and brokerage for land provision between landholders and community groups;
 - To offer (for leased sites) security to landowners and tenants over length and terms of tenancies;
 - To seek to reduce tenure costs and savings on community time and effort;
 - To hold land in trust as appropriate; and
 - To develop best practice precedents as model forms of agreement for involving more landowners in provision to meet community needs.
- 3.11 If the study supports the establishment of a national Land Bank, the Federation aims to have a model structure in place by the end of the summer, after which funding will be sought for a pilot.
- 3.12 The Feasibility study has generated wide press interest. Media Coverage is noted in appendix 2.

Progress with the Feasibility Study

- 3.13 Telephone interviews with a few officers have taken place and more are expected to happen. Key councillors and officers were sought for the roundtable which was held on 10 June 2010. Meeting notes are attached at **appendix 1**. Cllr Fallon-Khan attended with 8 officers. The number of officers attending from a variety of sections demonstrated council eagerness to be involved in innovation around food work, and also showed how many officers were already working on this agenda.
- 3.14 Key stakeholders were also invited to the roundtable discussion. These included representatives from community food projects including the Food Partnership.
- 3.15 As will be seen from the notes, there is interest in making further land available to the community but at the same time a need to overcome barriers.
- 3.16 The federation will be following up with further interviews and may seek a site within Brighton & Hove to pilot the operation of a community land bank role. This may not necessarily be on council land.

Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens

- 3.17 The Federation is a registered charity that supports, represents and promotes community-managed farms, gardens, allotments and other green spaces. They represent around 120 city and school farms, nearly 1,000 community gardens, a growing number of community-managed allotments and over 200 city farms and community gardens in development. Further information on the federation can be found on the federation website: <http://www.farmgarden.org.uk/>

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Federation has already conducted preliminary research into the Land Bank idea, in the form of a consultation. This demonstrated support for the idea from a broad range of stakeholders. It would also have a useful role in mediating between the suppliers and users of land, especially in negotiating quality leases and ensuring that management issues would be dealt with. This would create security and confidence in the lease process for all.
- 4.2 The research included interviews with a diverse range of organisations including land users and landowners, bodies supporting community gardening groups and those that might provide land on a temporary or longer-term basis. Strong interest in the CLB proposition was obtained from public and voluntary sector organisations but private sector organisations were reluctant to take part in the process. Research also showed that the source of the demand is diverse socially, economically, ethnically and demographically. Concern was expressed about the lack of security of tenure but, on the other hand, the potential innovation that a CLB could provide was appreciated.
- 4.3 The Community Land Bank Consultation: Executive Summary, Conclusion and Next Steps, is available on the FCFCG website <http://www.farmgarden.org.uk/news/474-community-land-bank-solution>.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications from the recommendations in this report. Staff time spent in attendance at meetings and participation in telephone interviews have been managed within existing workloads and resources. The feasibility study has been carried out by the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens (FCFCG), with no council officer time involved. The FCFCG has already received government grant for this discrete piece of work.

Finance Officer Consulted: Peter Francis

Date: 08/07/10

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from the recommendation in this report.

Lawyer Consulted:

Oliver Dixon

Date: 07/07/10

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 No equalities impact assessment has been carried out at this point. Any EqIA for the feasibility study would be undertaken by the federation. The intention behind the Community Land Bank proposal is to increase the access of the local community to land for growing food.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 Increasing local food production is a key sustainability output intended from Community Land Bank proposals leading to more sustainable patterns of production and consumption, greater resource efficiency, and lower climate change impacts.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None identified

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Since the council is involved in a feasibility study only at this stage, there are no significant financial or other risks identified. There is a potential opportunity for positive publicity.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 In recognition of the health, environmental, social and economic benefits that can be gained from local food growing, the council has made commitments to increase city food growing through the Sustainable Community Strategy.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 No comparable alternative options were available.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 FCFCG has commissioned this research to examine whether a CLB could be established as a social enterprise to address the burgeoning demand for access to space for local food growing and for the development and furtherance of community gardening generally. The proposition is that a CLB would be situated in the “non-statutory” and community sector. This involves land not protected by the Allotment Acts and would involve gardening under a very different set of rules than those applying to local authority allotments.
- 7.2 The strategic objective for a CLB would be a net increase in the land available for gardening and a contribution to addressing increased demand. The assumption is that there is a potential supply in the form of land under the management of a variety of landowners (some of which may be awaiting development in some form) which could be made available for gardening until it is time for it to go forward for its designated use.
- 7.3 Community-managed gardens and farms make a major contribution to the quality of life locally in relation to a broad range of social and environmental objectives,

such as the provision of green space, bio-diversity, exercise, community cohesion, beneficial effects on mental health, environmental education, the welfare of older people and carbon reduction.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Notes from Roundtable meeting 10 June 2010
2. Media Coverage of Community Land Banks including Brighton & Hove Area

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

1. *"From Spade to Spoon: A Food Strategy and Action Plan for Brighton & Hove"*.
http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/downloads/bhcc/sustainability/food_strategy/SpadeToSpoon-WEB_FINAL_SEPT06.pdf

**Notes from Brighton and Hove Round Table on the Community Land Bank
Taken by Pat Conaty, 10 June 2010 Brighthelm, North Road, Brighton**

In attendance:	
Karen Gardham, Federation of City Farms & Community Gdns Pat Conaty, Land for People Jeremy Iles, Federation of City Farms & Community Gdns Mike Clark, University of Brighton Cllr Ayas Fallon-Khan, Brighton & Hove City Council Francesca Iliffe, Brighton & Hove City Council Ododo Dafe, Brighton & Hove City Council Jessica Hamilton, Brighton & Hove City Council Jan Jonker, Brighton & Hove City Council Robert Walker, Brighton & Hove City Council Rebecca Fry, Brighton & Hove City Council Gillian Churchill, Brighton & Hove City Council	Hugo Blomfield, Brighton & Hove City Council Keith Arnott, Smiths Gore, contracted land manager for BHCC Reverend Stephen Terry, Chichester Diocese Bill Lucas, Hyde Marlett Gordon Abbey, South Downs Health Trust Jane Terry, Brighton & Hove Sixth Form College Duncan Blinkhorn, CVSF / Lewes Road Community Garden, The Patch Clare Devereux, Harvest / Food Matters Ann Baldrige, Harvest / Transition Brighton & Hove Amyas Gilbert, Moulsecomb Forest Garden Sara Winnington, Fork and Dig It
Apologies:	
Matthew Hewes, Brighton & Hove City Council Bryn Thomas, Stanmer Organics Jeanette Thyrsso, Bevendean Community Garden Neil Ravenscroft, University of Brighton	Ann Boddington, University of Brighton Warren Carter, Moulsecomb Forest Garden Vic Else, Brighton & Hove Food Partnership Jess Crocker, Harvest

Introductions, background and local presentations

Pat Conaty welcomed everyone and explained the purpose of the regional Round Tables being organised. He also set out the draft services that a Community Land Bank could provide including:

1. To promote the wider and more flexible access to land on affordable terms for community farms and gardens.
2. To act as a trusted intermediary and brokerage for land provision between landholders and community groups.
3. To offer (for leased sites) security to landowners and tenants over length and terms of tenancies.
4. To seek to reduce tenure costs and achieve savings on community time and effort.
5. To hold land in trust as appropriate.
6. To develop best practice precedents as model forms of agreement for involving more landowners in provision to meet community needs.

PC also indicated some key findings that are emerging from the 40 interviews conducted to date. He commented first on the interviews in Bristol and among other national bodies. These are that:

- Sources of land: potential for securing land in a diversity of ways for the CLB to facilitate including – meanwhile lease, longer term lease (often renewable on performance), donated land and scope to purchase land in rural areas.
- Public sector response: local authorities are very supportive of the CLB idea and they have land that could be provided for community uses. NHS has been difficult to interview in Bristol and Brighton and Hove.
- Universities have been also very supportive in several regions.
- Private sector corporate response has been guarded – Network Rail cautious, but Green Belt Group is an exceptions and is willing to donate land that in some cases is too small for them to maintain
- British Waterways and Sustrans are supportive and keen to find opportunities to test out the CLB idea in practice.

- Offers of help in kind have been made by both local authorities and universities in terms of compost provision and training and education services.
- Co-operatives UK has developed model rules for a variety of growing groups.
- Model leases for meanwhile or other longer terms have been developed by a range of bodies including the National Trust, DCLG, DTA and some local authorities.

PC said that in the Brighton and Hove area, 11 interviews have been conducted to date including with the local authority, two universities, one housing association, two CoE representatives, four community gardening projects and one corporate body. Some highlights are:

- Brighton and Food Partnership has been established for seven years and involves a wide range of stakeholders.
- The Harvest Project is a five year Big Lottery Fund Beacon project committed to develop local food growing in diverse ways. It has developed a model lease and is working on three sites and has opportunities to develop several more.
- The Harvest Project has had land offered from the Council with only one exception.
- Land locally is in short supply and contested for different purposes.
- Possible sources of NHS land for community food growing at the Brighton General Hospital and the Mill View site for mental health. The Nourish project is working on these possibilities,
- Church of England is generally consecrated and this puts up a formidable barrier to overcome. One exception is unconsecrated land at St. Leonards Church in Aldrington that could have good potential.
- Hyde Martlett Housing Group is very interested in the CLB concept and may be able to assist development.
- There are many indicators of demand for sites locally including a long list for allotments in several areas of the city, demand for land in central areas of Brighton with many people without gardens, a growing interest in CSA and market gardening (perhaps).
- Broad list of community land needs, not just for food growing. These include community gardens for social needs, housing land, leisure and sports, conservation, wildlife, access to the South Down, food growing (private) and food growing (semi-commercial).
- Interviewees can see a role for a CLB but its operations should complement the work of the Harvest project.
- Delays to develop community garden sites are of two types: indecision, internal opposition or slowness within the public sector and external opposition by some communities (worries about noise, security, anti-social behaviour, not meeting local needs, etc).
- Cost of community consultation needs to be factored into the planning. Securing community buy-in is critical.

An outline of their respective work on community food growing were given by Clare Devereux of the Harvest project (Local Food funded project to help people in Brighton & Hove grow their own and eat local produce: <http://harvest-bh.org.uk>), and Cllr Ayas Fallon-Khan, Brighton & Hove City Council

Issues raised in the subsequent discussion included

- getting the private sector to offer land could be through them feeling “shamed” at the lack of use of their land e.g. a development site waiting for use

- however, there could be resistance to offering such land as getting planning permission to use the land is “easier” if they can show the land is derelict. Land owners may be more interested in offering the land once they have planning permission but while they are unable to develop the land
- wider use of land may conflict with food growing (e.g. housing, community use generally, play facilities)

KG asked attendees before to think of one or two organisations with an interest in community gardens and food growing that provide support to community groups or land owners on use-of-land issues. The following list of organisations was collected on post-it notes

RHS Campaign for Community Gardens	Growing Communities Hackney
Sustain	Plunkett Foundation – Making Food Work
Housing Associations – like Hyde Martlett	Universities (Brighton and Sussex)
Green Living Community Project	Local authorities like Camden and Islington
London Food Link and Capital Growth	Garden Swaps (allowing others to grow food in your garden if you are not using it)
Grow Your Neighbours Own Project	Trust for Developing Communities – Brighton and Hove
Give Get Gain project (working with the Harvest project to get young people, 14-16, more involved with food growing and developing initiatives on school grounds)	Harvest Brighton and Hove Food Partnership
Brighton and Hove Food Partnership	Soil Association Land Trust for organic farms and food
Community Land Trusts for housing and other needs locally – 20 plus nationally	Brighton Permaculture Trust
Groundwork groups	Brighton and Hove City Council – Parks Department, Estates and Property
BHCC Sheep grazing project (trying to sell lamb through a local butcher – potential for community support)	National Union of Students (would co-ordinate a national programme for students)
AUDE (Association of University Directors of Estates – UK representative body and an essential contact to be approached)	Brighton and Hove Organic Garden Group (community support help)
Allotment Societies and NSALG	Land Restoration Trust
Food Matters	Bevendean Community Garden (local community agricultural group)
Lewes Road Community Garden (guerrilla gardeners)	Estates Gazette and Property Week (property publications and could support the CLB principles if an appropriate pitch could be made)
Blooms and Wyevale Garden Centres (some of their sites are letting surplus	Nourish and Care Co-ops

land for allotments at commercial rates of £500 annually – but not in Brighton)	
City College Horticultural Department at Stanmer and Stanmer Community Farm	Whitham Community Food Project
Allotments Federation	Site Life – Campaign for communities to use mothballed development sites
British Property Federation	

Break out groups

The participants broke into three groups – two involving groups with land and the third group involving community gardening and food projects.

Each group looked at the supply or demand for land, what the opportunities and obstacles were for using land, and what the role of a Community Land Bank could be

Group One: Landowners

What is the supply of land? What are the opportunities?

- What are the competing priorities for land (council land must serve public interest)
- Need to address the complexity of where council land is managed from – portfolio of which dept?
- Community groups need up-skilling and resourcing – often volunteers work temporarily.
- Community groups may not be aware of need to constitute in order to take on leases – inexperience.
- May be conflict of interest within community for how a piece of land is used.
- Need to have a model for community.
- Landowner may be inexperienced – need to develop a methodology within organisation to deal with this.
- May be an issue with setting up temporary projects on land ear-marked for development. When planning permission is sought the projects existence may influence consideration of the application and therefore put off developers from allowing temporary gardens.
- ? Use Section 106 to require developers to allow community use of land prior to commencement of development.
- Requirement for provision of growing area in new developments i.e. write into planning policy.
- Need to ensure that local people are fully consulted prior to any activity or approval on the land.
- Maybe ‘NIMBY’ preconceptions

What could a national organisation offer – a CLB?

- A national organisation could help make the case for community organisations to landowners.
- Could guide and resource local organisations to support set up of new food projects.
- What national organisations have demonstrated that a CLB could operate best as a national organisation – CPRE? – They work with both landowners and users. GRANNEEN Bank – Bangladesh.
- Identify key obstacles and potential solutions. E.g. definitions by statute – ‘green spaces’ in planning terms excludes food growing?
 - ‘consecrated land’

- 'playing fields' for schools involves designation of a certain amount of flat field per student.
- 'open access'

Group Two: Landowners

Some comments on the CLB concept were made and the group then focused on a brainstorm of obstacles and opportunities for developing the CLB.

The overarching comments and observations were:

1. The word 'bank' in the CLB name is unclear and confusing and also it maybe problematic and put people off in the wake of the banking crisis.
2. There is a shortage of land in Brighton & Hove and this leads to contests over land usage for what land is available. This is a big issue.
3. Be worth considering the Scandinavian 'home-zone' model which incorporates growing space in new developments.
4. CLB issues – who is to own the land and who is to maintain it?

The brainstorm teased out a long list of obstacles and opportunities for the CLB initiative:

- Obstacle: ignorance of land and its potential.
- Opportunity: to educate the public about what land is and what it can be used for.
- Obstacle: regulatory compliance to set up and manage projects – such as health and safety, insurances, etc.
- Obstacle: lack of community buy-in.
- Opportunity: to carry out community consultation and a local needs analysis.
- Opportunity: for legislative reform such as the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 which provides groups in rural areas with technical assistance and access to grants and loans to develop projects.
- Opportunity: Community Land Buy-outs like in Scotland with its Community Right to Buy provision in rural areas.
- Opportunity: site opportunity locally in an area like Toad's Hole Valley with land that could be used to meet multiple purposes.
- Obstacle: how to measure and show the social, health and economic value of community garden and food projects.
- Opportunity: to develop measures to show social return on investment.
- Opportunity: chance to empower communities to work together.
- Opportunity: to learn from mistakes such as the New Deal for Communities project locally five years ago. A community green space and garden was funded and set up, then leased to a local community group to manage. Project though broke down when the revenue funding from NDC ended and the project worker was made redundant. The land was left to the social landlord to maintain.
- Opportunity: to create viable social enterprises.
- Obstacle: land locally and on the South Downs is not the best for food growing; better for livestock and grazing.
- Opportunity: for a community organisation to take on the Brighton and Hove sheep grazing project and to develop as a city farm under a lease.
- Opportunity: for the CLB to support self-help and guerrilla gardening through meanwhile leasing.
- Opportunity: to shift from a 'selfish mindset' to social action.

- Obstacle: effective social action is blocked by the human resistance to change.
- Opportunity: Church land could perhaps be good for meanwhile usage to prove the potential by using containers for food growing to prove the potential.
- Opportunity: to cut waiting lists for allotments.
- Obstacle: prevailing views – don't assume that 'green living' ideas locally are widespread.
- Opportunity: land sharing to help others.
- Opportunity: to learn from good practice in other EU countries such as Germany where food growing is built into the planning system.
- Opportunity: meanwhile can work even with only nine months to stay on certain sites.
- Obstacle: a CLB would need to be sure that lease terms are clear. Meanwhile leases need to be unambiguous. There is a need to balance housing and green space locally. If lease terms are unclear and there are problems getting leaseholders to quit, this could put off developers in Brighton.
- Opportunity: to secure longer term lease arrangements through food growing in parks and there are opportunities here if small spaces for this are designed well.

Group Three: community groups

The concept of "land poverty" was mentioned, as there are excellent public spaces in B&H, but only for some people - for those who are close to them

People don't know they want a community space until they have experience of it

Demand followed the creating of space – Lewes Road Community Garden (LRCG): just a few individuals that planted a plot, stimulated interest

To start something in neglected space needs an individual with an idea

Space that is public and accessible attracts more interest

Long term dereliction of land is an affront – a dereliction of duty of landowners who have no thoughts of good neighbourliness. Land owners lose the "right" to land through neglect of it.

Local users of land vs. non-local owners of land

Community taking initiative and risk to start a project. But people may not feel empowered or know how to go about creating a space. And what about less visible pieces of land?

Guerrilla gardening cuts out bureaucracy

CLB – conflict in formalising arrangements – risk management for owners and community need

Opportunities for access to land

Harvest: attempting to negate the need for guerrilla gardening, make it mainstream

How? – slowly work on landowners e.g. council

Corporates: CSR policies growing – embed land use within it

Core values of shareholders being part of the corporation

Why not try make good an eyesore? – but do companies care if they are non-resident and this could be a risk for developers when they are applying for planning permission

Demand for land

A lot of demand for people who want to grow food, lack of realism of the work involved

Mix of individuals and those interested in community gardening

e.g. in B&H there is a Friend's of group who want a community garden

Lewes Road project – most value is wider than food growing

Same at Moulsecomb Forest Garden – other stated aims than food growing

Conflicts within community use of land

Food growing vs. other uses? – each piece of land should be identified for its use through consultation

Before bringing the land and community together – consultation with wider community needed. This needs facilitating

Harvest are finding this is taking a long time

Need to give people examples of what the possibilities are

Social outcomes (that might then attract public sector funding) are not guaranteed – therefore funding of projects would be “risk funding”

Operation of a CLB

Bureaucracy of a CLB could put people off

LRCG – it works because it is simple (did not look at H&S, CRBS, inspection, recruitment etc).

Potential of a CLB? if they had gone through a CLB it could have taken longer to get the land, but at the point where they are now it would be useful to have: legal advice; help with negotiating with the land owner; funding

Moulsecomb FG – did not have much opposition to it at the start. Children’s charity, renting out space to groups. Two staff paid by partner organisations, wide variety of funding

Potential of a CLB? could be to pull funding pots together (difficulties in funding core costs)

Fork and Dig It – part of Stanmer Organics. Less accessible, people come across it as there’s no demarcated area where it is in Stanmer Park – communication issues for visitors / users. Two acres, previously used for food growing and this new project took over area and formalised the work. Lease up for renewal next year

Potential of a CLB? Someone to negotiate lease, help the tenants to understand a lease

Harvest: when identified owners of the land have control over how the space is used, it has worked.

Potential of a CLB? Templates for leases? – although each case you need to work through and negotiate lease; case studies useful

One issue for Harvest and their role as a “local CLB” is that of lack of capacity

There should be Food Partnerships across the country to help this sort of work at a local level!
Food growing is unique and complex

Summary of potential role of CLB

- National role to work with national land owners to free up land
- Work has got to be bottom up - needs local knowledge for brokerage role of particular pieces of land – working in partnership with local organisations to do this, and support them
- Facilitation role to bring together bodies involved in the negotiations and in providing support
- Place for people to identify land?
- Identify funding streams for community groups
- Provide case studies to inspire and identify how it has been done
- Role in consultation with neighbours etc
- Legal advice
- Negotiation between groups and land owners

Media Coverage of Community Land Banks including Brighton & Hove Area

March 2010

<http://www.brightonandhovenews.org/2010/03/grow-your-own-boosted-with-brighton-land-bank-scheme/> (local)

<http://harvest-bh.org.uk/what-we-do/66-projects/101-land> (local)

<http://www.regen.net/news/ByDiscipline/Community-Renewal/988037/Denham-launches-grow-own-scheme-unused-land/>

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1492679>

http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/england/professionals/news/archive/2010/march2010/2010_03_week_1/040310_5

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/top-stories/2010/03/03/dig-for-victory-115875-22081803/>

http://www.smallholder.co.uk/news/5043142.Backing_for_new_allotments_on_private_land/

January 2010

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/jan/04/grow-your-own-unused-land-2030>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/jan/05/uk-farming-2030-food-report>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/8440863.stm>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/earthnews/6932602/Restaurants-and-takeaways-to-provide-health-warnings-on-menus.html>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/latest/2010/food-0303.htm>

DRAFT EXTRACT FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSING CABINET MEMBER MEETING HELD ON THE 7 JULY 2010

HOUSING CABINET MEMBER MEETING

4.00PM 7 JULY 2010

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Councillor Caulfield (Cabinet Member).

In attendance: Councillor Simpson (Opposition Spokesperson – Labour) and Councillor Kennedy (Opposition Spokesperson – Green).

30. CESP- Community Energy Saving Programme

- 30.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Housing, Culture & Enterprise which outlined the background to the Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP), the discussions and project work currently underway with an energy company to access the potential benefits of this programme to residents of the City and the likely timescale for seeking a decision on whether to progress any offer of additional funding arising from the current negotiations.
- 30.2 The paper also noted the importance of continuing to work with potential partners such as energy companies to explore means of maximising investment to meet the council's strategic housing goals of improving the quality of housing in the city, reducing fuel poverty and minimising CO2 emissions.
- 30.3 **RESOLVED** – Having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:
- (1) That the current project work and negotiation being undertaken with an energy provider to assess and maximise the potential investment opportunity arising from Community Energy Savings Programme as a means of meeting strategic housing goals of improving energy efficiency and reducing fuel poverty, be noted.
 - (2) That it is noted that any final decision on any funding offer from the energy provider is likely to be subject to further Cabinet Member approval given the potential nature and scope of the programme.

HOUSING CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 30

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	CESP- Community Energy Saving Programme		
Date of Meeting:	7 July 2010		
Report of:	Director of Housing, Culture & Enterprise		
Contact Officer:	Name	Martin Reid	Tel 29-3321
	Email	Martin.Reid@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Key Decision:	No		
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 One of the key strategic priorities outlined in the recently adopted City-wide Housing Strategy 2009-14 is to improve housing quality, to make sure that residents are able to live in decent homes suitable to their needs. Our strategic goals under this priority include, reducing fuel poverty, minimising CO2 emissions and improving tenants' homes ensuring they are of high quality and well maintained.
- 1.2 This paper seeks to update the Housing Cabinet Member Meeting on our response to date to the potential opportunities offered by the Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP) as part of our wider strategic housing vision of making best use of the City's assets by improving and increasing investment in our homes for the benefit of tenants and residents of the City as a whole.
- 1.3 The Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP) has been established to target home energy efficiency and renewable energy measures at geographical areas across Great Britain that have been identified as having significant levels of low income households. It is intended that a 'whole-house' approach will be applied, securing a range of different measures to homes within the target areas.
- 1.4 The paper outlines the background to the Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP), the discussions and project work currently underway with an energy company to assess the potential benefits of this programme to residents of the City and the likely timescale for seeking a decision on whether to progress any offer of additional funding arising from the current negotiations.
- 1.5 The paper also notes the importance of continuing to work with potential partners such as energy companies to explore means of maximising investment to meet our strategic housing goals of improving the quality of housing in the City, reducing fuel poverty and minimising CO2 emissions. The CESP programme has the potential to help us engage with energy companies, not only to deliver key energy efficiency work on the City's housing stock, but also to open up potential funding routes for future investment.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member for Housing note the current project work and negotiation being undertaken with an energy provider to assess and maximise the potential investment opportunity arising from Community Energy Savings Programme as a means of meeting strategic housing goals of improving energy efficiency and reducing fuel poverty.
- 2.2 That the Cabinet Member for Housing note any final decision on any funding offer from the energy provider is likely to be subject to further Cabinet Member approval given the potential nature and scope of the programme.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS;

- 3.1 The Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP) has been devised to target home energy efficiency measures at areas across Great Britain that have been identified as having significant levels of low income households. It is intended that a 'whole-house' approach will be applied, securing a range of different measures to all homes within the target areas, irrespective of housing tenure. The obligation to deliver CESP will rest with energy supply and generation companies, who will be required to invest an estimated total of £350 million (nationwide).
- 3.2 The target areas that have been identified are those Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the lowest income decile of the Indices of Multiple Deprivation. Fifteen LSOAs in Brighton & Hove are in this category, which means that all or any of these LSOAs could potentially qualify for funding under CESP.
- 3.3 Subject to the details of any offer from the energy supply and generation companies, CESP may provide an opportunity to secure additional external investment that could secure real improvements in living conditions and reductions in fuel costs for council and private sector tenants and owner occupiers living in deprived parts of the City. It may enable improvements to be made to the fabric of council housing stock within the areas included in the scheme in addition to any current capital programmes
- 3.4 CESP provides the opportunity to strengthen existing partnerships with contractors and council tenant groups and for developing partnership working with energy companies. Funding obtained through CESP would be additional to funding currently available through the Council Housing Capital Programme and the BEST Private Sector Renewal Programme.
- 3.5 Whilst it is not possible at this time to provide a clear estimate of the value of a Brighton & Hove CESP, an energy company has approached BHCC with a view to making an offer of capital funding for energy efficiency measures under the CESP programme.

- 3.6 Following preparatory work undertaken by council officers, our Home Energy Efficiency Managing Partner, Climate Energy, and Mears, the energy company have been provided with information about housing within the qualifying LSOAs.
- 3.7 Following this we are now involved in further discussion around an initial offer by the energy company for capital funding for energy efficiency measures to be carried out in Brighton & Hove under CESP.
- 3.8 It is important to note that any CESP scheme would require an investment of capital by the council as a proportion of the full capital costs as no energy company is considered likely to offer the full level of funding required for the necessary measures. This means that the council will need to carefully consider: the proportion of capital funding being offered by the energy company; whether this is acceptable; and, if so, the funding options available within the existing Council capital programme to enable any additional funding to be secured from CESP. It is also hoped that CESP management costs, incurred by Climate Energy and Mears, will be fully funded by the participating energy company.
- 3.9 It should also be noted that at this time it is likely that the energy company offer is to be restricted to council-owned properties. This is a result of a lack of specific data about the privately owned properties in the LSOAs. Whilst CESP provides scope for schemes to be developed on a cross-tenure basis, the inclusion of privately owned properties at this time would be problematic in that it is very difficult to calculate the potential need for additional funding by the council in order to persuade or enable private householders/owners to take up the measures. In addition, a clear indication has been received that Ofgem will approve CESP schemes that are based on measures carried out on a single tender basis. Consequently, it is proposed that a Brighton & Hove CESP initiative should initially be specifically targeted at council tenants. Private sector renewal assistance under the Council's existing BEST housing renewal programme remains available to private householders, covering energy efficiency and fuel poverty measures for those meeting eligibility criteria.
- 3.10 Following an initial City wide review of eligible LSOA's identified some are considered by council officers and the energy company to be a higher priority for opening discussion than others, primarily based on the type of properties, the numbers of particular measures that have been identified and the relative proportions of council housing.
- 3.11 The following LSOAs have been identified as the initial highest priorities for any CESP scheme: Whitehawk; Hollingdean / Bates Estate; North Moulsecoomb.
- 3.12 Property surveys have been carried out in the above areas. The surveys have been conducted at no cost to BHCC. Once the survey analysis is complete, the council officers, Mears and Climate Energy will work together on the cost of energy efficiency works. The energy company will then propose their contribution rate for the works for the area based on survey results and analysis. This will form the basis for a formal offer.

- 3.13 We expect receipt of a formal offer from the energy company in July. Once an energy company contribution offer is received the Council will then assess the social and financial benefits of the scheme.
- 3.14 If proven to be acceptable, and subject to further member approval as required, we would envisage proceeding with the scheme in the first area, and review and roll out to other areas if successful.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Council's Housing Strategy was established following a comprehensive consultation exercise conducted both within the Council and with external stakeholders.
- 4.2 Any proposed work on council tenants' homes will be subject to full consultation.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 This report details the current negotiation being undertaken with an energy provider to deliver energy efficiency improvements to council housing. Any funding offer from an energy provider will require the council to fund a proportion of the agreed works. It is not possible at this stage of the negotiation to assess the financial implications.
- 5.2 Therefore, once the final offer is known and evaluated, subject to this being beneficial to the council, a further report will be submitted to Cabinet detailing the full financial implications of the proposal.

Finance Officer Consulted: Sue Chapman Date: 24 June 2010

Legal Implications:

- 5.3 Based on the level of detail currently available, it is not possible to identify all the legal issues that may arise. However, procurement related issues are likely to be an issue. The Council's current contract with Climate Energy expires in July 2011, so it is not clear how the programme will be managed after that date. Further, if a management cost is payable to Climate Energy, there is a risk that the Council might exceed the advertised financial limit for the contract (£75,000 per annum.)

Lawyer Consulted: Liz Woodley Date: 24 June 2010

Equalities Implications:

- 5.4 An equality impact assessment has been carried out on the Citywide Housing Strategy during its development with the strategy containing a summary of the assessment. Additional Equality Impact Assessments will be required as the strategy action plans are implemented over the next few years. The CESP

programme, should it be developed as part of Council's Housing Strategy, would provide help and assistance to disadvantaged households.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.5 Housing is one of the key objectives in the Council's sustainability strategy which aims 'to ensure that everyone has access to decent affordable housing that meets their needs'.
- 5.6 The Council's housing renewal activities help to prevent ill-health, provide for basic needs by ensuring that dwellings are fit for habitation and are energy efficient and help to reduce the level of fuel poverty in the City.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.7 Ensuring appropriate housing and support is essential in helping to reduce antisocial behaviour and other crime and also to support the victims of crime

Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.8 Policy development in this area is undertaken with due regard to appropriate risk assessment requirements.

Corporate/Citywide Implications:

- 5.9 Our housing aims support the priorities and aims of the 2020 Community Strategy. Housing is a fundamental aspect of people's wellbeing affecting the daily lives of residents in Brighton & Hove. Poor or inappropriate housing has a direct impact on the ability of residents to maintain their health and independence, this has implications for social care, education and the health services.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 The Housing Strategy is supported by a detailed needs analysis that considers the wide range of housing issues faced by local people. Our strategic priorities and actions have been developed in response to those needs and refined over time through consultation.
- 6.2 This report outlines our response to date to the potential opportunities offered by the Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP) as part of our wider strategic housing vision of making best use of the City's assets by improving and increasing investment in our homes for the benefit of tenants and residents of the City as a whole.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The paper outlines the background to the Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP), the discussions and project work currently underway with an energy company to assess the potential benefits of this programme to residents of the City and the likely timescale for seeking a decision on whether to progress any offer of additional funding arising from the current negotiations.

- 7.2 The report is for noting on the basis that any final decision on any funding offer from the energy provider is likely to be subject to further Cabinet Member approval given the potential nature and scope of the programme.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. None

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. City-wide Housing Strategy 2009 -14

City Sustainability Partnership Meeting – 18th January 2010

Hanover Room, Brighthelm Centre, North Road, Brighton, BN1 1YD

Public Services:

Councillor Tony Janio

Councillor Paul Steedman

Councillor David Watkins

Stuart Laing, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs) University of Brighton – **Chair**

Alison Hadfield, Eco Schools

Business

Lorraine Bell – Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce

Jan Jackson – Sussex Enterprise/Business Link

Community and Voluntary Sector

Chris Todd, Friends of the Earth – **Vice Chair**

Vic Else - Brighton & Hove Food Partnership

Mike Creedy – Brighton Peace & Environment Centre

Agencies

Chris Wick – Environment Agency

Council Officers

Mita Patel

Tracey Wallace

Francesca Iliffe

Matthew Thomas

Gillian Marston

Peter Commane

Guests

Martin Grimshaw, Transition Brighton & Hove

Olu Elegbe, Primary Care Trust

Adrian Ely, University of Sussex

Ionela Macovei, University of Sussex

Marie Harder, University of Brighton

Ryan Woodard, University of Brighton

Jon Patmore, Wildlife Advisory Group

Susan Wilson

Partnership manager

Thurstan Crockett - Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy, Brighton & Hove City Council

Meeting notes

Sarah Jones - Administrator, Sustainability

1. **Apologies**

Councillor Gill Mitchell
Sharon Phillips, University of Sussex
Phil Belden - South Downs Joint Committee

2. **Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting**

2.1 Minutes agreed.

3. **One Planet Living Proposal & Funding Priorities Paper**

- 3.1 Thurstan introduced the CSP Funding Priorities paper which set out what funds had been allocated so far and gave an update on progress. Key issues for the partners to consider were the Suggested Criteria for funding and the Priorities as set out in page two of the paper.
- 3.2 Thurstan drew the Partners' attention to the Further Proposals set out in the paper that included the One Planet Living Plan proposal. This proposal is a result of a meeting that he, Chris Todd and Stuart Laing held with Pooran Desai of Bioregional, in which they went through the initial proposal and suggested changes, most of which had been incorporated into the revised proposal. Thurstan recommended to partners that they accept the funding in principle, look at the proposals and convene a working group as soon as possible. This was agreed and Jan Jackson, Councillor Paul Steedman, Mike Creedy and Chris Todd volunteered. Comments on the One Planet Living Plan proposal were that it was much improved and that the planned stages and the costings both looked broadly achievable.
- 3.3 The Chair advised the partnership that there was £26,000 of funding still available and invited partners to submit their funding proposals by February 22nd for decision at the next CSP meeting. It was confirmed that a process would be put in place by the chairs to consider funding proposals. Stuart Laing advised that as Chair, he would propose any good proposals put forward by meeting guests.
- 3.4 It was agreed that criteria should include the secondary objectives proposed. Examples of potential projects included a local climate impacts profile; a community strategy project, eg heat mapping; the development of an Energy Services Company; a city study for sites for large energy infrastructure projects.
- 3.5 The Chair asked for proposals to put forward to himself and Chris Todd by February 22nd and they will make recommendations to the next meeting.

Action - Jan Jackson, Councillor Paul Steedman, Mike Creedy and Chris Todd to convene a working group to discuss the OPL funding proposals.

Action - partners to submit any funding proposals by 22nd February 2010 for consideration by the Chair and Vice Chair and decision at the next meeting.

4. Sussex Manifesto presentation by Adrian Ely, University of Sussex

- 4.1 Adrian Ely explained that the Sussex Manifesto seeks to bring together groups at local community level in Manifesto project roundtables in several countries. These serve to link science and technical innovation with local forums enabling innovation via local knowledge. Adrian is organising a roundtable in Brighton in March, in order to set local aims and goals, plus an evening event to put issues to politicians, hopefully the main candidates for the Brighton Pavilion constituency.
- 4.2 Lorraine Bell felt that it would be useful for the CSP to liaise with Adrian Ely to achieve joint working on the city wide 10:10 campaign events to ensure a co-ordinated message.
- 4.3 Chris Todd recommended that CSP consider how the Sussex Manifesto might tie into their OPL Plan.

5. Waste & Minerals Core Strategy Consultation draft response

- 5.1 There was still an opportunity for final comments to be submitted on this paper; the deadline for submissions had been extended to 22nd January 2010.

6 Sustainable Community Strategy Consultation Discussion

- 6.1 The sub group looking at the Sustainable Community Strategy had sought to look at the whole strategy for final thoughts to be made. The transport chapter was still out for consultation and so was not included in the draft brought to the meeting.

Action - Councillor Paul Steedman, Chris Todd and Vic Else would try to organise a last sub-group meeting and submit final comments.

7 Urban Biosphere Report / WAG discussion paper

- 7.1 Gillian Marston, Head of City Parks at B&HCC presented the paper with Matthew Thomas, City Ecologist.
- 7.2 Recommendations proposed were the development of the Biodiversity Action Plan review of the city's Sites of Nature Conservation Importance, a strategy group to facilitate delivery and work to scope the policy and practical implications of achieving an urban biosphere status for the city.

- 7.3 Other plans for 2010 included a series of events to support the International Year of Biodiversity, under the banner of 'Big Nature'; working with the active branch of the UN Association in Brighton & Hove.
- 7.6 Councillor Tony Janio thanked Chris Todd for his assistance in co-ordinating the initial Urban Biosphere meeting.
- 7.8 The Chair commended the council's revision of this report taking into account the concerns raised at the last CSP and welcomed the progress that has been made and Chris Todd thanked the council for responding in such a positive manner to previous concerns.

Action - Protecting and expanding habitats and progressing biodiversity, should be included within OPL whole city plan principles.

Action - A substantive report on progress to be made to a future CSP meeting.

8 Food Waste presented by Dr Ryan Woodard, University of Brighton

- 8.1 The presentation was written by Professor Marie Harder and Dr Ryan Woodard of the University of Brighton. It looked at the amount of household food waste generated in the UK, the reasons for its generation, current waste management strategies in other local authorities, and options for waste reduction and energy generation.
- 8.2 The presentation concluded that food waste is a significant problem. The recommendations were to prioritise reducing food waste generation, to embrace energy generation opportunities, find markets for digestate/compost and consider the opportunity of treating municipal and commercial waste together.
- 8.3 Options for Brighton & Hove were raised by Partners, such as the possibility of burning waste; doorstep collections; and Bokashi (kitchen caddy with fibre accelerator) as a composting solution in multiple occupancy flats.
- 8.4 The Chair advised partners that the purpose of this presentation was to prompt debate on how its recommendations fit with the council's propositions for the city. The next step would be another discussion with more information to prepare for future items.
- 8.5 Vic Else proposed to bring details of her food waste work with Cityclean to the next meeting and this was agreed.

Action – Vic Else will bring details of Food Waste campaign developed with Cityclean to the next meeting.

9. Any other business

- 9.1 None raised.

City Sustainability Partnership Meeting - 8th March 2010

Hanover Room, Brighthelm Centre, North Road, Brighton, BN1 1YD

Public Services:

Councillor Tony Janio

Councillor Gill Mitchell

Councillor Paul Steedman

Stuart Laing, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs) University of Brighton – **Chair**

Business

Jan Jackson – Sussex Enterprise/Business Link

Charlie Allsebrook – Brighton & Hove Business Community Partnership

Community and Voluntary Sector

Chris Todd, Friends of the Earth – **Vice Chair**

Vic Else - Brighton & Hove Food Partnership

Phil Belden - South Downs Joint Committee

Agencies

Jo Addis – Environment Agency

Phil Belden – South Downs Joint Committee

Guests

Marie Harder - University of Brighton

John Patmore - Eco-Logically

Amyas Gilbert - Food Partnership

Martin Grimshaw - Transition Brighton & Hove

John Kapp - Transition Brighton & Hove

Emma Hiscock - FAIR

Ian Chisnall - Churches Together in Sussex

Ross Gilbert - QED Property

Susan Wilson

Tanja Schmutzler

Council Officers

Emma McDermott - Central Policy Development Team Manager

Thurstan Crockett - Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy - Partnership manager

Meeting notes

Sarah Costelloe - Administrator, Sustainability

1. Apologies

Councillor David Watkins

Sharon Philips, University of Sussex
Mike Creedy - Brighton Peace & Environment Centre
Lorraine Bell – Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce
Alison Hadfield - Eco Schools

2. Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting

- 2.1 Minutes of previous meeting were agreed.
- 2.2 Senior Support Officer for CSP (item 3) - advert goes out shortly with a view to interviewing and recruiting by mid-April.
- 2.3 OPL plan subgroup held a meeting in which significant changes were recommended, including a tighter focus.

Action: subgroup to reconvene and consider revisions to proposal for work on the Plan. Report to next meeting

- 2.4 Final CSP comments on Sustainable Community Strategy have been submitted. Strategy goes to Cabinet on Thursday.
- 2.4 Comments on habitats and biodiversity (item 7) have been passed to Bioregional.

3. 10:10 City Campaign update

- 3.1 Thurstan Crockett and Jan Jackson updated the partnership on the success of the 10:10 business campaign launch. Some good engagement with particular businesses. All partners can encourage colleagues to sign up via the website.

Action: Jan will try to find out which are the 10 biggest businesses in the city that have signed up before next meeting.

4. Food waste presentation (agenda item 5)

- 4.1 Vic Else gave a presentation on joint working between Food Partnership and Cityclean on a campaign to minimise food waste, communication clear messages regarding the economic and environmental benefits of reduction. The campaign will start with focus groups meeting in May to consider how small-scale (less than 1 tonne) community composting can be developed in response to revised EA legislation.

- 4.2 Vic said that while targets hadn't changed in the Waste Strategy, partnership comments about an advisory group, community engagement and more recycling had been taken on board and this was welcome.
- 4.2 She said the Food Partnership would continue to lobby for municipal collection of household food waste, particularly for residents in households where composting is impractical. Vic noted that recycling performance figures hide the relatively poor performance of the city regarding food waste recycling (composting).
- 4.3 In response to questions regarding the responsibility of food retailers, it was noted that work is being done in this area at a national level and that retailers are responding well. Food Partnership is concentrating on working with smaller organisations as there is a clear need to develop solutions at this level.
- 4.4 In response to Jan's inquiry regarding the hotels' pilot hydrator programme run two years ago with Magpie Environmental Trust, Marie Harder explained that the technology simply hadn't worked, observing that there are no easy solutions to the problem of food waste.
- 4.5 Cllr Paul Steedman asked how much food waste could be dealt with, after minimisation, without council collection. Vic noted that there would be little point collecting food waste if uses for it had not been identified in advance and that reducing the quantity of food thrown away was the priority.
- 4.6 Cllr Tony Janio sought clarification on the creation of methane in the composting process and was assured that if enough oxygen is mixed in during the process, little methane would be created, unlike in landfill.
- 4.7 Some discussion was held regarding space restrictions in the city. Vic observed that whilst allotments are ideal spaces to develop composting, the lack of available physical space in Brighton & Hove is another reason why work can most effectively be done on a small scale.
- 4.8 Cllr Gill Mitchell expressed support for the reduction/ money saving campaign focus as a good place to start but suggested that the council should start with specific projects, perhaps focusing on a particular block of flats, in order to be most effective.
- 4.9 Ian Chisnall asked that Fareshare, an organisation delivering surplus retail food to the vulnerable and needy, be considered as a part of the solution.

- 4.10 There was discussion about the need to look for good case studies from other local authorities. Vic noted that WRAP will be able to input what they have seen working well. Marie suggested looking at the work of West Sussex County Council who, with 80 volunteer waste minimisation advisors are beginning to achieve some of the best results in Europe, whilst East Sussex County Council have been trialling rocket composters with some success.
- 4.11 Stuart highlighted that the partnership has a clear role drawing connections between different organisations that will need to work in partnership if a coherent food waste strategy is to be effective. Phil Belden suggested that the partnership could be used to facilitate joined up thinking on the issue, observing that all agencies want the same outcome but are often blocking each other from achieving this. CSP may be able to unblock bottlenecks preventing progress.

Action - specific item updating partnership on campaign launch in May to be included in future agenda.

5. CSP funding bids and Local Climate Impacts Profile proposal (agenda item 6)

- 5.1 One proposal was received, from EA, to fund a Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP). Jo Addis explained that this is a tool to help identify Climate Change Adaptation priorities.
- 5.2 Cllr Mitchell offered strong support for this, particularly in the context of current Climate Change Scrutiny Panel work. Phil found the case studies useful, putting figures to the costs associated with adaptation but felt that there was a need to make them more personal. EA has expertise here and can work with BHCC to feed actions into Climate Change Action Plan.
- 5.3 Marie noted the need to consider the city in context with its neighbouring areas.
- 5.4 Cllr Janio felt that the process would be of real value if it can be made relevant to local decision-makers and used to clearly illustrate potential savings. He supported the funding proposal.
- 5.5 Chris Todd expressed the view that it would be crucial to maintain momentum after the 6 months LCLIP post had expired. Thurstan explained that a Climate Change Action Plan steering group will be set up to cover this.

- 5.6 Other comments on this proposal included the suggestion, from Susan Wilson, that the 'media trawl' which is part of the LCLIP process be extended to include a focus on changes in public attitude towards climate change. John Kapp suggested that the rise in the cost of oil be factored into to LCLIP TOR, although it was felt that this might be beyond the immediate scope of the assessment.
- 5.7 Other potential bids were briefly discussed. Thurstan informed partners that 90% funding may be available for heat-mapping work through the ELENA EU technical assistance programme and that a social enterprise company has been identified who may be able to work on the bid.
- 5.8 It was agreed that the LClip proposal should be funded up to £26,000 and that the option be kept open to fund the heat/energy mapping project and the centre for sustainable development education proposal if any projects underspent.

Action - revisit potential heat-mapping bid later in the year.

Action – Thurstan to keep the Partnership updated with a project spending profile.

6. Climate Change Action Plan update (agenda item 4)

- 6.1 Thurstan talked through the contents of the update paper and proposed a CSP working group be set up to look at the detail of the plan, and to take a leadership role in pushing this agenda forward.
- 6.2 Jo Addis and Susan Wilson volunteered for the group. Marie will look for someone suitable to propose from Brighton University. Paul Steedman also agreed to join the group.

Action: Thurstan to set up working group.

7. Fair Trade Steering Group

7.1 Ian Chisnall briefed the partnership on the work of the new steering group. They are hoping to take Fairtrade products into new areas such as wedding fairs, Pride etc and aspire to persuade people that supporting Fairtrade is affordable and attainable, as well as pushing those who are already persuaded beyond what they do intuitively. They are working on an updated website, as well as an online map traders map (via Visitbrighton).

- 7.2 Phil voiced concern about the 'city' focus - does this fully reflect the complexity of the global vs. local issues at play. He illustrated this with the example of a cup of Fairtrade coffee (good) he had recently consumed, which had been served with a packet of UHT milk of dubious provenance (not good).
- 7.3 Cllr Steedman suggested a future item on procurement. This should tie in with national work in the same area, taking advantage of such resources as the free procurement training offered by SEEDA.
- 7.4 Martin Grimshaw asked if the council had a sustainable procurement policy. Thurstan explained that there is a voluntary code of practise for sustainable procurement. Cllr Steedman questioned the efficacy of this, saying that when he tabled a question to Sustainability Cabinet Committee asking for detail on purchasing policy, he felt the council was unable to respond satisfactorily.
- 7.5 Jan Jackson felt that Action for Sustainability could help the Partnership begin to explore the complexities of sustainable procurement.
- 7.6 The Chair said the Partnership should continue to receive notes from the Fairtrade Steering Group.

ACTION – It was agreed that an item on sustainable procurement should come to a future Partnership meeting.

8. W.A.G. update

- 8.1 The Chair reported that he has discussed the issues surrounding the efficacy of the W.A.G. with John Patmore and Martin Robinson. He recommends that the CSP receive notes from the group for a year to see if they are helpful.
- 8.2 There were several comments on the impressive range of organisations represented at the meeting.
- 8.3 The group will change name to reflect a new focus, becoming the Brighton & Hove Wildlife Forum. The chair confirmed that this 'new' organisation will have the same status as the Wildlife Advisory group as a member of the CSP.
- 8.4 Vic noted that the minutes reflect some strong statements re: land use that misrepresents what the Food Partnership is trying to achieve. The Chair recommended that Vic and John use the partnership as an opportunity to discuss these issues frankly.

9. Any other business

- 9.1 Stuart announced his intention to stand down as Chair in the near future, due to work commitments. The Terms of Reference meant an election was due.

Action: discuss process and elect new Chair at next meeting.

- 9.2 Business & Sustainability Conference 16th/17th March: members should contact Sarah Costelloe if they would like a free delegates pass. For more information please visit www.baseshow.co.uk .
- 9.3 Transition South East Conference Saturday
- 9.4 Next meeting: **Monday May 10th, 5.30pm, Hanover Room, Brighthelm Centre**

City Sustainability Partnership Meeting – 10th May 2010

Hanover Room, Bright helm Centre, North Road, Brighton, BN1 1YD

Members

Public Services

Councillor Gill Mitchell

Councillor Paul Steedman

Councillor Fallon-Khan

Stuart Laing, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs) University of Brighton – Chair

Tom Scanlon, Director of Public Health

Alison Hadfield, Eco-schools

Debbie McGuchan, University of Sussex

Business

Jan Jackson – Sussex Enterprise / Business Link

Community and Voluntary Sector

Chris Todd, Friends of Earth – Vice Chair

Vic Else – Brighton and Hove Food Partnership

Mike Creedy – Brighton Peace & Environment Centre

Agencies

Phil Belden – South Downs Joint Committee

Chris Wick – Environment Agency

Others

Marie Harder – University of Brighton

John Patmore – Eco-Logically

Martin Grimshaw – Transition Brighton & Hove

Chris Tomlinson – E.ON

Danny Shaw – E.ON

Tom Chute – 10:10 City Campaign

Ross Gilbert – QED Property

Tom Shaw – Hyde Group

Council Officers

Richard Davies – Project Manager, Major Projects & Regeneration

Lisa Shaw – Policy Development Officer (Local Climate Impact Profile)

Tracey Wallace – Policy Development Officer (Climate Change Action Plan)

Thurstan Crockett – Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy –
Partnership Manager
Catherine Miller – CSP Support Officer (Minutes)

1. Introductions & Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Councillor Watkins and Lorraine Bell
- 1.2 A round of introductions was made.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

- 2.1 No nominations for either position had been received.

ACTION – The Partnership decided to postpone the election until the next meeting. Nominations would be sought in the meantime.

3. Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting

- 3.1 Item 5 update, Thurstan Crockett advised the Partnership regarding the appointment of Lisa Shaw as Policy Development Officer. This appointment is for a 12 month period during which time she will be working on Intelligent Commissioning first and then developing a Local Climate Impact Profile, focussing on the climate impact work from November.
- 3.2 Amendment to 8.3, WAG stood for Wildlife Advisory Group rather than 'Action'.

ACTION – To alter the minutes from the previous meeting.

4. E.ON Offshore Wind Farm Presentation

- 4.1 Danny Shaw from E.ON gave a powerpoint presentation detailing E.ON's proposed offshore wind farm project.
- 4.2 Phil Belden inquired as to how the project would connect to the National Grid, and what the implications were in terms of the environmental impact to the city. He was informed that this element of the scheme would involve extensive excavation as an underground cable would have to be laid through a built up area and through the South Downs National Park. The route would be a key consultation issue.
- 4.3 Councillor Steedman noted that project offered potential for the creation of jobs within the region and inquired as to the possible level of employment for local people. DS informed the partners that there would be approximately 100-120 jobs created directly by the E.ON project but there would be further job creation due to secondary service needs needed to support the project.

- 4.4 Gill Mitchell asked which port would probably be used for the project and was informed that this decision was yet to be made and that it was likely to be either Shoreham or Newhaven.
- 4.5 The output levels and efficiency of the proposed generators was queried. DS answered that at full capacity the generators would replace traditional power sources megawatt for megawatt, though as output is governed by wind speed, in real terms this would mean an average output of approximately 10% of total consumption. Marie Harder questioned the suitability of the site for commercial purposes given that output levels are higher in the north of the country.
- 4.6 The partnership agreed that more consideration needed to be given to the various stakeholders affected by the proposal and time should be allocated to further debate the various issues raised. Chris Tomlinson informed the partnership that the communications plan would be made available and that he is now based in Brighton and would be happy to supply further information as required.

ACTION – Members agreed to discuss the proposal again at the September meeting, with particular focus on stakeholder engagement.

5. 10:10 City Campaign

- 5.1 Thurstan Crockett updated the Partnership on the progress of the 10:10 campaign. He stressed the importance of engaging with the mainstream and reported that there had been good feedback and comments regarding the need to signpost initial steps for signing up to the scheme and the potential usefulness of relating the campaign to existing information resources and networks.
- 5.2 Members discussed the need for reliable and current information sources regarding carbon emissions and stressed that the campaign was promoting a more serious understanding of environmental data by the public.

ACTION - CSP members commit to getting their own organisations signed up to 10:10 if they are not already, and consider also signing up as individuals.

6. Seas Conference Feedback

- 6.1 Thurstan Crockett informed the Partnership of the positive feedback regarding the Sustainability Conference, stressing that it had been

very successful and had covered a wide range of environmental topics relating to the sea.

- 6.2 The partnership discussed the potential for the CSP to link-up with the Marine Management Organisation. It was felt that there needed to be more clarity regarding responsibility for marine conservation and how this is affected by the Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009)

7. Progress Update on the review of the Climate Change Action Plan and results of the Partners Consultation Exercise

- 7.1 Tracey Wallace briefed the partnership regarding the response rate and type of data gathered from the initial survey. There was particular emphasis on the work being done by Blatchington Mill and Brighton and Hove Junior Schools She reported that nine respondents had said they had implemented a travel plan and others reporting that they were looking to reduce travel time.
- 7.2 In the 'Influencing Others' section of the report The University of Brighton and Legal and General were marked out as being particularly involved in various activities.
- 7.3 Responses to the 'Adaptation' section included four positive responses and 10 reported that they had not started. Half the respondents maintained that there was no reason to adapt for climate change whilst 12 thought that they could not have an affect. So this looks an area for more attention.
- 7.4 Responses to Q9, 'What do you have problems with?' of the plan included concerns regarding lack of resources and how to achieve effective waste management and recycling practices.
- 7.5 Tracey Wallace reported to the partnership that a copy of the draft plan introduction had been sent to the working group. Gill Mitchell added that the Climate Change Adaptation Scrutiny Panel Inquiry had met to discuss its input and would be making about 10 recommendations.
- 7.6 Stuart Laing suggested that the Legal and General model could be applied to other businesses.
- 7.7 The partnership discussed the low response rate to the survey and how this would affect the representative nature of the results. Chris Todd suggested that phoning each partner would perhaps have resulted in a larger response rate.

- 7.8 Chris Wick suggested that the plan should include a section regarding water usage and stressed that hot water usage should be of particular importance and that this was often overlooked.
- 7.9 Chris Todd also suggested that there should be a greater link up between planning and transport.
- 7.10 John Patmore suggested that mention should be made regarding HFC's as well as CFC's.

8. Open Market Presentation

- 8.1 Richard Davies from the City Council introduced Tom Shaw from the Hyde Group to give a presentation detailing its proposals for the redevelopment of the Open Market site.
- 8.2 Mike Creedy inquired as to the extent of the increase in size of the footprint of the new open market bid and questioned whether any of the unused buildings around the site could be incorporated. TS informed the Partnership that enquiries had been made regarding disused buildings, but as these are privately owned there was little scope for inclusion apart from the City College building that has been utilised in the proposal.
- 8.3 Mike Creedy inquired whether the site would be gated or could it be left open at night. TS replied that although the Market was intended to have extended opening times, due to security issues it would be impossible to have an unlocked and unattended site. He went on to state that there was scope to use the site to host managed events outside of trading hours.
- 8.4 Chris Todd raised concerns regarding the extent to which the proposal addressed environmental and sustainability factors. He expressed scepticism as to the usefulness of Sedum roofs in encouraging biodiversity, citing the city's planned bid for UNESCO Urban Biosphere status; he stressed the importance of encouraging biodiversity. He also questioned the extent to which the project had considered other factors which would further reduce carbon emissions, such as outside space for drying clothes, rainwater harvesting and the use of photo-voltaic panels. He also voiced concerns regarding appropriate designation of cycle parking spaces and cycle routing. Tom Shaw replied that much had been done to 'green' the site, particularly Francis Street and stated that a landscape artist had been consulted and that this was not a random approach. He also stated that some photo-voltaic panels would be installed but that it was too expensive to include more. Phil Belden commented that the project offered the potential to link, not block,

green sites, i.e. the green corridor leading from Brighton station to The Level.

- 8.5 Councillor Fallon-Khan questioned the level at which sufficient consideration had been given regarding loading and unloading of produce. He voiced concerns that 8 loading bays were not going to be enough and that Francis Street was not of appropriate size or suitability to serve as an access road to the site. He stressed the potential negative impact on carbon emission levels if vehicles were waiting to be loaded or unloaded and stressed that this was a residential area. TS replied that delivery to the site would have to be managed and stated that those traders with a larger volume of deliveries would be located closest to the bays thereby reducing loading / unloading timescales.
- 8.6 Richard Davies stated that the project was only at the pre-planning stage and that the planning committee was not committed therefore members should feel free to contact him by email with concerns and suggestions.
- 8.7 Councillor Paul Steedman said that as a member of the Planning Committee he had noted the details of the scheme but could not comment.

9. One Planet Living Plan Update

- 9.1 The partnership manager explained that the partnership's OPL sub group felt this work needed to be re-tendered. This was agreed. A brief would now be devised and signed off by the sub-group, inviting experienced consultants – including Bioregional consulting – to take work on the Plan forward

ACTION – The City Sustainability Partnership endorses the approach recommended by the sub group and delegates authority to it to agree and send out a brief.

10. New Partnership Support Officer draft work plan

- 10.1 Thurstan Crockett presented a proposed work plan detailing the schedule of tasks to be performed by Catherine Miller during her six month employment as Support Officer for the City Sustainability Partnership.

ACTION – The work plan was agreed with added Equalities Impact Assessment work strand.

11. Any Other Business

- 11.1 Local Area Agreement

- 11.12 The partnership was informed that a sub group would need to be look at this tabled set of key indicators for this financial year. As this was a matter of some urgency, it was suggested to use the same working group that had been formed for the Climate Action Plan.

- 11.2 Wildlife Forum Minutes

- 11.21 These were for noting. It was agreed that members should read the minutes and contact the forum by email if they had any queries or comments.

- 11.3 Dates of future partnership business.

- 11.31 Chris Todd informed the partnership of the Sustainable Community Strategy Launch which is due to be held on Wednesday the 19th May 2010, 8.30am at The Metropole Hotel, Brighton. All invited.

- 11.32 He also updated members of the progress of the UNESCO Urban Biosphere bid. He informed them that they were waiting for confirmation but that a visit from representatives of MAB (Man and Biosphere), who asses bids for Biosphere status, was likely in June and that he would report back to members at the next meeting in July.

ACTION – Members agreed to change the date of the September CSP meeting from the 6th of September to the 13th September.

- 11.34 Next meeting: **Monday July 5th, 5.30pm, Hanover Room, Brighthelm Centre.**