

## Environment and Regeneration (E&R SSP) Meeting Minutes

Castlefields Community Centre, Village Square, Castlefields, Runcorn

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2012

### Present:

Cllr John Gerrard	(JG) (Chair)	Halton Borough Council
Ian Boyd	(IB)	Halton Borough Council
Eleanor Carter	(EC)	Halton Borough Council
Hayley Dooley	(HD)	Job Centre Plus
Debbie Houghton	(DH)	Halton Borough Council
Allison Kirk	(AK)	Norton Priory Museum
Mick Noone	(MN)	Halton Borough Council
Nathan Renison	(NR)	Halton Borough Council
Jimmy Unsworth	(JU)	Halton Borough Council

### Apologies:

Rhian Davitt	(RD)	HCA
Alan Graham	(AG)	Halton Borough Council
Claire Griffiths	(CG)	PlusDane Housing
Clare Olver	(CO)	Mersey Forest
Andrew Sharp	(AS)	STFC – Daresbury Labs
Karen Wickstead	(KW)	Cheshire Constabulary
Jim Yates	(JY)	Halton Borough Council

				<u>Actions</u>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies, Minutes &amp; Matters Arising</b>	1.1 1.2	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a correct record. There were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Environmental Update</b>	2.1. 2.2. 2.2.1	EC gave a brief update on HBC's progress on the installation of Solar PV, the financial savings this was bringing and potential future developments.  DH gave an update on the draft Low Carbon Strategy that Halton BC is preparing. The document has seven separate yet mutually interdependent themes  1) <u>Carbon reduction/Council estate</u> : including reduction of energy consumption on Council premises, through the delivery of Council services e.g. street lighting and taking account of buying low carbon goods and services through the Council's procurement process.	

		2.2.2	2) <u>Low carbon economy</u> : including the development of the digital infrastructure in Halton and looking at potential of decentralised energy networks.	
		2.2.3	3) <u>Domestic Energy Efficiency</u> : including improving energy efficiency of housing stock and working towards reducing levels of fuel poverty.	
		2.2.4	4) <u>Sustainable transport and improved air quality</u> : including delivery of Air Quality Management Action (AQMA) Plan and promoting travel choices and support for sustainable public transport infrastructure.	
		2.2.5	5) <u>Waste</u> : including reducing the amount of waste going to landfill and developing the potential of energy recovery from waste.	
		2.2.6	6) <u>Planning</u> : including delivery of sustainable new development and ensuring security of energy supply, identifying opportunities for de-centralised energy schemes.	
		2.2.7	7) <u>Climate change resilience</u> : including building resilience into decisions on roads, businesses, buildings, public health, asset management and social care. This will include support for local businesses to be climate change ready.	
		2.3	The document was discussed and colleagues were asked to submit any case studies they may wish to be part of the finished document. It was agreed to circulate the document on the understanding that it is only a draft and has not yet had formal approval.	EC
		2.4	It was agreed that the group adopt this document and use it as the basis for a future work programme that will be drafted and circulated round the group for comment/discussion.	EC
		2.5	The opportunities presented by the upcoming “Green Deal” were briefly discussed and it was agreed to bring this item back to a future meeting.	EC/DH
		2.6	Membership of the group was discussed and it was agreed to extend the invitation for a future meeting widely to RSLs	EC
<b>3.</b>	<b>Transport Update</b>	3.1	It was noted that Halton BC was working in partnership with colleagues in St Helens and	

		<p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p>	<p>Warrington on a £3.3m project funded by the Local Sustainable Transport Fund. A particular focus is improving the bus network between St Helens and Daresbury and improving the linkages between the three towns, and the practicalities/logistics of this was discussed in the group.</p> <p>Further discussion centred on there being a modest amount of funding available for improving travel plans for employment areas and the particular issues around Manor Park, Whitehouse and Daresbury.</p> <p>It was noted that the Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG) had been drastically reduced which has had a significant impact on financially “just breaking even” services and potentially on the delivery of the Local Transport Plan.</p> <p>It was agreed to use Arriva’s recent purchase of 10 new gas buses and their use of the Eco Manager systems as examples of good practice in the Low Carbon Plan.</p>	<p>IB/DH</p>
4.	<b>Community Engagement Strategy</b>	4.1	The Community Engagement strategy was formally adopted by the Halton Strategic Partnership Board in June 2011. Since then, an Operational Group has been established, a self-assessment tool and toolkit have been developed and champions from each organisation involved have been nominated to ensure implementation within their organisation.	
5.	<b>Work Programme</b>	5.1	It was agreed that a work programme be drafted and circulated to the group, based on the Low Carbon Strategy and then future meetings follow the implementation of the same.	EC
6.	<b>Any Other Business</b>	6.1	It was noted that a project was underway to bring Superfast Broadband to organisations and homes across Cheshire. It was agreed to bring progress back to the group to ensure that the benefits available from this are maximised.	EC
7.	<b>Next Meeting &amp; Future Diary Dates</b>	7.1	To be confirmed	