





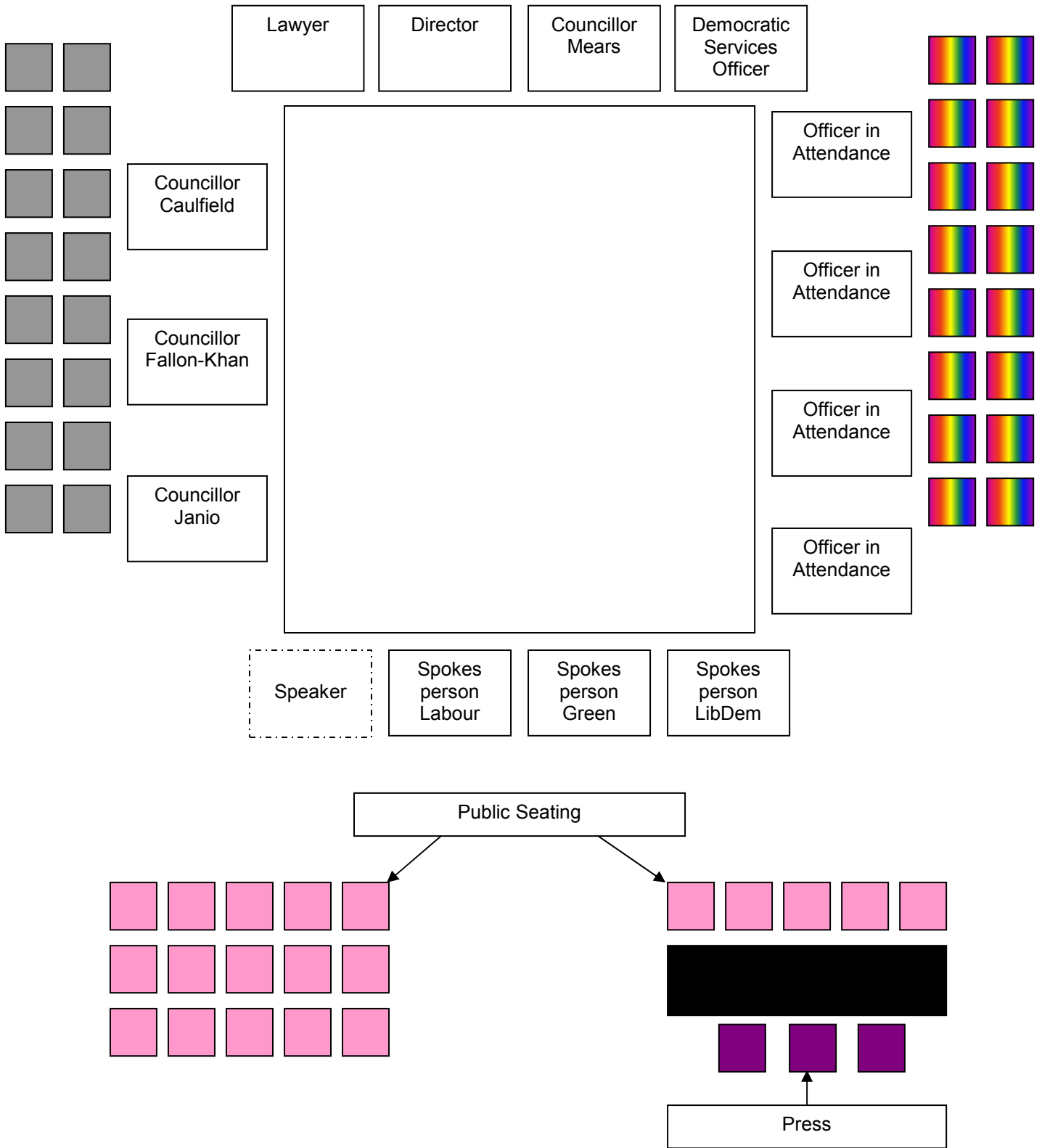
Brighton & Hove
City Council

Cabinet Committee

Title:	Sustainability Cabinet Committee
Date:	21 January 2010
Time:	3.00pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: Mears (Chairman), Caulfield and Fallon-Khan Lead Councillor for Sustainability: Councillor Tony Janio
Contact:	Tanya Massey Senior Democratic Services Officer 01273 291227 tanya.massey@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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Democratic Services: Meeting Layout



AGENDA

Part One

Page

15. 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.

16. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1 - 8

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2009 (copy attached).

17. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

18. 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.

19. PETITIONS

No petitions received by date of publication.

20. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

(The closing date for receipt of public questions is 12 noon on 14 January 2009)

No public questions received by date of publication.

SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

21. DEPUTATIONS

(The closing date for receipt of deputations is 12 noon on 14 January 2009)

No deputations received by date of publication.

22. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

No letters have been received.

23. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

No written questions have been received.

24. NOTICES OF MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

(a) 10:10 Campaign 9 - 10

Proposed by Councillor Phillips (copy attached).

(b) 10:10 Carbon Commitment 11 - 12

Proposed by Councillor Fallon-Khan (copy attached).

25. MEETING THE 10:10 COMMITMENT 13 - 22

Report of the Director of Finance & Resources (copy attached).

Contact Officer: Thurstan Crockett Tel: 29-2503

Ward Affected: All Wards

26. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

Verbal update.

Contact Officer: Emma McDermott Tel: 29-3944

Ward Affected: All Wards

27. BRIGHTON & HOVE FAIRTRADE CITY STATUS 23 - 28

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

Contact Officer: Thurstan Crockett Tel: 29-2503

Ward Affected: All Wards

28. FOOD GROWING ON COUNCIL LAND 29 - 54

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

Contact Officer: Francesca Iliffe Tel: 29-2246

Ward Affected: All Wards

29. REPORT OF THE CITY SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP 55 - 68

(a) To note the minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2009 (copy attached).

(b) To note the draft minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2009 (copy attached).

SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

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.

The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 12 noon on the fifth working day before the meeting.

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Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

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 - Wednesday, 13 January 2010

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

3.00PM 13 OCTOBER 2009

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

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

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

PART ONE

1. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

1A Declarations of Interest

1a.1 There were none.

1B Exclusion of Press and Public

1b.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).

1b.2 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 The Chairman updated Members on the following matters arising from the minutes:

- Discussions were taking place between housing officers and the City Food Partnership regarding issues around Tenant Associations growing food on housing land.
- A report on the Sustainable Communities Act would be considered by the Cabinet Committee on receipt of responses from the Local Government Association and central government.

- As agreed, the Cabinet Committee would receive regular updates from the Brighton Peace & Environment Centre and Project Coordinator Paolo Boldrini was in attendance.

- 2.2 The Chairman welcomed Mr Boldrini and invited him to address the Cabinet Committee.
- 2.3 Mr Boldrini updated Members on progress made on the Climate Connections partnership project since the previous meeting (see Appendix 1).
- 2.4 **RESOLVED** – The minutes of the meeting held on 8 May 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 The Chairman reported that at the recent Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) meeting she had expressed the Council's commitment to signing up to the 10:10 campaign and that the LSP was firmly behind the initiative. She explained that, following the agreement of two Notices of Motion at Council and subject to agreement by the Cabinet in November, the Council would aim to reduce its carbon emissions by 10% in the 2010/11 financial year. The Council was committed to leading by example and was confident that achievement of the challenging target would not only help the environment, but also save taxpayers money.
- 3.2 The Chairman reported that Brighton & Hove City Council had been shortlisted for the "Most Sustainable Business" award in the 2009/10 Sussex Business Awards", with the winner due to be announced on Friday 6 November 2009 at the Grand Hotel. Linked to the nomination was feedback from the Audit Commission from the Use of Resources Assessment in relation to Natural Resources; the council received a three score out of a possible four. The Chairman paid tribute to officers in the Sustainability Team for their work towards the achievement.

4. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION

- 4.1 **RESOLVED** - That all the items be reserved for discussion.

5. PETITIONS

- 5.1 There were none.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- 6.1 There were none.

7. DEPUTATIONS

- 7.1 There were none.

8. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

- 8.1 There were none.

9. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

9.1 There were none.

10. NOTICES OF MOTIONS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL**10A Support the 'Great British Refurb' and the creation of more eco-jobs and training in the city**

10a.1 The Cabinet Committee considered the following Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Turton:

"The Council welcomes the Great British Refurb that is planned across the country and the subsequent creation of jobs and training opportunities across the City.

The Council recognises that the refurbishment of Britain's schools, public buildings and council housing to improve energy efficiency has had received wide ranging support. The Renewable Energy Association has called the Government's plans 'very positive, visionary and ambitious and the Local Government Association has called the plans a 'a major step forward' and the LGA have asked that energy suppliers pay a £500m annual charge to help fund a home insulation programme that would save 10 million households £280 a year on their energy bills, and create up to 20,000 new eco jobs.

Key proposals of the Great British Refurb include;

- Finance packages to install energy efficiency measures and low-carbon heat and power sources would be offered to householders. Repayment from part of the savings on energy bills would be linked to the property, rather than residents.
- Combined with guaranteed cash payments by way of a Renewable Heat Incentive and a Feed-in Tariff for small scale electricity generation, the payback for homeowners who switch to low-carbon technologies and save energy would start from day one.
- Options for improving the delivery of energy efficiency advice and measures, including establishing a central coordinating body funded by energy companies and working to Government-set targets.
- Rolling out low-cost home energy audits, developing a qualification for energy advisers, and establishing an accreditation scheme for installers.

The Council accepts that it will also have a large role to play in developing renewable and low carbon heat and electricity, such as district heating schemes and asks:

(a) The Cabinet Sustainability Committee to consider its responsibility to ensure;

- Local schools, colleges and universities take full advantage of any future qualifications and apprenticeships linked to the instalment of environmentally friendly technology in the City's homes,

- Local people are kept informed of the benefits of the Great British Refurb, such as any paybacks for homeowners who switch to low carbon alternatives and training opportunities in green industries, through council publications such as the website and City News,
- Work with local energy companies based in the City, as well as government departments to guarantee the best options, in terms of energy packages, training opportunities and jobs for residents and young people in the City,

- (b) The Council asks the Cabinet to consider whether there is a wish for any involvement in the roll out of the Great British Refurb, particularly with regards to any future skills and training initiatives, and
- (c) That the Acting Chief Executive write to the Department of Energy and Climate Change to outline the Council's support for the scheme."

10a.2 Councillor Mitchell welcomed the opportunity to discuss the issues contained in the Notice of Motion on behalf of Councillor Turton who was unable to attend the meeting.

10a.3 The Democratic Services Officer confirmed that the Acting Chief Executive had written to the Department of Energy and Climate Change as requested in the Notice of Motion.

10a.4 In response to a question from Councillor Caulfield, the Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy explained that the Council had secured funding for eco-apprenticeships and discussions were ongoing with City College and the Friends Centre about taking the proposals forward. He added that a forthcoming scrutiny review would provide further detail.

10a.5 The Chairman commented that the Council would need to carry out further work in response to the announcement from central government.

10a.6 Councillor Caulfield added that there would be an opportunity for the proposals to feed into the housing repairs contract to ensure good practice.

10a.7 In response to a query from Councillor Steedman, the Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy explained that there would be intense competition for challenge funding from the Low Carbon Communities Fund and that the Council was considering making an application.

10a.8 Councillor Mitchell thanked colleagues for comments and stated that she hoped the Notice of Motion would remain a point of reference in taking the proposals forward.

10a.9 **RESOLVED** – That the Notice of Motion be noted.

11. CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENT

11.1 The Cabinet Committee considered a revised report of the Director of Strategy & Governance concerning the Council's approach to the Carbon Reduction Commitment (for copy see minute book).

- 11.2 The Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy explained that a revised version of the report had been circulated due to publication of the government's response to the consultation on the Carbon Reduction Commitment, which contained some key policy changes resulting in a smaller financial commitment in 2010/11 and effectively delaying the scheme by one year. He added that the Council would seek to revise its carbon reduction targets for future years.
- 11.3 Councillor Mitchell welcomed the report and commented that the proposals would help to raise awareness of the problems of climate change and would provide a good platform for the work of the City Sustainability Partnership. She requested that Member's be invited to a seminar on the issue.
- 11.4 In response to questions from Councillor Steedman, the Energy & Water Manager explained that it was difficult to predict how we would rate against other local authorities because the dummy carbon trading scheme did not require participants to put a specified amount of their portfolio in; however, on the basis of historical data it was hoped that the Council would rate reasonably well.
- 11.5 Councillor Steedman stated that he hoped the Council would aspire to be fiscally neutral or even bring in income from the scheme.
- 11.6 Councillor Caulfield commented that the new Falmer Academy buildings should help to improve targets for the city's schools.
- 11.7 In response to a query from Councillor Caulfield, the Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy explained that officers within the housing directorate had sufficient knowledge and expertise to feed into the Energy Efficiency Working Group.
- 11.8 Councillor Fallon-Khan added that once the Council had completed its Display Energy Certificates it would be possible to begin prioritising buildings that needed most work.
- 11.9 Councillor Janio stated that he was pleased that the proposals in the report had received cross-party support and looked forward to ongoing collaborative work.
- 11.10 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the revised report, the Cabinet Committee accepted the following recommendations:
- (1) That the City Council's Carbon Management Programme Strategy & Implementation Plan be revised to take account of the CRC, as well as Display Energy Certificates.
 - (2) That further work be done to establish how schools will participate fully in the CRC.
 - (3) That the budget planning process identifies the required funding to purchase the CO2 emissions allowances for 2011/12.
 - (4) That the officer Carbon Trading Group explores the potential to introduce internal carbon trading for directorates for 2010/11 onwards.

12. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

- 12.1 The Cabinet Committee considered a report of the Director of Strategy & Governance concerning proposals for a corporate Environmental Policy Statement (for copy see minute book).
- 12.2 Councillor Steedman welcomed the introduction of an Environmental Management Scheme and looked forward to seeing more detailed work; he queried how the Council would monitor its performance against the policy.
- 12.3 The Sustainability Coordinator explained that the aim was to embed a structured monitoring scheme across the organisation following the outcome of the pilot schemes.
- 12.4 The Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy added that the Council is monitored by the Audit Commission and officers were working with colleagues in internal audit on improving processes.
- 12.5 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Committee accepted the following recommendation:
- (1) That the Environmental Policy for the Council be approved.

13. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

- 13.1 The Cabinet Committee considered the minutes of Climate Change Adaptation Scrutiny Panel Scoping Meeting held on 27 July 2009 (for copy see minute book).
- 13.2 Councillor Janio reported that the meeting had been very positive and Members had elected to focus on adaptation rather than mitigation.
- 13.3 Councillor Mitchell, who was a member of the panel, reported that the witnesses had made Members aware of the breadth of the issue and the panel would now to narrow its focus to look at areas that would make a difference to the Council.
- 13.4 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes be noted.

14. REPORT OF THE CITY SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP

- 14.1 The Cabinet Committee considered the minutes of the City Sustainability Partnership (CSP) held on 18 May 2009 and 29 June 2009 and the draft minutes of the CSP held on 7 September 2009 (for copy see minute book).
- 14.2 The Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy confirmed that funding had been secured to resource administration of the CSP.
- 14.3 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes be noted.

The meeting concluded at 3.45pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this

day of

NOTICE OF MOTION

10:10 CAMPAIGN

“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.”

NOTICE OF MOTION

10:10 CARBON COMMITMENT

“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.”

SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 25

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Meeting the 10:10 Commitment
Date of Meeting: 21 January 2010
Report of: Director of Finance & Resources
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 Cabinet signed up to the 10:10 Campaign on November 12, 2009. This committed the council to working to reduce carbon emissions from its operations by 10% in 2010/11 and this report outlines the measures necessary to help achieve this.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee recognises the importance of this in terms of city leadership, notes 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.
- 2.2 That 10:10 is used as an internal communications tool to actively engage staff in saving energy and fuel and hence carbon emissions and taxpayers' money.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The top sustainability priority for the council is a Low Carbon Brighton & Hove. Signing up to 10:10 is part of the actions stemming from this priority and on November 12 the council signed up.
- 3.2 The 10:10 campaign has grown out of the acclaimed Age of Stupid climate change documentary film and has become a high profile campaign which is now developing into a city-wide campaign too.
- 3.3 The aim of 10:10 is to cut CO2 emissions by 10% in 2010 country-wide, in homes, workplaces, schools, hospitals, football clubs, universities, and councils as the first real steps on the road to becoming a low-carbon society.
- 3.4 10:10 for councils means aiming to reduce emissions from our buildings, street lighting and fleet use by 10% in 2010/11. The 10:10 requirements for councils (see Appendix 1) show that we do not have to submit our baseline (our actual emissions for 2009/10) until June 30, 2010. This is an acknowledgement of the time it takes to work with and check all the data. An on-line tool will be used but

has not been published yet. A difficulty with data management is that different metrics are required for measuring council carbon emissions for the Carbon Trust (our original Carbon Management Programme), National Indicator 185 (a local target in our Local Area Agreement), the Carbon Reduction Commitment (impending carbon trading) and 10:10.

- 3.5 The 10:10 framework for councils does not require the inclusion of schools, or council housing, except communal areas, but the communications campaign can be used for these too, to encourage swift carbon reduction. Civic buildings, street lighting/bollards, fleet, and staff business mileage are all included.
- 3.6 While technical improvements and projects will help, staff behaviour (turning equipment off, cutting business mileage etc.) will have a big impact. In the first year of the council's Carbon Management Programme, 2005/6, staff behaviour change alone was largely responsible for the 4% carbon reduction achieved. Concerted staff action across directorates and divisions will be required to deliver 10% however, and a possible internal carbon trading system would provide a further financial incentive. With this in mind, the 10:10 campaign should be used to brand all the council's internal work on energy efficiency / carbon management in a big communications campaign, as it will be highly recognisable and help achieve strong staff buy-in. This has begun with articles in The Channel staff magazine and in City News as well as a logo piece on the Wave intranet homepage, linked to ten key actions staff can take to make a difference.
- 3.7 The new Sigma energy management system is robust and means we have a council carbon footprint for 2008/9. But we still do not yet have one for 2007/8 due to the change over in our supplier from British Gas to Eon - there has been a transfer of information issue between suppliers. This prevents us from making an accurate comparison between years or calculating the final annual reduction figures. We achieved a 4% reduction in 2006/7, so 10% will take a considerable effort. The existing council target was a 20% reduction over five years, from a 2005/6 baseline, so this will need to be revised.
- 3.8 This data problem also makes it difficult to show by directorate breakdown what carbon reduction performance has been over the past two years. Once this data is available, we will be able to further explore the potential of an internal carbon trading scheme. The sophistication of data collection has improved so much since 2006/7, when a number of models and estimates were also adopted for the baseline, that it is difficult to make direct comparisons between years. For example, we did not have information on the whole of the vehicle fleet in '06-'07 but we did for '08/'09. In general, the data collected for the last financial year was much more robust than previously collected as we were able to use the Team Sigma database to run reports. Team Sigma can be assessed as a robust tool to collect data as we have used it to pay council's energy invoices electronically since April 2008. It can run reports on how much electricity and gas has been used at each site using the consumption information stored on the database.
- 3.9 The council has a Carbon Management Fund which was financed through £200,000 from the Carbon Trust and £200,000 council match funding. This reserve is invested in energy reduction measures and the savings generated repay the original investment over time and are reinvested back into the reserve to fund future initiatives. The Carbon Management Fund is now in Year 3 and

has been used to commit £249,000 worth of projects to date. Total energy savings from these projects are projected to be in the region of £145,000 with a total of 400 tonnes of CO2 saved since the initiative came into effect. The staff travel officer has also been working with an annual £50,000 Transport Opportunities Fund which has been spent on practical measures like cycle racks, shower facilities for cyclists, real time bus and train information displays etc.

- 3.10 Salix funded projects identified for implementation during 2008/09 included the provision of energy efficient lighting schemes to complement strategic accommodation works and car parks modernisation within Kings House, Hove Town Hall and Lanes Car Park respectively, and the installation of insulation jackets to all exposed valves located within plant rooms at all civic buildings. Further Salix projects are proposed for 2009/10 including major plant replacement at Hove Town Hall, energy efficient lighting scheme at Norton Road Car Park and five day centres.
- 3.11 Salix funding was drawn down in August 2009 to finance carbon reducing lighting schemes within eight schools together with the implementation of a fax press server system. As schools earmarked for funding will be required to repay the cost of these energy efficiency schemes over the calculated pay back period, reluctance to commit their respective funding has been experienced thus preventing early implementation. ICT is currently exploring the logistics of providing a fax server to the Council's network.
- 3.12 As a result of the completion of our programme of Display Energy Certificates for all properties in the council portfolio, we are in a position to identify where to implement the most beneficial energy efficiency measures to reduce our carbon emissions and we will be completing this review shortly.
- 3.13 Other measures identified which will help to achieve the 10% reduction include:
1. Reduce heating operation times and space temperature.
 2. Partial and phased vacation of Priory House (part in 2010). Increased flexible working and different office work styles like hot desking.
 3. LED low energy lighting in traffic lights. Change all existing externally illuminated signs and change all belisha beacons to internally lit LEDs.
 4. Server virtualisation in more council offices, replacing server rooms.
 5. "Slim client solutions", replacing energy-hungry desktop computers with simpler ones working to a centralised server or off-site server.
 6. Reduce Home-School transport.
 7. Introducing 'ECO' buttons and also encouraging use for home workers. Exploring the use of intelligent power devices to manage power settings on PCs
 8. Reduce grey fleet (own car business travel) mileage by 10% by changing car mileage rates, increasing the number of staff taking a bus/rail season ticket loan, signing up to the Tax-Free Bike Scheme and cycle training courses; putting new real time information into Barts House.
 9. Communicating council teleconferencing service to all staff as alternative to face-to-face meetings.
 10. Reduce domestic and international flights.
 11. Staff awareness, behavioural change, training, champions.

3.13.1 Evaluations are required on some of these schemes to assess their viability, suitability, carbon values, availability for appropriate external funding, and timeline implications before implementation.

3.13.2 The Display Energy Certificate update report submitted to Cabinet on 29 June 2009 stated that the Council should use the DEC programme to identify sites for action and suggested in the first instance concentrating on 31, non-PFI schools graded below D. The schools should be appraised on a site by site basis with the Advisory Reports serving as a guide to action. In all cases a cost benefit analysis must be carried out prior to committing to any identified actions.

3.13.3 The advisory reports produced some generic themes, those being:

1. Improving energy management techniques
2. Fitting zone controls to reduce over and under heating
3. Implement programme of planned lighting system maintenance
4. Improving building fabric air tightness
5. Introduce measures to reduce hot water usage
6. Review building lighting strategies & propose alterations/upgrades

3.13.4 The advisory reports go on to suggest site specific actions which would have the highest impact and have a favourable financial profile:

1. Improving/introducing loft and/or cavity wall insulation
2. Consider installing weather compensator controls on heating systems
3. Consider upgrading major time controls to include optimum start/stop
4. Constructing draught lobbies or installing door closers/revolving door solutions.
5. Potential funding of biomass boilers within four schools.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 The Energy Team, Assistant Director Property Services, Staff Travel officer, ICT, Fleet Manager, Housing, Schools Division in CYPT, Street Lighting and Head of Communications have been consulted.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 The Carbon Management Fund currently has commitments of £249,000 out of a total original fund of £400,000, however, savings are reinvested back into this fund over time and the balance may fluctuate. This fund may be used to invest in schemes that contribute toward the 10:10 initiative as well as meeting the criteria required under the terms of the Carbon Trust. Additional funding may be required through the capital programme to meet any capital investment associated with the 10:10 initiatives that can not be met from the Carbon Management Fund and this will need to be addressed through the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC), due to be implemented from April 2011, may also require significant capital investment as well as identifying funds to purchase carbon trading credits from that date.

Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen

Date: 22/10/2009

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 There is no legal requirement on the council to sign up to the 10:10 campaign; the decision on whether to do so rests with Cabinet.
- 5.3 By contrast, the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRCEES) does require the council's participation, and 5.10-11 below rightly points out the implications of taking part in the 10:10 campaign on our subsequent trading in the CRCEES.

Lawyer Consulted:

Oliver Dixon

Date: 20/10/2009

Equalities Implications:

- 5.4 None anticipated.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.5 10:10 is all about a commitment to cut carbon emissions further and sooner than before. This will have a positive environmental impact.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.6 None anticipated.

Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.7 There is a reputational risk to the council if a 10% reduction is not achieved and officers believe it will be challenging.
- 5.8 There is a new energy manager in post and the staff travel officer post is now vacant and being recruited to; this may have an impact on delivery in the short term.
- 5.9 A balance must be struck between having a broad internal 10:10 communication campaign which promotes positive action by all council staff, and clarity about what we are measuring.
- 5.10 There is a financial risk relating to the carbon trading (CRCEES) baseline for the council, which will be taken as 2010/11. If the council achieves a very high level of CO2 savings, it will have a high bar to achieve against, and risks financial penalties (having to purchase carbon credits) if it does not continue to perform well. This may well have financial implications from 2011/12 onwards.
- 5.11 But this is also an opportunity to develop and embed culture change, cement year-on-year improvement in energy efficiency and management, explore more renewable energy options, and reduce the council's far greater exposure to the financial risks of a volatile energy market.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.12 Strong leadership from the council has been a catalyst for the establishment of a

city-wide 10:10 sign up campaign which has received seed funding and has the council represented on its steering group. This should make a difference to the city's below- target carbon reduction achievement.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 One option would be to focus less on schools and council housing for spending on energy efficiency, as these will not directly count towards the 10:10 footprint. The council's housing stock is in the upper quartile nationally for energy efficiency. Schools are signing up individually to 10:10. But it is important to continue to work on both and especially schools as there is so much scope for improvement and DEC's to help prioritise schools for action.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Cabinet agreed on November 12 to sign up to the 10:10 Campaign and to consider at Sustainability Cabinet Committee on January 21, 2010 at what measures might help it achieve this.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. 10:10 for Councils: Full Details

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

1. Council NOM agreed on October 8, 2009:
<http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1213375>
2. Ofgem Press Release on Comprehensive Review of Britain's Energy Supplies:
[http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Media/PressRel/Documents1/Ofgem%20-%20Discovery%20-%20PR8%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Media/PressRel/Documents1/Ofgem%20-%20Discovery%20-%20PR8%20(2).pdf)
3. The 10:10 Campaign website: <http://www.1010uk.org/>

10:10 for Councils: Full Details

Contact: councils@1010uk.org

What exactly do we have to do?

10:10 for local authorities is very simple, and in most cases will just entail revising your existing emissions reduction targets to become somewhat more ambitious.

All you need to do is:

- 1 Set a baseline year that ends at any point between September 1st 2009 and June 30th 2010
- 2 Establish National Indicator 185 emissions for your baseline year, minus schools and outsourced emissions
- 3 Aim to achieve an absolute 10% cut in N185 emissions over the 12 month period immediately following your baseline year. For more information on National Indicator 185, please visit:
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/localgovindicators/ni185.htm>

What about carbon offsets?

10:10 does not recognise any form of carbon offsetting or emissions trading as counting towards your 10% cut. That's because the whole aim of 10:10 is to reduce emissions directly – within the UK.

How will our 10:10 progress be measured?

A key part of signing up to 10:10 is committing to keep track of your emissions so that you can measure progress in reducing them. Once you have this data you can use our simple online reporting tool (available from 2010) to tell us how your savings are adding up.

Will we be audited or put in a league table?

No, there will be no independent audits and no league tables. However, we do ask that before you make any public claims about the emissions savings achieved as part of your 10:10 action, you (a) run your figures through our online tool, and (b) make sure the documentation supporting your data is available to 10:10 on request.

If you can let us know how you're doing at the end of every quarter, then great. If you only measure twice – once at the beginning and once at the end, then so be it.

How will our 10:10 participation and progress be communicated?

We strongly encourage every council signing up to 10:10 to use our logo to communicate its participation during the action year. The more you show off the logo, the clearer it will be that you're doing your best to reduce emissions. And you'll be helping to spread the word about the 10:10 project, too.

During the action year, we'd very much like to hear of any successful, innovative or funny ways that your council has discovered to reduce its emissions. 10:10 will help publicise the best stories through our national media partners. 10:10 recognizes all cuts as a success but those local authorities achieving the full 10% may feature prominently in coverage of the project.

At the end of your action year your local authority will be listed on the 10:10 register of successful participants and you can continue to use the 10:10 brand if:

- (a) you report your emissions data to 10:10 using our online tool, and
- (b) our online tool shows that an emissions reduction of at least 3% was achieved.

What about longer-term cuts?

10:10 is about making headway on the journey to a genuinely low-carbon economy, so we strongly encourage councils to approach the short-term challenge in a way that recognises the need for further cuts in the future.

More specifically, local authorities should try to ensure that the emissions savings made during their 10:10 action year are locked in for the long term – and that the action taken will complement rather than impede longer-term further cuts.

In practice this means thinking carefully about investment decisions – for example, opting for best-in-category efficiency ratings when installing new boilers, fridges and other equipment, as opposed to models that are only slightly more efficient than the ones being replaced.

One of the advantages of joining 10:10 is that it helps you to get ahead of the pack in terms of sustainability. This will not only cut your energy costs in the short term but will put you at a strategic advantage in the longer term. Britain is committed to emissions cuts of at least 34% by 2020 (relative to 1990) and the coming years will see high-carbon councils being squeezed harder and harder by laws put in place to make sure this target is met.

Do we need to do anything else if we sign up?

Joining 10:10 is not just about reducing your own council's emissions: it's about

Item 25 Appendix 1

becoming part of a national drive to reduce the entire country's carbon footprint. As such, an important part of the 10:10 commitment is spreading the word and seeking to get other people and organisations involved.

One key way that local authorities can spread the word is by encouraging their staff to sign up as 10:10 individuals. Helping them hit the target – by, for example, implementing the government's cycle-to-work scheme, having a weekly meat-free day in the canteen, or supporting lift-sharing or car-pooling – will reduce emissions directly as well as increasing staff engagement with your organisation's emissions cuts. Local authorities can also make a big difference by telling residents, suppliers, contractors and clients – everyone you work with – about 10:10, and inviting them to take part. This could be the most important thing you do so please think about how you will communicate your involvement in 10:10.

SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 27

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Brighton & Hove Fairtrade City Status
Date of Meeting: 21 January 2010
Report of: Director of Strategy & Governance
Contact Officer: Name: Thurstan Crockett Tel: 29-3337
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 report offers a snapshot review of the City's 'Fairtrade City' status and recommends the formation of a steering group to develop the city programme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee approves the formation of a steering group 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.
- 2.2 That delegated power be granted to the Head of Sustainability and Environmental Policy to establish the steering group.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The principle of Fairtrade is to guarantee a better deal for producers in the developing world.
- 3.2 Brighton & Hove City Council achieved Fairtrade City status in 2004.
- 3.3 Following the 2004 award of Fairtrade status, a steering group was inaugurated to monitor progress and compliance. The steering group was decommissioned as the principle of Fairtrade became mainstreamed throughout the council and across the city.
- 3.4 The subsequent five years have demonstrated variable degrees of compliance with Fairtrade principles. As such it is timely to re-investigate the council's approach and the city's adherence to the principles.
- 3.5 Opposition Members have raised specific concerns regarding the provision of Fairtrade products for refreshment at council functions.
- 3.6 The proposed revised steering group could include representatives of, but not be limited to: Brighton & Hove Food Partnership, World Development Movement,

the City Council, Universities, an independent Fairtrade business person, Brighton Peace and Environment Centre, Friends Centre and Churches Together.

- 3.7 A sample of internal and external teams were consulted to determine adherence to and promotion of the Fairtrade criteria (as described at Appendix 1). From within the authority, representatives from the Procurement team, the Sustainability team, Communications and the Food Partnership contributed to the exercise. Externally the following were consulted: a selection of supermarkets, 'Be Local Buy Local' participants, places of worship and Brighton Fair Trade Market.
- 3.8 **Council Canteen and Meetings held on premises:** All tea, coffee and sugar served within the canteen at Kings House or meeting rooms (Brighton Town Hall & Kings House) are Fairtrade.
- 3.9 **Press:** The momentum and news value of Fairtrade has declined since its initial adoption. The press team have not been required to issue press releases in recent months in regard to Fairtrade. However local media and national press are routinely monitored.
- 3.9 **Education:** The Environmental Education Officer actively promotes Fairtrade policies in schools during the annual 'Fairtrade Fortnight'. Schools across the city are invited to independently promote the Fairtrade principle throughout the year. Dorothy Stringer School run 'Cameroon Café' every Thursday, the proceeds of which are donated to a school in Cameroon with whom they are twinned. Cardinal Newman Catholic School has been awarded Fairtrade status.
- 3.10 The Fairtrade agenda is being promoted by schools and the availability of Fairtrade products supports this. The main impediment to their wider adoption of Fairtrade principles is the current school contract for meals; the longer term procurement cycles of which are challenging when attempting to integrate Fairtrade principles.
- 3.11 The Universities of both Sussex and Brighton actively promote Fairtrade and both have achieved Fairtrade status.
- 3.12 **Promotional Events within the Council:** Fairtrade events are organised biannually in March and November. Promotions are delivered in the councils main buildings.
- 3.13 **Food Partnership:** The main aim of the partnership is to strengthen the growth and development of a localised food system. The system is geared to promote social equity, economic prosperity, environmental sustainability, global fairtrade and the health and well being of residents. The partnership actively supports and promotes Fairtrade policies and works to increase the availability of Fairtrade products.
- 3.14 **Supermarkets:** Locally based major retailers offer a variety of Fairtrade products. There are over 1,000 Fairtrade products available within the UK.

- 3.15 **Places of Worship:** Many places of worship offer Fairtrade products. Brighton Road Baptist Church has attained Fairtrade Status. Synagogues also promote Fairtrade and Mosques are also starting to show a significant interest.
- 3.13 **Brighton Fairtrade Market:** There is a regular fairtrade market every third Saturday of each month at the Friends Meeting House and five fair trade shops: FAIR, Kolkata, Lovethatstuff Marina, People Tree and Shared Earth.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 As noted above.

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: 09/12/09

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The recommendations at paragraph 2 are consistent with the Sustainability Cabinet Committee's terms of reference. The Committee therefore has proper authority to give effect to those recommendations.

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

Lawyer Consulted:

Oliver Dixon

Date: 22/12/09

Equalities Implications:

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

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 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:

- 5.5 None.

Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 The reputational risk is if that if the City Council does not take steps to ensure fairtrade activity in the city is co-ordinated, as the city's commitment to fairtrade will be questioned and challenged. This will require an external, partnership lead, with council light-touch support.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 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 Brighton & Hove City Council may choose not to retain its Fairtrade City status but this is not recommended.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The steering group is requested to report their conclusions to the Sustainability Cabinet Committee in order to meet constitutional obligations.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

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

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

1. Brighton & Fairtrade city website: <http://www.bhft.org.uk/home.htm>
2. Brighton & Hove city Council Procurement Code of Practice: Sustainability (January 2009)

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

The criteria for 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. Local cafes and shops do stock and promote fairtrade products in an ad hoc way.

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 the picture is not clear.

4. Media coverage and popular support is attracted for the campaign.

The council press office is not actively involved in promoting fairtrade issues. However, 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. Due to other commitments, 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.

SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 28

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Food growing on council land		
Date of Meeting:	21 January 2010	Sustainability Cabinet Committee	
	8 February 2010	Housing Management Consultative Committee	
Report of:	Director of Adult Social Care Housing		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Francesca Iliffe	Tel: 29-2246
	E-mail:	francesca.iliffe@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Key Decision:	No		
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report was requested by Councillor Mears at Sustainability Cabinet Committee 8 May 2009 to explore issues around food growing on council housing land in relation to the Citywide four year project 'Harvest Brighton & Hove' (Brighton & Hove Food Partnership) which aims to extend food growing and consumption of local food in the city.
- 1.2 This report will be presented to Housing Management Consultative Committee 8 February 2010.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the contents of the report be noted as an update on work within the council to encourage local food growing.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 This report explores the following issues in relation to community food projects :
 - What food growing activity is happening in Brighton & Hove on council land, specifically that belonging to housing?
 - What potential is there is for the development of further projects: what would need to happen to enable this in terms of legal structures, resources etc.
 - What models and good practice exist elsewhere in the UK between local authorities and the community?
- 3.2 A resurgence of interest in use of allotments in recent years has contributed to oversubscription of allotments service. There are currently around 2300 residents on the waiting list for allotments and the wait can be from 2 years to 8 years.
- 3.3 The allotments service is tackling the waiting list issue by: increasing the quantity of plots that are available; increased monitoring of the waiting list; and by focusing attention on untended plots. Whitehawk Hill and Craven Vale allotment

extensions have created a further 80 allotments, with around 20 of which shall be allocated to community groups, such as Bristol Estate Allotment Group, Transition Town and Whitehawk Food Project. Clearance of overgrown voided allotments on Moulescoombe Estate allotments has created a further 26 new 125 square metre plots. However, despite considerable effort by the Allotments Service to increase the availability of allotments, it is clear from the size of the waiting list that additional land for food growing is desired by the community.

- 3.4 The council owns substantial land within the city, some of which is not being used or is underused. Where there is interest from the community for temporary or semi permanent growing projects, mutually beneficial arrangements may be facilitated. **Appendix 1 lists risks and opportunities.**
- 3.5 The key objectives of the city's Food Strategy are to encourage the development of local food growing and consumption. The Sustainable Community Strategy, the Sustainability Strategy and the Core Strategy support access to allotments and locally produced food. Community food growing projects can support community cohesion and combat social exclusion, improve external environments and enhance community safety through better use of disused areas. They also encourage outdoor activity, an objective of the Active Living Strategy.
- 3.6 Some drivers for strategic food work in Brighton and Hove:
 - 10% of five year olds are obese and 13% are overweight
 - Only 15% of residents take the nationally recommended level of a minimum of thirty minutes physical activity five times a week
 - 56% of adults eat less than the recommended five portions of fruit and vegetables a day
 - Deprived wards in the city have a life expectancy up to five years below more affluent wards
 - The food system contributes 18% to the UK Carbon footprint
- 3.7 Brighton & Hove Food Partnership's project 'Harvest Brighton & Hove' aims to develop a series of approaches and models that build capacity within the city to establish food growing projects which can sustain themselves after the time limited 'Harvest' project ends in 2012. The models developed will be replicable within the city and in other urban areas in the UK. This way, Harvest can have an impact beyond the life and physical location of the pioneering original project in Brighton & Hove. For more information on Harvest: <http://www.harvest-bh.org.uk/>
- 3.8 'Harvest Brighton & Hove' consists of many projects, one of which is 'Breaking New Ground led by local *not for profit* organisation Food Matters (www.foodmatters.org). The project looks at how public spaces e.g. around housing estates or in parks could be used for productive food growing. Delivered in partnership with Brighton University this will involve developing an urban growing plan for Brighton & Hove identifying how the city could produce more of its own food. One site will be turned into productive space and three more sites supported. Learning and support will be offered to other groups that want to replicate the model.
- 3.9 Harvest is seeking to establish projects on council land where there is interest from the community within the next year. This has triggered a focus within the

council on the potential to facilitate food growing projects on housing land where tenants and residents express an interest.

Summary of what is happening in Brighton and Hove

- 3.10 Brighton & Hove has a rich history of well established organisations and food projects ranging from the Allotments Federation to highly successful projects which engage well with local communities and schools such as Stanmer Organics, Care Co-ops Community Farm, Moulsecoomb Forest Garden and Whitehawk Community Food Project. These are focused on Allotments or Cityparks land and achieve a higher level of community engagement than individual allotments. These community food projects operate on council land through a lease agreement.
- 3.11 A preliminary audit of growing currently taking place on council housing land has identified limited activity. Two examples include: the project set up by Maggie Smeeth, chair of Central Whitehawk Tenants Association, at the Greenhouse in Whitehawk; and an area of land outside Lichfield Court in Whitehawk where a tenant grows fruit and vegetables. However there is increasing demand from residents for areas of tended or untended land to be made available for community growing.
- 3.12 One example of a community request for food growing space on an area of Housing owned land has arisen in Bevendean. Local community members have formed an organisation called Bevendean Community Garden. The group consists of highly motivated individuals with diverse skills who propose setting up a new community food project linked to Bevendean Primary School and the local community. Negotiations to enable this to happen are currently underway; officer support is being provided by officers working in City Parks, Sustainability, Legal, Estates, and Housing. It is hoped the Bevendean project will be on site by summer 2010. The preliminary work to facilitate this project has fed into the *risk and opportunities* appendix which can be used to set a checklist for facilitating future food projects.
- 3.13 Further examples of requests to use housing land that are soon to be considered are the South Hawk Allotment Project in Henfield Close Whitehawk, land behind Plaistow Close in Whitehawk, and land near Craven Road.
- 3.14 Officers within housing have carried out some preliminary work and identified areas of land in Whitehawk and Portslade that might be suitable for community growing. This work is still ongoing, with maps being developed to denote the potential areas. A map of land owned by Housing is attached at **appendix 2**.
- 3.15 A *call for interest* was placed in the Autumn 2009 edition of '*Homing In*' inviting residents who might be keen to grow food locally to contact a named officer. Only a handful of residents expressed an interest, but a few more asked for information about allotments. The December issue of '*Homing In*' carries a larger article and housing staff are planning more face-to-face communication with Tenant Association representatives and other residents who may be interested.
- 3.16 Anecdotally, residents, particularly those with no gardens, are keen to be involved in growing food, and some of the support that might be needed include:-
- Support to organise a group, or to be put in contact with other local people

- Land in close proximity to homes
 - Training: e.g. for general growing; growing in containers or raised beds; cookery demonstrations
 - Activities or volunteering events to be invited to – especially for those who have never had a garden. For example volunteering opportunities on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Whitehawk Community Allotment near Bristol Estate.
 - Tools, compost, equipment, seeds etc - or funding
 - Information e.g. on allotment sharing, support available, what has worked
 - Ability to try things out without needing to commit themselves to e.g. a community gardening committee or a Tenants Association (e.g. be referred to an existing community food project)
 - A license which can be used to secure an understanding of responsibilities where land management is passed to residents
- 3.17 Consultation with officers from Housing, Legal, Cityparks and Estates indicate that smaller plots on housing land could be let to the community through a specific licence. Where a community group or individual requests use of land near their residence e.g. on their estate, this could be facilitated through the following process:
- i) Consultation with officers from housing
 - ii) In principle support from Housing
 - iii) Consultation with the local community
 - iv) License drawn up and signed by individual/group
 - v) Community group develops community garden
 - vi) **Appendix 1: Risks and opportunities** lists some of the issues that may come up in the process of setting up a food project, and how these issues could be handled.
- 3.18 The pilot of the *Turning the Tide* Strategy in the Moulsecoomb area presents an opportunity to establish ‘*Grow your Neighbour’s Own*’ gardening projects in Council housing gardens (a *Harvest Brighton and Hove* initiative). *Turning the Tide* aims to tackle social exclusion in Council housing. ‘*Grow your Neighbour’s Own*’ is an initiative that can help to promote community cohesion and well-being, offering residents who don’t have gardens the opportunity to grow their own food using the gardens of residents who have gardens but aren’t keen or able to use them whether for time, knowledge or mobility reasons. ‘*Grow Your Neighbour’s Own*’ involves pairing up gardeners with tenants who have unused gardens and can improve community networks and promote well being.
- 3.19 The Tenant Service Authority (TSA) is currently consulting on a new regulatory framework for social housing in England. This proposed regulatory framework would require social landlords to agree local standards and priorities with residents. During 2010, Housing Officers, will be working with residents to agree local priorities for their area. Opportunities to grow food could be included as one of a menu of local outcomes for residents and the Council to prioritise for their local area.

Summary of good practice in the UK

- 3.20 Initial research has found recent emerging examples of projects between local councils and the community. This indicates that Brighton & Hove is in the forefront of work of developing models to facilitate the development of food projects, just as it was pioneering in developing a Food Strategy for the city. Other councils making progress include Calderdale, Huddersfield, York, Croydon, Bristol, Camden and Islington.
- 3.21 At Calderdale a pioneering community food project called 'Incredible Edible Todmorden' www.incredible-edible-todmorden.co.uk/ and a core group of officers from the Conservative run council led on work establishing a local project called 'Calderdale Incredible Edible'. A Calderdale – wide project to increase food production and consumption was developed. The project was based in deprived areas and delivered strong community cohesion and engagement benefits. See **appendix 3** for further information.
- 3.22 Calderdale Council made a decision at Cabinet in April 2009 to utilise council land where appropriate for community growing of fruit and vegetables. A tranche of model licenses was developed by Calderdale's legal services for use between the community and council. Three licenses were produced for food growing in the following settings: i) pots and containers (e.g. growing vegetables in public squares); ii) tree planting/orchards; iii) land on housing estates (for allotment style growing). 19 food projects are currently being processed.
- 3.23 Other councils adopting the 'Incredible Edible' approach include Islington, Huddersfield and York. The Welsh Assembly is also exploring potential implementation for Wales.
- 3.24 The London boroughs of Camden and Islington are also supporting the development of community growing projects on council owned land. Camden has recently made available funding of £1 million pounds for supporting such projects. Islington is at a similar stage to Brighton currently looking at the legal situation and developing licences and agreements.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Internal consultation included: Head of Housing Management (East Brighton) who has consulted with housing officers and through them Tenant Association representatives. Other council officers consulted include those from Cityparks & Allotments; Estates; Legal; Planning; Ecology; Environmental Health; and Community Development. Council lawyers have been consulted on the legal processes which may need to be set up to facilitate food growing projects on council land.
- 4.2 Research into good practice elsewhere in the UK has involved consultation with Brighton and Hove Food Partnership, Food Matters (local food policy organisation), Sustain, Food Links (national food policy bodies); councils: Calderdale, Islington, Croydon and Camden;

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 "The financial implications arising from this report are for staff time spent on the monitoring of community interest and liaising with residents associations, and costs of equipment such as tools. Costs of staff time will be met within the existing resources of the Housing department, funded by the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). In respect of the costs of tools, the Food Partnership will provide some funding as part of the 'Harvest' project, will also run a 'tool library' for use by community groups, and provide small grants suitable for this type of project. Grants for tools may also be provided through the HRA Estate Development Budget (EDB) through the normal EDB bidding processes"

Finance Officer consulted: Susie Allen

Date: 10/12/09

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 "Sites will need to be looked at, from the legal point of view, on a case by case basis but, in principle, appropriate legal documentation could be drafted to reflect the circumstances of each case"

Lawyer Consulted:

Anna Mackenzie

Date: 09/12/09

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 Existing projects and those to be developed will be available to any resident showing an interest but a focus may be given for outreach to specific local minority groups through mentoring schemes. Some projects have, or have specifically requested, raised beds to enable residents with mobility issues to participate.

It is envisaged that food projects will contribute to the city council's financial inclusion and social inclusion work, and will increase the capacity of local communities to access and consume locally grown and healthy foods.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 Sustainability benefits of this work are considerable. They include: making productive use of land which is underused; increasing local food production and a more sustainable food system; increasing consumption of healthy, fresh produce; increasing outdoor activity; increasing community cohesion; increasing skills and capacity in the community.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 Anecdotal evidence from 'Incredible Edible Calderdale' is that the food projects do not suffer vandalism despite being located in areas of high deprivation. Reasons for this may include the strong sense of community engagement, cohesion and ownership of these projects. The worse they have suffered are homeless people digging up and eating produce but this is not seen in a negative light. Food projects frequently engage e.g. excluded school children, young offenders and community 'payback' teams and have great potential for positive

impact on these individuals. Security and troubleshooting for each project can be explored on a case by case basis.

Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 A document at **Appendix 1** explores risks and opportunities.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Relevant City Food Strategy objectives 1) To support educational initiatives across all sectors of the community to raise awareness of the production of food and its role in supporting health, the economy and the environment. 4) Increase access for all residents to nutritious, safe affordable food. 6) Encourage the development of a vibrant local food economy, expand local food production and create opportunities for city residents to access locally produced food. 10) Be accountable and rooted in the community, celebrate the part food plays in the community and culture of the city.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 This work will include establishing resident priorities, and supporting residents to harness and increase community capacity, community interest and community skills in local food production. The work is currently at a very early stage, and housing staff will continue to work with residents, council colleagues, the Food Partnership and Food Matters to evaluate the feasibility of using available housing land. The Food Partnership is also looking at alternative land options with other land owners in the city, e.g. schools, hospitals and businesses.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The reasons for the report's recommendations are to raise awareness among members of the Committee of emerging work within the council in relation to local growing projects, and to provide information on the role that housing land can play.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Risks and opportunities
2. A map of land in Brighton and Hove owned by Housing
3. Calderdale 'Incredible Edible'

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

1. Spade to Spoon; A Food Strategy and Action Plan for Brighton and Hove (2006)
http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/downloads/bhcc/sustainability/food_strategy/SpadeToSpoon-WEB_FINAL_SEPT06.pdf

Community Food projects on council land: Opportunities and Risks

Opportunities

Health and wellbeing:

- Provide access to fresh fruit and vegetables
- Provide opportunities for physical exercise

Environment:

- Improvement of external environments otherwise unused and neglected
- Bringing under utilized or low social value publicly owned green space into public use.
- To increase local city based food production, ideally for local consumption within the vicinity of the growing area
- Increase in bio-diversity and environmental sustainability through good land use
- Reduction in carbon emissions through access to sustainably produced local food
- Encouraging spin off sustainability opportunities such as community composting and rain water harvesting

Educational:

- Opportunities for children to learn about food; food growing and environmental issues on their doorstep
- Projects can provide skills and employment training for young adults etc.
- Provision of an educational facility, linking local people - often living in deprived urban areas far removed from the countryside – with the food they eat.

Community Cohesion and Safety:

- Growing projects provide opportunities for all community members to become involved
- Projects bring people out of their homes enabling increased interaction.
- The presence of community members outside their homes increases community safety
- Neglected and hidden spaces which may have attracted unwelcome behaviour can be made more attractive and utilised productively
- Potential for organisation of related social and educational events around the growing area; this might be healthy cooking classes or social events; both binding the community as well as educate on growing and healthy eating.
- To encourage people in urban areas to engage with, and take pride in, their local surroundings.

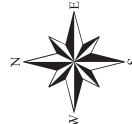
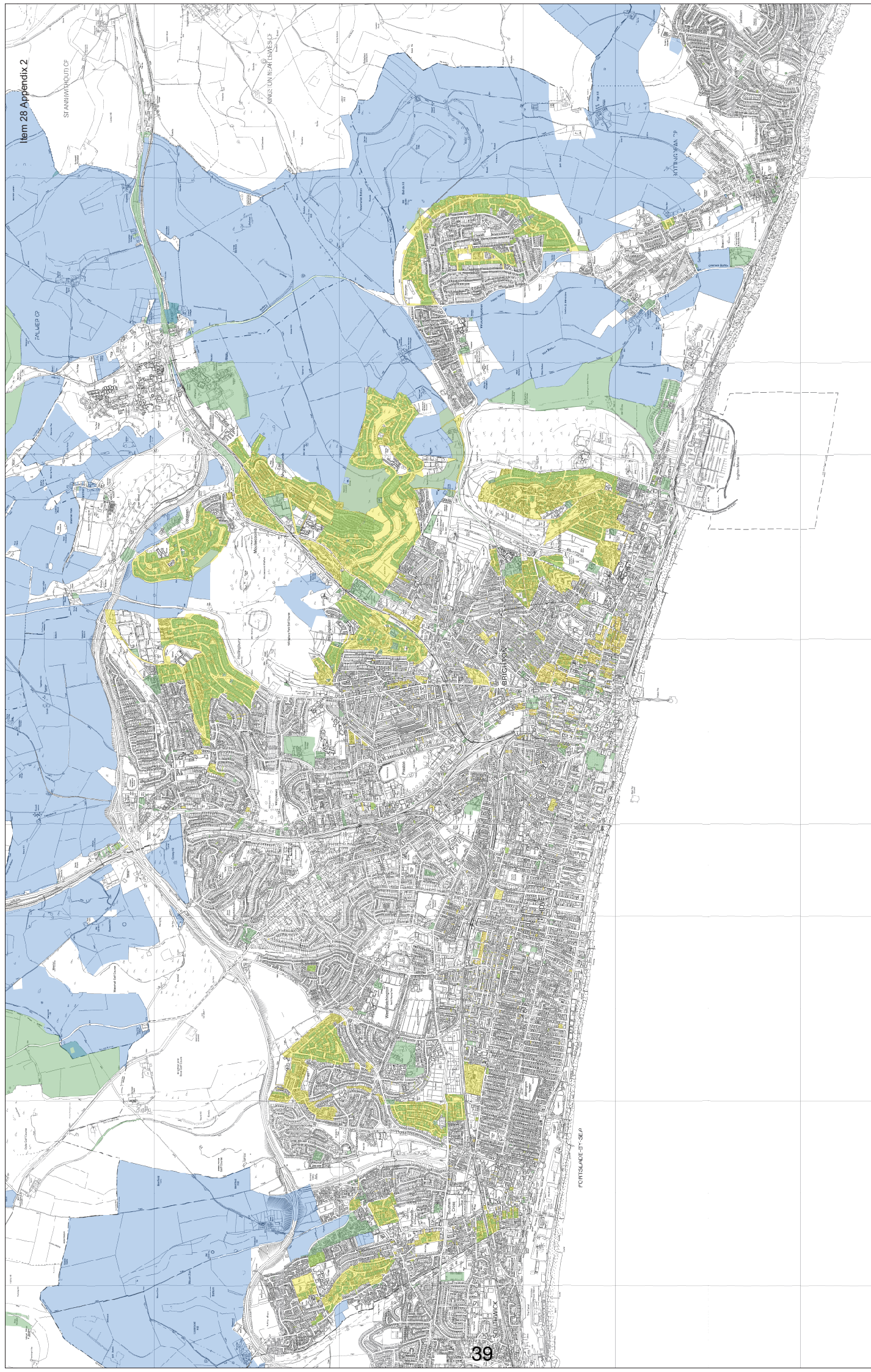
Corporate

- To forgo works to such areas as local people take on management of given over green space.
- Reputational benefits. Opportunities for media interest in the localised 'grow your own' movement.
- City council seen to work closely with community, facilitating innovative community projects which address sustainability issues.

Risks	Mitigation measures
Project set up	
There is not enough interest among community members to initiate project	Projects will not be supported unless there is enough community interest to suggest it is viable.
There are differing views on how a piece of land should be used i.e. maintained for dog	Full consultation with community members will be undertaken before a project starts and opportunities

Item 28 Appendix 1

walking, or sports use etc.	created for maximum involvement with local people
The use of the land for food growing constitutes a change of previous use (e.g. from open access to temporary allotment).	According to Local Government Act an advertisement must be run in local press on 2 occasions over 2 weeks to inform local community and allow them to express views.
Proposed land is ear marked for future development e.g. housing, industry, development	Appropriate agreements will be drawn up from the outset. Complete transparency will be required from the landowner on potential future use of sites. Break clauses and time limited leases or licences to be drawn up.
There is restricted access to the land	Council officers to seek resolution with project members to find suitable access routes, but where this is not possible, an alternative site may have to be found.
Soil at the proposed site for the food project may be contaminated.	A risk assessment should be undertaken to assess potential contaminants followed by soil sampling for presence of contamination. Mitigation action taken (e.g. decontamination or use of raised beds only). If contamination cannot be remediated, another site should be found.
The proposed site has a designation in local planning policy which does not permit food growing.	A planning application must be submitted to apply for change of use.
There are costs relating to land preparation e.g. stripping turf and other vegetation and installing services such as irrigation and security fencing. Who provides this?	Consultation between community group and council dept responsible for existing management of land to negotiate approach. Potential for council to assist preparing land in some cases through Cityparks services. Approach reflected in lease.
Project requires funding	Projects will be supported to develop budgets/business plans from the outset and funding either provided or signposted likely funding sources e.g. Food Partnership 'Good Food' small grant scheme, BHCC discretionary grants programme, etc.
Project members seek to erect fencing or temporary structures such as a shed for tool storage.	Development Control (Planning) must be consulted over whether a planning application is necessary. Issues of structures incorporated into licence/lease.
During project operation	
Site attracts vandalism	Proportionate security measures ie fencing etc will be introduced from the outset. Encourage sense of community ownership and 'defensible space'.
There is not enough interest among community members to sustain project	Responsibility will be agreed within the lease/licence with guidelines about restoration of land to original state.
Site becomes untidy and unmanaged	Licence /agreement with the Council will include action in the eventuality site becomes unmanaged
Increase in traffic	Encourage use of sustainable transport where necessary. Site projects where local community can access them by sustainable means.



- Farmland
- BHCC Sold
- HRA Freehold

BHCC Owned Land Controlled by Housing

Scale 1:25,000 @ A2 2/12/2009

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Incredible Edible Todmorden

Upper Valley

Community Land Use Proposal



making growing food visible in communities

Community Land Use

Background

A partnership group has been formed using the umbrella of Incredible Edible Todmorden, members include ; Community Groups, Primary Care Trust, Education, Local Business Association and Calderdale Council Community Services.

There are approximately 80 people on the current list for allotment space in the Upper Valley. The allotment land available in Todmorden is remote, steep and a good way out of town.

Calderdale Council Community Services have given agreement to consider use of land for community growing. They have agreed that fruit trees can be planted around the edge of Harley Wood Recreation Ground in Todmorden.

A community group in Cornholme who no longer have access to land at the Vale Community Centre which is unsafe and the cost of repair prohibitive are keen to identify other possible community growing land. The group carried out a consultation event recently where community growing space was a high priority.

A private football club have asked if they can use their land more productively.

Pennine Housing wish to encourage food growing with their tenants and are willing to consider any request for growing space.

The increasing cost of local food and looming peak oil crisis has focused a group of local individuals and organisations to look at local solutions to address:

Use of available land for community growing

To develop training and education opportunities to equip community members with the skills required for a resilient community

Encourage and promote healthy eating

Increase community cohesion

Reduce carbon footprint

Reduce food miles

Development of new skills

To promote and develop new food industries

Three stands have been actively developed to future proof the town : Schools, Business and Community.

Schools :

- Todmorden High School has led the way in quality food and young people's participation in growing. A commercial Poly tunnel has been installed at the school for the use of the children.
- Fernley Lee School have 26 raised beds built for the community.
- Cornholme Primary has started work on a community garden, parents and local people building and paying for the project.
- Land based qualifications by 2010 delivered by Todmorden High.
- A primary school parents growing network has been established to encourage school participation.

Business :

- The business association have launched a loyalty card for local shops. The NFU are backing the project.
- Local producers are networked to businesses.
- New Markets have been developed.
- A dairy is currently under construction.
- An every egg matters campaign will be launched end October.
- A new costermonger opens November 6th , the store will sell local growers surplus.
- A farmers selling co-operative has been developed.

Community :

- Seed and plant swops have attracted large numbers of growers.
- Website and growers forum established.
- Community gardens continue to flourish.
- Funding applied for new community orchard.
- 400 people attend harvest festival and contribute home grown produce.
- A fruit press has been purchased and used by the community.
- Community growing spaces established at two schools.
- Tool library kitted out with gardening equipment.
- 4 Community courses for healthy eating and gardening
- PCT are interested in Healing horticulture project.

Interested Communities - Cornholme

Cornholme is part of Todmorden and approximately 2 miles from the town centre on the main Burnley Road. It has a large proportion of back to back houses with little or no garden space.

The newly reformed Cornholme Community Action Group have expressed a wish to concentrate on environmental improvements. The group want to make the community visible by creating outdoor growing places where people can meet up and share a common interest.

The group have organised a community clean up that includes hedge cutting and bulb planting, the members have also identified several small pieces of land for some quick wins.

Current Land Identified

Land has been identified by the Cornholme Group on Burnley Road next to Vale Baptist Church as a good community growing space. The owner has been identified and they are based in Nuremburg (the company has a land agent in ???), the land is currently maintained by the Calderdale Council, it was offered to CMBC about 2 years ago for a token sum with a future development clause this offer was declined. The group could consider pursuing the plot to ascertain if the land agent would be willing to transfer to a voluntary group with the support of Incredible Edible Todmorden (IET) ...this is a longer term aspiration.



Another piece of land has also been identified between Palma Street and Sunny Bank Terrace off Burnley Road, this area is a possible place to put some raised beds for community members to use.



The play park on Harrison Street has empty raised beds, planting area at back and a square behind wall which could also be used for community growing.



Harley Wood Recreation Ground has been identified and the relevant permissions have been sought to plant fruit trees around the boundary. The Orchard will be planted in conjunction with Parks and Street Scene Manager.



These two patches of land are opposite each other on Burnley Road and are part of the gateway to Cornholme.



Process for Land Identification and Access

The process for identifying land for community growing will include Incredible Edible Todmorden (IET), Calderdale Council and other growing/environmental community groups.

- IET will identify land that they wish to utilise to develop for growing food opportunities
- If Calderdale Council (CMBC) own identified land IET will work with council officers to confirm ownership and appropriate use.
- If the land is owned by CMBC and is available for community use a meeting with neighbours any other interested party will be held to establish the needs and concerns.
- IET will open an account with the land registry and provide help and support to local groups to negotiate with the land owner.
- The neighbours will also be invited by IET to look at other spaces where communities have come together to develop open spaces.
- A meeting will be arranged with all interested parties to set terms of an agreement.
- If there is a broad agreement that growing food will not impact negatively on the surrounding area an agreement will be signed.
- All groups and interested parties must comply with terms of agreement.
- Twice yearly all plots will be visited to monitor progress and use.
- If plots are not being well used IET would act as the umbrella body to find another user or help revert the land to its original state.
- Advice and guidance will be available from Todmorden In Bloom and IET members on getting started for those who need it.
- IET are developing a land contamination guide and a dedicated adviser.

DRAFT TERMS FOR FRUIT ORCHARD

Term:- Annual

Rent: - £1 per annum (if demanded)

Main Terms and conditions:-

1. The Association are to be allowed to plant fruit and nut trees only and subsequently maintain and manage the same.
2. The Association to ensure the site remains free from weeds, litter and rubbish to the satisfaction of the Council.
3. The land shall not be used for the purpose of any trade or business.
4. No nuisance or annoyance shall be caused or permitted to the adjacent land and properties whether or not belonging to the Council.
5. No obstruction or encroachment shall be permitted on the adjacent playing field.
6. No structures whatsoever will be permitted to be erected within the same.

Insurance

The Association shall indemnify the Council from and against all actions, proceedings, costs, claims, demands, damages, expenses, or losses in respect of any damage or injury to any person or the property of any person arising directly or indirectly from the use by the Association.

The Association shall maintain insurance in the sum of at least £5,000,000 (each and every claim) with an office of good repute in respect of third party and public liability claims.

The Association shall be responsible for any damage caused to any pipes, sewers, cables or wires belonging to statutory undertakers or other adjoining owners which are presently in, on or over the Licence area or the approach thereto over the Council's property and shall indemnify the Licensor against any actions or claims by the statutory undertaker or adjoining owners arising from the use of the land by the Licensee.

Termination

This licence can be determined by either party to serving on the other one month's notice on the other.

This licence will be determined by the Council:-

1. Failure to comply with terms above.

2. If the site is required by the Council for any purpose whatsoever, upon the service of one months notice in writing to the Association except in the case of an emergency.
3. If the Association is dissolved, becomes bankrupt.

Upon termination the Association is to reinstate the land to the satisfaction of the Council.

DRAFT TERMS FOR LICENCE FOR CONTAINERS

Term: Annual

Rent: £1 per annum (if demanded)

Location

The container to be sited on the attached plan in the approximate location marked "X" on the attach plan.

The Association to ensure that the location of the same does not prevent or hinder the Council's grounds maintenance of the remainder of the site.

Container Specification

The containers to be 1 metre square in shape and size and made of wood, treated with wood preservative to prevent rot. The container to be treated with brown wood preserve only and not painted any other colour. Containers made of durable materials in neutral colours may be permitted with prior written consent by the Council. The container is to be maintained at the expense of the Association.

Main terms and Conditions

1. The Association to fix their own name plague on the front of the container for identification purposes. The specification of the plague to be agreed prior by the Council and any subsequent amendments/alterations to be agreed prior by the Council.
2. To ensure the containers are maintained in a good condition at all times.
3. To ensure the container to be cultivated for the production of vegetables, flowers and fruit crops for private consumption only and not to cultivate bushes or trees except food bearing plants
4. The overall height of the container from ground level should not exceed 1m and the overall height from ground level to the top of the plants should not exceed 2m. without the prior written consent of the Council
5. To ensure the container remains free from weeds litter and rubbish, maintained in a proper state of cultivation and fertility and in good condition to the satisfaction of the Council.
6. No structures whatsoever will be permitted to be erected within the same.
7. Cane supports will be permitted however these are not to exceed 1m.
8. The Association or the container user shall cause no nuisance or annoyance to adjacent users or neighbours or the Council.

9. The Association to keep an accurate record of all sub-tenants and a copy to be provided to the Council on request.

Insurance

The Association shall indemnify the Council from and against all actions, proceedings, costs, claims, demands, damages, expenses, or losses in respect of any damage or injury to any person or the property of any person arising directly or indirectly from the use by the Association.

The Association shall maintain insurance in the sum of at least £5,000,000 (each and every claim) with an office of good repute in respect of third party and public liability claims.

The Association shall be responsible for any damage caused to any pipes, sewers, cables or wires belonging to statutory undertakers or other adjoining owners which are presently in, on or over the Licence area or the approach thereto over the Council's property and shall indemnify the Licensor against any actions or claims by the statutory undertaker or adjoining owners arising from the use of the land by the Licensee.

Termination

This licence can be determined by either party to serving on the other one month's notice on the other at any time to remove the container.

If the Association fails to remove the same within the timescale given the Council to reserve the right to remove the same and recharge the Association for the cost.

This licence will be determined by the Council:-

1. Failure to comply with terms above.
2. If the site is required by the Council for any purpose whatsoever, upon the service of one months notice in writing to the Association except in the case of an emergency, the Association to remove the container at its own expense.
3. If the Association is dissolved, becomes bankrupt.

DRAFT TERMS FOR PLOTS OF LAND

Term:- Annual

Rent: - £1 per annum (if demanded)

Main Terms and conditions:-

1. The Association to ensure the site remains free from weeds, litter and rubbish) and maintained in a proper state of cultivation and fertility and to the satisfaction of the Council
2. The land shall not be used for the purpose of any trade or business except the distribution of horticultural seeds plants and fertilisers etc by the Association to its members. Composting material will be stacked in an orderly fashion as a compost heap or heaps.
3. No nuisance or annoyance shall be caused or permitted to the adjacent land and properties whether or not belonging to the Council.
4. No obstruction or encroachment shall be permitted on any adjacent path or footways.
5. No trees on the site shall be felled, cut or pruned without the prior written consent of the Council.
6. No trees, shrubs or bushes whatsoever are to be planted on the site except food bearing plants up to a maximum height of 1metres.Plants to a height of 2m may be planted with prior written consent from the Council
7. The grass (if any) on the site to be cut at the expense of the Association to a height of 50 mm at a minimum frequency of once every two weeks during the growing season.
8. The Association to ensure they use of the land does not affect slight lines and highway safety.
9. No structures whatsoever will be permitted to be erected within the same without prior written consent of the council. Cane supports will be permitted however these are not to exceed 1.5m.
10. The plants cultivated must be food species to at least 90% of the cultivated area.
11. No fencing of the land to be permitted without the prior consent of the Council. The Association to be responsible for the provision and the subsequent maintenance of any fencing, the size, height and design to be approved prior by the Council.

Insurance

The Association shall indemnify the Council from and against all actions, proceedings, costs, claims, demands, damages, expenses, or losses in respect of any damage or injury to any person or the property of any person arising directly or indirectly from the use by the Association.

The Association shall maintain insurance in the sum of at least £5,000,000, (each and every claim) with an office of good repute in respect of third party and public liability claims.

The Association shall be responsible for any damage caused to any pipes, sewers, cables or wires belonging to statutory undertakers or other adjoining owners which are presently in, on or over the Licence area or the approach thereto over the Council's property and shall indemnify the Licensor against any actions or claims by the statutory undertaker or adjoining owners arising from the use of the land by the Licensee.

Termination

This licence can be determined by either party to serving on the other one month's notice on the other.

This licence will be determined by the Council:-

1. Failure to comply with terms above.
2. If the site is required by the Council for any purpose whatsoever, upon the service of one months notice in writing to the Association except in the case of an emergency.
3. If the Association is dissolved, becomes bankrupt.

Upon termination the Association is to reinstate the land to the satisfaction of the Council at its own expense (if required).

For further information contact :

Pam Warhurst Chair of IET : pam@bearco-op.com

Souta Creagh Schools Adviser : soutacreagh@yahoo.co.uk

Nick Green Orchard Adviser : nickolasgreen639@btinternet.com

www.incredible-edible-todmorden.com

www.todgrow.forumandco.com

City Sustainability Partnership Meeting - Monday 19th October 2009

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

Public Services:

Councillor Ayas Fallon-Khan

Councillor Paul Steedman

Councillor Gill Mitchell

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

Alison Hadfield - Eco Schools

Business

Lorraine Bell – Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce

Thea Allison – Brighton & Hove Business Community Partnership

Jan Jackson – Sussex Enterprise/Business Link

Community and Voluntary Sector

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

Vic Else - Brighton & Hove Food Partnership

Jacqui Cuff - Transition Brighton & Hove

Mike Creedy - Brighton Peace & Environment Centre

Agencies

Chris Wick – Environment Agency

Phil Belden – South Downs Joint Committee

Council Officers

Alex Bailey - Director of Strategy & Governance

Richard Butcher Tuset - Head of Cabinet Support

Anthony Pope - Policy Development Officer

Mustapha Semanda - Consultation Officer

Mita Patel - Sustainability Co-ordinator

Partnership manager

Thurstan Crockett - Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy

Meeting notes

Sarah Costelloe - Administrator, Sustainability

1. Apologies

Councillor David Watkins

Councillor Tony Janio

2. Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting

- 2.1 Notes agreed, with Mike Creedy added to the list of attendees.
- 2.2 Transport partnership has been established (see item 6).
- 2.3 Recruitment process for additional posts will be underway soon.

- 2.4 Thurstan is meeting city services to establish next steps for Municipal Waste Strategy, which is due to go before Council Cabinet in February.
- 2.5 Urban Biosphere bid to be raised again in future CSP meeting. Conference Report is now publically available via the sustainability pages of the council website: <http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1196955>

Actions -

- **TC to complete recruitment of new officers.**
- **TC to establish Cityclean response to Waste Strategy Working group comments.**
- **SC to circulate link to Urban Biosphere Conference report with minutes.**

3. 10:10 Campaign

- 3.1 Report contains initial recommendations for CSP to consider, as suggested by partnership manager. The council fully supports 10:10, and is encouraging LSP members to sign up too. 10:10 info has also been circulated to Business Link members. Environment Agency has also signed up, as well as the local Primary Care Trust.
- 3.2 There is now a need to promote the scheme. The council have been promoting 10:10 on social networking sites and will be talking about it on radio. The communications team is also involved. Schools would be an ideal place to promote 10:10, as it fits in with the Eco Schools programme. Promoting through networks is appropriate and useful but to engage a wider audience a launch event should be planned for the end of January. An event in six months to see how we are doing at the halfway mark might also be an effective way to keep momentum going, although it was acknowledged that these ideas are heavily contingent on resource availability. Similar momentum with businesses is also desirable. Business Lifebelt had great success promoting 'Be Local, Buy Local' with business breakfasts, and stickers proved very popular. Similar tactics could be used to great effect in promoting 10:10.
- 3.3 Longer term commitment to carbon reduction is also needed. 10% needs to be seen in long term context. Sustainability Cabinet Committee will be setting council goals early next year, but doesn't want to raise expectations too high and intends to monitor progress carefully before setting targets that may be too aspirational.
- 3.4 As the baseline year for carbon trading is 2010, this may be a way of countering the possibility of some organisations turning everything on full blast in order to start from a high baseline.
- 3.5 There is a need to counter accusations of 'greenwash'; how will reductions be proven? We should be facilitating measurement of carbon reductions as well as getting people to sign up to 10:10. Council has a well-established carbon management programme. Business Link can help facilitate baseline work elsewhere.

Actions -

- **Chairs to investigate feasibility of launch event for late Jan to promote 10:10. (Universities may be able to help resource this). CSP to revisit launch idea at next mtg.**
- **Each member to sign up to 10:10 and get 10 more organisations to do the same. Info re: organisations they have signed up to be sent to SC by Nov 23rd.**
- **Jan & Lorraine, with other business reps, to develop a business 10:10 campaign & sign up a major business, e.g. Amex.**

4. Sustainable Communities Act: Round One

- 4.1 Progress report on Round One of Sustainable Communities applications given by Mustapha Semanda. LGA is keen to make this a rolling yearly programme so officers have reviewed process and are keen to implement improvements. Act has cross-party support so likely to survive potential change of government at forthcoming election. *Local Works* has commended the work of Brighton & Hove in this round as excellent, in comparison to other authorities.
- 4.2 Ways to improve engagement were discussed. Food Partnership submitted ideas with no sense of when they would hear back. This may have put off some applicants. Rolling scheme and longer lead time both welcome to reinforce willingness to engage and may help to counter jaded attitudes of some community members. The Act presents an opportunity to engage at ward level, and local councillors could be instrumental in achieving this.
- 4.3 Difficulty exists around definitions of 'sustainable' and choice of four 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*] in application process. Sustainability is about how these four elements interact and there is a lack of connection between them when asked to choose one. For example, rate relief submitted under the first strand could be linked, via the second, to reductions in CO2 achieved. In terms of the Act, sustainability is broadly defined. It may be that the CSP wants to focus on more narrow definition. Second round could be deluged with applicants, a possibility which adds to the case for tighter guidelines.
- 4.4 Is there a role for partnership to give advice about applications? Would this make them more likely to succeed? The review suggests that a two-stage process would be better and that CSP could indeed have an expert role.
- 4.5 The process itself has been useful in that it highlights gaps in city services and areas of concern for communities. All ideas submitted to LGA from 111 councils that took part have been published. There are some good ideas to learn from here. Further feedback to the CSP would be welcome when the LGA and Government have made decisions.

5. Waste & Minerals Core Strategy consultation

5.1 The Waste & Minerals Framework, which focuses specifically on facilities and land-planning, only received approval on Thursday. Because of tight deadlines, it hasn't been possible to produce a presentation for this meeting. Strategic Planning will consult with the Waste Working Group. The CSP was also invited to send a member to a consultation event planned for 19th November.

5.2 Chair requested delay to start of public consultation process (due to take place over 6 weeks from 21st October) to allow presentation to be delivered to CSP. As this is a quasi-judicial process it was not possible to do this. Chairs agree that, because no presentation was available at public CSP meeting, the working group meeting will be open to wider stakeholders.

Actions -

- **SC to reconvene Waste working group as an open meeting in November in order to meet strategic planners to look at Waste & Minerals Framework. Rob Fraser & Lyndsey Beveridge to be invited.**
- **Members to contact SC if they wish to join the group, or if they have any issues they wish to flag for discussion. Marie Harder, Mike Creedy, Alison Walters proposed for the group during meeting.**
- **SC to publicise presentation to CSP members, and via website to wider stakeholders.**
- **CSP member to attend consultation event on 19th November: Mike Creedy.**

6. Proposed City Transport Partnership

6.1 LSP had agreed contents of paper, with structure as suggested, after CSP recommendations. The chair said the CSP had played a constructive role in this.

6.2 Chris Todd elected unopposed as CSP representative on Transport Partnership.

6.3 When transport issues relate to wider sustainability, the CSP will discuss separately but interaction between the two partnerships is anticipated. A wider debate around transport issues is also expected as the partnership will draw from a wider membership.

6.4 Partnership will be focussing initially on shaping the transport chapter of the Sustainable Community Strategy. It was noted that the transport partnership should look beyond the 'start & finish' pieces of strategic work which are imminent priorities and develop an outward looking, long-term vision.

7. Draft One Planet Living Plan for Brighton & Hove

7.1 Background and recommendations set out in report.

7.2 OPL plan is in terms of reference for CSP and, even in draft form, has already informed targets and actions on Waste Strategy and Sustainable Community Strategy. It is also referenced in the Core Strategy.

7.3 As discussed in previous meeting, there remain problems around the digestibility of the plan, its lack of clear priorities, the reasonableness and practicality of its application. These issues have prevented the council from adopting the OPL plan wholly, although it is recognised that it contains much that is of use, which will be appropriated accordingly.

7.4 The plan had received Local Authority match funding over two financial years. Bioregional have been unable to attract future sponsorship, partly because of recession but also because of their criteria. Budget allows CSP resources to support further work.

7.4 A slimmed-down version, with 10-20 points of action, owned by the CSP would be a useful tool with which to assess council/city performance. Although it may prove difficult, particularly for voluntary sector organisations, to adopt these targets if they have not been prioritised by the council, it may have a significant strategic effect if they are adopted into the planning of an organisation that represents the mindset of the city. Taking clear, simple headline priorities from OPL plan and using them to challenge the council's performance could enable the CSP to act as a critical friend to the administration.

7.5 The chapter on food is very useful and contains targets which may be useful for Food Partnership and other organisation working in this area, not just internal council work, it was pointed out.

Action - Chairs to meet with Bioregional.

8. Sustainable Community Strategy consultation - update

8.1 Chapters have been edited to be clearer and more succinct without losing content.

8.2 Complete 2nd draft of strategy will be available 9th November but 'Living within Environmental Limits' chapter can be circulated earlier. Strategy was due to be agreed by council on 10th December and launched in early 2010.

8.3 'Living within Environmental Limits' will align with OPL plan but it was felt that the strategy as a whole doesn't. Future working group sessions should focus on strategy as a whole, looking at other chapters and considering how connected they are.

Actions -

- **Anthony Pope to circulate chapter on *Living within Environmental Limits* as soon as possible, rest of strategy draft 2 after 9th Nov.**
- **Sustainable Community Strategy sub group to meet to consider remainder of strategy when revised draft available.**

9. Wildlife Advisory Group update

9.1 The Wildlife Advisory Group met on 8th September to review the development of the Group over the past 10 years and to look at options for the future. The discussion focused on ways of making the WAG more effective in its wildlife advocacy role. Some suggestions were put forward and it was recommended that a second meeting should be held. Council Ecologist, Matthew Thomas, is keen to progress things as quickly as possible and would like to report to a Partnership meeting in the near future on the outcome of these discussions.

9.2 CSP need to consider what action it might take to move biodiversity & wildlife issues forward in the light of difficulties experienced by the WAG. Input from council wildlife experts needed.

9.3 The WAG regularly reported to the Sustainability Commission, with many specialists feeding into the group. As 2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity there is a need for the WAG as a mechanism by which to report on what is happening here.

9.3 Members expressed strong support for pressing forward and finding out what the admin issues are surrounding the group and how the CSP could help. It was noted that the WAG should be supported to include as many local wildlife groups as possible to minimise chances of a disconnection which may be part of the current problems.

Actions - Chairs to investigate issues around WAG with the city council.

10. Any other business

10.1 Talk on Food Security at Brighthelm, 7.30pm next Wednesday

10.2 Next meeting will take place at 5.30pm on Monday 30th November, at the Brighthelm Centre.

10.3 Next agenda likely to include items on Urban Biosphere, Waste & Minerals Strategy, 10:10 launch, Sustainable Community Strategy and possibly Food Waste.

City Sustainability Partnership Meeting - 30th November 2009

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**

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Agencies

Chris Wick – Environment Agency

Phil Belden – South Downs Joint Committee

Council Officers

Alex Bailey

Richard Butcher-Tuset

Francesca Iliffe

Mita Patel

Anthony Pope

Matthew Thomas

Guests

James Grudgeon - Low Carbon Enterprise

John Patmore WAG

Lisa Rutherford - Oxfam

Ruth England - Brighton Peace & Environment Centre

Paulo Boldrini - Climate Connections Coordinator, Brighton Peace & Environment Centre

David Allen

Richard Scott

Partnership manager

Thurstan Crockett - Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy

Meeting notes

Sarah Costelloe - Administrator, Sustainability

1. Apologies

Councillor Gill Mitchell
Vic Else - Brighton & Hove Food Partnership
Sharon Philips - University of Sussex
Jacqui Cuff - Transition Brighton & Hove
P.C.T.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising from the previous meeting

- 2.1 Minutes agreed.
- 2.2 re: item 2.3 - recruitment process is underway, officers expected in post Jan.
- 2.3 re: item 2.4 - Cityclean will be responding in full to each point highlighted by the CSP working group. The need for more emphasis on community engagement has been acknowledged and the Advisory Board proposal is being seriously considered, as is a Business Stakeholders Group to address concerns regarding commercial waste streams. The final strategy is due to go to Environment Cabinet Member Meeting for approval in March.
- 2.4 re: item 6 - Chris Todd said the City Transport Partnership has met twice. The existing chapter of the Sustainable Community Strategy has been discarded, with the CSP response to the draft now being used as a starting point for the new chapter. Next meeting: 14th December.
- 2.5 re: item 7 - CSP OPL Chairs meeting scheduled for 6th Jan.
- 2.6 re: item 8 - Anthony Pope said delays to Sustainable Community Strategy have been caused by the need to include long term targets throughout. Final draft will be published on Dec 16th, following next LSP meeting, and will be circulated for comments.
- 2.7 re: item 10.2 (sic) - item on Food Waste next meeting, presented by Marie Harder.

3. Climate Connections

- 3.1 The project co-ordinator gave a verbal progress report.

- 3.2 The potential to link with 10:10 campaign was noted (Climate Connections will focus on stories from 10 local residents) as was the need to 'synergise' different campaigns to avoid confusion. It was suggested that work done by Energy Savings Trust with council tenants could result in a group or individual that could be featured.
- 3.3 Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex, Department for International Development funded, may be keen to be involved. Eco Schools should also be involved - developing links with international schools.

4. City 10:10 Campaign

- 4.1 A paper updating the partnership on the progress of an emerging steering group was presented, along with a proposal for seed funding.
- 4.2 Once 10 champions for each of the 7 strands have been identified, an action group will be formed from steering group members, sponsors and strand champions. The action group should aim for wide engagement, with representation from all parts of the city community.
- 4.3 James Grugeon described plans for a light touch, high profile, high engagement campaign aiming to develop a sense of city pride around the campaign. Southern Water & Southern Trains will be approached as potential sponsors, for example.
- 4.4 Business reps updated the partnership on progress towards a Business 10:10 Campaign, and presented a proposal for CSP funding. 10:10 presents an ideal opportunity to engage business community and get them on board, even if they do not actually achieve 10% savings. Key to success is the involvement of the business support networks. Chamber of Commerce very enthusiastic about 10:10 which seems to be tapping into creative energy of members.
- 4.5 It was felt by some that the awareness raising function of the campaign is already being delivered by the media and that we should focus more on *how* carbon reduction is achieved. An absence of holistic approach was noted - the plumber will only look at your pipes and there is no one-stop shop for low carbon advice. Others felt that info is available and that a strong brand was needed, a simple idea making complex issues easily accessible.
- 4.6 It was observed that the impact of the campaign outside Brighton & Hove should also be noted, as the boundaries of the city are

permeable, many people commute and there are communities outside the city that need to be engaged.

- 4.7 The campaign should also connect with council Warm Front work as c. 90% of households are private and home is the biggest element of the city's carbon footprint.
- 4.8 It was broadly agreed to accept both proposals (see item 7), with strong support voiced all round.

5. Waste & Minerals Strategy

- 5.1 The consultation deadline has been extended to Jan 15th. CSP working group has drafted a response which has been circulated. Partnership members are invited to comment on the response, which will be redrafted and circulated again for final approval in early Jan.
- 5.2 There was some concern about the language used in the draft CSP response around the National Park in section 1d) which makes the National Park sound a constraint and not an opportunity. Yes we need sites close by but that doesn't necessarily mean that the National Park is the best place for them. Sites might be available closer in or even within the city or if large-scale proposals come forward then sites beyond the city and National Park might be more suitable. Equally there might be opportunities with farmers within the National Park. It was felt that the comment about poly-tunnels should be removed as it highlights a complete lack of understanding about landscape issues.
- 5.3 In relation to section 3a) there was concern about the factual accuracy of saying that parking at Falmer was constrained as the Secretary of State's decision letter talks of the parking being at higher levels than recommended by PPG13 standards. It might be that the parking is not right next to the stadium but it is certainly close by unless plans have been substantially changed since the decision letter which would then require a new application.
- 5.4 The thinking behind this point was supported but the practicality of using a rail link on the Hollingdean depot site was questioned. It was felt that it would be better to remove mention of Hollingdean Depot as it could undermine the strength of our comments if we are seen to still be trying to fight a battle that was lost a long time ago.

Action - SC to circulate latest draft electronically and collate responses.

6. Urban Biosphere

6.1 The Council's ecologist presented report and proposal re: funding of officer post to deliver UBR bid, to the partnership.

6.2 Phil Belden declared an interest in that he participated in the 2008 conference that the bid proposal has come out of and features in the report. He supports the idea but has reservations re: the practicality of the project. Biodiversity conference was over a year ago and very little has happened since which leads to questions about the council's commitment to the project.

6.3 Other concerns were also expressed, regarding the proposal to fund an UBR officer. If the bid just requires evidence gathering this should be a relatively easy job and not good grounds for funding if this is all that's required to achieve status. It may be that an officer is needed to work up the concept and ascertain how compatible the buffer zones and sustainable tourism outcomes are with other city-wide strategic goals.

6.4 It was felt that more detail is needed and that we need to be absolutely clear about what is required to achieve status and what the risks and opportunities around the bid, particularly as the money requested for this post would be the biggest single spend so far of CSP funds.

6.5 The council's commitment to local groups contributing to the management of the city's green areas was questioned and it was noted that these groups are rarely consulted about biodiversity strategy. A team effort would be requiring, involving Rangers, local groups, nature websites, the Wildlife Action Group etc

6.6 It was additionally noted that if the bid is progressed and required evidence gathering, it would present an opportunity to work with the digital community and universities to create a website linking a biodiversity 'wish list', made up of UBR objectives, to GIS & LSP data. This 'citywatch' concept might take longer to evolve but would build engagement with more residents.

6.7 Regarding timescale, the process is envisaged to take place between April 2010 and April 2011. 2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity. Wider buy-in may be achieved quickly if CSP drives process, not just the council in isolation.

6.8 The council leadership fully supports the bid, and the 10:10 campaign as totemic things that can make a difference. What would the CSP do with the money that is more important?

6.9 The Chair concluded that there is not enough support for the proposal now but that the CSP recognises its value and will make a definitive decision next meeting. In the meantime it may be necessary to set up a

working group to answer some of the concerns expressed in this meeting. A few weeks will be lost but more work needed on framing the proposal and relating it to the progress of the Wildlife Action Group.

**Actions - Discuss again at next meeting, final decision Jan 18th
Working group to revise proposition for next meeting**

7. Spending priorities

7.1 Thurstan briefed the partnership on the context for proposals set out in the Spending Priorities for CSP funds paper.

7.2 Support for recommendations 1), 3) & 4) was agreed with an amendment to 4) stating 'that up to £4k be allocated to Business 10:10 work strand.'

7.3 Regarding energy mapping as a possible use of funds, it was noted that more work would be needed to establish how this might be funded.

7.4 As per earlier discussions re: Urban Biosphere bid, recommendation 2) will be discussed again at the next meeting.

7.5 Other priorities were discussed and it was noted that One Planet Living will be back on the agenda next meeting.

8. W.A.G.

8.1 Chair has drafted letter to the leader of the council with recommendations and concerns about the Wildlife Action Group. This has been held over in order to combine with Urban Biosphere Reserve bid but discussion will take place in the near future with all the relevant parties in order to advise CSP how to move forward.

8.2 The WAG has run for 10 years and is still meeting regularly but there is a need to re-establish connectivity between council, groups and WAG

8.3 The Urban Biosphere Reserve bid could help develop a refocused group. The issue of advice to council on wildlife matters needs addressing - does the council want a group of experts and should this be distinct from community groups? The group may need to divide into a strategic group (initially focusing on the Urban Biosphere Reserve bid) and a site-based group.

8.4 If the feeling of hostility building around lack of consultation continues and local groups do not support the Urban Biosphere Reserve bid it will be difficult to deliver.

9. Any other business

- 9.1 Next meeting - Jan 18th
- 9.2 Proposed list of meeting dates for 2010 will be circulated to be agree at next meeting
- 9.3 The meeting cycle will change from 6 weeks to 8 weeks. As sub-group mechanism is working well there is less concern about losing momentum in between meetings
- 9.4 National Park will become official on 31st March.
- 9.5 All meeting papers to be emailed directly to members as web link unreliable.

