





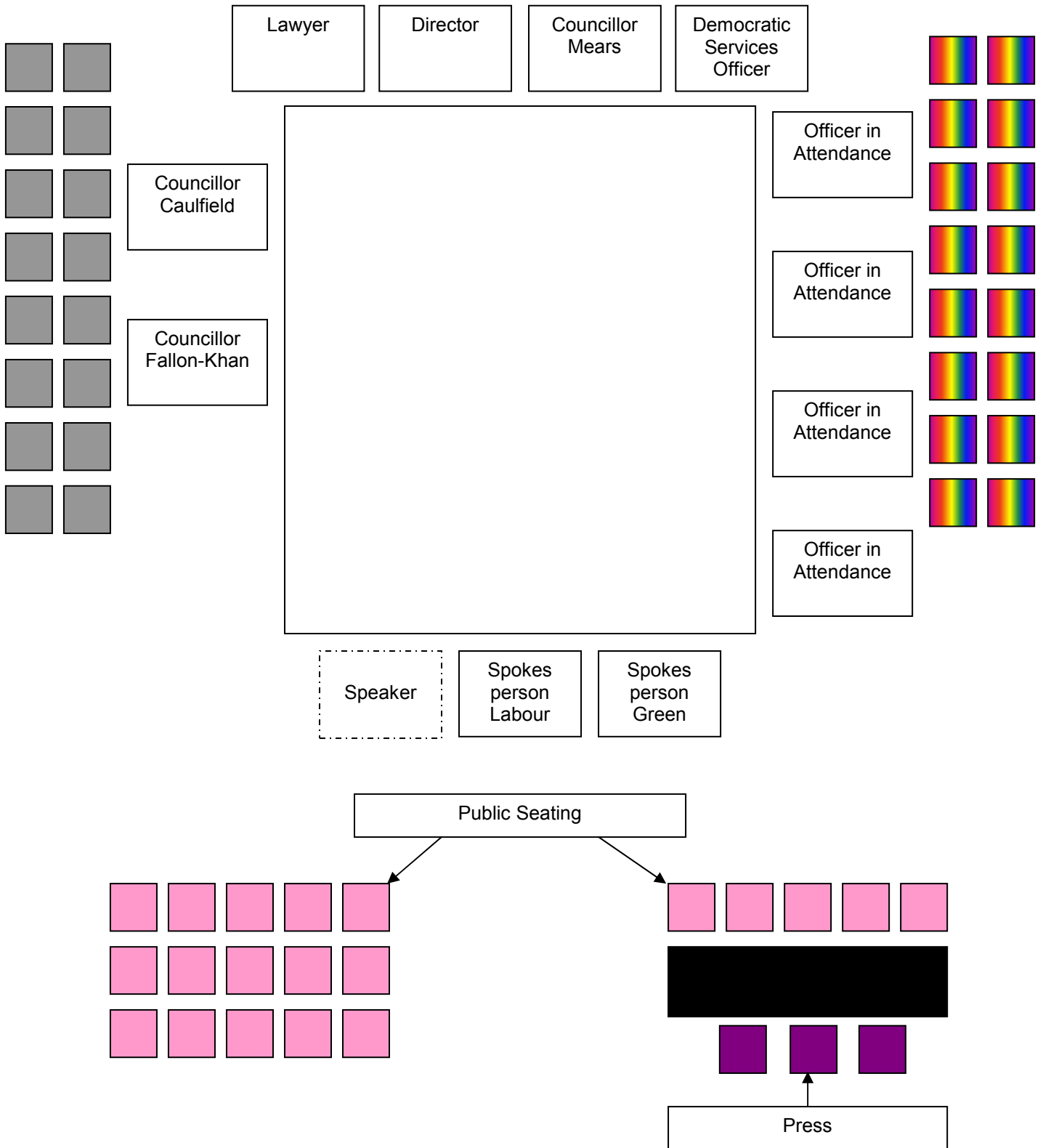
Brighton & Hove  
City Council

# Cabinet Committee

Title:	<b>Sustainability Cabinet Committee</b>
Date:	<b>9 February 2011</b>
Time:	<b>3.00pm</b>
Venue	<b>Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall</b>
Members:	<b>Councillors:</b> Mears (Chairman), Caulfield and Fallon-Khan
Contact:	<b>Tanya Davies</b> Acting Democratic Services Manager 01273 291227 tanya.davies@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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# Democratic Services: Meeting Layout



## AGENDA

### 34. 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 either that it is confidential or 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 categories of exempt information is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.*

### 35. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1 - 22

Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 October 2010 (copy attached).

### 36. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

### 37. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION

- (a) Items reserved by the Members of the Cabinet Committee
- (b) Items reserved by the Opposition Spokespersons
- (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.*

### 38. PETITIONS

No petitions received by date of publication.

### 39. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

(The closing date for receipt of public questions is 12 noon on 2 February 2011)

No public questions received by date of publication.

## SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

### 40. DEPUTATIONS

(The closing date for receipt of deputations is 12 noon on 2 February 2011)

No deputations received by date of publication.

### 41. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

No letters have been received.

### 42. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

23 - 24

(copy attached).

### 43. NOTICES OF MOTION

No Notices of Motion have been received.

### 44. CLIMATE CONNECTIONS

Presentation by Paolo Boldrini from the Brighton Peace and Environment Centre.

### 45. 10:10 CITY CAMPAIGN UPDATE

25 - 36

Report of the Strategic Director, Resources (copy attached).

*Contact Officer:* Susie Howells *Tel:* 29-3332

*Ward Affected:* All Wards

### 46. SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT UPDATE

37 - 44

Report of the Director of Finance (copy attached).

*Contact Officer:* Claire Jones *Tel:* 29-1480

*Ward Affected:* All Wards

### 47. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

45 - 54

Report of the Strategic Director, Resources (copy attached).

*Contact Officer:* Matthew Wragg *Tel:* 29-6805

*Ward Affected:* All Wards

### 48. REPORT OF THE CITY SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP

55 - 66

(a) To note the minutes of the City Sustainability Partnership held on 1 November 2010 (copy attached).

(b) To note the draft minutes of the City Sustainability Partnership held on 17 January 2011 (copy to follow).

## 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.

Agendas and minutes are published on the council's website [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk). Agendas are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

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 Davies, (01273 291227, email [tanya.davies@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:tanya.davies@brighton-hove.gov.uk)) or email [democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Date of Publication - Tuesday, 1 February 2011



### BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

### SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

2.00PM 22 OCTOBER 2010

### COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

### MINUTES

**Present:** Councillors Fallon-Khan (Chairman), Simson

**Also in attendance:** Councillor Steedman

### PART ONE

#### 18. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

##### 18A Declarations of Interest

18a.1 There were none.

##### 18B Exclusion of Press and Public

18b.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).

18b.2 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting.

#### 19. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

19.1 Further to paragraph 12.6 of the minutes, the Chairman reported that he had been invited to Eon Climate & Renewables for the opening of the Robin Rigg offshore wind farm, which would be similar to the one planned off the coast of Brighton. He advised that it had served to cement the council's relationship with Eon and that he looked forward to working closely with them to realise the project in Brighton & Hove and to making the most of the economic benefits for the city.

19.2 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 July 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**20. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

- 20.1 The Chairman, Councillor Fallon-Khan, advised that Councillors Mears and Caulfield had sent their apologies and that he would chair meeting, with Councillor Simson present as a substitute.
- 20.2 The Chairman reported that Brighton & Hove had retained third place in the 2010 Sustainable Cities Index and was the only city of 20 in the UK to have been in the top three since the index began four years ago. The city scored really well on a wider range of indicators, not least for climate and future proofing, for business start ups and educational attainment. While the city was scored down on ecological footprint, this was hard to improve as the methodology was based on socio-economic profiling and average consumption data, which made it impossible to take account of specific local activities.

According to Forum for the Future Brighton & Hove was part of the leading group of cities that had “set themselves ambitious targets and are guided by long-term visions of how to improve life for their citizens by reducing their impact on the environment and seizing new opportunities in the green economy”.

- 20.3 The Chairman advised the council was partnering with the Low Carbon Trust and the city's Permaculture Trust to run Eco Open Houses again this year. The next weekend for visits would be October 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>. Thousands of people were expected to take advantage of the opportunity to find out first hand about practical environmental lifestyles in the home.
- 20.4 The Chairman announced that the launch event for the annual national Energy Saving Week was being held in the city on 25 October and would feature the Energy Saving Trust's 'Smarter Driving' simulator, which would allow residents and visitors to test and improve their skills at driving more fuel-efficiently.
- 20.5 The Chairman reported that the Sustainability Team would be seeing a number of staff changes in the coming weeks.
- Mita Patel, Senior Sustainability Consultant, would shortly be starting maternity leave. The Chairman gave his personal thanks and congratulations to Mita and family and also passed on best wishes from the Leader of the Council.
  - Susie Howells had been recruited to cover Mita's leave and was experienced environmental consultant, having worked for many years on environmental management for BAA at Gatwick.
  - A new Sustainability Consultant had also been recruited within budget to complete the team; Shelaine Weller was very experienced and well-known to the business community in West Sussex where she had involved them in an extensive environmental management programme.
  - Following a successful placement in the previous year, the team would be welcoming another Masters in Sustainable Development Leadership student, Alison Freeman, from Forum for the Future for a placement in November. Forum for the Future was so impressed with the learning their student received last year that they have waived their fee this time.



- 20.6 Councillor Steedman stated that, as a former graduate of Forum for the Future, it was good that they were impressed with the experience gained by their previous student during their time with the council.

With reference to the 2010 Sustainable Cities Index, Councillor Steedman asked whether the council would consider working with the universities to undertake a bottom-up approach to gathering information to obtain a better picture of the city's ecological footprint.

- 20.7 The Chairman advised that he would discuss the suggestion with the Leader and contact Councillors Steedman and Mitchell, but warned that it would be difficult to identify any resources for such a piece of work.

## **21. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION**

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

## **22. PETITIONS**

- 22.1 There were none.

## **23. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

- 23.1 There were none.

## **24. DEPUTATIONS**

- 24.1 There were none.

## **25. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS**

- 25.1 There were none.

## **26. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

- 26.1 There were none.

## **27. NOTICES OF MOTIONS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL**

- 27.1 There were none.

## **28. HARVEST FOOD GROWING PROGRAMME UPDATE**

- 28.1 The Cabinet Committee received a presentation from Vic Borrill, Director of the City Food Partnership concerning the Harvest food growing project (see Appendix 1).

- 28.2 Ms Borrill explained that the aim of the project was to encourage people to grow their own food on any available pieces of land in order to support a sustainable food system and a vibrant food economy. She reported that the project had met most of the targets

set at the beginning of the first year and created both jobs and volunteering opportunities within the city.

Ms Borrill highlighted a number of the successes including raising awareness, providing training, work placements for the unemployed, a mentoring programme, reducing food miles within the city, the Grow It competition and finding new land on which to grow food. She advised that aims for the future included increasing composting, helping growers to sell their produce and working to engage students.

Ms Borrill thanked Members and council officers for their support for and interest in Harvest.

- 23.3 Councillor Steedman stated that Harvest had achieved an extraordinary amount within one year. He noted that the council's Core Strategy had originally not made any reference to food growing, but that despite this, the Harvest project was making it happen throughout the city.
- 23.4 The Assistant Director for CityClean and City Parks advised that the gardeners at Preston Park were initially sceptical about the demonstration garden that Harvest had created there, but that they now recognise its success and would like for the size of it to be increased.
- 23.5 Ms Borrill explained that the next step would be use adjacent plots to demonstrate how food can be grown in different small locations, as well as to show companion growing. She added that no true vandalism had been seen and that this was in part due to the vigilance of local residents.
- 23.6 The Chairman stated that the council had pursued the idea of growing food on its own pieces of land, however, small, and that this work would continue.
- 23.7 Councillor Simson stated that it was clear that a gap had existed for some time and that it was now time to promote food growing through projects like Harvest and through one's own family.
- 23.8 **RESOLVED** – That the presentation be noted.

## 29. 10:10 CAMPAIGN

- 29.1 The Cabinet Committee received an update from the Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy concerning the 10:10 campaign.
- 29.2 The Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy reported the following:

### City 10:10 Campaign

- Support provided to social entrepreneurs in setting up the campaign had had a real effect on sign up and the strength of commitment seen in the city had resulted in the Brighton & Hove being used as a model city by the national campaign.
- The aim was to achieve 2500 sign ups within a year and the campaign had been heavily promoted at many community events during the summer; the city had achieved the largest batch of offline sign ups over the year in the UK.

- Progress was being made in the business, health and education strands and, to date, 1800 sign ups had been achieved, including approximately 1500 individuals, 100 businesses, 13 schools, 12 charities and 5 universities.
- The council had provided match funding for a Knowledge Transfer Partnership with the University of Brighton, enabling the recruitment of a project manager for a year, with academic support.

#### Council 10:10 Campaign

- The Water & Energy Team and the Communications had worked together to launch the first 'Footprint Fortnight', during which stickers had been placed on computers and monitors in King's House found to be left on over night in order to raise awareness and encourage staff to switch off appliances at night.
- Work was continuing towards reducing the number of servers; 100 had been decommissioned so far, resulting in a reduction in energy consumption by over a quarter with scope for more to be done.
- Accommodation strategies were focused on increasing flexible working and smartspace to reduce emissions.
- Work on staff travel habits was looking at promoting telephone conferencing and increasing awareness.

He added that the employee to emissions ratio for the council was positive compared to other similar local authorities in the South East.

- 29.3 In response to questions from Councillor Steedman, the Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy advised that it was not yet possible to determine how close the city or the council was to achieving the aim of a 10% reduction in carbon emissions as there were many factors to consider; in particular, it was difficult to measure real time energy consumption until the council obtained automatic meter readings. There was a sense that good progress was being made, but it was important to note that many of the measures would result in longer term improvements.

The council was committed to the ongoing measurement of its own CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, despite the abolition of National Indicators, however, the ongoing measurement of the city's emissions was uncertain because currently this was funded by DEFRA.

- 29.4 At the request of Councillor Steedman, the Chairman agreed to write to the Secretary of State about future measurement of emissions and added that the council had taken every step to be a leading example in the 10:10 campaign, most notably the reduction of emissions through the new printer contract and the establishment of 10:10 pioneering groups.

- 29.5 **RESOLVED** – That the update be noted.

### 30. SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

- 30.1 The Cabinet Committee received an update from the Senior Procurement Advisor concerning sustainable procurement.

30.2 The Senior Procurement Advisor reported the following:

- a change to the type of pre-qualification questionnaires used for lower value contracts would streamline and simplify the process for smaller local businesses.
- 'Top Tips for Tenderers' had been launched on the council's website to provide simple advice for smaller businesses and ensure that they understand the evaluation process.
- A 'Frequently Asked Questions' documents would also be launched soon.
- Officers were currently working on two significant contracts:
  1. Corporate stationary contract – focusing on transportation, packaging, reducing deliveries, increasing the number of environmental options, provider awareness of sustainability issues and electronic ordering processes.
  2. School meals contract for 63 schools – focusing on fresh seasonal produce, Fairtrade, composting and recycling, local sourcing and reducing food miles.
- Contracts were also evaluated for their community benefit and the Procurement Team were aware of the right questions to ask in relation to sustainability issues.

30.3 In response to questions from Councillor Steedman the Senior Procurement Advisor explained that once the new contract had been approved, it would be publicised internally and all teams would be encouraged to utilise it; however it was likely that a small number of teams would use alternative suppliers.

30.4 The Chairman stated that he felt that all teams within the council should use only the corporate contract where one existed and requested further information on those teams not utilising the current stationary contract.

30.5 Councillor Simson advised that the new contract should be clearly communicated to the city's schools to ensure that they also made use of it.

30.6 With regard to the school meals contract, Councillor Steedman advised that the Food for Life Silver Standard should be included as a requirement for the preferred bidder.

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

## 31. BIOSPHERE RESERVE

31.1 The Cabinet Committee received an update from the Assistant Director for CityClean and City Parks concerning work undertaken in pursuit of a Biosphere Reserve designation for the city.

31.2 The Assistant Director reported that the UK branch of UNESCO had visited the city to meet with members of the steering group and were very supportive of the concept of a biosphere reserve for Brighton & Hove. UNESCO provided the following information:

- The biosphere reserve must focus on the downland, but could include urban areas and should also take in the coast.
- The biosphere reserve was likely to cross administrative boundaries.
- High levels of consultation would be required and should include residents, public bodies and businesses.
- Achieving biosphere reserve designation was an accolade.

- It would take two years to prepare for a bid and the assessment process would take up to one year.
- A detailed management plan would need to be established for the whole of the proposed area and it must show any actions undertaken and future plans; a steering group would be required to manage this.
- The designated area would need to include: (1) a core area; (2) a buffer area; and (3) a transition area.
- It would be necessary to identify policy gaps across organisations.

The Assistant Director advised that work was already underway on the following:

- Sites of Nature Conservation Interest review
- Identifying policy gaps within the council
- Organising meetings within other local authorities
- Raising the matter with the Local Strategic Partnership
- Reviewing how the council consults on in green spaces.

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

## **32. PILOT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PROJECTS**

32.1 The Cabinet Committee considered a report of the Acting Director of Strategy & Governance updating Members on the implementation of an Environmental Management System (EMS) as a pilot into two service areas of the council.

32.2 The Senior Sustainability Consultant explained that EMSs would bring significant benefits in the challenging economic climate and that they also served to support a number of key council strategies. She reported that Brighton & Hove City Council was the first local authority to hold the ISO14001 and BS8901 standards simultaneously.

32.3 In response to a question from Councillor Steedman, the Senior Sustainability Consultant explained that a staggered approach to rolling out EMSs across the council was preferred so that the necessary work could be undertaken to identify those service areas that would benefit most.

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

- (1) That progress made within the relevant services in which the EMS has been piloted so far be noted, and approved as a business case for implementation of an EMS into other suitable service areas of the council portfolio.

## **33. REPORT OF THE CITY SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP**

33.1 The Cabinet Committee considered the minutes of the City Sustainability Partnership 13 September 2010.

33.2 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes be noted.

The meeting concluded at 3.40pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this

day of

The Harvest Brighton & Hove logo, featuring a stylized green leaf and an orange hat icon, followed by the text "HARVEST" in large green letters and "BRIGHTON & HOVE" in smaller orange letters.

# HARVEST

BRIGHTON & HOVE

Presentation to Sustainability Cabinet Committee 22<sup>nd</sup> October  
Vic Borrill, Director Brighton & Hove Food Partnership  
[www.harvest-bh.org.uk](http://www.harvest-bh.org.uk)    [Vic@bhfood.org.uk](mailto:Vic@bhfood.org.uk)    01273 431700

# Year one in numbers

- ▶ **129** new allotments created including **9** new community plots
- ▶ **68** existing and new food projects supported and **18** projects received Good Food Grants
- ▶ **150** people attended **20** training courses
- ▶ **7** new jobs created and **80** volunteers provided more than **500** hours of voluntary work
- ▶ **10** work placements were created for unemployed individuals
- ▶ Attended **80** community events and spoke to more than **4,000** people
- ▶ **1,150** people receive the e-bulletin & **10,500** people visited the website
- ▶ Harvest has **245** Facebook fans and **400** Twitter followers
- ▶ **60** people attended Pick and Cook days
- ▶ **500** people attended Preston Park Picnic during Local Food Week





# Harvest one year on



## Outcomes

- increase the amount land available to grow food
- improve access to local food
- increase skills and confidence of local people in growing food
- improve awareness of the benefits of growing, buying and eating local produce
- develop strategies and guidance that support land use and infrastructure for urban agriculture



# Increased knowledge, skills and confidence

- ▶ Training courses
- ▶ Work placement scheme
- ▶ Website / information
- ▶ Mentoring programme
- ▶ Volunteers



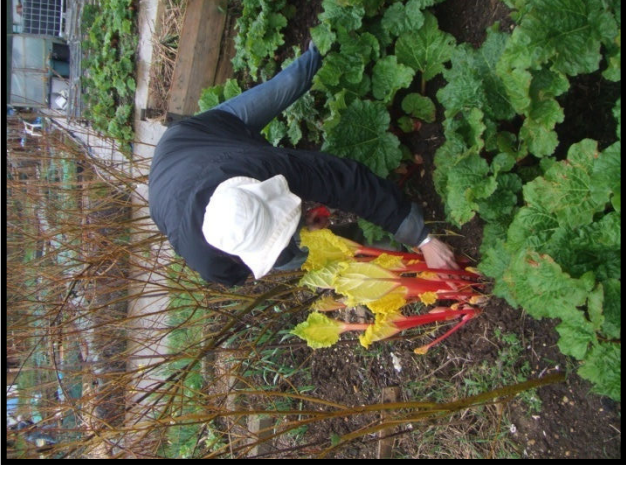
# Increasing access to fresh local produce

- ▶ ‘zero food miles’ soup
- ▶ Small grants scheme
- ▶ Grow It competition
- ▶ New markets



# More land on which to grow

- ▶ Grow your neighbours own
- ▶ Allotments
- ▶ Land owned by the Council



# Strategies and guidance that ... change the world?

- ▶ Sustainable Community Strategy & Core Strategy
- ▶ Planning Advisory Note
- ▶ Integrating food growing into new developments
- ▶ Work on reducing inequalities and child poverty

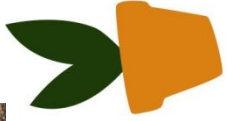


# Looking forward to

- ▶ Breaking new ground
- ▶ Wildlife – UNESCO Biosphere
- ▶ Better links with composting projects
- ▶ Planning Advisory Note
- ▶ Influencing developments
- ▶ More opportunities for local food businesses to sell their produce
- ▶ Engaging our student population
- ▶ Volunteering and work placements
- ▶ Involvement of secondary schools .....



# Demonstration Growing Garden







## WELCOME TO THE FIRST ANNUAL REVIEW OF HARVEST BRIGHTON AND HOVE

In 2009, the Brighton & Hove Food Partnership, Food Matters and other community food groups in the city were awarded Beacon funding of almost £500,000 over four years from the Big Lottery to run an urban growing project. Harvest Brighton & Hove is now celebrating a busy and successful first year. The project is driven by the vision of a sustainable food system where more food is provided from within the city, and which is accessible to all local residents. The primary aim is to get people growing their own food – whether this is in their own back gardens, on allotments, or in unusual

spaces such as public parks, areas of empty land around housing estates or container gardening on balconies. The project offers training to individuals and community groups and supports the development of new projects. Harvest's range of projects are delivered by partners across the city, including the Whitehawk Community Food Project, Moulsecoomb Forest Garden, Brighton & Hove FareShare, Fork and Dig It, the Brighton Permaculture Trust, the Brighton & Hove Allotment Federation, and supported by Brighton & Hove City

Sowing seeds at the Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project Allotment



Photo © Edward Bishop

Council and NHS Brighton & Hove. As a Beacon project Harvest will share learning and exchange information with projects across the UK and beyond and is being evaluated by the University of Brighton.



*It's hard to believe it's been a year since the Harvest team first walked into an empty office at the Food Partnership. Since then we've made contact with thousands of people across the city who want to grow their own and eat more local food. This interest isn't just a passing trend; it's about improving our quality of life - reconnecting with healthier food, with outdoor spaces and with our neighbours.*

*Over the past year, we've been inspired by the many existing and new community projects that are helping ensure the benefits of food growing are accessible even in the most disadvantaged communities in our city. These projects depend on committed volunteers, and we are pleased that so many new people are keen to be involved with Harvest and local food growing projects. In otherwise difficult times, these projects help bring people together to develop new skills and gain confidence and a renewed sense of community. In return we are keen to learn from them how to improve our services and meet the needs of people in the city.*

*As our first Harvest celebrations draw to a close, we're looking forward to more work with communities to find out what they want from food growing and to help them achieve this - sowing the seeds for another bountiful year of activity in 2011!*

Jess Crocker, Harvest Manager

## HARVEST OUTCOMES

- increase the amount of food produced locally
- improve access to local food
- increase skills and confidence of local people in growing food
- improve awareness of the benefits of growing, buying and eating local produce
- develop strategies and guidance that support land use and infrastructure for urban agriculture

# HARVEST SUCCESS STORIES

## HARVEST 2009-10 IN NUMBERS:

- 129** new allotments created
- 9** new community allotments created
- 68** existing and new food projects received support
- 18** projects received Good Food Grants
- 150** people attended 20 training courses
- 80** volunteers provided more than 500 hours of voluntary work
- 10** work placements were provided
- Harvest staff attended **80** community events and spoke to more than **4,000** people
- 1,150** people receive Harvest's e-bulletin
- 10,500** people visited the Harvest website
- Harvest has **245** Facebook fans and **400** Twitter followers
- 60** people attended Pick and Cook days
- 7** new jobs created
- 500** people attended Preston Park Picnic during Local Food Week

### IMPROVE AWARENESS OF THE BENEFITS OF GROWING, BUYING AND EATING LOCAL FOOD

Preston Park is the city's largest park and is well-used by both residents and visitors. The idea of a demonstration garden is to show how much food can be grown in a small domestic space and inspire people to have a go themselves. The garden is maintained by a team of local volunteers who have gained skills as they tend the garden and who answer questions from members of the public. The garden is one of only a handful of vegetable gardens in



Launch of the demonstration garden

public parks in the UK, and we will share learning from this project at a national level. It is a valuable educational space where we demonstrate gardening techniques and give out tasters of unusual crops to children and adults. Many visitors have told us



Photo: Steve Clarke

that they are growing food for the first time as a result of the garden. People now gather together to chat, relax, reconnect with the cycles of the seasons and share our love of gardening in what was previously just an empty lawn.

### INCREASE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE IN FOOD GROWING

"I'm not a natural gardener. At school I was the only one whose cress failed to sprout. For many years, I watched with admiration as friends produced armfuls of carrots, marvelling at their ability to keep plants alive. How therefore did I manage to cook a curry using my own spinach, chillies and basil yesterday? And how is it that I am proudly awaiting a harvest of potatoes, carrots and tomatoes? The turning point came when a friend booked me onto a two-hour "Container gardening for beginners" course run by Harvest. I had a great time - and am now really enjoying eating the fruits of my gardening labours."

Fabia Bates, training course attendee

### IMPROVE ACCESS TO LOCAL FOOD

A week of activities celebrating local produce took place as part of the month-long Brighton & Hove Food and Drink Festival. Coinciding with Harvest Festival time, several schools, including Moulsecoomb Primary and St Luke's, held celebrations which included opportunities for parents and pupils to share recipes and taste local food.

A range of local juices, chutneys and pies were also served up at the Brighton Permaculture Trust's annual Apple Day festival. This fruit would have gone to waste without the efforts of our Scrumping Project which has been harvesting from trees throughout the city.

The week culminated in a picnic in Preston Park where over 500 people enjoyed the late autumn sunshine and tasted and bought local food from a range of producers. They also swapped excess produce and preserves and even met some sheep from the City Council's conservation grazing scheme. Winners of the 'Grow It'

The Harvest website also provides a list of local food resources such as box schemes, shops, farmers markets and caterers which has been viewed over 1,000 times.



Grow It winner Little Earthworms Nursery

*'The Grow It Competition has really made us think about how we can bring edible plants into our business space. Our staff and customers have enjoyed and seeing the plants growing and we have had some marvellous ingredients to add to our dishes.'*

Peter Allinson, Temptation Café, Grow It winner

### CASE STUDY

The Harvest mentoring scheme was piloted with a match between a grower from Whitehawk Community Food Project and the Brighton Unemployed Families Centre Project (BUFCP). The Centre have three allotments that had fallen into considerable disrepair, suffered vandalism and arson and they were threatened with losing their plots. After John's help, the feedback was: "John has been incredibly helpful and enlightening and is knowledgeable in exactly the ways we need." The allotment now provides local unemployed adults and their children with somewhere to grow their own vegetables and work together outside.

### INCREASE LAND AVAILABLE TO GROW FOOD

Land is precious in urban settings, yet within the city there is a surprising amount of potential space available for growing. The 'Grow Your Neighbours Own' scheme matches unused gardens and allotments with willing growers who share the produce with the garden owner. With 110 people registered, this year 32 gardeners have been successfully matched with 15 gardens.

Like many places, the city's allotment waiting list is bulging, but this year the City Council has successfully created 129 new allotments, 49 of which had fallen into disuse and 80 of which are new. In addition the size of allotments has been halved, so when plots become available double the number of people can now access them. Nine new community allotments have also been created. To help community groups be more

productive on their plots, Harvest has established a mentoring scheme to offer expert advice and support and see groups through the inevitable teething problems of developing a new garden.

We have also worked with City Council officers to establish a system for council tenants to develop growing projects on empty land around housing estates or on potential housing land currently not being developed.



New allotments at Whitehawk Hill



## THANK YOU..

to all the fantastic volunteers who have given their time to help Harvest at the office, and the demonstration garden. Thank you to the Harvest Advisory Group and partners for their input, and in particular staff from the City Parks team for their support for allotments and the demonstration garden. Thank you to all our funders, especially the Big Lottery Fund, for making Harvest possible, and to Brighton & Hove City Council and NHS Brighton & Hove for supporting with either funding or in-kind support from staff. And last but certainly not least, thanks to the excellent staff team at the Food Partnership for their commitment, and for having achieved so much in just one year.

### DEVELOP GUIDANCE TO SUPPORT FOOD GROWING WITHIN THE CITY

A key aim of Harvest is to ensure that food growing and local food become an integral part of life in the city well after the project is finished. We want local and national policy to recognise the benefits that food growing brings to the social and economic development of the city, providing opportunities for developing skills, volunteering, improving health, reducing carbon emissions and our environmental impact. We have been successful in ensuring that the Core Strategy, which will provide a framework for future development in the city, makes several references to food growing. Work has now started on developing planning guidance for new developments to include food growing, a pioneering piece of work which will be of use elsewhere in the

country. The team has presented papers at conferences – including the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors conference in Paris, and the British Sociological Society in London. We want to show people outside the city what great work is happening here, share the lessons we are learning and the examples of best practice being developed.



Local food picnic in Preston Park

*This residents group had been struggling to find new members, and all of a sudden this exciting project hit a really positive note and nine residents have come forward to join the tenants association and take forward the project.*

Graham Allen, Community Development worker working with South Hawk Tenants Association to create a community garden

# THE COMING YEAR

## What we are looking forward to

- 'Breaking new ground' and developing community projects on land other than allotments
- More networking and support for local food projects
- Awarding grants to support more community and school-based cooking and growing projects
- More targeted work with different communities in Brighton & Hove
- More events and activities to build on the success of Local Food Week's business competition, film screening, picnic and food swap events
- New food markets, shops and community projects to increase food access
- An expansion to the demonstration garden to show what can be grown on balconies, patios and in herb beds
- More work with secondary schools to give young people a chance to learn to grow



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### WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

The following questions have been received from Councillors and will be taken as read along with the written answer to be circulated the meeting. The Councillor asking the question may then ask one relevant supplementary question which shall be put and answered without discussion.

#### (a) Councillor Steedman

“The Leader and the Cabinet Member for Housing have encouraged the Council to develop programmes for the installation of solar panels on homes, offices, schools and other buildings, to take advantage of the Feed-in Tariff system. This is very welcome. The Feed-in Tariff rates are scheduled to decrease in April 2012, and rates are also due to be reviewed in that year. Conservative Climate Change Minister Greg Barker has recently suggested that a review of rates may be triggered before even this date, due to budget constraints imposed by the Chancellor George Osborne.

Could the Leader therefore:

- (a) confirm that the necessary resources will be provided to ensure that the Council has completed all solar installations identified as viable locations within its property portfolio, including the housing stock, before April 2012?;
- (b) confirm that the programme will be extended to private residents and landlords wishing to take advantage of the quality assurance and bulk-buying discounts that the Council’s scheme can provide, in order to maximise the environmental and financial benefits?; and
- (c) write to Greg Barker MP expressing this Council’s concern about the threat of an early cut in FiT rates and the damaging impact that it could have on Brighton and Hove’s plan to tackle climate change?”

#### (b) Councillor Steedman

“Sustainability encompasses local environmental quality, as much as it does big global questions such as climate change. Residents, community groups, council officers and ward councillors, have been working over the last two years on a scheme to improve the much degraded environment of Richmond Parade (Queen’s Park ward), to help improve road safety, tackle anti-social behaviour, increase tree planting and provide the many residents of the Albion Hill Estate and beyond, who use this route every day to get to work, school and the shops. The work was identified as a priority by the Turner Area Partnership, and has been developed via a series of interactive public workshops. Funding for the first phase of the project has been identified, from the Section 106 contributions made as part of the Ebenezer Church development.

I understand that the Council Leader herself has taken an interest in the scheme, which I am delighted about. Can she announce today the start date for the works to begin?”



# SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE

## Agenda Item 45

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** 10:10 City Campaign Update  
**Date of Meeting:** 9 February 2011  
**Report of:** Strategic Director, Resources  
**Contact Officer:** Name: Susie Howells Tel: 29-3332  
E-mail: susie.howells@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
**Key Decision:** No  
**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report is an update on the implementation to date and next steps for the Brighton and Hove citywide 10:10 campaign.
- 1.2 Cabinet signed up to the 10:10 Campaign on November 12, 2009, and the Leader made the citywide campaign one of her priorities for 2010, reflecting the importance of the council's leadership role in the citywide campaign, and committed the council to working to reduce carbon emissions from its own operations by 10% in 2010/11.
- 1.3 The campaign, now internationally recognised, is set to continue, building on the success of its first year.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee notes the progress of the city-wide campaign over the past year
- 2.2 That the Cabinet Committee notes that the campaign is set to continue.

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS

- 3.1 The 10:10 campaign was launched nationally in October 2009, and has become a high profile and widely-recognised national and international campaign to encourage people and organisations to sign up and cut carbon emissions.
- 3.2 Brighton and Hove has taken a lead and developed a city-wide campaign, led by a steering group formed of a partnership of local organisations and individual businesses, including the council. This leadership has been regularly championed and received national recognition, support and coverage, for example in a recent 10:10 press release stating: "There are pockets of activity all around the country but Brighton and Hove is by far and away the most determined and dedicated... we are using the example of Brighton as a model to the other cities we aim to sign up."

3.3 The Brighton & Hove 10:10 campaign secured critical funding from the City Sustainability Partnership, Brighton and Hove City Council and the University of Brighton's Knowledge Transfer Partnership scheme which enabled it to appoint a project manager (in place since May 2010), run planning workshops, develop a recognisable brand and website, with a high-profile launch across the city in April 2010.

The following key campaign objectives were set:

- To sign up people, businesses and organisations engaging all areas of the Brighton and Hove community;
- To communicate with the national campaign to ensure activity in Brighton & Hove receives national and international coverage;
- To link with other city sustainability initiatives and share ideas and best practice;
- To support pioneers in different strands of activity (e.g. education, health, etc);
- To share information and advice on cutting carbon and living a more sustainable lifestyle.

3.4 The campaign is achieving or has met all of its original objectives, and the following are headline activities that have taken place over the past eight months:

- Brighton & Hove City Council, the two universities and the Primary Care Trust joined Brighton & Hove Buses as early supporters, promoting the campaign internally and externally to staff and customers/city residents;
- The campaign website receives a consistently high number of new users each week, and features regular blogs and updates from across the Brighton and Hove 10:10 community;
- SEEDA funding was secured In November 2010 for academic case studies of people, businesses and organisations taking part in the campaign. This work was completed in January 2011 and is now being prepared for promotional use as an example of the 'pioneer' approach;
- The campaign has been extensively covered in local, national and international media (examples include 10/10/10 events, Health strand stories, Profitnet Business event);
- The campaign has been advertised across Brighton & Hove on 50 percent of the Brighton & Hove buses fleet with a logo and website address and the tag line "sign up and cut your carbon";
- The campaign has beaten all other city campaign sign up rates, not just in terms of cities or other local communities in the UK but internationally; and is on track to meet its ambitious target of over 2,500 people and organisations across the City.

3.5 The citywide campaign has been promoted at a comprehensive range of events, including business events, Paddle Round the Pier, a fashion "swishing" (clothes swapping) event and various community food growing activities. Eye-catching campaign information has been developed to promote sign-up.

3.6 Following a number of successful sign up stalls at summer festivals (Pride, Brunswick and several local school fairs), the national campaign database manager reported that "*these are the largest batches of offline sign ups since the national launch last year*".



- 3.7 As groups of the community respond differently to different types of engagement, Brighton and Hove 10:10 encouraged early adopters or pioneers within different sectors, or 'strands' to create action plans to engage with their peers.
  - 3.7.1 The recruitment of enthusiastic, motivated and creative pioneers has been a key aspect of the citywide campaign's success. To encourage support from all areas of Brighton and Hove's diverse community it was essential to recruit representatives from different strands: Health, Education, Business, Third Sector & Charities, Large Organisations, Arts & Culture and Communities & Streets. These pioneers have their time voluntarily throughout the year, supported by the Brighton and Hove 10:10 steering group.
  - 3.7.2 An overview of the Pioneers' key activities and future plans is attached (see Appendix 1)
- 3.8 The 10:10 campaign has been used by Brighton & Hove city council as an internal communications and employee engagement vehicle, with an ongoing poster campaign and a range of activities, reported at the last Sustainability Cabinet Committee.
  - 3.8.1 There is scope for further employee engagement, for example working with environmental champions, continuing to use the campaign's eye-catching designs and messages to promote awareness and behaviour change in carbon reduction. The strategic leadership for this area is now with the Strategic Director for Resources, bringing the potential to further consolidate the approach between the Property, Energy Management and Sustainability Teams.
- 3.9 The national 10:10 campaign is set to continue, building on the international success of its first year.
  - 3.9.1 Having built a strong relationship with the national campaign, the Brighton and Hove 10:10 campaign has been set up as a community interest company (CIC), enabling it to bid for further funding. The three CIC directors, together with the steering group and project manager are exploring options for a phase two programme, focusing on city-wide actions to tackle carbon emissions, as well as continuing to build the momentum of the pioneers' activities (see Appendix 1).
  - 3.9.2 The CIC has funding for the project manager until April 2011, and several funding bids have been submitted to support the continuation of the project manager's post and the move to phase two.
  - 3.9.3 The team is currently working on the preparation and sharing of case studies and other evaluation tools locally, nationally and internationally; and an event to celebrate its success and launch phase two.
  - 3.9.4 A £5,000 discretionary grant was awarded by the council in late December 2010 from the community and voluntary sector grant funds. The grant acknowledges 10:10's contribution to a number of priorities within the City's Sustainability Strategy, and represents value for grant monies in terms of potential leverage.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

4.1 Environment Champions across the council have been consulted.

#### **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### Financial Implications:

5.1 The 10:10 campaign is expected to continue into 2011 and beyond with the support of the project manager post to April 2011. A grant of £5,000 was awarded in December 2010 to Brighton & Hove 10:10, a recently registered Community Interest Company to support back office costs. Progress against the agreed project plan is reported to a steering group and overseen by the Directors of Brighton & Hove 10:10 CIC.

*Finance Officer consulted: Anne Silley Date: 27/01/11*

##### Legal Implications:

5.2 On-going commitment to the 10:10 campaign will assist the council in complying with its obligations under the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) Energy Efficiency Scheme. This is an emissions trading scheme in which local authorities and other specified bodies are required to participate. The obligations stem from the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme Order 2010, made under section 44 of the Climate Change Act 2008.

*Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon Date: 14/01/11*

##### Equalities Implications:

5.3 None.

##### Sustainability Implications:

5.4 10:10 addresses one of the key sustainability challenges – cutting greenhouse gas emissions to limit the future impacts of climate change.

##### Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 None anticipated

##### Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 There are risks relating to the 10:10 brand and what happens nationally; but national campaign plans are developing around a “cutting carbon 10% at a time” tag and continue to gain momentum.

##### Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 The 10:10 campaign is a significant city-wide, community campaign which has shown real buy-in across the local community.

**6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

6.1 We could end support for and engagement with 10:10 at the end of 2010/11 financial year, but this is not the recommendation.

**7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 Support for a city-wide sustainability campaign was one of the Leader's Top 10 Priorities for 2010, and the 10:10 campaign has fulfilled that role

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:**

1. Pioneers activity

**Documents in Members' Rooms**

None

**Background Documents**

None





## **Brighton and Hove 10:10 Campaign Progress report**

### **Pioneer Update**

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To encourage support from all areas of Brighton and Hove's diverse community it was essential to recruit Pioneers from different strands; Health, Education, Business, Third Sector & Charities, Large Organisations, Arts & Culture and Communities & Streets. As groups of the community respond differently to different types of campaigning, Brighton and Hove 10:10 encouraged early adopters or Pioneers within the strands to create action plans to engage with their peers.

We've been incredibly lucky to have an enthusiastic, creative and motivated group of Pioneers, who have been giving their time voluntarily throughout the year, supported by the Brighton and Hove 10:10 steering group. The following is an update of the Pioneer's activities in the last year, and future plans.

### **Health**

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The efforts of the health Pioneers have been nationally recognised, from presentations at Primary Care conferences to a short video explaining the link between public health and climate change. The 10:10 health group meets regularly and is growing in numbers. The group consists of GPs, Estates Strategy Manager, Sustainable Development Lead, NHS Trust Environmental Manager and Head of Communications.

#### **Key Activities**

- Regular meetings chaired by GP Pioneer;
- Sharing of best practice and providing a support network;
- Information stand at PCT and health professional events;
- Presentation to health professionals about the benefits of signing up;
- Short film describing how Brighton and Hove health Pioneers have been reducing carbon in their surgeries, encouraging colleagues and patients to live a healthier low carbon lifestyle.
- Production of material to promote the 10:10 message at the Royal College of GPs conference;
- 10:10 to be included in NHS employee engagement;
- Competition run by Pioneers awarding five GP surgeries a free energy survey conducted by NHS Environmental Manager.

#### **Future Plans**

A proposal is being developed by the health Pioneers to spread the message further, linking 10:10 with the Healthy City campaign. Although all the efforts of the health

Pioneers have been pro-bono to date, with the extra funding applied for the following will be carried out:

- Energy surveys for all surgeries in the city;
- Monitoring successes and staff engagement;
- Providing an online forum for 10:10 surgeries and health professionals to share stories and offer advice;
- Production of further staff engagement material including section in NHS employee handbook.

### Education

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The education Pioneer group have been using their regular meetings to share ideas, tell their school's stories and produce material to be circulated to other schools. The Pioneer group consists of teachers, energy managers from the Council and members of the 10:10 steering group.

#### Key Activities

- Pioneers meeting regularly to share ideas and best practice;
- Support group allows Pioneers to offer advice to others with difficulties;
- Production of promotional material including specific action lists for classrooms;
- Projects including assemblies, films, solar ovens, insulation effectiveness measuring, 10:10 homes of the future building and giant murals;
- School fairs having 10:10 stands and competitions;
- Linking Council school's energy and water team with teachers to formulate engagement action plans;
- Encouraging pupils and students to be energy monitors, keeping an eye out for wasted energy and run awards schemes for efficient classrooms.

The higher education institutions in the City have also created Pioneer groups, which meet regularly and have carried out a number of projects to encourage engagement.

- Brighton University uses 10:10 as an engagement tool to spread the message about its own ambitious carbon reduction targets;
- Student Pioneers have manned information stalls and run competitions;
- Pioneer students told their energy saving stories in student press and the 10:10 website; National 10:10 campaign circulated to the education group throughout the country;
- Pioneers have introduced 10:10 at film screenings and at events such as Fresher's fairs.

#### Future Plans

In the near future (February) the higher education group will be running a fortnight of events including a competition and information stall at the major campuses. 10:10 also plans to link with the Sussex University's Green Week in March.

The schools Pioneers have agreed to tell their stories at education 'twilight' events, with the aim of demonstrating the benefits of signing up to 10:10 and tackling the barriers to signing up some schools may encounter. The Pioneers will also be continuing to produce material for classrooms and staffrooms.

## **Business**

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Linking with existing business groups has been critical to the success of the business strand. 10:10 business Pioneers come from all sizes of organisation, from independents to some of the largest businesses in the city. This has helped the 10:10 team reach a wide range of businesses with different approaches. The business Pioneers include sustainability consultants, travel and tourism representatives, an estate agent and independent shop managers.

### **Key Activities**

- Pioneers talking about their own 10:10 experiences to other businesses at 10:10 events;
- Promoting 10:10 to employees and customers, and using the logo on promotional material;
- Offering 10:10 team members opportunity to talk at networking events;
- Offering discounts to other 10:10ers;
- Producing case studies to give examples to other businesses;
- Using 10:10 to bolster corporate social responsibility by including in environmental statements and posters displayed in windows and on staff boards.

### **Future Plans**

It is important for the local campaign that businesses know that 10:10 has not ended in 2010. Activities planned for 2011 are:

- Encouraging support for 10:10 birthday event through sponsorship;
- Presentation of case studies (including Brighton & Hove Buses and Mailboxes Etc);
- Improvement of 10:10 business tool kit to help Pioneers spread the 10:10 message;
- Video case studies to promote Pioneers and 10:10.

## **Third Sector & Charities**

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The third sector Pioneers are ideally positioned to help promote 10:10 as they are a mixture of forums and hubs for hundreds of organisations.

### **Key Activities**

- Community and Voluntary Sector Forum promoting 10:10 through website, Spoke magazine and talking at events.
- The Link (a health and communities group) has told their 10:10 story in a case study, detailing how to encourage buy in from board of directors.
- Brighton Peace and Environment Centre promote 10:10 on their website and in the information centre. They also provide 10:10 with access to a vast amount of information on living a low carbon lifestyle.

### **Future Plans**

- Through working with third sector organisations, 10:10 plans to engage with hard-to-reach sectors of the community who may be entitled to energy saving grants.
- Pioneers to produce case studies and report on how they have done meeting their 10% target.

## Large Organisations & Energy Managers

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Organisations of a certain size are involved in legally binding schemes such as the Carbon Reduction Commitment. It was the aim of this strand and its Pioneers to offer support and a forum for communicating with others facing the carbon cutting challenge.

### Key Activities

- Involvement from University of Brighton, Blatchington Mill High School, Brighton and Hove Council's Energy and Water team and Brighton and Hove Buses;
- Promotion of energy saving and 10:10 to Council staff through 'Footprint Fortnight'. Monitoring of electrical equipment to name and shame the offices that left equipment on over night;
- Production of case studies to promote the large organisation's carbon cutting work and to encourage staff engagement;
- University of Brighton set ambitious carbon reduction targets and energy manager working with 10:10 to engage with students and staff.

### Future Plans

The Pioneers in this strand haven't been able to meet up as regularly as others due to the busy schedules of the large organisations energy managers. However Pioneers have shown keen interest in organising regular meetings.

## Arts & Culture

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Using art as a way to communicate the climate change message has been very effective for 10:10 in 2010. Recent reports have shown that people are tired of hearing negative messages about climate change, and much prefer hearing about positive action that can be taken to tackle the problem. The Arts & Culture Pioneers have shown this to be true this year putting on some great events and using art to raise awareness.

### Key Activities

- Eco fashion events have been facilitated by Pioneers from the Creative Fashion Forum and local retailers. An opportunity to swap clothes, find out about ethical brands and other ways to reduce carbon;
- Local artists have produced cartoons and designs encouraging viewers to cut carbon;
- 10:10 Pioneers helped create a design by Radiohead's Thom Yorke out of 2000 people on Hove Lawns. Out of a handful of projects around the world, this was the only one in the UK;
- Pioneers have produced films showcasing the best of Brighton & Hove 10:10.
- 10:10:10 events throughout the City used music and art to present climate change issues (Moving Sounds at the Hanover 10:10:10 event).

### Future Plans

- Linking with festivals and art events. Pioneers have suggested an art competition would be a good way to engage with the art community.
- Showcasing more local climate change related art such as a display of climate change photography;
- Encourage Pioneers to meet regularly, to create momentum within the group.



## **Communities & Streets**

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This strand aimed to bring together different community groups and encourage others to start groups. Existing groups became Pioneers to show how effective a 10:10 network could be.

### **Key Activities**

- Pioneers from different community groups met to discuss why some areas were engaging and others not so much. Pioneer community groups shared ideas that had been successful, such as film screenings and door knocking;
- Pioneers manned information stands at community events such as Pride and the Brunswick Festival
- Pioneers created promotional material specific to the local area including posters and leaflets;
- A 'rocket oven' (low fuel D.I.Y. oven) was made by one community group;

### **Future Plans**

Communities and especially hard-to-reach communities will play a big part in the future of the local 10:10 campaign and the proposed retrofit project. Brighton and Hove 10:10 plans to work with local community groups to identify those who may be eligible for help with insulation and issues related to fuel poverty. Other plans include:

- Creating a network of Pioneering landlords and tenants to encourage better progress in rental accommodation;
- A 'Carbon Conversations' network, where trained Pioneers will run small workshops for carbon cutting groups.

January 2011



**Subject:** Sustainable Procurement Update  
**Date of Meeting:** 9 February 2011  
**Report of:** Director of Finance  
**Contact Officer:** Name: Claire Jones Tel: 29-1408  
E-mail: [claire.t.jones@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:claire.t.jones@brighton-hove.gov.uk)  
**Key Decision:** No  
**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report and supporting documentation provides Members with information on how the recently awarded Sports Facilities Management Contract has built-in social and environmental sustainability objectives.
- 1.2 The report provides detail on how the successful contractor intends to support the Council in meeting its sustainability objectives and ensure that VFM is secured.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee note the commitments made by Freedom Leisure within their winning tender submission.
- 2.2 That the Cabinet Committee also note Freedom Leisure's Policy Statement setting out how they will operate the facilities included in an environmentally sensitive and sustainable manner.

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The current sports facilities management contract commenced in April 2004 and was awarded to DC Leisure who has been operating the following facilities across the city:
  - Prince Regent Swimming Complex & Old Slipper Baths
  - Withdean Sports Complex
  - Moulsecomb Community Leisure Centre
  - Stanley Deason Leisure Centre
  - St Luke's Swimming Pool
  - Saunders Park, The Level and Seafront Paddling Pools
- 3.2 This current contract which does not include King Alfred Leisure Centre, Hove Lagoon Paddling Pool and Kingsway Multiplay, expires 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.
- 3.3 An EU compliant tender process began in April 2010 and following diligent and robust evaluation of all bids received, Freedom Leisure were awarded the

contract in December 2010 following approval at Cabinet on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010. Freedom Leisure is currently within the mobilisation period which concludes on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011.

- 3.4 All facilities outlined in 3.1 will be included as well as King Alfred Leisure Centre, Hove Lagoon Paddling Pool and Kingsway Multiplay.

### **Social and Environmental Sustainability Objectives**

- 3.5 To have a contractor that supported the Council's sustainability objectives played an important part in the tender process and subsequent evaluation. The resultant Freedom Leisure bid and contract is a good practical example of where these objectives have been addressed.
- 3.6 Freedom Leisure is a leading community leisure trust or not for profit social enterprise originally founded in 2002 to operate a range of facilities in Wealden District Council.
- 3.7 Freedom Leisure's vision is to provide inclusive and affordable leisure facilities to improve health and wellbeing of local communities. It aims to fulfil this vision through the development of strong partnership links with communities and through reinvestment into the facilities that they operate.
- 3.8 Some of the key sustainable/environmental elements provided by Freedom Leisure are set out below (Appendix 1 provides more detail of these)
- £125,000 investment in the first year of the contract in energy saving measures to help reduce the carbon footprint of facilities
  - Investment of £30,000 to offer a café area adjacent to the new fitness suite and reception offering a range of products. These products will be compatible with the aspiration towards health and well-being. Freedom's purchasing policy seeks to ensure that café products are sourced locally where possible, which is consistent with the council's policies where "Food Miles" is a relevant consideration.
  - The size of the Freedom operation within Sussex means that can achieve economies of scale whilst purchasing from local suppliers. They are also progressively introducing a fair trade range/Rain Forest Alliance throughout all sites.
  - Their Policy Statement outlined in Appendix 1 outlines how they will seek to reduce waste, monitor and control utilities consumption by purchasing gas, electricity and water through an external monitoring and purchasing service under an Energy Management Agreement (EMA).
  - They will produce a Green Transport Plan for Staff and users

## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Members of the Culture, Tourism & Enterprise Overview & Scrutiny Committee took part in a successful workshop with officers on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2010 to discuss key questions relating to the tender process and to help inform the specification for the new contract

4.2 Consultation also took place with staff at the King Alfred Leisure Centre who would transfer under TUPE to Freedom Leisure. Trade Unions were also involved with this consultation

**5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Financial Implications:

5.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with this report, which is providing information on the commitments made by Freedom Leisure. The financial implications of the Sports Facilities Management Contract were included in the report to Cabinet in December 2010.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Karen Brookshaw Date: 27/01/11*

Legal Implications:

5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report

*Lawyer Consulted: Sonia Likhari Date: 27/01/11*

Equalities Implications:

5.3 There are no Equalities Implications with the organisation successfully passing the pre-qualification questionnaire which includes Equalities criteria as part of the tender process

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 Freedom Leisure have incorporated a number of sustainability commitments within their tender submission and therefore carried over to the contract. Full details of these are provided in Appendix 1 – Supporting Documentation.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 There are no Crime & Disorder implications associated with this report

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 Risk Management is appropriately managed within the contract agreed and signed by the council and Freedom Leisure

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 Freedom Leisure will be providing inclusive and affordable leisure facilities to all residents of Brighton and Hove.

**6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

6.1 Three contractor bids were evaluated as part of the tender process.

## **7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 The report is for the Cabinet Committee to note the social and environmental objectives built in to the recently awarded Sports Facilities Management contract.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

#### **Appendices:**

1. “Example of a procurement activity which has incorporated both social and environmental sustainability objectives.

#### **Documents In Members’ Rooms**

None

#### **Background Documents**

1. Cabinet Report 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010 (Agenda item 129)

**Example of a procurement activity which has incorporated both social and environmental sustainability objectives.**

Freedom – a social enterprise recently awarded the Leisure Management Contract (covering sites such as Prince Regent, King Alfred and Stanley Deason)

1. Sussex Based charitable Trust
2. VAT Exemptions on sporting activities and relief from business rates
3. Policy to the fair trade organisations
4. Employ local staff and sourcing local goods
5. Operate in partnership with the Carbon Trust
6. ISO14001 at most centres
7. Included within the core bid is an initial provision of £125,000 across the sites to invest in plant and building issues in order to drive reduced energy usage in line with the Council's policies on sustainability. Specific projects will be identified during the contract start up process and could include: voltage optimisation, CHP, pool covers, PIRs and other energy saving measures. The investment will help deliver the year on year reductions in energy usage in the bid submitted which is anticipated to be in the region of 15% over the contract period. Further investment will be provided by Freedom if identified in their site environmental surveys and deemed viable within the contract period.
8. Included in Freedom's investment projections is a plan to spend approximately £30,000 to offer a limited café area adjacent to the new fitness suite and reception offering hot and cold drinks and a range of pre-packed snacks at the King Alfred Leisure Centre. This will involve a small seating area with the possibility of some seating in the corridor leading to the sports hall area.

The range of products available will be compatible with the aspiration towards health and well-being, offering only skimmed and semi skimmed milk, freshly made fruit smoothies and 25% of snacks being savoury products. Freedom's purchasing policy seeks to ensure that café products are sourced locally where possible, which is consistent with our environmental policies where "Food Miles" is a relevant consideration. The size of the Freedom organisation in Sussex means that they can achieve economies of scale whilst purchasing from local suppliers and are progressively introducing a fair trade range/Rain Forest Alliance throughout all their sites.

#### 9.4 Policy Statement for Brighton & Hove City Council Leisure Centres

*We are happy to commit to operating the Facilities in an environmentally sensitive and sustainable manner, to reduce energy consumption, minimise chemical usage, recycle appropriate non-hazardous wastes and contribute to the Council's Environmental Strategy Objectives.*

In order to achieve this we will take the following actions:

##### Waste Management

We will:

- Seek to **reduce** all types of waste – helping to ease consumption and lower costs of waste disposal.
- Seek to **re-use** resources wherever possible.
- Seek to **re-cycle** items wherever possible through the sorting and management of centre waste.
- Invest in ICT to enable reduction in paperwork.
- Locate Paper, Can and Bottle recycle points in appropriate leisure centre locations.
- Maintain tight monitoring and control over use of pool and cleaning chemicals and minimise their use wherever possible.
- Endorse the purchase of recycled products including printer cartridges and paper products.



- Not use any packaging which contains chlorofluorocarbons.

### Utilities monitoring and consumption control

We will:

- Purchase Gas, Electricity and Water through an external monitoring and purchasing service, under an Energy Management Agreement EMA
- Actively work towards lower consumption rates at our centres through the good house keeping measures
- Seek to reduce gas, water and electricity consumption wherever possible whilst maintaining service standards
- We will establish service and maintenance contracts for all plant and related equipment to ensure maximum efficiency of operation through regular servicing.

### Transport

We will:

- Investigate the provision of bike racks at all centres, with high level security
- Produce a Green transport plan for staff and users

Our bid has assumed a reduction in energy usage of 15 % over the contract period from current levels through a combination of investment and housekeeping improvements.

As part of our bid we have committed to achieving year on year reductions of utility usage. All of our sites/contracts have achieved improvements in usage and DEC scores over the past three years.

# **SUSTAINABILITY CABINET COMMITTEE**

## **Agenda Item 47**

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** Sustainable Communities Act  
**Date of Meeting:** 9 February 2011  
**Report of:** Strategic Director, Resources  
**Contact Officer:** Name: Matthew Wragg Tel: 29-3944  
E-mail: matthew.wragg@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
**Key Decision:** No  
**Wards Affected:** All

### **FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

#### **1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 Brighton & Hove City Council made the decision to 'opt in' to the Sustainable Communities Act in October 2008. The Act allows communities and individuals, with local councils, to submit proposals to Government to assist them in promoting and protecting the sustainability of local communities.
- 1.2 The Council submitted nine proposals for consideration under Round One of the Act in July 2009. This paper updates Sustainability Cabinet Committee on the outcome of Round One which was announced in December 2010 and also the process for submitting future proposals.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee notes the outcome of Round One of the Sustainable Communities Act and the process for submitting future proposals.

#### **3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:**

- 3.1 The Sustainable Communities Act 2007 places a legal duty on Government to 'assist local authorities in promoting the sustainability of local communities'. Government is required to meet this duty by issuing them with periodic invitations to submit proposals they consider will have this effect. Before making any such proposal, a local authority is required to establish or recognise a panel of representatives of local people and consult it about the proposal.
- 3.2 Brighton & Hove 'opted in' to the Act in October 2008. Local organisations and residents in Brighton & Hove were given the opportunity to come up with proposals to improve the areas where they live, supported by the city council and the Stronger Communities Partnership.
- 3.3 The council received twenty three proposals in total. Following feedback and negotiation with a Local Panel (as per the requirements of the Act), in July 2009

the Cabinet recommended that nine proposals be submitted to the Local Government Association (LGA). In summary the nine proposals were:

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

3.4 Eight of the nine Brighton & Hove proposals submitted were short-listed by the LGA for negotiation with the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. In total 301 proposals were submitted nationally from all the councils who opted into the Act and these were short listed down to 199 by the LGA.

3.5 The proposal from Brighton & Hove which was not shortlisted was 'that food growing, either on or off school sites, be introduced as part of the national curriculum'. The LGA Selector Panel felt that the national curriculum does not prohibit this currently and therefore the proposal was not passed on to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) for consideration under the Act.

3.6 A paper was brought to Sustainability Cabinet Committee in July 2010 to update on the progress of Round One of the Act and the likelihood of a resolution. No formal announcement had been made at the time but since coming into power the Coalition Government had committed to respond to all the shortlisted proposals.

3.7 In December 2010 the DCLG published its report on Round One, *Sustainable Communities Act 2007: Decisions on proposals submitted following the 2008 invitation*. In summary the results for Brighton & Hove are that:

- Two of the proposals will be implemented by Government (renewable energy: feed-in tariffs; business rate relief).

- Two of the proposals Government will help us to implement ourselves, or explore further (allotments; capital receipts).
  - Five of the proposals Government will not implement (speed limits; supermarkets; HRA; localised food systems; renewable energy: low carbon grant).
- 3.8 As anticipated in the July report to Sustainability Cabinet Committee, in a number of cases the decisions that have been reached by Government correspond to changes in national policy that the Coalition Government had identified since coming into power.
- 3.9 For each of the successful proposals under the Act, Government has stated its action in response. For the successful proposal relating to 'feed-in tariffs' these have now been launched and information can be found through the Community Energy Online website <http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/>.
- 3.10 For the proposal relating to discretionary Business Rate relief the Government has, through the Localism Bill, proposed that councils will have the power to set local discounts on business rates, provided that they are funded locally.
- 3.11 Appendix 1 to this paper presents the relevant extracts from the full report which accompany the decisions reached on all of the proposals submitted by Brighton & Hove.
- 3.12 Letters will be sent to individuals or community groups whose proposals were submitted by the council under the Act to inform them of the outcome of Round One. The outcome will also be reported to the relevant service areas that were involved in the development of the original submissions.
- 3.13 In December 2010 DCLG also announced that future submissions under the Sustainable Communities Act can now be made at any time, rather than within a fixed timeframe or 'round'.
- 3.14 The core concept of the Act is that, for each proposal submitted, the Council must 'reach an agreement' with the community or individual regarding the proposed action. This remains the case and it is left to the local authority to consider how and when it wishes to do this in future.
- 3.15 The creation of a 'barrier busting portal' or website by DCLG will also allow any individual, community group or council independently to ask Government to remove a perceived barrier to action at the local level, whether the proposal is submitted under the Act or otherwise.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The Stronger Communities Partnership was consulted about the local process to promote the Act and develop a Local Panel for considering proposals, as was required by the Act itself. No further consultation was required for this report.

## **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The financial implications of the agreed proposals will be highlighted when the implementation of the proposals are being considered. There are potential pressures on the business rates relief proposal subject to agreement of the Localism Bill and opportunities through the feed in tariffs proposal.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley*

*Date: 27/01/11*

### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 This report is for noting only. The relevant legal considerations are addressed in the body of the report.

*Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon*

*Date: 28/01/11*

### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no specific equalities implications in terms of the successful proposals/

### Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 The proposals have been agreed under the Act, which requires proposals to promote the sustainability of local communities in terms of either, the economy, the environment, social inclusion or participation in civic and political activity.

### Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no specific Crime & Disorder implications in terms of the successful proposals.

### Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Management of any Risk and Opportunity will be highlighted when the implementation of the proposals is being considered.

### Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Corporate / citywide implications will be highlighted when the implementation of the proposals is being considered.

## **6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

- 6.1 Not applicable.

## **7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 To monitor and keep an eye on the progress of the Council's proposals submitted under Round One of the Sustainable Communities Act.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Extracts from the DCLG report, *Sustainable Communities Act 2007: Decision on proposals submitted following the 2008 invitation* related to proposals submitted by Brighton & Hove City Council.

### **Documents In Members' Rooms**

None

### **Background Documents**

1. Cabinet report, 09 July 2009, 'Sustainable Communities Act – decision on Submission to Local Government Association'
2. Sustainability Cabinet Committee report, 23 July 2010, 'Sustainable Communities Act'





**Extracts from the DCLG report, *Sustainable Communities Act 2007: Decision on proposals submitted following the 2008 invitation* related to proposals submitted by Brighton & Hove City Council.**

**1. Requests within proposals that the Secretary of State will implement**

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Government response</b>
<p><b>Renewable Energy (part 1)</b></p> <p>Introduce feed-in tariffs</p>	<p>“The Government supports the principle of extending financial incentives for local renewable energy generation. We are replacing the Low Carbon Buildings Programme with new incentive schemes. Feed-in tariffs were introduced in April 2010 to support small scale renewable electricity generation. In order to increase awareness and understanding of the opportunities that all renewable and low carbon energy offers, and to help organisations access support available under feed-in tariffs and other mechanisms, the Government is developing an online portal for local authorities and communities, Community Energy Online. This will provide a comprehensive guide to designing and delivering low carbon community scale energy infrastructure.</p> <p>The Government has considered whether it is feasible to make national funding available for setting up new Energy Saving Companies. However, in light of the spending review, and as they cover a wide range of business models for the supply of energy services, including private sector only models, we believe loans and financial payments would not be appropriate. For public sector partners especially in the local authority it would be an appropriate use of Saix to support this kind of initiative”.</p>
<p><b>Business rates</b></p> <p>That national government introduce a business rates local protection scheme which gives councils the authority to offer discretionary business rate relief to encourage and sustain small and medium local businesses.</p>	<p>“The Government will create in the Localism Bill a framework of powerful incentives for local authorities to deliver sustainable economic development, including wide-ranging powers for local authorities to offer local discounts on business rates”.</p>

**2. Requests the Government will help councils to implement themselves, or explore further**

Proposal	Government response
<p><b>Local food production</b></p> <p>Change the Allotment Act to enable the sale of grown produce to allow holders to sell their surplus product to local shops.</p>	<p>“An allotment garden must, by definition, ‘be wholly or mainly cultivated for production of vegetables or fruit crops for the consumption by the occupier or his family’. A change in the law is not required as there is no legal restriction on allotment holders selling genuine surplus product to local shops, but we would be happy to discuss this further with Brighton”.</p>
<p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>National Government remove pooling regulations for Right To Buy capital receipts and release future and accumulated capital receipts from the sale of council housing to the control of Local Authorities to be administered as they see fit, but especially to build new stock and renovate existing stock.</p>	<p>“The Government confirmed in the spending review that pooling of Right-to-Buy receipts will continue for the Spending Review period. Recent provisions have allowed authorities to retain receipts from dwellings built or acquired after July 2008, as well as receipts arising from Social Homebuy disposals and we can discuss with the councils how they may be able to do this. We are considering the impact on HRA reform and will announce full details of this shortly”.</p>

**3. Requests within proposals which will not be implemented**

Proposal	Government response
<p><b>Transport</b></p> <p>Devolve power to local authorities to set vehicle speed limits on public roads at any maximum below existing regulations (20mph), according to local needs, in order to encourage safer and more people friendly streets where appropriate.</p>	<p>“The Government is unable to implement this proposal as speedometers are not required to be accurate under 20mph. Drivers may not know, therefore whether they were breaking the speed limit. The Government believes that it would be impossible to enforce, and may have potential Human Rights implications”.</p>
<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>Change national planning policy to explicitly support localised food systems.</p>	<p>“This proposal cannot be delivered through the planning system. In essence, it would require the planning authority to seek to assess and control the contractual relationships between a retailer and their suppliers. This is not a planning matter and, in many cases, would not even be in place when the planning application is made and may change over time”.</p>

<p><b>Waste and recycling</b></p> <p>Introduce legislation that requires supermarkets to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduce the amount of non-recyclable materials that are used in food packaging</li> <li>• provide facilities to collect a range of materials</li> <li>• recycle wherever possible or bear the cost of landfill for the waste.</li> </ul>	<p>“The Government encourages supermarkets to take greater responsibility for the waste they place on the market, but does not believe it should impose ‘top-down’ requirements in the way suggested. It would introduce burdens on businesses at a time the Government is working hard to support the economic recovery. Many supermarkets already offer recycling collection facilities to the public at their sites.</p> <p>A number of voluntary initiatives are in train and planned to encourage retailers and others to reduce the packaging they use and make it more recyclable – for example a well-developed statutory producer responsibility scheme which requires all businesses which handle packaging (including retailers) to make sure 60 per cent of it is recycled.</p> <p>The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs would be happy to explore with the two councils the types of packaging they would like targeted.</p> <p>Tesco and Sainsbury’s have both trialled bring banks for a wide range of packaging materials in various formats. This could be seen as the logical extension of producer responsibility along the lines proposed, relieving local authorities of their duty to collect packaging waste. However, the ability to provide this infrastructure is limited by space at the shops, and accessibility for householders (particularly compared to kerbside services) is likely to be an issue. This would also deprive local authorities of a source of revenue by taking valuable recyclates out the existing collection system, which would have to continue operating. Were this system to replace local authority collection altogether, it is likely that the amount of packaging collected for recycling would decline as the effort of getting the recyclates to the collection points would be more onerous for the public than kerbside collections.</p> <p>As set out in the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs’ Structural Reform Plan, we will explore responsibility deals with businesses – including retailers – on waste”.</p>
<p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>Change legislation that prohibits local authorities from borrowing against their social housing rental income.</p>	<p>“On 5 October the Minister for Housing announced that the Government will replace the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy system with a new, more transparent, system that devolves greater power to councils to better meet the housing needs of their local communities. We will publish more details shortly including our proposals for borrowing”.</p>

## Item 47 Appendix 1

<p><b>Renewable Energy (Part 2):</b> Government transfer a proportion (£50,000) of the Low Carbon Buildings Programme funding direct to Brighton &amp; Hove City Council.</p>	<p>“The Low Carbon Buildings Programme ended in 2010. It has been replaced by a scheme of feed-in tariffs for small scale renewable and low carbon electricity, in a scheme which started in April 2010”.</p>
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### City Sustainability Partnership Meeting - 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010

The Auditorium, Brighthelm Centre, North Road, Brighton, BN1 1YD

#### *Public Services:*

Councillor Ayas Fallon Khan

Councillor Vicky Wakefield Jarret (substitute for Councillor Paul Steedman)

Dr Olumide Elegbe - Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust

#### *Community and Voluntary Sector:*

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

Vic Borrill - Brighton and Hove Food Partnership - **Vice Chair**

Mike Creedy - Brighton Peace and Environment Centre

#### *Business:*

Lorraine Bell - Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce

#### *Agencies:*

Chris Wick - Environment Agency - **Vice Chair**

Phil Belden - South Downs Committee

#### *Guests Included:*

John Patmore - Brighton & Hove Wildlife Forum

Elona Hoover - University of Brighton

Zoe Osmond - University of Brighton

Tom Chute - 10:10 Campaign

James Grugeon - Environmental Protection UK

Nick Hutchinson - Ecosys Environmental Management & Education

#### *Council Officers:*

Thurstan Crockett - Head of Sustainability - **Partnership Manager**

Jan Jonker - Head of Strategy, Waste and Parks

Tom Hook - Head of Scrutiny

Karen Amsden - Overview and Scrutiny Officer

Richard Tuset - Head of Policy and Performance

Lisa Shaw - Policy Development Officer

Mita Patel - Senior Sustainability Consultant

#### *Meeting Notes:*

Catherine Miller - Senior Support Officer

### **1. Apologies and Actions from the previous meeting.**

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr David Watkins, Cllr Paul

Steedman, Cllr Gill Mitchell, Deborah McGuchan, Eleanor Bell, Alison Hadfield, Mike Wenham (replacing Jan Jackson)

- 1.2 Chris Todd (CT) welcomed Olumide Elegbe to the partnership as the new representative from Brighton & Hove PCT. He also thanked Jan Jackson for her contribution to the partnership and informed members that her replacement representative from the Sussex Enterprise would be Mike Wenham who had sent his apologies for being unable to attend tonight's meeting.
- 1.3 Action 1.2 from the previous meeting - CT reported that he had written to Richard Davies regarding the Open Market regeneration proposal and had received further information which Catherine Miller had circulated to partners for their comments and suggestions. Phil Beldon (PB) asked the partnership if this would be discussed at tonight's meeting and it was agreed if there was time.
- 1.4 Action 1.52 from the previous meeting – CT informed the partnership that he had written to the South Downs National Park Authority and had not received a reply.
- 1.5 Action 3.5 from the previous meeting - **It was agreed that Cllr Fallon-Khan (Cllr AFK) would extend an invitation to the new strategic directors of Brighton & Hove County Council (B&HCC) to attend a future CSP meeting.**
- 1.6 Action 5.2 from the previous meeting - A short report by Catherine Miller regarding the Knowledge Transfer Partnership was discussed and partners were informed that although this avenue of funding had potential for future CSP work it was not suitable for the funding of a partnership support officer.
- 1.7 Action 7.3 from the previous meeting - Mathew Thomas had circulated further information regarding the Local Area Biodiversity Plan (LBAP) to the partnership.

## **2. Renewables Scrutiny Panel Update**

- 2.1 Tom Hook (TH) and Karen Amsden (KA) informed the partnership about the progress of the Renewables Scrutiny Panel and described the rationale and processes involved. They were told it would be a short, focused piece of work that would cover best practice in other authorities' work, environmental factors and public safety in regards to renewables projects, and the extent to which B&HCC were

supporting renewables projects. The project was at an early scoping stage for which a scoping meeting was set to be held on 03.11.10 and the partnership was invited to make recommendations and to offer evidence and shape the focus of the panel's inquiries.

- 2.2. Partners asked whether the panel would cover Bio-fuels and what the natural boundaries would be, particularly whether the panel had the capacity to include the sea in its scope. Partners were informed that this would be decided at the scoping meeting but there was the capacity to consider these issues.
- 2.3 CT verified that the scoping meeting was due to be held in two days and inquired whether there would be potential to amend the decisions reached beyond this time. TH informed partners that the scoping report could be amended beyond this date. **Partners agreed to contact the scrutiny team with any suggestions for the scope of the Renewables Scrutiny Panel before 03.11.10**

### **3. Sustainable Cities Index**

- 3.1 Thurstan Crockett (TC) gave a brief description of the results of the 2010 Sustainable Cities Index and informed partners that there was a separate document which was then circulated that detailed the background of the indicators and the specific outcomes for Brighton and Hove.,
- 3.2 TC stated that that Brighton & Hove was the only city to be in the top three for the four years the Index had been operating and went on to explain that the selection of indicators changed slightly from year to year which had some effect on the results of the index but stressed that this would have not have influenced the results in the ecological footprint measurement which was due to residents and visitors high consumption in such areas as air travel, dining out and food miles which was reflected in the low performance on the environmental indicators.
- 3.3 TC went on to state that the Index did offer a snapshot of how Brighton & Hove was performing compared to other cities and that indicators used could be considered in terms of adoption into the work of the One Planet Living Plan (OPLP) and the State of the Local Environment Report (SOLE)

- 3.4 TC went on to explain some of the ways in which the indicators had changed and could have had a negative impact on the reported performance of Brighton & Hove. These included, the previous measurement of the state of a city's river, which Brighton & Hove does not have, resulted in an average score in this area, and the change in how the indicator concerning sustainable transport was measured, which had previously been based on satisfaction with the local bus service and in which we had scored top, but had been replaced by a measurement of access to services without a car. TC argued that Brighton & Hove was particularly accessible in terms of public transport, walking or bike which was not reflected well. The final change that had affected the results was that of the quality of green space which had changed from a measurement of resident satisfaction with open spaces to a measurement of number of Green Flag parks in relation to the size of population.
- 3.5 Phil Belden (PB) noted that although Brighton & Hove was still in the top three we had slipped in ranking since the start of the Index and warned against complacency. He stressed that we had performed badly in regards to our ecological footprint and pointed to the poor performance in the green space and biodiversity and was particularly concerned at the ranking of 12<sup>th</sup> in recycling. Jan Jonker (JJ) replied that Cityclean was not complacent and had improved its' recycling performance and had a strategy for the implementation of further initiatives to improve the rate and coverage of Brighton & Hove's recycling.
- 3.6 Cllr AFK replied that he had heard an interview on Radio Sussex with Forum for the Future, the organisation that created and manages the Sustainable Cities Index, in which they had asserted that Brighton & Hove had performed really well over the entire package of measurement.
- 3.7 Cllr Vicky Wakefield-Jarret (Cllr VWJ) Noted that although we had performed well in the indicators for health and education this was not universal to all Brighton & Hove residents as there was still great disparity across the city in these areas.
- 3.6 Chris Wick (CW) argued against the adoption of the Index's indicators as he was not convinced they accurately reflected the city's environmental performance. He asked if the SOLE report would cover the replacement of the Local Area Agreement targets to which TC replied that the SOLE report was not concerned with the adoption of targets. CT noted



that the Index was useful to highlight areas which needed particular improvement but that targets should not be set directly out of it for the sake of performing well in this particular Index.

#### **4. One Planet Living Plan**

- 4.1 TC informed the partnership that Policy Development Manager Emma McDermott had written the reports that he would be discussing and went on to say that there was a brief of explanation for the planned progress of the OPLP. Partners were invited to comment on the brief and to make recommendations of other consultants who could be approached for tender for the ecological footprint work described. Lorraine Bell (LB) noted that it would be good to have a local business involved in this aspect of the work

**Agreement- Partners agreed the brief as outlined and agreed to contact TC by 12pm 05.11.10 with further suggestions regarding other consultants to be approached for tender regarding ecological footprinting work**

- 4.2 Cllr AFK asked whether the partnership would have to advertise the work to the European community under the guidelines of the OJEU but TC informed him that the budget at £15K was well below the threshold.
- 4.3 Partners inquired whether the CSP would be involved in agreeing the successful tender and it was **agreed that Chairs would be closely involved in the appraisal of tenders and the selection process for the ecological footprinting work required by the OPLP brief.**

#### **5. State of the Local Environment Report**

- 5.1 Lisa Shaw (LS) presented her briefing paper on options regarding the structure and scope of the SOLE report and reminded partners that at the last meeting there had been an agreement that she would take forward the SOLE report and that tonight's report was a brief summary of some preliminary thinking regarding this work.
- 5.2 LS requested that partners agree to her setting up a working group to monitor and steer this work to ensure it maintains its independence from B&HCC. The group would be concerned with three main areas which were; firstly the structure of the report, options for which are contained within section 3.1 of

the paper but include whether it could be based on the structure of the Environment Agency's regional State of the Environment reports, or tied to the OPLP and Sustainable Community Strategy or a random collection of priority themes. This also presents other questions such as if it should look at the natural environment or cover the urban / built environment as well. Secondly the group would consider the basket of indicators to be included in the SOLE report. LS indicated section 3.1.2 of her briefing report and pointed out that this would be contingent on the availability and frequency of data and her capacity in the 5 months she would be working on this piece. Finally the group would consider the emerging issues and priorities to come out of the SOLE report. She therefore asked the partnership to consider the outlined structure for the SOLE report and to ascertain who might consider joining the working group.

- 5.3 LS pointed out to members that her report did not cover how the partnership should use the report once it had been developed, including how it should be communicated and interpreted. LS suggested that the partnership might want to consider this as part of its thinking about how the partnership functions within the Intelligent Commissioning process.
- 5.4 PB referenced Islington's SOLE report which had included both the natural and urban environments and stressed that this report had also included actions which he felt were essential. Vic Borrill (VB) agreed that there was a need to include the urban environment and inquired whether this was a capacity issue. LS replied that there was the capacity and it was simply down to the partners to decide the scope. **It was agreed that the SOLE report should cover both the natural and the built environment in its scope.**
- 5.5 Chris Wick (CW) informed the partnership that the Environment Agency was changing the scope of their State of the Environment reporting to include a more local level focus and also asserted that there should be an identification and examination of trends to facilitate a more forward thinking aspect to the SOLE report and that areas of duplication of other work should also be considered. LS stated that the SOLE could maybe serve to report other works finding rather than repeat existing work. CT suggested that indicators should be selected based on their efficacy and usefulness in relation to all current works and CW stated that the gathering together of well established indicators would facilitate better trend analysis.

- 5.6 CW went on to state that the lack of available data would mean that there would be gaps which would lead to a situation where the report would have to achieve a 'good enough' level of data gathering. LS suggested that the report could then serve to indicate where the gaps in data currently lie and suggest ways forward. TC agreed that identifying the gaps in data was important and also suggested an added criteria within section 3.1.2 of the report which would consider the cost of gathering data and also, given the abolition of the Local Area Agreement, would examine which of the existing indicators would be likely to be in existence into the future.
- 5.7 PB asserted that some consideration should be given to indicators that are accessible to the public and capture public interest such as the number of elm trees as these are more likely to encourage action on their part rather than the more scientific and specialist indicators. Olumide Elegbe (OE) suggested that there should be indicators that relate to health and are forward looking such as the relation between health and air quality such as 'new cases of asthma and other respiratory illnesses.
- 5.8 Other Stakeholders that could be approached for the working group were discussed and Cllr AFK suggested the Primary Care Trust to which OE agreed. **It was agreed that LS should set up an electronic working group that would consider the above discussed work. It was also agreed that those members that wanted to join the group or who had further suggestions for the inclusion of other suitable and useful participants should contact her by 05.11.10**

**- ACTION - Catherine Miller to circulate email requesting that partners contact LS by 05.11.10 if they wish to join the working group and if they have suggestions regarding other stakeholders / participants.**

## **6. Climate Change Action Plan Update**

- 6.1 Mita Patel updated the partnership on the progress of the CCAP and the CCAP working group session. The key outcomes from the working group were that there was a general consensus that the action plan be less council centric and include greater representation from the city but that the council should be the lead in terms of coordinating content regarding actions and targets. There was agreement that there should be greater linking of actions to the Sustainable

Community Strategy and that these targets and priorities should be distinguished from those within the OPLP. There had been good suggestion regarding the lack of baselines regarding actions that would be needed to focus targets and there was recognition of the need to re-focus the chapters on waste, food procurement and renewables. There was also mention of the need for the working group to consider long term funding and resourcing of the CCAP.

- 6.2 Actions that arose from the working group were: that the Action Plan needed to be tweaked in order to sharpen it's focus; that the section on adaptation and mitigation needed to be reconsidered so as to illustrate the difference between them which would also be informed by LS's work on the Local Climate Change Impact Profile (LCLIP); the potential for future support and research from the University of Brighton; and the need to include the City Transport Partnership and other suitable contributors in the work on the transport section and the development of a transport strategy which was considered to be weak.
- 6.3 The timescales for the progress of the CCAP were contained within the report though MP did stress that responses to the actions should be received ASAP. She stated that as well as ongoing CCAP working group sessions there would be workshops to include other stakeholders and that an e-version of the CCAP should be finished by July 2011.
- 6.4 Partners discussed the potential structure for the split between the Adaptation and Mitigation facets of the plan and there was a suggestion by PB and CW that rather than independent chapters both should be incorporated into the chapters so as to illustrate what could happen in a given situation regarding climate change and then what actions can be taken to deal with such an occurrence.

## **7. Waste Strategy Group**

- 7.1 Jan Jonker (JJ) discussed with the partnership the current strategy to improve consultation and community engagement n regards to the council's policies of waste management. He complimented the partnership on their level of feedback and informed them that in the last few months there had been the formation of an advisory group consisting of interest and knowledge based contributors that were committed to the creation of waste strategy for Brighton & Hove.

- 7.2 JJ went on to point out the success of the partnership with VB regarding food waste recycling, whilst stressing that the success of this and future projects hinged on uptake by communities and not upon Cityclean undertaking the majority of work per se. JJ stressed that the future success of projects was to be facilitated by the support of trial projects by community groups that could be rolled out on larger scale across the city.
- 7.2 JJ informed members that the next stage was the creation and dissemination of leaflets across the city to publicise recruitment to the advisory group and invited questions from the partnership.
- 7.2 VB asked whether the community and voluntary sector had been approached regarding community engagement and also whether Angie Greaney and the Communities Team at B&HCC had been included in the programme. She pointed out that the role of facilitator was particularly demanding and would need supporting. VB also asked if this could be seen as a move towards community composting initiatives and what other organisations had been approached outside of the University of Brighton.
- 7.3 JJ stated that the facilitators would be supported by Cityclean and that the project was at an early stage but that it was envisioned that other organisations would be involved and supported and that he would like to see stronger ownership and involvement by community groups.
- 7.4 PB inquired after the usage of communal bins and their effect regarding individual responsibility for waste recycling. JJ answered that they were monitoring the levels of recycling in relation to the introduction of communal bins. PB asked if this monitoring was focused solely on the bins in the city centre. JJ replied that this monitoring was focused on both residential and city bins and he stated that there did seem to be a contingent drop in the levels of recycling.
- 7.5 Partners discussed the issue of 'ownership' of issues affecting recycling pointing out the lack of action on the part of supermarkets in this area and the need to educate consumers. JJ mentioned the legal guidelines regarding the over packaging of products and informed the partnership of Cityclean's web information on this issue. VB suggested a 5

point Action Plan regarding Cityclean's programme for food waste recycling.

- 7.6 CW pointed out that there was a danger that community engagement on the issue of waste could become a forum for discussion regarding service provision and asked if Cityclean had considered the possibility that discussion of the issues could be clouded by negativity and dissatisfaction over other council services and decisions such as Hollingdean depot and wheelie bins. He also pointed out that the document presented at the meeting already stated 'what Cityclean wanted to achieve' which he felt was too far along the process for satisfactory community engagement and he suggested that residents should be asked what they wanted. JJ replied that the intention of the Action Plan was to mitigate against such negativity. CW suggested that the very name of the forum could be reconsidered to mitigate against such negativity pointing out that 'The Waste Advisory Group' implied all waste issues. He also suggested a separate forum to allow residents to voice their opinions regarding other waste issues. CT argued that he did not see the issues as separate and that Cityclean would have to push through initial unburdening process.
- 7.7 The constitution of WAG and likely stakeholder engagement at meetings was discussed. CT pointed out that there must be a balance of experts and residents present. JJ responded that they envisioned that project leaders would attend whilst there may not be a huge or regular attendance by the residents' network and CT suggested the creation of representatives from the network who would be asked to attend on the part of their particular communities.

## **8. 10:10 Campaign Update**

- 8.1 James Grugeon (JG) introduced the 10:10 campaign update and Tom Chute (TCh) who then gave a Power Point presentation to the partnership detailing the progress and main outcomes and issues surrounding Brighton & Hove's 10:10 City campaign. He stated that Brighton & Hove's campaign had been a huge success, garnering 1,000 sign-ups which represented 12.5% of the total national figure and had become a model for other cities such as Mexico City. The engagement of the business community had been particularly high and he pointed to the excellent branding and immediate recognition value of the logo as being instrumental in this. TCh went on to state that the campaign

was multi stranded with businesses being targeted through the educational awareness programme and group work which included work with *Profitnet* and the Chamber of Commerce. Communities and residents were targeted through various local awareness raising events and added that the cost of delivery of the programme was cut enormously by the high level of voluntary engagement by individuals.

- 8.2 TCh went on to discuss what the future may hold for the campaign. He stated that greater communication with sign-ups was required to push for further action and that the formation of a steering group was required to discuss how to inspire these pioneers to go forward. He informed the partnership that funding existed until April from SEEDA for the collection of case studies and that a big wrap up event was being planned. There was a suggestion that the campaign may look to target retro fitting in the private sector to combat CO2 emissions from private housing but beyond this he looked to the CSP, PCT and the business community to suggest what the future may hold during phase two.
- 8.3 Partners thanked TCh and JG for their work and discussed the sign-up levels of residents and businesses and how to increase this number. It was questioned whether a shift in attitudes had occurred or if those that had signed up were already committed to the values espoused by the campaign. JG replied that the true figure of sign-ups was expected to reach 2,500 and pointed out that others were inspired by the campaign's values to reduce waste and emissions without officially signing up to the campaign and OE suggested that more could be done to emphasise the lack of negative publicity or sanctioning if individuals and businesses did not hit the campaign targets. OE also suggested the creation of 10:10 buddies to inspire and motivate each other, particularly for the business community
- 8.4 Cllr VWJ suggested that students and landlords in the private sector could be targeted and TCh replied that this was an integral facet of the future national campaign. VB asked whether the campaign would continue and if it would need re-branding, TCh replied that the campaign would definitely go on and that future overarching message of the campaign would now shift from cutting waste and emissions by 10% in 2010 to 10 ways to cut emissions by 10%. LB pointed out that with a budget of £23K the campaign had achieved outstanding results.

- 8.5 CT suggested that the success of the campaign and future implications should be reported to the Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership for further discussion.

## **9. Brighton and Hove Wildlife Forum**

- 9.1 John Patmore briefly discussed the minutes from the previous meeting of the Brighton & Hove Wildlife Forum drawing partners attention to the discussion regarding the Sustainable Cities Index. He questioned the relatively poor performance in the areas of ecological footprint and biodiversity and suggested that this was partly due to a disconnection between B&HCC and the countryside.

## **10. Dates and Venues**

- 10.1 **The programme for future CSP meeting dates was discussed and agreed and partners were asked to note a change to the next meeting date which would now be held on the 17.01.11**
- 10.2 The venue for future CSP meeting was discussed and it was agreed that, given the limited funds available to the partnership, it was acceptable to hold future meetings within B&HCC premises. **Therefore it was agreed that Committee Room 1 at Brighton Town Hall would be the most suitable venue.**

**ACTION- Catherine Miller to book Committee Room 1, Brighton Town Hall for future CSP meetings -**

## **11. A.O.B**

- 11.1 MP reminded partners of the Biodiversity 'Big Nature' Conference to be held at Dorothy Stringer School on the 10.11.10 and to register online on the council website if they wished to attend.
- 11.2 Next meeting to be held **17.01.11 at Committee Room 1, Brighton Town Hall, Bartholomew Square, Brighton, BN1 1JA**