



Clean Growth Sub-Group Meeting

Monday 16th November 2020, 11:00 – 13:00

Virtual meeting

Notes of meeting

Present:

Jayne Norris, Edgars Ltd (Chair)

Ahmed Goga, Director of Strategy and Programmes, OxLEP

Rachel Wileman, Oxfordshire County Council

Tim Sadler, Oxford City Council

David Hartley, Oxford Brookes University

Steve Hornblow, A2Dominion

John O'Brien, LCMB Building Performance

Barbara Hammond, Low Carbon Hub

Lewis Knight, Programme Manager, Bioregional / Oxfordshire Greentech

Giles Brockbank, Ridge and Partners

Josh Fedder, Government department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
(BEIS) Local Growth Unit

Alexandra Capata, Strategy Development Assistant, OxLEP

Stephen Brown, Strategy Development Executive, OxLEP

Apologies:

Harriet Waters, University of Oxford

Joe Tah, Oxford Brookes University

Martin Gibson, Earthly Gains

	Item	Action
1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Jayne Norris opened the meeting as new chair replacing James Mills. Brief contextual recap of subgroup purpose and the issues and opportunities it is targeting. Highlighted reducing carbon emissions from buildings, green growth capabilities of SMEs, energy grid capacity and Oxfordshire as a centre of clean growth activity. Importance of actions and ideas in between quarterly meetings to driving forward the subgroup workplan. Looking at new opportunities to drive forward tis agenda taking account of Covid impacts.</p> <p>Draft notes of the meeting of 25th August approved by the sub-group with Barbara Hammond added to the list of attendees.</p> <p>AG provided a brief update on progress on the communications plan. Building visibility of the scale of opportunities that Oxfordshire businesses are leading on in clean growth and clean technology.</p> <p>Ministerial round table with representation from Oxfordshire businesses and ministerial recognition of the scale of green business development in Oxfordshire including export potential. Hoping to secure post lockdown ministerial visits in the context of the lead in to the COP26 conference in November 2021.</p> <p>Building visibility of the sector would be assisted by collation of Oxfordshire businesses developing and deploying clean technologies.</p> <p>A Green Recovery business report by the Advanced Oxford group of technology businesses is to be shared with sub group members when available.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>SB</p>
2.	<p>Abingdon and Witney College</p> <p>Presentation by Jacqui Canton, College Principal and Chief Executive (guest).</p> <p>Green Construction Skills Centre currently in development.</p> <p>Opportunities to offer industry facing cross discipline curriculum and apprenticeships with a green focus and holistic approach to buildings.</p>	

	<p>Focus on skills in the context of significant supply chain capability issues in the Oxfordshire construction sector.</p> <p>Ridge & Partners have a retrofit programme within the business and are working on sustainable development projects with a range of businesses.</p> <p>LCMB are doing a lot of work on decarbonising heating in real estate.</p> <p>A&W College brings construction and green economy experts together to address skills issues. Work with awarding bodies on contemporary qualifications as an identified gap area.</p> <p>Part-time and short continued professional development courses including in relation to retrofit, air tightness, ventilation systems, modular construction, timber buildings, renewables, biomass, solar thermal, air source / ground source heating technology.</p> <p>A facility for the whole sector to engage with. Exhibition / demonstrator space for suppliers and employers to showcase products and share best practice.</p> <p>The sector in Oxfordshire is characterised by general builders with sufficient workload in their local areas without incentive to work further away.</p> <p>A&W focused on growing Oxfordshire building firms but acknowledge such growth is unlikely to keep pace with growing demand.</p> <p>.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>Update and review of work plan</p> <p>Draft revision of the workplan to be shared with sub group members for feedback and input. Purpose is to drive the agenda going forward with a focus on the actions the sub group is targeting in relation to clean growth opportunities and capabilities in Oxfordshire.</p> <p>OxLEP is working closely the Environmental Change Institute (ECI) on a refresh of the Oxfordshire Low Carbon Economy Study and its underpinning evidence base.</p> <p>Clarify how Living Oxford complements existing strong foci of work on project LEO and at Oxfordshire Greentech/Bioregional. Living labs were conceived in a way that respective area organisations would take the lead at Harwell, East Oxford and West Oxfordshire.</p>	<p>SB</p>

	<p>Emerging Living Oxford contact group has not committed to bringing together Project LEO work with planning and development of the Salt Cross Garden Village where West Oxfordshire District Council is a Living Oxford member. Action to reset West Oxfordshire Clean Growth Living Lab contact network via Oxford Brookes working with WODC.</p>	<p>DH / SB</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Government policy, funding and technology context</p> <p>Oxfordshire networks to facilitate dissemination of the multitude of clean growth programmes arising from Government.</p> <p>Details to be shared of a recent Goldman Sachs 'Carbonomics' webinar attended by the chair. Raised issues around SME access to green finance such as green bond markets.</p> <p>Public Sector decarbonisation fund – potential role for OxLEP in pulling together learning from different Oxfordshire bids. Greater South East (GSE) Energy Hub has an information coordination role.</p> <p>Salex Finance heating investment cited as an example of the foreseeable context for subgroup networks to manage of short term, last minute, quick turn-around Government funding schemes. Earlier visibility would improve the quality and best value of bids for Government investment funding.</p> <p>The volume of separate Government funding initiatives is an information disseminate challenge within local authorities.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>JN</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>Proposed dates for 2021 sub-group meetings:</p> <p>1st March 2021 – 14:30 – 16:30</p> <p>24th May – 11:30 – 13:30</p> <p>26th August – 11:30 – 13:30</p> <p>16th November – 10.30 – 12:30</p>	