

Norfolk Climate Change Partnership Minutes

Date & Time: 26.10.2021 at 16:00

Location: Microsoft Teams

Present:

Dave Robson - Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Henry Saunders - Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Ged Greaves - Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Greg Pearson - Breckland District Council

Harry Mach - Broads Authority

Kate Blakemore - Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Trevor Wiggett - Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework Member Forum

Richard Willson - Norwich City Council

Apologies:

Lorraine Gore (Chair) - Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Annie Sommazzi - North Norfolk District Council

John Jones – Norfolk County Council

Ellen Goodwin - New Anglia LEP

Michel Bolabato - Breckland District Council

Martin Horlock - Norfolk County Council

Robert Young – North Norfolk District Council

Alison Old - South Norfolk District Council

Kirsty Burns – Broadland District Council

Guests:

Alex Templeton, LEAR Representative

Karl Sample, LEAR Representative

Laura Waters, LEAR Representative

1. Welcome & notes from last meeting.

Notes from last meeting agreed.

2. LEAR Outcomes

AT and KS introduced the LEAR (Local Energy Asset Representation) and its work with a presentation.

Use national datasets and energy statistics to develop a picture of an area's energy system. Also draw upon local data e.g. EV charge points and from energy providers.

Split Norfolk into 3 areas; central and west Norfolk, Norfolk coastal, Norwich and south Norfolk, to help simplify the modelling processes.

Looked at:

- National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory
- Off-gas grid areas
- Waste to heat opportunities
- Renewable Energy Planning Database
- Public EV charge points – relatively good provision
- Off-street EV charging potential – example of City of Norwich used to show estimates e.g. suburbs v city centre terraces and flats.
- EV public charging v off street parking – example used Norfolk coastal area.
- Solar PV suitability – Norwich and South Norfolk example used.
- Total demand – gas and electricity
- Network capacities and constraints
- Network and development sites and constraints
- Additional output examples – local area energy plan (forward looking) and scenarios e.g. hydrogen, local heat zones

3. LEAR Discussion & Questions

Potential to install commercial renewable generation – sub-station connectivity?

AT outlined work ongoing at Uttlesford council. Senior level commitment to tackling carbon reduction. Sixty different workstreams:

- Engagement
- High level thinking
- Business case evidence

DR queried the cost and duration to prepare a Local Area Energy Plan (LEAP).

AT and KS highlighted that there would be no cost, but officer support would be needed with the possibly of data sharing. An example was given where a LEAP was produced, working with 10 districts in Greater Manchester to form a Greater Manchester plan over 12 months. All 10 district had their own LEAP, which was then collated to form a LEAP for Greater Manchester as a whole. To develop a similar LEAP for Norfolk and Suffolk combined may take 18 months.

KB encouraged all Norfolk Authorities to sign up to the LEAR / LEAP, but also suggested that the ask was supplied to us prior to the next meeting so that each authority would be able to take this through their own internal processes.

LW highlighted that the NALEP is supportive of concept across Norfolk and Suffolk. LW offered to speak with Suffolk regarding appetite to progress a LEAP, subject to NCCP support.

GP highlighted financial opportunities to progress these improvements/investments? Mapping out this work at Uttlesford, thinking about bonds, pension fund investment (min £10m to attract financier interest?), leads to aggregation of opportunities.

Actions:

- NCCP members to consider appetite to sign up for a Norfolk wide take up of local area energy plans.
- LW to establish dialogue with Suffolk on appetite for a Norfolk and Suffolk LEAP.
- LW to establish a Teams channel/folder to help share LEAR documents with NCCP.

4. NCCP Workplan Release & UK Net Zero Strategy

HS highlighted that the workplan was drafted but not yet uploaded to the website – NCCP need to be comfortable with this going into the public domain.

Formation of Member forum being taken forward by LG.

Potential funding for NCCP being taken forward by LG.

Action:

- HS to raise an agreed comms protocol with LG.

5. UEA Environmental Consultancy

HS informed the NCCP that the UEA module was running again (Jan – May 2023) and asked if there was any appetite for NCCP involvement.

GP suggested that UEA involvement could be expand beyond the environmental consultancy module, with the option to consider longer internships.

KB supported GPs suggestion. Strategy development underway but not sure yet if internship / UEA support is needed.

GP highlighted the merit of using UEA to support NCCP activity.

RW suggested a possible role to support CRF work, should the funding application be successful.

HM highlighted the UEA PhD scheme as a possible option, which has been used by the Broads Authority. Also fully funded and skilled researchers.

HS highlighted that an internship might be best considered following clarity on the NCCP budget.

Action:

- HS to add consideration of UEA internship to the NCCP work plan.

6. EV Task & Finish Group

a. Purpose

b. Discuss topics

RW commented that Norwich has applied for CIL funding to install rapid chargers in public car parks. This may be an option to consider in order to access wider funding for improvement of EV charging infrastructure.

GP highlighted that there was no CIL in Breckland just s106 agreements.

KB also reiterated that there was also no CIL in G Yarmouth, but they are currently updating s106 policy. There needs to be a clear policy to avoid challenge.

HM Highlighted that planning the allocation of sub-station capacity is an important point to consider for Norfolk when planning charging infrastructure.

GP raised the need for wider engagement beyond key NCCP partners e.g. Swaffham Town Council.

RW highlighted the UKPN message about bringing whole community with us.

7. CRF Update

RW commented that there may be an update after Spending Review and Budget announcement.

HS reiterated the proposal from NCC regarding collaboration on evaluation.

8. AOB.

GP mentioned that NCC have a meeting on Thursday regarding development of a nature recovery strategy. May have invited planning officers. Recommend check that councils represented.

TW confirmed all partners have been invited to the Nature Recovery Strategy meeting.

KB asked if LG could raise need for NCC to engage with NCCP on nature recovery and future relevant workstreams.

HS highlighted that the portfolio group is going to the Public Sector Leaders Board shortly and that LG has reiterated the need for improved engagement and collaboration across NCCP partners at the latest Chief Execs meeting. There is a

desire for the NCCP to be more proactive rather than reacting to work that is coming out of County and other districts.

KB highlighted that they had just completed their corporate carbon footprint.

HM highlighted that NCC have announced a new green crowd funding platform for community groups. Suggested that this could be a future NCCP agenda item, as this could be a good scheme to promote.

Action:

- HS to circulate ToR and leader report to NCCP and add as an agenda item for next NCCP meeting.

Duration: 1hr 30 mins