



**Norfolk Climate Change Partnership (NCCP)
Portfolio Holders' Workshops – Session 1 Thursday 21 September 2023
Session notes and actions**

Attendees

Cllr Eric Vardy	Norfolk County Council (Chair)
Cllr Adam Varley	North Norfolk District Council
Cllr Paul Wells	Great Yarmouth
Cllr Jan Davis	Broadland District Council
Cllr Michael De Whalley	King's Lynn & West Norfolk
Steve Blatch	North Norfolk District Council
Paula Boyce	Great Yarmouth
Deborah Carr	Norfolk County Council
Greg Pearson	North Norfolk District Council
Kate Rawlings	North Norfolk
Annie Sommazzi	Broadland/South Norfolk
Claire Burton	Breckland Council
Jonathan Ward	Great Yarmouth

Apologies:

Cllr Helen Crane, Breckland
Lorraine Gore, King's Lynn & West Norfolk
Ged Greaves, King's Lynn & West Norfolk
Cllr Emma Hampton, Norwich City Council
Phil Hunt, Norwich City Council
Cllr Lisa Neal, South Norfolk District Council

Actions

- All to review the Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the Portfolio Holder Group and share any suggested amendments or feedback for consideration, to Greg Pearson
- Agreement that all those who were absent for this meeting, will be updated accordingly and these notes shared (all)
- Agreement that the next two workshops planned in this series will be carried out face to face with request that a more central venue with easier access to public transport e.g. County Hall, is selected (Greg)

Introduction from the Chair

- Use these sessions as a way of 'resetting' how the Portfolio Holder Group works together on this key topic for the county
- Keen to maintain momentum and support the achievement of the NCCP's objectives

Progress to date

Review of the outcomes of the initial four workshops held between September 2022 and January 2023. In summary, the outcomes achieved:

- The purpose of the NCCP as a group
- How the NCCP works together as a group
- The Partnership's priorities

The aims and principles of the NCCP

- Discussion as to whether the aims of the NCCP are ambitious enough (and align with the ambition outlined in the ToRs).
- Important that we are realistic in our goals so we can deliver concrete, specific actions while balancing the resources we have available – be ambitious in our aims but realistic in our goals
- There is a need to educate ourselves (this group) and our wider audiences of the vulnerability of the county to the impacts of climate change (possible training from Tyndall Centre?)
- Be clear on where we can have control of what we can deliver versus what we can influence. We can be a catalyst for progress through our influence.
- The focus for the NCCP is adding value and we can deliver more of this when we work together in specific areas.
- Ensure we are promoting the work of the NCCP in our respective organisations.
- As a collective, it's important to ensure we're not competing against each other for funding.
- Messaging and the language we use in our communications is important (raised at several points throughout the session)
 - Ensure we maintain the balance between economic growth and the environmental perspectives.
 - Ensure that we are demonstrating how we add value in all our messaging.
 - Remember that we need to bring people along WITH us – and not talking down to them.
 - We are all advocates for Norfolk.

Action: Explore opportunities for the Tyndall Centre to support the NCCP with training around the impacts of climate change - Greg Pearson

Action: Each of the partners to share their data/reporting approach to scope three emissions (all)

NCCP priorities

- The three priorities of energy, retrofit and transport were accepted in the group along with the agreement made in earlier workshops – ensuring we keep a watching brief on nature recovery and adaptation as potential key priorities too.
- Procurement and influencing partners through our respective partner authorities were mentioned as key areas to support change.
- There was an emphasis on the challenges with energy management and the availability of energy in Norfolk.
- The question was raised as to where the biggest emitters are, and if this can be shared in the spirit of transparency e.g. on the NCCP website. Some work to be done on this to develop the appropriate narrative around this.
- Suggestion for consideration – could we have a common operating statement e.g. common procurement policy (that could be included in our next level details around workplans etc)?
- Ensure that we have appropriate visibility of the NCCP collaboration, as it helps to scale up and attract businesses and funding.
- Ensure that we are sharing relevant insight and conversation back in this group.

Action – consider how and when to promote the NCCP’s work – communication and engagement approach. To discuss as part of workplan discussions (all)

Action – revisit priorities on an annual basis and continually monitor adaptation and nature recovery (all)

Action: Innovate UK – in final stages of agreeing the relevant communities. This will be shared in due course, once sign-off is achieved (Jonathan Ward/Paula Boyce)

The Role of the Portfolio Holder Group – feedback from activity

- Regardless of party politics, this is an important issue and particularly for Norfolk.
- Our approach enables the opportunity to reset the NCCP as a whole around our strategy priorities to gain traction.
- The cohesive working relationship between the Portfolio Holder and the Officer Groups is essential, enabling:
 - The PFH to make the most of the opportunity to influence and challenge leaders via the Leaders’ group.
 - The provision of strategic analysis for Norfolk and identifying the quick wins where we could aim for more funding.
- Strategic oversight and feedback loop in our respective organisations.
- Provide a democratic voice into the NCCP and demonstrate leadership.
- Provide topics for consideration from citizens.
- Advocate for the partnership and our agenda.
- Being a convener and networking – working across authorities and getting involved with groups with an interest or who could have an impact.

Where does the PFH Group add the best value?

- Activation and voice of those needed to support delivery of the NCCP's strategic priorities – we have a huge range of groups to engage and who we need to collaborate with, and who need to work together.
- Promote collaboration.
- Lobbying MPs and government ministers to keep the climate emergency front of mind and for funding.
- Positive opportunities with Parish and Town councils.
- Looking out for and sharing opportunities.
- Having a commonality of message.
- Serving as a 'critical friend'.
- Advocate for Norfolk and the Partnership.
- Looking at regeneration and skills.

Points for future meetings

- Build on the agreements made in this session.
- Agree the ToRs.
- Innovate UK nominated communities shared, with rollout plan.
- Single piece of work that involves all.
- Discussion around understanding the internal measure methodologies used by each council. Note that it's not just territorial emissions but consumption to be included too. Parish level emissions are also available.
- How we'll work on specific activities, e.g. community engagement, communications etc.
- Explore climate emergency scorecards.
- Workshop to bring strategic priorities to life.

Action: in terms of meeting structures, look to the Norfolk Waste Partnership model – it offers national and regional level information and approaches as well as scrutiny (Greg)

- Next meeting – October (date TBC)