

## DSP Partnership Board

Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> May 2007, The Great Hall, the Old Deanery, Exeter Cathedral

### Agenda Item - Update from Other Partnership Tables

#### Recommendations:

- That the DSP Partnership Board ratify the election of Chairs of the Delivery Board and Devon Futures
- That they consider whether they wish to include additions to their TOR similar to those in the Delivery Board TOR
- That they consider whether they wish to formally add their support to the Delivery Board decisions re the DSEN strategy or add to the actions to be taken.

#### Delivery Board Update

##### 1. Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> March 2007

- Terms of Reference – The role agreed for the group is as set out in Annex 1 to this document. The following mechanisms were added. DSP Partnership Board may wish to consider agreeing to the incorporation of similar terms in their TOR:
  - It was agreed to add a statement that if attendance was not possible by any partner for a meeting, that papers should be read and emailed comments made on agenda items where possible.
  - It was agreed to add a clause allowing for decisions to be made by the Chair in between meetings if necessary, with a 10 day rule, so that 10 days were allowed for challenge by members of the (Delivery Board) if they did not agree with the proposed decision. This system had worked well in Torbay.
  - It was agreed to add a clause about the method of decision making, with consensus being the preferred option, but if that was not possible then a vote would establish the majority view of the (Delivery Board), and it would be noted as such.
- Sustainable Community Strategy. It was noted that that would be a need to ensure the Sustainable Community Strategy was focussed and did not become too broad as consultation went on and more calls to include issues were received
- Local Area Agreement. Devon priorities will be a key part of the next Local Area Agreement. A briefing note from the Delivery Board was sent to GOSW that included a request that GOSW use partner budget setting timetables as one of the drivers for timetabling Local Area Agreement negotiations, as negotiation of the next Local Area Agreement may have implications for partner budgets.

##### 2. Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> April 2007

- Assistant Chief Constable Bob Spencer was elected as Chair for one year – DSP Partnership Board to ratify
- **Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement**
  - It was agreed that the Sustainable Community Strategy would include priorities and not an Action Plan. It was further agreed to develop an Action Plan which would form the basis for negotiation of the Local Area Agreement.

- Agreed that the Partnership Board make the decision about priorities, that the Delivery Board be involved with the process, and that a mechanism is developed for testing emerging priorities with Devon citizens.
- It was agreed to set up a Task and Finish group to take forward the prioritisation process, comprising Phil Norrey(Chief Exec Devon County Council), Phil Collins(Devon & Cornwall Area Manager Natural England), Nicola Bulbeck(Chief Exec Teignbridge District Council ), Kevin Snee(Chief Exec Devon PCT), and Bob Spencer (Asst Chief Constable Devon and Cornwall Police). Their remit will be to act on behalf of the Delivery Board to develop and oversee the process of prioritisation for the Sustainable Community Strategy, to include initial prioritisation. The process developed should include proposals for how conflict should be adjudicated on during prioritisation.
  - When prioritising, consideration should be given to the impact on all 3 strands of sustainability; however, this should include not having a negative impact on each strand as well as having a positive impact
  - Prioritisation should include reflection of known public priorities
  - Prioritisation should reflect what the DSP has the capacity to deliver.
- **Local Area Agreement** It was agreed that a draft project plan relating to the development of the next Local Area Agreement would be circulated as soon as possible. Phil Norrey stressed that the next Local Area Agreement is not just a Devon County Council plan or even Devon Strategic Partnership – it was therefore important that that the project plan included a mechanism for linking to district LSP strategies.
- **Performance Management Framework.** Paper presented and agreed with a few amendments/ comments. Effective performance management was recognised as being vital for the Devon Strategic Partnership.
- **Devon Sustainable Energy Network Strategy.** A summary paper was presented, which is attached as Annex 2. The meeting unanimously agreed that this was an important piece of work, that the subject had to be addressed, and that the Delivery Board had a role to play in this. It was agreed that John Sunderland (via Steve Pitcher) would create a Task and Finish group to draft a Delivery Plan, and that the paper would be considered when the prioritisation of the Sustainable Community Strategy was undertaken. The DSP Partnership Board may wish to formally add their support to these actions or discuss other actions they could collectively take. (see also Devon Futures below on the same subject)

#### **Devon Futures Group Update – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2007 & 25<sup>th</sup> April 2007**

- The group, originally conceived as ‘the Strong and Sustainable Group’, then ‘Sustainable Devon’, agreed that its name should be ‘Devon Futures’. Its role is as set out in Annex 1 to this document.
- Steve Noyes, Operations and Customer Service Director at the Met Office was elected as Chair of the Group with Edward Chorlton, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Environment, Economy and Culture, Devon County Council elected as Vice Chair. This decision to be ratified by the DSP Partnership Board

- The Devon Futures Group met on 25 April with the main item on the agenda being 'climate change and its implications for Devon'. One of the papers that it considered was 'Save Money, Make Money, Cut Carbon – Towards a Low Carbon Devon' that had been considered by the Delivery Board on 18 April. The following points were agreed as being the outcome of its discussions which are forwarded to the rest of the DSP for information. It was agreed that the following points should be passed to the Delivery Board on 1<sup>st</sup> June:
  - The group is supportive of the initiative to reduce carbon reduction and to address the challenges of climate change
  - That a 20% reduction in carbon emissions on 1990 figures by 2010 is not stretching enough for Devon and that the DSP should consider whether it can commit to a higher figure, which will need the support of all the partners.
  - To enhance the possibility of reaching a higher target, there should be more focus on transport and accessibility, and this would be the focus of the next meeting of the Futures Group in July.
  - That the DSP will need to think 30 years ahead to ensure that planning and infrastructure decisions made now are appropriate for the likely climate in Devon in the future.
  - Any future developments will have to go hand in hand with a coordinated communication strategy that links all the partners in concerted action. Any such strategy would need to include schools.
  - That all DSP partners should be encouraged to develop green transport plans, to make staff aware of climate change, and to develop carbon management plans.

**Strategic Partnership Chairs** met 12<sup>th</sup> March 2007; nothing specific to report back.

## **Annex 1 – Role of Delivery Board and Devon Futures**

### **Delivery Board Role (extract from Delivery Board Terms of Reference)**

- 1.1. Lead the drafting of the Sustainable Community Strategy and ensure that it is properly focussed and deliverable, and lead the development of the new 2008 Local Area Agreement and its subsequent annual refresh.
- 1.2. Have responsibility for the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy, and Local Area Agreement and for implementing action in theme groups and partner organisations. This includes performance management of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement, on an exceptions basis, looking for opportunities to support agencies where necessary (taking on the responsibilities of the Local Area Agreement Programme Board)
- 1.3. Review and challenge delivery plans of statutory partner agencies in light of the shared strategic understanding. The Delivery Board should strengthen mutual accountability through holding each other to account.
- 1.4. Open up lines of communication and develop agreement between agencies. In a time of declining resources to maximise the advantages to be gained from joint working and discussion
- 1.5. Take operational decisions particularly about issues spanning more than one theme
- 1.6. Report regularly to the DSP Partnership Board on the achievements towards the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement
- 1.7. Ensure partnership working is effective and propose changes where problems occur
- 1.8. Commission thinking and research to feed into strategy formulation (e.g. from the Devon Futures Group)
- 1.9. Make clear links between county-wide priorities and the work of each of the themed partnerships, including linkages between themes
- 1.10. Strive for an effective balance between thematic and geographical focus
- 1.11. To individually and collectively act as advocates for the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement
- 1.12. Take issues back into members' organisations and champion partnership delivery.
- 1.13. Drive the shared services and efficiency agenda, which extends beyond local government.
- 1.14. Drive the development of a Devon response to the Government's new performance regime.

- 1.15. Work together more effectively on communication and PR in relation to the big issues
- 1.16. Provide high-level co-ordination of resilience planning

**Devon Futures Group Role (extract from Devon Futures Terms of Reference)**

- 1.1. The Devon Futures Group will be a place where discussions about the social, economic and environmental concerns of the work we do can be meaningfully held in order to maximise opportunities for increasing sustainability and encouraging the synergy between themes. The group will do also do some 'blue sky' thinking about futures, trends and consider what these mean for Devon. Out of this may come some scenario planning; there may also be learning that will need to be cascaded throughout the partnership and beyond.
- 1.2. The group will work towards monitoring and measuring progress towards balanced sustainability. It will review its progress after at the end of each year.
- 1.3. The group's membership will be drawn primarily from the DSP theme groups, particularly those concerned with economy, environment, strong communities (including social inclusion) and housing.
- 1.4. The responsibility for delivery of the actions will rest with the theme groups, not this group. Devon Futures may make recommendations to the DSP Partnership Board, the Delivery Board and theme groups, which will be considered as part of their business.
- 1.5. This group will be responsible within the overall Devon Strategic Partnership for identifying and understanding the facts and data relating to developments in economic, social and environmental sustainability. It will also consider and monitor the implications of global, national, regional, sub regional and local developments as they affect the work of the overall Devon Strategic Partnership and the balance of sustainability.
- 1.6. The group will endeavour to keep all parts of the overall Devon Strategic Partnership, and the public informed about its work via action notes.

**Annex 2 to Update Paper for DSP Partnership Board 30<sup>th</sup> May 2007  
-paper presented to Delivery Board and Devon Futures summarising the Devon  
Sustainable Energy Network (DSEN) Strategy**

**Save Money, Make Money, Cut Carbon - Towards Low Carbon Devon**

**Recommendation:**

The delivery board consider:

- i. the initial findings of the Devon Sustainable Energy Strategy and the draft priorities for action;
- ii. the estimated costs of implementing the priority actions, and the significant potential benefits;
- iii. the leadership required to put Devon at the forefront of moves towards creating low carbon economies and communities.

**1. Introduction**

The Devon Sustainable Energy Network was commissioned by the Devon Strategic Partnership in November 2006 to produce a Devon Sustainable Energy Strategy, as part of work towards developing the Devon Sustainable Community Strategy. The Devon Economic Partnership has identified the switch to a low carbon economy as the number one priority for action for the Devon Economic Strategy. The Network has been working with the Economic Partnership to develop the Strategy, under the strap line 'Save Money, Make Money, Reduce Carbon', supported by research from the University of Exeter's Centre for Energy and Environment. The Strategy's initial, draft findings are summarised here, with a view to informing a discussion of both the scale of the challenge, and the opportunity for significant economic and social benefit for Devon.

**2. Devon Sustainable Energy Strategy, initial findings - Summary**

- To avoid dangerous climate change global atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations must be stabilised at 450ppm.
- Concentrations are 381ppm now (2005 figures) and heading rapidly upwards. The pre-industrial level was 280ppm.
- Significantly reducing emissions over the next 10 years is essential, and with more to follow.
- The UK Government interim target is a 20% emissions cut by 2010, from 1990 levels.
- Devon's emissions must be reduced by 15% from now to 2010 if we are to achieve our 20% reduction (5% reduction achieved 1990-2004 by the 'dash for gas').
- The largest, most cost effective reductions can be achieved by domestic and business energy reduction & efficiency.
- To achieve a 20% reduction in these sectors, the 70% of Devon homes that don't have sufficient loft insulation and the 50% without cavity wall insulation need to be treated and householder behaviour changed to switch off, use less etc. All Devon's businesses with 4 or more employees (9,000) need to undertake energy reduction & efficiency programmes.
- If Devon's share of the 2010 SW regional renewable electricity and heat targets are achieved the County's emissions will be reduced by 2.7%.
- If all the above reductions from business, domestic and RE were to be achieved, and transport emissions remain constant, Devon's emissions would reduce by 14.8%.

- The cost (current funding gap) of doing all that would be up to £111m and the big question is where could the money come from?
- If the £111m investment was secured, the economic benefits would be significant, such as:
  - £106m/yr reduced Devon energy bill
  - £510m additional investment in Devon levered in
  - £24.5m/yr reduced primary care costs caused by fuel poverty (a saving of £16.1m/yr could be saved by a £15m one off investment)
  - local jobs, skills and business growth in a number of professions, trades and sectors
  - significant contribution to the Devon 'greenest county' brand

### **3. Priority Actions 2007-2010 (draft)**

#### **Cross Cutting Actions**

**3.1 Investment Solutions.** Creative solutions are required to generate the investment required to deliver the actions below. As well as making the most of Government and EU funds available, local 'invest to save' arrangements need to be developed within the public sector, public/private partnerships with utilities and other companies, new trading mechanisms such as Energy Service Companies that incentivise carbon reduction, and social enterprises that can generate surplus from trading to reinvest in harder to fund emissions reductions.

**3.2 Skills and Capacity.** Local businesses, including insulation contractors, builders, electricians, heating engineers, plumbers, etc. and specialist renewable energy companies need to be supported to develop the capacity and skills that will be required. Post 2010, small scale renewable energy technology needs to be installed in most properties. The Devon workforce of the future needs to be equipped for the opportunities that will follow.

**3.3 Leadership, Co-ordination and Communication.** This ambitious programme will require senior, cross sector working and leadership. Delivery activities must be well co-ordinated and consistent with each other. All activities should be identifiable as part of the same programme, and build awareness and recognition across communities. The Devon Strategic Partnership, Devon Economic Partnership and Devon Sustainable Energy Network will be important.

#### **Sector Specific Actions**

##### **3.4 Business Energy Reduction and Efficiency.**

Approximately £15m over 4 years is required to provide the support needed to 9,000 Devon businesses (all businesses with 4 or more employees) to reduce their bills and emissions by 20%. This would lever in £100m+ investment from the private sector.

##### **3.5 Domestic Energy Reduction and Efficiency**

223,000 lofts and 160,000 cavity walls need to be insulated. Draught proofing and use of low energy lighting, together with householder education, needs to be carried out in most of Devon's 319,000 homes. The total cost of these measures would be £128m over four years, £7m of this is direct delivery costs, including marketing, auditing, education, specifying & quality control, the rest for physical works on properties. Approximately £32-53m could be available from existing public grant sources and the energy utilities companies' energy efficiency commitments, leaving a funding gap of £74-96m.

##### **3.6 Devon Owned Renewable Energy Development**

There are significant opportunities for large scale grid connected RE developments in Devon, such as wind, biomass and waste to energy, to meet existing targets. With wind developments to date relatively little benefit is delivered back to the local

community and the majority of profit leaves the County. There is the opportunity to use social enterprise business structures to develop large scale installations, and then enable profit to be distributed back to the local community, possibly to enable reduced energy costs and carbon emissions, so making the developments more beneficial to the Devon economy and its communities.

### **3.7 New Development**

A range of mechanisms need to be harnessed to ensure that new development is increasingly low to zero carbon, including: the planning process, business development, education and awareness raising, energy and thermal efficient design, integrated renewable energy generation, development of energy service company structures, provision of support services such as Devon Sustainable Building Initiative and others.

### **3.8 Transport Reduction and Alternatives**

The wide range of existing and developing initiatives such as park and ride, car sharing, cycle networks, public transport including rural bus service improvements, tele-working etc. need to continue and be enhanced to limit the growth of road transport, with a view to reduction in the future. Airport growth is a real concern to be addressed.

## **4. Conclusion - Making it happen**

The importance of avoiding dangerous climate change makes the urgent task of reducing Devon's carbon dioxide emissions the most pressing strategic issue for the Partnership. Business and economic development partners have also identified this as the no.1 economic priority for the County, recognising the significant opportunity for Devon to be at the vanguard of the move to a low carbon economy.

The Sustainable Energy Strategy provides a clear analysis of the issues and deliverable priorities for action. The scale of the task is significant and cannot be delivered by any individual organisation or sub set of the Partnership working alone. Strong, ambitious and visionary leadership is required from the Partnership, together with senior individual members taking responsibility for leading task groups to develop delivery of each of the actions above.

### **Contacts**

Devon Sustainable Energy Network, [www.dsen.org.uk](http://www.dsen.org.uk)

University of Exeter, Tony Norton, [a.d.s.norton@ex.ac.uk](mailto:a.d.s.norton@ex.ac.uk)

Devon Economic Partnership, Ian Hutchcroft, [ian.hutchcroft@devon.gov.uk](mailto:ian.hutchcroft@devon.gov.uk)

ih 050407