Tactical Group

11th November 2020

Minutes

Attendees

Doug Eltham	Devon County Council
Emily Reed	Devon Climate Emergency
Ellie Rowlands	Devon Climate Emergency
Beth Langley	Devon Climate Emergency
Adam Williams	South Hams and West Devon Councils
Andrew Gunther	Torbay Council
John Golding	East Devon District Council
Sarah Higgins	North Devon District Council
John Amosford	Public Health Devon
David Rose	South West Water
Harry Barton	Devon Wildlife Trust
Samantha Davies	University of Plymouth

Apologies

Lynda Wookey	University of Exeter and Exeter City Futures
Andrew Busby	Mid Devon District Council
William Elliott	Teignbridge District Council
Janet Williams	Torridge District Council

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes were **AGREED** to be a true record of the discussion.

2. Project Progress Report

2.1 Project Management and Communications Update

Ellie Rowlands and Doug Eltham provided an update reflecting Section 1 of the Progress Report appended to these minutes.

2.2 Update from the Net-Zero Task Force

Emily Reed provided an update reflecting Section 2 of the Progress Report appended to these minutes.

Emily will send an example to the Group of the diagrams being used to communicate the duration of the Plan's actions and how they fit against the net-zero timetable.

Ellie will circulate a press pack to all partners to assist with communicating the consultation. John Amosford asked if the consultation will be used to understand communities' willingness for changing behaviours. Ellie advised that there will be a second survey alongside the main

consultation survey that will gather information about behaviours. Emily noted that the citizens' assembly is also an opportunity test this with a representative sample of Devon's population.

2.3 Update on the Climate Impacts Group

Emily Reed provided an update reflecting Section 3 of the Progress Report appended to these minutes.

3. Engaging elected Members During the Consultation

The Group **AGREED** that a single webinar aimed specifically at elected Members from all of the local authorities and national park authorities would be welcome. Whilst this will need to be high-level, members can be directed to the themed webinars to learn more about specific elements of the Plan.

ACTION: Secretariat to plan a single webinar for Members.

4. Future Governance Arrangements

The Group discussed the example governance model for the implementation of the Plan that was introduced at the previous meeting. Doug advised that future governance will be a specific point of consultation, using the model to aid discussion, as agreed at the last meeting.

John Amosford reminded the Group that we need to be clear where health and equality fits in, and that it should be clear that the governance is working for the benefit of the whole community.

Adam Williams suggested that the issue of governance should be raised with the Member webinar.

Harry Barton noted that there are various points of detail that will need fleshing out, such as how individuals will be assigned to each of the theme boards.

ACTION: Secretariat to amend governance example to reflect these comments before including in the consultation version of the Plan.

5. Greenhouse Gas Data

The University of Exeter has provided 2016 and 2018 greenhouse gas data for Devon to accompany the 2017 data that is already online. The 2016 and 2018 data will be loaded onto the website in the next couple of weeks. This dataset will be updated annually into the future.

6. Funding Opportunities

Doug reminded the group of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, newly launched by government, offering 100% grants for public sector building retrofit.

John Amosford reported that he is part of a team looking at the Economies for Healthier Lives fund.

7. Local Updates from Members

Andrew Gunther reported that Torbay Council officers are meeting with Members on 23rd November to provide further briefing on Devon and local work. We have a dedicated Climate Change Emergency Officer starting in December.

Adam advised that South Hams and West Devon Councils have appointed 20 community representatives to sit on a panel that will meet quarterly to discuss the themes of its climate change strategy.

Doug reported that Devon County Council is continuing to identify resources to implement its net-zero by 2030 organisational target, including the offsetting commitments. Harry advised that Devon Wildlife Trust is also looking at offsetting.

ACTION: Doug and Harry to discuss collaboration.

David Rose reported the water industry's net-zero plan is expected to be launched on the 12th November 2020.

8. Next Meeting

15th December, 10 – 11am. Meeting invitations have been sent.

Appendix 1

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

Period: September to October 2020

Status Indicator Key:

- 🔴 **[RED]** = Significant issue that requires Response Group intervention;
- 🟠 **[AMBER]** = Minor issue that will initially be managed by the secretariat, but the Response Group should be aware;
- 🟢 **[GREEN]** = No issue.

1. Project Management Update

1.1 General Project Communications 🟢 [GREEN]

New website is now live and has been well received. Newsletters continue to be issued on schedule and social media followings are growing.

Temporary cover is in place for the Communications Graduate post to cover an anticipated post vacancy during late November and early December. Interviews for the new graduate are taking place on the 10th November.

1.2 Spatial Planning 🟢 [GREEN]

The DCE response to the Planning White Paper consultation has been submitted and is on the website.

1.3 COVID Reset 🟢 [GREEN]

The Cosy Devon partnership submitted a DCE-wide application to the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme. This is a £1.2m bid to retrofit 100 homes by 31st March 2021. The bid was successful. Plymouth City Council, South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council also submitted successful bids.

The number of households that have expressed an interest in Devon Solar Together has exceeded expectations.

The full report on the Economy and Business Recovery to accompany the Team Devon COVID Prospectus has been delayed due to resources being focussed on government funding opportunities.

Devon County Council has submitted a £300k application to the Woodland Trust's Emergency Tree Fund to accelerate tree planting across the county. Will hear the outcome in December.

2. Net-Zero Task Force Update

2.1 Citizens' Assembly 🟠 [AMBER]

The University of Exeter's research and advice on the effectiveness of online deliberations is slightly delayed and is expected this week. If the research outcome is positive it is proposed that the procurement process for the recruitment and facilitation provider would commence in January, with paperwork largely prepared in December. Conversations with the Devon CC Procurement Team have occurred to schedule the necessary support.

2.2 Drafting the Interim Carbon Plan 🟢 [GREEN]

Plan Sections

A draft of all sections was shared with partners on the 7th October. Partners had until the 2nd November to identify any significant concerns with the plan's wording ahead of the public consultation from the 7th December. Thank you for the comments received.

In the meantime, the Task Force and the secretariat have continued refining the draft for consultation.

Net-Zero Timetable

The Task Force's proposal for Devon's Net-Zero timetable is was considered by the Response Group on the 28th October. It was agreed that the target date for achieving net-zero across Devon will be a specific topic of the public consultation.

Action Scheduling Diagrams

Diagrams identifying when each of the actions in the plan needs to be implemented to align with the Committee on Climate Change net-zero scenario for 2050 are being prepared by the University of Exeter. There will be one diagram for each section. Additionally, the diagram will demonstrate the carbon emissions reduction trajectory over the next 30 years. Using these diagrams, five-year carbon budgets will be prepared for Devon to help with the monitoring of the implementation of the plan.

Clearly, if it is subsequently concluded that the target date for Devon to achieve net-zero needs to be before 2050 then the modelling will be updated for the final version of the Plan.

Communicating the Consultation

Communication elements of the Interim Devon Carbon Plan consultation continue to be developed. These include planning how the Plan will be displayed on the website; drafting consultation questions; organising a webinar series; planning how to reach offline audiences; and developing social media material.

A communications pack will be shared with all partners, including a template press release in late November.

3. Climate Impacts Group Update

3.1 Narratives of the Effects of Climate Change 🟢 [GREEN]

Most of the narratives are now complete. The one remaining is being completed by the University of Exeter, which is an understanding of wider social and economic risks. The Environment Agency has made national resource available to cross-reference the locally-identified risks with the national climate risk register to check for omissions in our local analysis.

All of the risks identified are now being brought together by narrative authors into one register with the assistance of the Local Resilience Forum secretariat. A workshop to assign prioritisation to these scores is being scheduled for January 2021.

The next stage is to identify the gaps in local preparedness for these risks. Actions required to fill these gaps will form the basis of the Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Climate Adaptation Plan.

4. Summary Comments

The Devon Climate Emergency is now in an advanced phase of assembling and editing the Interim Plan ahead of commencing the public consultation on 7th December.

The Climate Impacts Group is making progress with the narratives and the offer of support from the national Environment Agency team will help keep things moving.

As a whole, the project is continuing to make progress.