

Hosted by RKBC
Kensington Town Hall
Hornton Street, London



LBEG Autumn Meeting Tuesday 12th February 2019

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Minutes

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Neil Luscombe	Brent
Emma Watson	Carbon Credentials
Darren Britnell	CircoSense
Yulia Treskova	City of London
Risa Wilkinson	Ealing
Tristan Owen	GEP Environmental
Glyn Mountford	GEP Environmental
Katie Lindsay	GLA
Ifeanyi Nwike	Hammersmith & Fulham
Saeed Atlas	Harrow (Chair)
Graeme Low	Islington
Francis Ugboma	Islington
Gonzalo Jimenez	Kensington & Chelsea RB
Andy Morgan	Kent County Council (LASER)
Richard Neal	Merton
Ian Almeida	Richmond & Wandsworth
Paul Kamara	Richmond & Wandsworth
Martin Keane	Royal Hospital for Neuro-Disability
Liz Warren	SE ² (Secretariat)
Beata King	Transport for London
Andrew Lovern	VRM Tech
Danny Hunt	VRM Tech
Eoin McGuckian	VRM Tech
Chris Little	Westminster
Anis Robinson	

Apologies

Liz Wright	Enfield
Shaun Spencer	Hackney
Paul Hasley	Surrey
Dion D'Silva	Surrey
Ian Watts	Sutton

All the presentations from the meeting are available to download at:
<https://www.lbeg.org.uk/meetings/our-last-meeting-12th-february-2019/>

1. LBEG update

Saeed Atlas, LBEG Chair

Thanks to everyone for coming today and a special thank you to our sponsors. We're also delighted to welcome Katie Lindsay from the GLA and hope that she will be able to come again and speak at a future meeting about the Cleaner Heat Cashback project.

As always, it's not too late to pay if you are able to. It would also be helpful if you could pay next year's subscription as soon as you are able to maintain our cashflow.

As discussed at the last meeting, we have written to Borough CEOs to promote the network and encourage engagement.

2. Policy update

Saeed Atlas, LBEG Chair

The Government's Clean Air Strategy was published in January 2019 following consultation. The strategy looks to improve understanding of the root of air quality problems through further research, modelling, identification of solutions and improved data gathering. It's policy driven rather than measures driven. It's about reducing people's exposure to air pollution and includes a lot about transport emissions.

The Mayor of London's Environment Strategy and the Clean Air Strategy would both give local authorities more power to enforce air quality.

CLG have written to local authority Chief Executives to say that new public buildings should be near zero energy requirement. It's unclear how this would be funded but the ambition is positive.

Schools in our area have received a letter from Lord Agnew, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the schools system, talking about an energy price cap for schools and promoting switching. This encourages switching using a Crown Commercial Service portal (SchoolsSwitch). However, there is concern and confusion where local authorities are purchasing energy long term on schools' behalf.

3. Science based targets: what are they and how can they help us?

Emma Watson, Carbon Credentials

- 3.1 Emma explained the need for science based carbon reduction targets – these are targets whose goal is to keep global warming below 2 degrees (and aim for 1.5 degrees). We are currently on track for 4 degrees. The pledges made under the Paris Agreement would get us globally to about 3 degrees so there is a gap to what's needed. The most recent IPCC report shows that we need unprecedented change in the next decade and lays out the different in global warming impact between 1.5 and 2 degrees.

3.2 The UK's current commitment is not enough to achieve its goals, but Government has recognised this and the Climate Change Committee is looking at options for a revised target. The expectation is a net zero carbon target to 2050.

3.3 Science based targets take what needs to be done to hit global goals and make it real and practical. Emma identified some of the methodologies and tools that organisations can use to set their own targets. Targets should preferably be absolute, long term (5-15 years), cover all Scope 1 and 2 emissions. There is more flexibility about approaches to Scope 3 emissions.

3.4 Emma referred to an Edie report in recent weeks called Mission Possible, which was a survey of public sector approaches to carbon reduction. See <https://www.edie.net/mission-possible/> for more details.

Q1: Is there any collaboration between your work and modelling that the GLA is doing?

A1: Emma was not aware of this. **Saeed said that he would send something out.**

Q2: On Scope 3 emissions, BT have written clauses into their contracts with supply chains.

A2: That's one way you can go about it – it depends on your suppliers and it may be easier for larger companies than for SMEs.

Q3: How do you then measure progress against your targets?

A3: Most companies get their footprint and report it on a yearly basis. PLCs have to do this legally; Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting will mean that all companies with more than 500 employees will have to report (private sector).

Q4: How can you help local authorities and how can we work with you?

A4: We do a lot of work helping to calculate emissions, and can provide tools to help with this.

Q5: On the length of targets (eg, out to 2030): local authorities understand where they are now but don't know what they will look like that far out.

A5: Ideally you'd have your historic data and you'd think about your forward plans and how they might affect things. You have to make reasonable assumptions and understand the main contributors to your footprint. Some things are already in place to drive change, eg the removal of diesel and petrol vehicles from the market in 2040. Then you need periods where you take stock and plan again.

4. Smart data for the built environment **Andrew Lovern, VRM Tech**

4.1 Andrew reflected on his time working with Camden Council, across finance, delivery, housing and sustainability. There was always a lot of data about domestic energy consumption and plant room efficiency but there was no way to really manage things. Local authorities need to see heat data but a lot of systems only report 3-4 weeks after the fact.

4.2 Heat Metering and Billing Regulations are driving change. The ADE is creating a voluntary Code of Conduct for Heat Networks and VRM Tech are providing the platform for this – "HeatCert".

4.3 Andrew talked about the Clarity platform and the different ways in which local authorities can understand and use their end data. It's not just about district heating, but communal heating too. The platform can focus in on one building and is great for those "bogey buildings" with communal heating that doesn't seem to be operating effectively.

4.4 You can use data for managing KPIs and contractors. Are systems performing as expected? If not, why not? You can also use it for non-domestic or community buildings.

Q1: Can you give an example of how this works in commercial buildings?

A1: You can look at out-of-hours usage and weekend usage. It's easier to see anomalies because the patterns of normal behaviour are often more fixed in a non-domestic building like a school than they are in a domestic setting.

Q2: In our area, we have communal heating in blocks. I'm not sure how we meter it. Would the Metering and Billing Regulations apply?

A2: They apply if you replace the heating system. If you do you then have to upgrade to individual meters.

[Note: send link to ALEO HECA guidance 2019 – there was someone worried about HECA reporting as they hadn't done it before.]

5. Best practice project management techniques for energy management

Tristan Oliver, GEP Environmental

5.1 Tristan introduced GEP, including the fact that they are on the London Energy Project Framework.

5.2 He talked through the principles of good project management and recommended some "powerful habits" that project managers can adopt.

Q1: Are you on any other frameworks?

A1: We run the REFIT framework in Wales, and we are on the CCS framework and the LHC framework.

6. Product update

Darren Britnell, CircoSense

6.1 Darren provided an update on developments of CircoSense products since his last presentation to the group.

6.2 This includes the introduction of a new finance offering. We've introduced a shared savings model. If you don't have the capital to purchase equipment, we will provide it free of charge and recoup money from the savings you achieve. Once that's paid off, you take control of the asset.

Q1: Do you calculate the savings from gas and from electricity used for pumps?

A1: Our savings are based purely on the gas. We don't attribute anything to the pump. We effectively take your bills to get average use and base modelled savings on that. The system does verification of savings versus our predictions.

Q2: If you assume my electricity is from a green supplier and I don't have gas, what are the benefits?

A2: You'd still get cost savings and your pumps would have a longer life. There's a wider benefit from reducing demand. The product saves on cost regardless of fuel.

Q3: Is it on the Energy Technologies List?

A3: Yes, and it's Salix eligible.

Q4: What are the terms of the finance offer?

A4: Your spend needs to be £1200 per year on energy. The product pays its cost back over 7 years on that basis. You could part fund it to get a quicker payback. The product is £5350 including the compliance sensors plus £250 per year maintenance.

Q5: Do schools tend to see good savings?

A5: In Renfrewshire, we ran a pilot with 30 schools and typically it's a five year payback. We've now expanded to 70 schools. It does depend on the type of school. Larger schools are keen to get their money back. Schools and leisure centres give good savings but they often don't have capital available.

Q6: What M&V would you put in? What level of robustness do you need for the shared savings model?

A6: We use gas meters and flow meters. We haven't done any M&V on cold water make-up. We use RF sensors on flow and return and inline gas or electricity meters. It's all to do with the site and the client. We prefer heat meters on the secondary side.

Q7: Carbon Trust say that 25% of energy is hot water, but in our Civic Centre, hot water is only 10% of the total heating usage. Would this make the payback longer?

A7: You'll get fluctuations. The figures in the presentation are average annual figures but each individual building is different. We would need to look at that on an individual basis.

Q8: Do you do any type of guaranteed savings model?

A8: We can't guarantee savings, but with the finance offer, everything is based on actual performance. Shared savings are over a maximum 7 years but it's typically 4-5 years. It's also interest free.

Q9: Would you look in future at heating and the use of hot water in heating?

A3: The current product is still fairly new. Our Development team are looking at other opportunities, for example, monitoring hot water in swimming pools. We may well look at heating as well in order to manage compliance.

7. Finance update

7.1 Beata gave an update on finances. Increased membership has helped to boost revenues. We appreciate it's been a bit of a slow process and that everyone for their support. The new membership year will start soon and should offer a more streamlined process. Sponsorship also helps!

7.2 Saeed noted that LBEG has existed since 2001. We're doing something unique. If we can get on a more solid financial footing, we can do more things, such as site visits. We're looking at closer cooperation with the GLA. Sometimes there's a feeling that programmes are dropped on local authorities without consideration of resources and we'd like to have more engagement with them. We'd like to have more speakers from different GLA programme or policy teams to help address different issues.

7.3 Saeed also noted that there is interest into expanding the network to include other public sector organisations (hospitals, universities).

8. AOB

8.1 Our next meeting will be at **TBC**.