

## Leeds Committee on Climate Change Update Summary September 2017

The commencement and activity of the 3 Working Groups of the Leeds Committee on Climate Change have been deliberately staggered so as to take account of the existing resources available, and to ensure that the work of the LCCC takes account and adds value to existing relevant initiatives.

### Low Carbon Working Group

The Low Carbon Working Group will meet in October and December. Progress to date:-

- Andrew Sudmant and Andy Gouldson have completed the refresh of the Leeds mini-Stern which will be presented at the September launch
- Rafael Ortiz (University of Leeds MSc student ) has concluded his research to identify the largest carbon emitting organisations in Leeds. His research has identified between 20-40 organisations who are responsible for about 20% of carbon emissions in Leeds. This research will be used by the Commission to engage with significant organisations in the city.
- The ODI are running [Innovating with Energy Data](#) programme in September – watch this space for more information.
- The ODI/SmartKlub hosted a [Solar Solutions for Leeds co-production event](#). The aims of the workshop were to explore the opportunities, business & funding models for solar energy at scale in Leeds, and understand the delivery & business models that the Council and Partners could use to deploy solar energy at scale across the City.

### Communications and Engagement Working Group

The Engagement and Communications Working Group met in on 19 June and will meet again in October and December. Progress to date:-

- The group discussed how to progress action on the first two activities identified and included in the Implementation Plan, namely (i) an audit of existing climate change mitigation and adaptation activity in the city and (ii) development of a pledge based system for organisations and individuals. It was agreed that we should start with the organisations represented on the Commission so we'll be in touch with you in the next few weeks to find out more about your organisation's current and planned activity.
- We need to energise people by having a positive message which celebrates success and builds capacity. We agreed that promoting success stories is going to be key to successfully engaging with other organisations and the people of Leeds. Your organisation's achievements and plans will be highlighted on our website and at the launch exhibition on 7th September so that we can demonstrate how much is already happening in the city.
- Kate Lock fed back on the Climate Roadshow events held at the end of April to celebrate Earth Week whose focus this year was on climate and environmental literacy. PhD student, Lina Brand Correa, wrote an insightful blog about the events, [Why listening is good for climate scientists](#).
- It has been agreed that Leeds Climate Commission will lead a [Climathon](#) in October
- Open Source Arts are going to help to convene a series of conversations over the next few weeks / months from which an appropriately inspiring low carbon vision will emerge. The aim will be to create a 'vision' that is inclusive so that all partners in the city can see (and are inspired) how they can contribute to its realisation.

### Climate Resilience Working Group

The Climate Resilience Working Group will meet in November and December. All dates to be scheduled.

An important related initiative on which the Leeds Committee on Climate Change has representation is Yorkshire iCASP (Integrated Catchment Solutions Programme) which is a new 5 year research programme, focussed on the Yorkshire Ouse Catchment, which aims:-

- To improve climate resilience in the region's cities through the policies and investment strategies of local authorities, and major infrastructure owners.
- To work towards improved management of drought and flood risk

- To support regional flood forecasting, working closely with the Environment Agency and the Met Office on meeting regional challenges of upland terrain, rapid response catchments and urban flooding
- To develop novel approaches to improve water quality
- To enhance carbon storage in soils and woodlands

An agreed priority will be to collate existing information on the various plans, strategies and initiatives relating to local climate resilience Amanda Crossfield (Yorkshire Water) has provided the useful update that YW, Northern Power Grid, Northern Gas, the NHS, Network Rail, National Grid and other infra orgs publish their risk assessments and adaptation plans via the Defra website here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/climate-change-adaptation-reporting-second-round-reports>

Other useful sources of info are the annual S18 reports and the post-event S19 reports submitted to the EA and required under the Flood and Water Management Act. These set out what activity has taken place on an annual basis to comply with the FWMA (eg £xm investment in local flood defences) or what lessons were learnt and implemented after a flooding event.