

Meeting: Better Places Partnership
Date: 13 July 2009
Report Title: Climate Change Alliance Proposals
Report of: Alexander Hilton, Environmental Resources Officer

Purpose

To propose the structure and functions of a Haringey Climate Change Alliance (CCA) for consideration by the Better Places Partnership (BPP).

Summary

The CCA would be a membership organisation, governed by the Better Places Partnership board, with the aim of delivering reductions in carbon emissions and tackling climate change, by supporting public sector bodies, businesses, community and not-for-profit groups and other organisations to manage their use of resources more effectively and provide goods and services in a sustainable way. The CCA would be administered by the Council's Environmental Resources Team. The activities of the alliance could include holding events to share expertise and best practice, and building capacity through the provision of events and environmental audits.

Legal/Financial Implications

Not applicable at this time.

Recommendations

To seek the views of the partnership on proposals to develop a Climate Change Alliance led by the BPP.

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Background

Islington Council was the first local authority to set up a climate change partnership around two years ago, since which time other London councils have developed similar schemes, including Westminster, Camden and Southwark. There is also a Climate Change Partnership for London, providing policy guidance and support to organisations across the region.

Objectives of a Haringey Climate Change Alliance

- To coordinate action to reduce CO₂ emissions across the borough, as measured by National Indicator 186 (per capita reduction in CO₂ emissions in the LA area), and tackle climate change through engaging with businesses, public bodies, community groups and other organisations, and supporting them in improving their environmental performance.
- To deliver Priority 3 of the Greenest Borough Strategy (Managing Environmental Resources Efficiently) to engage with all parts of the community to affect behavioural change around energy use and other environmental issues.

Membership and Governance

- It is proposed that the CAA would be a Council-led organisation, sitting under the Better Places Partnership of the HSP.
- Key partners within the alliance, including HSP partners, would act as a steering group for the CAA and represent it at quarterly BPP meetings.
- Membership to the CAA would initially be by invitation – it is proposed that the CAA steering group select around 20-30 organisations who would be approached individually to seek their engagement in the alliance.
- After a bedding-in period the CCA would be open to other organisations, subject to prospective members signing up to a pledge to act on their CO₂ emissions.
- Initial membership will focus on signing up organisations that are:
 - o the borough's largest CO₂ emitters.
 - o key service delivery partners who can provide support to other members and aid delivery of the partnership through their expertise.
- The CCA would be administered by the Council's Environmental Resources Team.

Work Programme and Activities

The CCA could offer a range of services, including:

- Environmental Audits.
- Annual awards to reward emissions reductions.
- Tailored training sessions, workshops and networking events to build capacity amongst organisations, delivered in partnership with external organisations.
- Quarterly newsletter providing advice and examples of best practice by other organisations.
- Access to online resources (including advice and blogging forum).

Recommendation

This report seeks:

- the support of the BPP to build on the proposals set out above and develop a firm proposal for a Climate Change Alliance for Haringey, led by the Better Places Partnership.
- the views of the partnership on key partners that should be engaged in steering the development of a CCA.

The Islington Climate Change Partnership Pledge

We welcome the commitment by
Islington's Climate Change Partnership
to reduce carbon dioxide emissions
across the borough.

In becoming members of the Islington
Climate Change Partnership we pledge to:

- Reduce carbon dioxide emissions from our own organisation by at least 15% over 3 years
- Support and work with other members in order to achieve borough-wide emissions reductions

In return, the Partnership will:

- Provide on-going help, support and advice to members on the reduction of energy usage and costs
- Keep members informed of the latest developments in technologies and energy conservation
- Facilitate collaboration with colleagues from a variety of sectors in order to maximise opportunities for carbon reduction
- Secure further funding to help deliver the work of the Climate Change Partnership

Signed - Organisation

Signed - Chair of ICCP Steering Group

Date



Camden Climate Change Alliance

Climate Commitment

As members of the Camden Climate Change Alliance, we are confident that we can make a positive contribution towards achieving a joint carbon emissions reduction target for the London Borough of Camden.

To do this, we will:

- Identify the sources and scope of our carbon dioxide emissions, understand the causes of these emissions, and quantify our carbon footprint.
- Set an appropriate and challenging target for the reduction of emissions and adopt an action plan for its achievement.
- Embed best practice environmental and carbon management into our daily activities, supported at a senior level.
- Communicate and interact with the Camden Climate Change Alliance and our own stakeholders, reporting performance annually and sharing knowledge and expertise for the mutual benefit of all.

In return, the Camden Climate Change Alliance will:

- Support the process of quantifying organisations' carbon footprints.
- Help organisations to identify practical emissions reduction measures and set a realistic target.
- Organise events to share best practice and to introduce new carbon reduction solutions.
- Hold workshops to build the capacity of organisations to manage and reduce their emissions.
- Manage an information resource to share case studies, register emissions reductions, and keep members informed of new developments.