



Association of Directors of
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

Environment Board

Wednesday 25th January 2023, 10.00 – 12.30

NOTES

		ACTION OWNER
1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Steve Read gave particular welcome to colleagues who have not joined this meeting before.</p> <p>This is the last meeting with Steve Read as Chair before handing over to Carolyn McKenzie.</p>	
2.	<p>Diversity and inclusion in the environment sector</p> <p>https://www.wcl.org.uk/joint-route-map-ethnic-diversity.asp Ellie Ward, Policy Officer, Wildlife & Countryside Link</p> <p>Presentation</p> <p>Route map towards greater ethnic diversity (wcl.org.uk) Route Map itself: WCL Route map towards greater ethnic diversity October 2022 Further info about our equality & diversity work here: https://www.wcl.org.uk/equality-diversity-and-inclusion.asp Contact email: eleanor@wcl.org.uk</p> <p>It was noted that Richard Benwell is the CEO of Wildlife & Countryside Link.</p> <p>The WCL is a coalition of nature and environmental organisations and has 68 members such as RSPB and National Trust through to BugLife etc.</p> <p>Recently, publicly and politically, WCL have been more interested in access to nature which is not always particularly equal due to green spaces near where we live. It's also about the nature sector itself which is one of the least ethnically diverse.</p>	

Some progress has been made but change has been slow with some organisations facing real barriers to increasing diversity.

WCL developed an anti-racism statement for coalition members, and this led to this project looking at what the barriers are and the issues organisations face tackling diversity and inclusion.

The first step was 2 years of quantitative survey of all staff across the Link network and then following on with qualitative research with key discussion of groups (leaders, managers, including BME employees in these and other categories). Only 4.8% of the workforce of WCL members were from BME groups, making it one of the least diverse employment sectors. The direction and drive for this to be meaningful have been lacking. Lots of stuff came out of what the barriers are – lack of capacity, competing priorities, lack of senior management buy-in and fear of getting it wrong. The idea was to have a route map for change towards greater ethnic diversity which also serves as a statement of intent. It's a route map tackling what individual organisations face and also for the sector as a whole.

The route map, launched in October 2022, sets out a journey from now until end of 2027. There is also a practical guidance document. 42 WCL members are signed up to the route map. Some actions are for individual employers, and some are for the sector as a whole.

The intention is to bring everyone together to drive action, make data and reporting better through to discursive and sharing side as they will have different lessons learnt and also to build relationships and have a peer support network. It's a chance for people of colour to come together where they might not be able to do so in their own organisation. WCL will be holding themselves to account and have regular check-ins.

Questions:

Q. Steve Read asked the question around good practice and whether there were any network members who were ahead of the curve on this and making progress?

A. Yes, Greenpeace were absolutely brilliant. Their recruitment practice and leadership model were the best practice model. Woodland and Wildlife Trust too and they have EDI teams. There was good practice across the sector but there were barriers for many.

Q. Liz Milne and colleagues in Kent have been discussing diversity and inclusion (D&I) as Kent is a very white county and challenges around diversity are keenly felt and noticeable. Are WCL linked up with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) as they are working on Green jobs? Are WCL linked up with Defra, particularly re. BNG and LNRs?

A. Ellie Ward confirmed that CIEEM are a member of WCL. WCL have had a few conversations with Defra, but the relationship is not as developed as it could and should be, WCL want to explore more particularly on capacity building.

Q. Liz Milne asked how realistic the 2027 target is?

A. Ellie Ward agreed that this is a stretching target. Once in the sector it's a case of how D&I is being tackled. CIEEM is a good link as this can't be achieved by WCL alone.

Q. Liz Milne asked how far have wider socioeconomic factors been considered in this?

A. There has been a lot of internal debate and discussion in groups on the need versus the fact that it's a lot to tackle in one go. There's a decision to focus on ethnic diversity but going forward need to be intersectional on that.

ACTION: Liz Milne, as Chair of ALGE (for local government ecologists), and EW to share notes.

LM/EW

David Dale commented that it is timely to bring this to the attention of the Board and particularly due to issues LM raised on local government needing to recruit ecologists and green professionals and staff for climate and nature emergencies. This would encourage employers to look at a range of diversities. In the environment side of ADEPT there have been conversations about D&I in terms of service provision and access (e.g. unequal access to green space and countryside) but not so much on the workforce ..

Q. Councils are large organisations, but the environment side is relatively small so how do we learn from WCL to improve diversity on nature and environment side?

A. The first step would be to do a detailed audit on what the diversity looks like. Have a sense of what the barriers are. Is the issue a lack of capacity and resources or a lack of ability in teams?

Q. Chitra Nadarajah, Hampshire CC and Head of Climate Change, commented that there is a lot of ambition and good intention to increase diversity in LA recruitment, but we let ourselves down on target setting and don't hold ourselves accountable. If we don't have targets then how are we holding ourselves accountable to increase diversity?

A. Ellie Ward would echo that this is challenging. If we sign up and we can't meet targets then it looks bad and draws attention to failure to meet something we care about. This is meant to be driving and encouraging progress. To have a firm target is to have something we show commitment to and is key to bringing people together. Targets and statements are important and it's about having the conversation to ensure all are on board. It is a good idea to have this written in the recruitment process and on job adverts.

Q. Caroline George, London Environment Directors Network, suggested that to have a range of targets might help rather than just one. All might not be met but some will be and that can be reflected on.

A. Ellie Ward acknowledged that it's an issue WCL face too. Capturing progress is tricky and the route map has milestones. How to capture and reflect is something that is being actively debated at the moment.

ACTION: CM and the Board to consider how to measure D&I within the LA

CM

	<p>nature and environment workforce. CM to raise with the ADEPT Leadership Team the issue of D&I within the LA Place workforce more generally and ask whether we need to develop a policy position and our own route map on this.</p> <p>ACTION: Adam Wallace to share Natural England’s (NE) internal document Inclusion Toolkit which guides through recruitment and employment from NE perspective.</p>	AW
3.	<p>LGA support for LAs on climate change https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/climate-change-hub Grace Abel, Programme Manager, Local Government Association</p> <p>Presentation</p> <p>Grace Abel is leading on the climate change support programme with the LGA.</p> <p>The programme is now in its 3rd year. Councils were calling for wider support in this area and the programme is helping them to reach their local carbon reduction and adaptation target. It is a sector-led programme. There are webinars, podcasts, research, reports, data and also had a huge reach with nearly 100% of councils having received support over last few years.</p> <p><u>Tools:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Greenhouse Gas Accounting Tool – to help measure own emissions in Scope 1 and 2 and basic Scope 3. Continuing to update. Held webinar last week with 260 people attending. Launched waste emissions calculator tool. Will continue to update and the LGA will be interested in receiving feedback on the tools. • The Green Economy – Local Green Jobs report predicant that jobs might be created in which regions and which sectors. • Housing Retrofit Action Learning Set - huge challenge. Every training and webinar and action learning set run, blogs and case studies are on the Web for all to access if they didn’t attend the actual sessions. • Regional Retrofit Action Plan Training • Decarbonising Transport Action Learning Sets – Action Learning Sets were run this year talking about what they’ve done, what’s been effective and how they’ve engaged etc. • Biodiversity – In parallel with COP15 an e-learning model was launched which is available for all. • Behaviour change and the environment – looks at stats and is applied to behaviour you might want to change. • Sustainable Procurement – we spend so much money into the community with SMEs etc and we are all keen to deliver local economic, social, and environmental priorities. This guide will help with some of that. • The Net Zero Innovation Programme (with UCL) – provides training and project funding to equip councils and universities to work in partnership 	

to help achieve the local carbon reduction goals of councils. To be showcased in February

- Sustainability in Council Services (with CAT – was Sustainability in all ‘Policies’) – launching in March with a webinar. Innovation labs are getting input from councils on what can be changed and how to do it through case studies that councils have input into this.
- Pass the Planet – campaign run in lead up to COP 26 and 27. Over 200 case studies online now. Fantastic resource for all LAs to look at. Broken down into themes. Knowledge Hub.
- Carbon Literacy training.
- Climate Action Group (officers).
- Networks – Roundtables - get significant people from government and different organisations talking about what they are doing. Have an Improvement and Innovation Board climate change member working group.

Contact:

Website, Climate Change Hub:

[Climate change | Local Government Association](#)

Sign up to free **monthly E-Bulletin**.

Email: climate@local.gov.uk

Questions:

Steve Read noted that councils will recognise Pass the Planet even if they haven’t had experience of the other great resources from the LGA yet. The map on slide 13 shows that there’s a lot of coverage for input into Pass the Planet already.

David Dale noted that the Board members have probably engaged with this programme already through LGA webinars etc. The monthly Climate Change Bulletins are shared with the Board. The Board are very keen to build on collaboration between LGA and ADEPT. LGA are one of the Blueprint Coalition partners on Climate Change and ADEPT are always happy to share and support.

ACTION: Grace Abel/David Dale to pick up conversation around decarbonising transport since DfT have publicised Live Labs 2.

GA/DD

Q. Cost of training – are the tools free to access for LGA member councils or are some paid for events?

A. All training is free to access for councils, no login required - a number of things available like tools, blogs, case studies, action learning sets on transport, housing training. Carbon Literacy training is also offered.

Q. Carolyn McKenzie was interested to know the make-up of LAs who engage in the training. It would be helpful to look at how we can agree on key priorities for county/district working in two-tier areas and how to approach it. Carolyn referred back to combined officer and member training on

<p>Adaptation and Resilience which was really useful.</p> <p>A. More districts have accessed LGA support as they have less resource due to being a smaller set-up. Nearly 100% of councils have engaged in some way. LGA have not offered guidance on the 2-tier piece of work yet but there are opportunities on specific topics for councils to take challenges to working groups. This would be a way to access other knowledge. The Climate Change Action Group is interested in this as well and perhaps ADEPT want to be part of this.</p> <p>The LGA are looking to create an Adaptation Literacy training off the back of the Carbon Literacy training and would like to link with Carolyn McKenzie on experience with past adaptation and resilience training.</p> <p>ACTION: Carolyn McKenzie/Grace Abel to discuss 2-tier approach to learning and also discuss experience with adaptation and resilience training.</p> <p>Q. Chitra Nadarajah, Hampshire County Council, asked around support element for LAs as they struggle where they don't necessarily need innovation funding but would like to have something that is tried and tested, and it is difficult to get funding to do that. Lobbying funding bodies is difficult. Barriers are resources, skills and capacity.</p> <p>Steve Read commented on the funding for sustained projects and the point being made everywhere on short-term bidding rounds. Even LiveLabs2, that LAs welcome, is for innovation but LAs don't have funding to do it. ADEPT are talking with Grace and LGA on how to take things forward. ADEPT are en route to set up their own Climate Change Group and are having the conversation on how to work together with LGA, not duplicate what is already being done there, and how to add value to each other taking it forward.</p> <p>A. Agree with LAs not wanting funding for innovation and rather want to steal what others have done. There is a Policy and Lobbying team at the LGA who work directly with central government on what their funding schemes and policy are. Suggesting feeding in via that team. The LGA sector support programme is based on what LAs can do themselves to influence and feed in and the LGA will use powers and funding they currently have to make the change.</p> <p>On the delivery side, a couple of tools have already been mentioned. The Sustainability Action Partnership can offer sound advice on how to deliver. The LGA hope to bring something to fruition later.</p> <p>ACTION: Grace Abel to feed into team re. LA thoughts on funding.</p> <p>Q. Chitra Nadarajah commented that LAs are bombarded with FOIs on Climate Emergency UK scorecards. Is LGA able to say something about the next round coming up as there may be misrepresentation of pressure on performing and would give bad publicity.</p> <p>Steve Read noted that the Scorecard has been discussed before and a variety of approaches taken around the table and whether it's a political risk if residents see LAs down the league table.</p> <p>A. The LGA, through the Climate Change Action Group, have had reports of some areas not being best represented for what councils have done. Also</p>	<p>CM/GA</p> <p>GA</p>
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	<p>noting the relationship with the community. LGA don't use league tables but rather 'by the sector, for the sector, with the sector'. A press release was produced to campaign and promote the fact that councils are doing fantastic work, which can be shared with the Board members. The LGA plan to bring out another press release when the Scorecard next comes out.</p> <p>ACTION: Grace Abel to share the press release campaigning and promoting the fantastic work that councils are doing relating to the Climate Emergency Scorecards.</p>	GA
4.	<p>Introduction – Kathryn Bell, Local Delivery Lead, 25 Year Environment Plan https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/25-year-environment-plan Kathryn (Kat) Bell, Local Delivery Lead, Defra</p> <p>Tel: 07443 263678 e-mail: kathryn.bell@defra.gov.uk</p> <p>Substantive employer is Cumbria County Council but is seconded to Defra for one year until around Oct 2023.</p> <p>Kat has worked in local government for 15+ years. She has a sustainability background, working on strategic planning with government groups. Has worked in waste policy more recently. Kat has been in this 12-month secondment role for a couple of months now and is available to answer questions.</p> <p>The role of the Local Delivery Lead is centred around delivery of the 25YEP/Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP) and how targets are delivered on the ground. Kat is working with all organisations to develop a programme outreach at local and across government departments, working with policy teams to improve policy making and achieve environmental objectives within the 25YEP and Environment Act.</p> <p>Once the EIP is published at the end of January Kat, and also Ola Ladapo, would like to get in touch with ADEPT Board members to gain thoughts and input into delivery of the plan. It's about building networks. Ola will be on hand to answer wider questions that might be outside of Kat's role.</p> <p>Steve Read stressed the importance of the Local Delivery Lead being the bridge between LAs and Defra. Steve/ADEPT are also grateful to Ola for being a conduit for communication and for periodic meetings with David Hill, Director General for Environment. Please do keep ADEPT updated with progress.</p> <p><u>Questions:</u> Steve Palfrey, Suffolk – Q. Please could you provide any more insight into the County Deals and</p>	

devolution and the links between this plan and Levelling-Up?

A. Ola confirmed that Defra are definitely looking to make links with Levelling Up. They understand Levelling-Up and EIP are closely related and so a conscious effort will be made to ensure a good read across the two.

Q. The recommendations coming out of the recently published Skidmore Review was to be better joined up in government and a department to coordinate, net zero focussed, local government work on that agenda.

A. Kat informed that Defra have been speaking to Net Zero colleagues and reached out to BEIS and DLUHC on devolution. Ola clarified that they are not quite clued in on it yet and Defra need to understand what the report is recommending and how to respond.

Q. Steve Read informed that the OEP released a report into the progress on the 25YEP and they weren't impressed. How was that received within Defra and is there a recognition within government?

A. Ola replied to say that Defra take on board the criticism and challenges set out by the OEP. Some of which Defra are already aware of. There's a lot of focus placed on EIP to come up with good recommendations and ideas which Defra are mindful of and want to take on board. Direction of travel is helpful. A lot is being digested at the moment as it's quite heavily critical and Defra are considering what they can do to try to put that right.

Q. Steve Palfrey asked about devolution/County Deals and how we put climate change in. There's a really strong link back to the Improvement Plan. It would be good to bring Defra into that discussion in a few months' time as there is a need to be looking at lot more on what's coming out of the Environment Act and 25YEP to say what is the Environment Plan for a particular area and what we need to prioritise.

A. Ola confirmed that Defra are getting involved in the County Deals and putting a lot in on the Levelling-Up and feed into that from their central strategy team. Defra definitely want to be involved.

Q. Caroline George, London Councils, follows new devolution deals in the climate conversation and would be interested to hear what learning comes out of that. It would be useful to have a conversation with Defra about this and some of the urban specifics too.

A. Ola is very happy to share once Defra hear of learnings. In the past Defra have been closely related to Greater London Authority (GLA) colleagues and would like to keep in touch.

David Dale offered ADEPT Environment Board to Kat as able to provide a friendly and welcome forum for discussion and deeper dives into specific issues. Kat plans to attend future Environment Board meetings and is there for ADEPT to make use of her role. Please do stay in touch.

<p>5.</p>	<p>Updates from partners and local authorities</p> <p><u>Natural England</u> Adam Wallace GI launch Standards Framework on 31st January and there might also be the launch of EIP. 90mins webinar session - https://greeninfrastructure.eventbrite.co.uk</p> <p>Land-use Framework Activity – Defra and NE strike up a conversation about ambitions and 2 reports:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Green Alliance document: https://green-alliance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Shaping-UK-land-use.pdf. 2. House of Lords Select Committee report Making the most out of England's land (parliament.uk) <p>Climate Change Strategy – relationship with nature recovery internally in NE strategy. How to respond in planning context. Work is going on to clarify NE position on certain issues on climate change.</p> <p>Adam asked about the R9 Group of LA CExs, one from each region in England, that meet with government. May be appointed through SOLACE but not sure.</p> <p>ACTION: Board to answer the question as to whether climate change is a stronger policy hook to base nature recovery against? Answers to be shared with all Board members.</p> <p><u>Environment Agency</u> Jennie Donovan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making stronger links with working groups and so good to hear Liz's update. We will want to be involved on 20th March re. impacts of retained EU law Bill. • BNG session with PAS on water and BNG • Climate change and adaption is big for the EA. • Planning advice and climate and LNRS convo – something the EA have shared is a recent climate change advice note for local plans and how you can get policy into local plans and advice to support it. • Come back if you are getting membership from EA or if not how they can help. <p><u>Defra</u> Ola Ladapo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a lot of secondary legislation coming up which is currently with Ministers • Priorities – The Secretary of State is conscious to to avoid slippages. First key priority is the Environment Improvement Plan to be published on 31st January. All resources and focus are on that. Once complete then the 	<p>ALL</p>
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	<p>focus will change to ensure it is effectively delivered. Defra will make time to engage with LAs to get views on how to ensure this is better delivered this time round.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LNRS – waiting sign-off from ministers. Hope to get more details soon on secondary legislation. • BNG – consultation response from government is imminent and waiting final sign-off. Should be out soon. • Statutory Targets – expect to be published in EIP. Making way through parliament with necessary debates. In progress. • Biodiversity reporting duties – also with ministers for sign-off so guidance can be published a.s.a.p. • Waste Deposit Return Scheme – Government response to consultation published last Fri, 20th January. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1130296/DRS_Government_response_Jan_2023.pdf 	
6.	<p>Board business and Working Group updates</p> <p><u>Energy & Clean Growth</u> Carolyn McKenzie</p> <p>Sheryl French is now chair. Last meeting was on Monday 23rd January and so no Minutes are available yet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambridge did presentation on how they are working with schools on Net Zero emissions. Investment of £20m over a 20-year period. • Carbon off-setting and in-setting - what’s possible and how done. Energy hubs are looking at what is needed, guidance and standards. This is a potential topic for a future Board meeting due to links in how we invest in nature recovery. Would be good to obtain BEIS’ view too. • BEIS led a discussion on Chris Skidmore report on Net Zero. General interpretation was supportive, but some comments received were that it was quite high level and ‘devil in the detail’. There will be a lot more discussion and whether statutory duty on LAs on climate change and how we get consistency and funding. David Dale suggested it would be helpful to get an initial update from BEIS. <p>ACTION: David Dale forward a table via e-mail for the Skidmore Review. All to send comments to be shared with BEIS and LNZ forum. There is a meeting early February to focus on local government recommendations.</p> <p><u>Flood and Water Management</u> Max Tant</p> <p>Last met just after December 2022 ADEPT Env Board mtg. Next meeting</p>	ALL

scheduled for Monday 30th January 2023.

National Infrastructure Commission published report into [surface water flooding](#). We would support the general approach the report is proposing but have comments and concerns over some of the recommendations. The main proposal is for a joint Lead Local Flood Authority and Water Company programme of investment, funding from the government for this programme would be provided directly to LLFAs, rather than through the EA. This is very welcome and something the EA have been requesting for a long time, it should enable some schemes that are not cost-beneficial to proceed as part of a wider programme of measures as long as the whole programme is cost beneficial.

Defra published [review of schedule 3](#) of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 a couple of weeks ago. This will mean that upper tier authorities will be responsible for a new process for approving and adopting drainage in new developments, separate to planning with its own powers to stop development and for enforcement. The adoption would be funded through fees and maintenance through a commuted sum. Defra have set a target of implementation in 2024 and have set out plans to address the extra detail required for implementation, including the standards, adoptions process, fees, enforcement, and appeals. Ball is now rolling. Biggest concern is resources. This role would require many more staff than LLFAs currently have, at least double, perhaps more as the role grows. Working on implementation will also draw resources away from other work.

Q. Steve Palfrey asked, given the massive resource challenge, is there something that ADEPT working with government departments can do to create the conveyor belt of flood and water engineers?

A. Yes, need to improve resources across the board in this sector, where there aren't enough people entering the profession. Unlikely to be in time for the commencement of Schedule 3 but there are things we can do. An appropriate apprenticeship standard is missing, and we would like to develop one, but would struggle to put this in place due to time constraints. Would welcome support and links to appropriate partners to develop this.

Natural Capital & Heritage

Liz Milne

The group met recently but Minutes are not yet ready.

- NC&H group received presentation from EA, FC and NE on the role of arms-length bodies in LNRS. Their input will be coordinated.
- Still awaiting secondary legislation and stat guidance – have stressed to Defra the need to have this asap so we have time to review and digest

	<p>(and plan work) before the April commencement. Also raised need for a clearer view from DLUHC on how LNRS will fit into planning; noted that there will be statutory guidance on this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defra have contacted all Responsible Authorities regarding the provision of LNRS seed funding – this can be rolled over into 2023/24, but by end of March 2023 Defra need to know plans for how the funding will be spent. • PAS NRN project has completed their review and now working on the emerging insights – reports are available on the website. • PAS BNG project has been extended to March 2024. Over next year will be developing topic-based training and a BNG readiness checklist and toolkit, amongst other things. They welcome suggestions for how else they can support LPAs in preparing for and delivering BNG. • BNG Duty now applied. Guidance on this duty is currently with Ministers. • The retained EU Law Bill was discussed, and it was suggested ADEPT might consider some work on its implications for services. • Next meeting on 20th March (10am-12pm) will be a single topic agenda on LNRS, in anticipation that secondary legislation and stat guidance will have been published (will be extended to cover BNG if this has also been published). All are welcome to attend, even if not normally attendees of the group. <p><u>Waste</u> Steve Palfrey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still waiting for government response to Spring 2021 consultation on consistency. This is causing frustration for authorities as they can't see the big picture of what government wants them to do. Seeing how PFI contracts will be impacted. Ola responded to say he doesn't yet have a date for consistency. • Government published response to consultation on DRS. Will be introduced in October 2025 and covers plastic and metal beverage containers (not glass). Ignored lobbying for digital DRS which would have seen household collections and would have avoided investment on infrastructure (missed opportunity). Packaging Producers are responsible for funding under DRS and EPR.. Need to ensure no loopholes that mean some packaging won't be covered by funding under either scheme. • POPS – Environment Agency are taking a tough line in terms of what they expect LAs to do in terms of separation and treatment to get POPs into incineration. Defra needs to listen to both sides of the debate and ensure the system expecting to implement in UK is achievable and fundable. 	
7.	<p>ADEPT business Hannah Bartram / Steve Read</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Group proposal - Taking forward to ADEPT LT team. Nigel Riglar, Director of Environment at South Gloucestershire will Chair. Andy Gutherson from Lincolnshire to be Vice-Chair. Andy will take over Chair of LAAP which gives ADEPT 2 places on Local Net Zero Forum. More info on this and when it will start to meet will come out shortly. • Live Labs 2 announced yesterday and taken up Hannah's team. We can now talk about bids going through £30m/3 years. South Glos one is about using green waste along grass cutting on verges. Will send through details. ACTION: Carolyn McKenzie / David to put Live Labs 2 on future Board meeting agenda. • Waste - Deposit Return Scheme – Government response to consultation published last Fri, 20th January (See Ola's Defra update above). • Env Improvement Plan to be published 31st January 2023. • County Deals workshop – 2nd Feb. Ran a workshop last summer to find out how initial couple of deals have got on and lessons learnt. Since then there's another 4 announced. 9 areas listed as wanting to pursue a County Deal, 6 want to and 3 in pipeline. Very strong emphasis on having a Mayor. White Paper doesn't say it but more likely to get further forward if have a Mayor. Skidmore review also reference County Deals – he referenced talking about how they should establish corporate scores for devolution and have net zero element. We want to create a checklist if you have a County Deal to have a strong environment element to it. • Ashden (partner in Blueprint Coalition are doing new award for 'Community Nature Adaptation Projects.' https://ashden.org/awards/community-nature-adaptation/#:~:text=The%20Ashden%20Award%20for%20Community,wetlands%20or%20restoring%20natural%20resources • LNZ Forum –3rd mtg today. Set up a number of Task & Finish Groups on finance, data metrics and measurement, governance structures. Nigel Riglar attends on behalf of ADEPT. • Green finance training – Held last Nov. Follow-up session tomorrow to show case a couple of case studies (south Gloucestershire and Plymouth). Full day training running again on 25th April 2023. • ADEPT Spring Conference scheduled for 25th May 2023. Themed on Resilience looking through lens of People, Place and Planet. Presidential award dinner to follow in the evening. 	<p>CM</p>
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8.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Hannah Bartram thanked Steve Read and Tracey Butcher for all the work they have done for the Environment Board and welcomed Carolyn McKenzie who is taking over as Chair from February 2023, along with Nicola Rivers who is taking over the Secretarial role.</p> <p>Steve Read thanked all but gave the biggest thanks to David Dale who is a fantastic resource to the Chair and the Board and to Tracey for all the work she has done with co-ordinating and notes which has not been easy.</p> <p>Carolyn McKenzie addressed the Board as incoming Chair and looking forward to it. Gave thanks to Steve and welcomed Steve Palfrey as Co-Chair. Carolyn’s mantra is ‘Partnership is key’.</p> <p>ACTION: Carolyn McKenzie to continue with monthly catch-up mtgs. Board to pass any ideas for future agenda items to Carolyn/David. Some already out there are:</p> <p>Skidmore report; Environment Improvement Plan; LNRS; Land Use Management Framework</p>	CM/ALL
9.	<p>Notes of last meeting</p> <p>ADEPT Environment Board Update - November 2022</p> <p>Nothing raised, but Board to say if any amendments are required.</p>	
10.	<p>Dates of future meetings, and close</p> <p>Monthly meetings to continue. Invitations to follow.</p>	