

ADEPT - Energy & Clean Growth Working Group Minutes

Date & Time:	Monday 6 March 2023, 13:00– 15:00
Venue:	Microsoft Teams Meeting
Chair:	Sheryl French - Assistant Director, Climate Change & Energy Services, Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) (SFE)
Attendees:	<p>Andrew Gaisford – Graduate Research Officer, Surrey County Council (AGA) Ariane Crampton – Head of Climate Programme, Wiltshire Council (ACR) Chitra Nadarajah – Head of Service, Climate Change & Environmental Strategy, Hampshire County Council (CNA) David Dale – ADEPT (DDA) Doug Eltham – Environment and Sustainability Policy Officer, Devon County Council (DEL) Edward Barlow – Head of Climate Change & Environment, Buckinghamshire Council (EBA) Hannah Bartram – Chief Executive Officer, ADEPT (HBA) Inga Doherty – Energy Insights Lead, Oxfordshire County Council (IDO) Jake Mitchell – Energy Project Officer, Surrey County Council (JMI) Katie Sargent – Environment Group Commissioning Manager, Surrey County Council (KSA) Marouane Azenoud – Smart City Programme Manager, West Northamptonshire Council (MAZ) Melania Tarquino – Strategic Energy Lead, Surrey County Council (MTA) Nichola Stringer – Energy Programme Manager, West Sussex County Council (NST) Patrick Allcorn – Head of Local Energy, Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (PAL) Thomas Day – Director of Place Commissioning, Essex County Council (TDA)</p>
Guests:	<p>Lynne MacDonald – DSO Readiness Programme Manager & Local Area Energy Planning Manager, UKPN (LMD) Venus Tam – Net Zero Associate, UKPN (VTA)</p>
Note Taker:	James Veitch – Energy Projects Officer, Climate Change & Energy Services, Cambridgeshire County Council (JVE)
Apologies	<p>Carolyn McKenzie – Director of Environment, Surrey County Council Daire Casey – Energy Services Manager, West Sussex County Council (Nichola Stringer to attend meetings going forward) Kerrell Boardman - Climate Change Programme Manager, Wigan Council Peter Wiggins – Outcome Manager, Sustainability, Gloucestershire County Council Sarah Gilbert – Head of Climate Action, Oxford County Council Simon Bowers – Assistant Director Assets & Environment, West Northamptonshire Council Steve Palfrey – Assistant Director, Waste & Environment, Suffolk County Council</p>

Item No.	Item
1.	<p><u>Sheryl French welcome, minutes and actions from the last meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2023 were agreed as a correct record. The actions from the last meeting were reviewed.</p>
2.	<p><u>Local Area Energy Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project CLEO (presentation attached) - LA experiences of LAEP <p>PAL stated that it was important to ensure consistency across all local authority Local Area Energy Plans (LAEP). He mentioned that both Ofgem and Energy Systems Catapult had released some guidance on creating LAEPs. He also referred to LAEP+, project LEO (Local Energy Oxfordshire) which is part funded by the Prospering from the Energy Revolution Fund, and the work being carried out by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.</p> <p>Lynne MacDonald and Venus Tam from UKPN gave a presentation on Project CLEO (Collaborative Local Energy Optimisation). LMD informed the group that a prototype of project CLEO would be released in the summer. After the meeting UKPN provided the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We encourage early engagement on your local area energy plans, please get in touch LAEP@ukpowernetworks.co.uk • Check out our Local Area Energy Planning Open Data Page. Let us know what other data themes, uses cases or datasets you wish to see evolved or included using this feedback form • Learn more about our free self-service digital planning tool under development to support best choices for communities in Innovation - Collaborative Local Energy Optimisation • Have a read of our Local Area Energy Planning Framework here • Sharing insights and forecasts to help climate action plans. Check out our Distributed Future Energy Scenarios (DFES) publication that creates a picture of how the energy system might look by 2050 (Distribution Future Energy Scenarios 2023) • Find out more about flexibility opportunities in your area at our Flexibility Hub • We have set up a dedicated page which explains how we can support local energy groups Visit our Community Energy page <p>Please contact lynne.mcdonald@ukpowernetworks.co.uk or venus.tam@ukpowernetworks.co.uk if you have any further questions.</p> <p>In discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PAL stated that project CLEO looked very interesting and informed UKPN that he would like to have a further discussion with them.
3.	<p><u>Update from BEIS / DESNZ</u></p> <p>PAL informed the group that the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has been reorganised and is now called The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.</p> <p>In respond to questions raised, PAL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confirmed that ADEPT's feedback on Chris Skidmore's report had been fed into the Local Net Zero Forum. A response would be published shortly. The next meeting of the Local Net Zero Forum would be held on 4th May 2023. - Agreed that a session could be held to discuss the policy surrounding heat networks. PAL to forward relevant contact details to SFE. Action Required
4.	<p><u>Update from ADEPT</u></p>

	<p>ADEPT provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ADEPT's Environment Board met at the end of January 2023. - <i>Environmental Improvement Plan</i> - ADEPT is aiming to get a senior director from the Department for Education (DfE) to attend the next Environment Board meeting on 27th April to discuss. - <i>Bio-diversity Net Gain</i> – Guidance and seed funding released. - <i>Green Finance Training Day</i> – To be held on 25th April 2023. More information can be found on ADEPT's website and in the newsletter. - <i>ADEPT Spring Conference</i> – To be held on 25th May 2023. Focusing on resilience through the lens of people, place & planet. Rt Hon Chris Skidmore MP will be the keynote speaker. Anthony Payne will be sworn in as the new president of ADEPT. - <i>Climate Change Board / Working Group</i> – ADEPT has established a dedicated Climate Change Board. The TORs for the working group are being finalised. - <i>Devolution Deals</i> – 58 ADEPT members attended a Devolution workshop on 3rd February to hear about the six devolution deals that been agreed since the Levelling Up White Paper was published last year. ADEPT is looking to continue the conversations with Government.
5.	<p><u>Innovate UK – Pioneer Places</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation from successful LAs on their projects <p>Working group members discussed projects that had been successful in receiving Innovate UK Pioneer Place funding. SFE suggested it would be useful to compile a list of all successful bids. Action required.</p>
6.	<p><u>Roundtable updates on key items from the Group</u></p> <p><i>Cambridge City Congestion Charge</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) have put forward a proposed Sustainable Travel Zone. The proposed plan has generated significant community interest with the public consultation receiving around 24,000 responses. <p><i>Surrey County Council's Local Transport Plan</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The plan was not reaching the people it needed to. Surrey is looking at a communication/engagement piece targeting the seven segments. The findings to be presented at a future meeting. <p><i>Solar Together</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working group members discussed the challenges they had experienced with iChoosr whilst participating in the scheme. This included complaint escalation, data reporting, delays to installation programmes and visibility of contracts between iChoosr and the chosen solar installer(s). - Some local authorities have amended their contracts with iChoosr which has led to an improvement in service and delivery.
7.	<p><u>Forward agenda planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation from Inga Doherty on Project LEO. - PAL to report on Government's response to Chris Skidmore's Net Zero Review. - <i>National Grid ESO</i> – 5-point plan on grid connections (email attached). - A presentation from Surrey County Council on the sevens segments communication piece. - Officers from the DfE to provide a steer on how they're supporting the net zero transition with existing and future academies.
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>JVE to include ADEPT training courses in future agendas.</p>
9.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>1-3pm, 26th April and 1-3pm, 8th June 2023.</p>