

Renewables & Energy Efficiency Advisory Group

31 August 2016

King James VI Business Centre Perth

1. Introduction & Welcome

Cllr Ramsay Milne welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for making the journey to Perth.

2. Attendees and Apologies

As per attached.

3. Minutes of meeting 20 April 2016

The minutes were agreed as true and accurate.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Street Lighting Energy Efficiency Programme: The light bulb moment

Speaker: Lindsay McGregor & Toby Tucker, Scottish Futures Trust

Lindsay provided a detailed presentation on the street lighting efficiency programme as well as some information on their low carbon work streams. The presentation included information on the funding partners (including Salix) as well as information on the accrued and projected programme benefits. In the second part of the presentation Toby provided the group with information on the toolkit which included a breakdown of the key calculations and an example on replacement programme. This included a financial summary and key financial observations.

Lindsay also highlighted to the group that a summary business case had been put together for the remaining 19 local authorities who have yet to take up the programme. SFT will be contacting each of the authorities to highlight the funding and, savings and other benefits to the programme.

Following the presentation there was a number of questions including the future of intelligence street lighting and the LED funding.

6. **Aberdeen's residential thermal imaging project**

Speaker: Kevin Christie, Senior Domestic Energy Officer, Aberdeen City Council

Kevin provided the group with an interesting presentation on the Council's **thermal imaging project**. From the thermal photos taken by the Council, it highlighted that the older housing stock and new housing stock were the main areas of energy loss. The **thermal imaging shots are available on Aberdeen City's website and can be used for commercial use as it shows all buildings within the City.**

The Energy team felt that as it was becoming harder to engage people in thinking about energy efficiency, using thermal images would help to make energy more visible to the householder. The website allows residents to see their household information using a unique code which enables them to access an energy overview. This has actually encouraged the resident to change/ update the data which was initially uploaded using the information gathered.

From the findings in terms of engagement it was felt that there is still further work to be done to engage with those who could benefit the most from energy efficiency measures.

Finally, Kevin noted that the team were currently looking at updating the website to make it look more attractive to householders in terms of what they can access on the web portal and how it is displayed.

There were a number of questions to Kevin in relation to the costs for this exercise, whether the Council had purchased a thermal imaging camera and how easy had they found it to use. As well as information on the funding for the project and the survey company used.

7. State of the market in Climate Change & Renewable Energy

Speaker: Louise Melville, Principal Advisor, APSE

Louise Melville provided the group with some of the findings from the recent APSE state of the market survey for Climate Change & Renewable Energy. The slides provided a comparison where possible to the previous survey which was conducted in 2014. The findings highlighted that although areas such as energy efficiency, fuel poverty, renewables and energy management have remained high profile, reductions in budgets are impacting on energy areas just like other service budgets.

From the survey responses it also indicates that both elected members and officers are engaged and knowledgeable in regards to the climate change/ renewables debate, with many of those responding predicting that this will remain high on the agenda for their services.

Within the survey some of the big issues within the climate change and renewables agenda were highlighted as:-

- Lack of funding and resources
- The need to generate income
- **The government's lack of consistent policy, changes to funding and ECO provision**
- The cut in feed-in tariff
- Grid capacity problems
- Fuel poverty
- Treatment of climate change and renewables as non-essential service

8. APSE Update

Speaker: Louise Melville, Principal Advisor, APSE

Louise Melville provided the APSE update including briefings; research including new **“Engine of the Council”** publication and new Scottish research publication which is currently underway looking at relationships and communication between elected members, officers and community groups; PN; training and the APSE Energy programme.

As part of the update Louise Melville provided the group with information on the new Scottish Commercialisation advisory group which was introduced at the recent Scottish APSE AGM in June. The request was made to introduce the group following the interest **within Scotland at the National group and also the positive feedback from APSE’s April** Scottish Commercialisation event in Glasgow. It was noted that the first advisory group meeting is scheduled for Thursday 29th September in the Central Belt and the appointed Chair & Secretary of the group are Cllr Archie Dryburgh & Ronnie Dempster of Dumfries & Galloway Council.

9. A.O.C.B.

There was no other competent business.

10. Date and time of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for 8 November and will be hosted at the Fife Renewables Innovation Centre and will include a tour of the Hydrogen Project Office.

11. Lunch

Renewables & Energy Efficiency Advisory Group

31 August 2016

Name	Council
Cllr Ramsay Milne	Aberdeen City Council
Louise Melville	APSE
Lindsay McGregor	Scottish Futures Trust
Toby Tucker	Scottish Futures Trust
Jackie Sayer	Highland Council
Cllr Martin Bartos	Glasgow City Council
Cllr Stephen Dornan	Glasgow City Council
Douglas Evans	Falkirk Council
Graham Pinfield	Perth & Kinross Council
Colette McKenna	City of Edinburgh Council
Mai Muhammad	Aberdeen City Council
Kevin Christie	Aberdeen City Council
Brian Kyle	Scotland Excel

Apologies

Janice Pauwels	City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Donald Balsillie	Clackmannanshire Council
Claire Mennim	Falkirk Community Trust
Eddie Boyd	Highland Council