



Your Climate Adaptation Network

3 June 2013, Wakefield

Event Report

Agenda

Your Climate Adaptation Network

Monday 3 June 2013

1.00pm - 3.00pm

The Orangery, Back Lane, Wakefield, WF1 2TG

Chair: **Jon Clubb**

Climate Change Coordinator

Your Climate

Time	Agenda Item	Speaker(s)
12.30 – 1.00	Networking	
1.00 – 1.15	Welcome & Introductions	Jon Clubb - Your Climate
1.15 – 1.35	Overview of Adaptation Policy & Support Short presentation of the policy context and delivery bodies including Climate Ready, Climate UK & Your Climate	Victoria Slingsby - Environment Agency & Jon Clubb - Your Climate
1.35 – 2.00	Supporting Local Action Group discussions on what you'd like the Adaptation Network to cover	All
2.00 – 2.45	Understanding User Needs from Science & Research <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of the Adaptation & Resilience in a Changing Climate (ARCC) programme and user needs• Informing Climate Adaptation Decisions 'project ICAD'	Kristen Guida – Climate South East Susanne Lorenz – University of Leeds
2.45 – 2.55	Notice Board Opportunity to promote events, publications and resources to the network	All
2.55 – 3.00	Any other business / close	All

[Presentations are available to download from the Your Climate website](#)

Delegates

Organisation Name	First Name	Last Name	Position
Bradford MBC	Pam	Bhupal	Environment Officer
Climate South East	Kristen	Guida	Director
Craven DC	Craig	Wilson	Asset Efficiency and Compliance Officer
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	Gary	Arnold	Senior Sustainable Development Officer
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	Robert	Beardsworth	Community & Sustainable Development Officer
Environment Agency	Victoria	Slingsby	Principal Officer, Climate Change
Hambleton DC	Bryony	Wilford	Sustainable Development Officer
Kirklees Council	John	Aitkinson	Environment Assistant
Rotherham MBC	David	Rhodes	Corporate Environment Manager
University of Leeds	Susanne	Lorenz	Postgraduate Student
Wakefield Council	Norah	Kean-Corr	Energy Manager
West Yorkshire Police	Georgina	Penfold	Energy & Environment Manager
Yorkshire Ambulance Service	Alexis	Keech	Environmental & Sustainability Manager
Yorkshire Water	Amanda	Crossfield	Lead Advisor for Climate Change Adaptation
Your Climate	Jon	Clubb	Climate Change Coordinator
Your Climate	Ruth	Hardingham	CCSF Project Officer

Discussion summary

Item 1 - Welcome and introductions

Jon Clubb from **Your Climate** welcomed delegates to the Adaptation Network meeting, highlighting that this was a development of the previous Adaptation Sub-Group whose membership had been limited to a small number of local authority officers and partners who had been leading delivery of Regional Improvement & Efficiency Partnership (REAP) funded adaptation projects. In the context of supporting the Environment Agency with delivery of their Climate Ready programme, Your Climate was proposing to reconstitute the network and open it up to a much wider stakeholder base. This would encourage the best possible level of shared learning, dissemination of information and networking opportunities for those involved in delivery of adaptation to climate change work.

Attendees shared examples of current work or ambitions, which included:

Bradford MBC's involvement in the EU funded [Flood Resilient City](#) project, Rotherham MBC undertaking a gap analysis utilising the skills of a student placement from Sheffield Hallam. Craven DC were developing their climate change strategy and looking at community resilience issues and the Environment Agency's [flood warning service](#). Hambleton DC were linking adaptation with their 'stay healthy' programme, whilst East Riding of Yorkshire were taking forward work under their affordable warmth programme and looking at the role of neighbourhood planning. The Yorkshire Ambulance Service had been approached by Climate Ready to develop an Adaptation Plan, to be scaled up nationally. YAS is also working with a Leeds University postgraduate student to look at how services are affected by flooding; focusing on the Doncaster, Sheffield and York areas.

Item 2 - Overview of adaptation policy and support

CLIMATE READY

Victoria Slingsby from the **Environment Agency** outlined the agency's role in acting to reduce climate change and its consequences – in particular by helping people and wildlife adapt. The organisation had a long track record of operating and delivering on this agenda and using robust climate data to underpin strategic planning. In 2010 the Environment Agency had produced an adaptation report [Managing the Environment in a Changing Climate](#) which can be used a framework for other organisations looking to review their climate risks.

The Environment Agency has two adaptation roles that are related but distinct:

- To adapt their own business to a changing climate by delivering the actions in their adaptation report.
- To build and facilitate national resilience by delivering the national adaptation programme under the Climate Ready support service (with other partners).

The second role relates directly to the National Adaptation Programme (NAP) that was being developed with Defra and partners. The [Climate Ready](#) Support Service is a National service that aims to help 'key sectors increase their resilience to climate risks' and covers the key sectors:

- Natural Environment
- Agriculture & Forestry
- Built environment
- Infrastructure
- Business & Economy
- Local Authorities
- Health & Wellbeing

[Examples of activity delivered by Climate Ready in each sector can be viewed in the full presentation slide pack.](#)

Post-meeting note: the [National Adaptation Programme](#) was published on 1 July by DEFRA.

YOUR CLIMATE & CLIMATE UK

Jon Clubb from **Your Climate** provided an overview of recent local delivery and of work already undertaken at a local level to identify climate risks, impacts and action to become more resilient. These included a range of Local Climate Impact Profiles undertaken by each local authority as well as [Comprehensive Risk Assessments](#) that provide a strong evidence base for future actions. A [summary of the key issues for Yorkshire and Humber](#) from the [Regional Adaptation Study](#) and National Climate Change Risk Assessment was available on-line via the Your Climate website.

We noted the current governance arrangements for Your Climate and that the partnership was part of a network of independent Climate Change Partnerships called [Climate UK](#), who provide outreach and support on climate change issues for businesses, organisations and communities, and are represented in each of the regions as well as the Devolved Administrations. Priorities for Your Climate in 2013-14 were to:

- Engage clearly and simply with businesses
- Build capacity and expertise across public, education and third sectors
- Develop projects to support a resilient and low carbon future
- Influence and support the National Adaptation Programme

Item 3 - Supporting local action

Jon Clubb introduced this session which gave an opportunity for attendees to discuss how they would like the network to develop and what areas to focus on. Key issues for discussion were what were the challenges on taking action, what future topics should be covered, ideas for guest speakers, what sector specific expertise was 'in the room' and who else should be invited to join the network. Table discussions were facilitated by Jon Clubb, Victoria Slingsby and Ruth Hardingham and the outputs were shared with the group and are collated below.

Question	Comments
What are your key challenges on taking action?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community understanding and language barriers • Staff resource issues; loss of knowledge and expertise, lack of continuity, inability to make adaptation part of other peoples' work • Not high on the agenda at present • Buy-in, particularly internally
What kind of network would best support you?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining an active archive of data and information for reference • A network that allows the ability to network, influence, meet people and build CC into other peoples' work • Translation of information for LA action/implementation • Access to academic peer reviewed research and materials • Ensure broad membership • Guidance as to different forums that are helpful • A Knowledge Transfer Exchange • Facilitating discussion – particularly with utilities operators • Sharing of best practice case studies • Having access to networks in Yorkshire • Talking to Senior Officers as it would help for an external party to push items onto the agenda • Like the Carbon Trust do, it would be helpful to have external verification on reports such as Carbon Management reports • Helpful hints • Undertaking joint initiatives • Templates for producing Adaptation Plans • A list of useful contacts
Please suggest ideas for topics to cover and speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interdependencies between category 1 and 2 responders • Growth and jobs • Best practice, lessons learnt from on going projects • Public health, NHS and Health & Well Being Boards • Kent Council – SWIMS project • Public and private bodies who have been through the process of Adaptation Plans • Business Continuity teams • South Yorkshire Emergency Resilience Forum • Resilience Teams • Planning and Development Management officers • Base City Leeds • (Heat mapping and community energy schemes) • MET office • Yorkshire Energy Services – 'Investors in the Environment'
Do you have a particular expertise that you can share?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirklees – Low carbon and retrofit and the links to adaptation • Alexis, Yorkshire Ambulance Service – fleet and health
Who else should be invited to the network?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEPs and City Regions • Sustainability Managers • Business, Chamber of Commerce of Green Business Club

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic partners • Developers • House builders federation • National Operators Forum – regional contacts
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Item 4 – Understanding user needs from science and research

Adaptation & Resilience in a Changing Climate (ARCC) programme and user needs

Kristen Guida, Director of Climate South East, gave an overview of the [ARCC](#) programme where she is currently on a part-time secondment. The coordination network has been funded by [EPSRC](#) since January 2009 to:

- promote stakeholder engagement and targeted dissemination
- maximise the potential benefits of the research to all end users
- promote collaboration of researchers
- facilitate the further exploration of related knowledge and knowledge gaps

The full presentation is available on the [Your Climate website to download](#). Working in groups, we considered a number of questions to help shape the ongoing legacy to the programme.

Question	Comments
Were you aware of ARCC?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two delegates were aware of ARCC, specifically the BIOPPIC project.
If so, what has it done well?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIOPPIC project was well received
What could it improve upon and any functions it should perform?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to improve communication to ensure recognition • Ensuring tools are accessible and located in one place • Keep tools up to date • Too many websites
What other academic research networks do you use?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JRF – social justice and climate change • Yorkshire PEAT Partnership • CIWEM (Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management) • UKWIR – UK Water Industry Research, a joint research body for the water industry <p><i>Yorkshire Water highlighted that they have a five year research programme.</i></p>
Are there effective networks that produce a good example?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeds City Council run an excellent network led by Tom Knowland looking at joint projects, funding, procurement and green technologies • Green Drinks network (Leeds) run by Alexis Keech
Where do you go for research?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government department websites • Carbon Trust • Environment Agency • Two Degrees • Business Green • Google • UKCIP website

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGA • realclimate.org • Public Health England • DECC • Local Government Information Unit • Forestry Commission • Transition Towns
Where should the products of ARCC sit?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to talk to networks that the products affect and then decide – as it could be a variety of sources depending on sector. • Location should be appropriate to user • Climate UK website cited as a possibility
How do you normally meet your knowledge / research needs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yorkshire Ambulance Service – approaches universities and has already worked with 10 postgraduate research students • Rotherham have approached Sheffield Hallam University

Informing Climate Adaptation Decisions ‘ Project ICAD’

Susanne Lorenz from the University of Leeds highlighted the Project ICAD - Informing Climate Adaptation Decisions. The four year project funded by the European Research Council will look at how adaptation research is used across disciplines and the most effective ways of managing knowledge.

There are two main strands of work. One looking at current climate information available in the UK today and how users, typically government, private and third sectors use it and perceive it. The second strand of work looks at the specific climate information itself and asks those who produce it how users’ non-scientific interpretation of data may impact on the adaptation decision making process. The research will ultimately feed into the next Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) and inform government policy.

More information on project ICAD is available from the [University of Leeds](#).

Item 5 – Notice Board

This agenda item was to allow attendees to share with the network current projects, events and activities they were engaged with.

Alexis Keech - Yorkshire Ambulance Service

- working on adaptation plan for the Ambulance Service
- Leeds Green Drinks – meets every 4th Tuesday of the month at The Lounge in Leeds
- Noted the NHS Climate Change Management Group that operated regionally
- Highlighted the work of the Local Comprehensive Clinical Research Networks LCCRN

Amanda Crossfield – Yorkshire Water

- Yorkshire Water were producing a position statement on their [Climate Change and Extreme Weather Action Plan](#), due to be published around August / September
- Working on ‘PR14’ 5 year business plan that will see £5bn of investment

Susanne Lorenz - *University of Leeds*

- Highlighted Climate North East's Connect Friday on Twitter as good social networking platform to engage with businesses.

Item 6 – Any Other Business

It was confirmed that presentations would be made available on-line after the meeting. With regard to a question on when and how often the network might meet, Jon suggested that the network could aim to meet quarterly with the next session in September.