

## Agenda

### Regional Climate Change Partnership meeting

14:30 – 16:30 on Mon 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Bradford Room, Lateral.

1. Chair's welcome, apologies and introductions **(AB)**
  - 1.1 Official introduction to the new Climate Change Co-ordinator – Jon Clubb **(AB)**
2. Points of accuracy and action points from minutes of previous meeting **(AB)**
3. Climate Change Plan and Regional Adaptation Study – joint launch.
  - 3.1 Events management **(NF/IL)**
4. Climate Change Plan amendments
  - 4.1 Section leads final comments:
    - Health **(TG)**
    - Land Management **(GH/LR)**
    - Housing & Transport **(JS)**
    - Business **(SB)**
    - Strategy development **(SB)**
    - Public engagement/changing behaviours **(TG)**
5. Integrating climate change into the SNR **(JC)**
6. Adaptation
  - 6.1 Regional Adaptation Study & regional team development - feedback from the cross sectoral workshop. **(all who attended)**
  - 6.2 Developments on UK Climate projections. **(AS)**
7. AOB **(All)**
8. Dates of future meetings **(All)**

**Close**

**Yorkshire & Humber Climate Change Partnership Meeting**  
**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 08**

**Brief Notes and Action Points**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Arthur Barker (Hambleton DC) (AB) (Chair)	Les Newby (Yorkshire Futures) (LN)
Tim Godson (GOYH) (TG)	Paul Bellotti (East Riding) (PB)
Paul Cocks (GOYH) Secretariat (PC)	Liz Edgington (BiTC) (LE)
Cathy Milan (LGYH) (CM)	Laura Owen (Yorkshire Water) (LO)
Jeremy Walker (Regional Flood Defence Committee) (JW)	Tina Penswick (GOYH) (TP)
Simon Bowens (FoE) (SBs)	Carole Cozens (YH Assembly) (CC)
Jatinder Singh-Mehmi (Y&H Assembly) (JSM)	Gail Hammond (Yorkshire Water) (GH)
Stephen Brown (Yorkshire Forward) (SB)	
Martyn Roberts (Y & H Assembly) (MR)	
Anna Steynor (UKCIP) (AS)	

**1. Chair's welcome, apologies & introductions**

AB welcomed all present, introductions were made around the table and apologies were noted.

**2. Points of accuracy and actions points from minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 08 meeting**

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record. Any outstanding actions were to be considered within subsequent agenda items.

**3. Climate Change Plan Development**

**3.1 Finalising the plan**

TG said no amendments to actions in the built environment section to widen from housing have been made. SB commented that these had previously been sent to GOYH.

**Action – TG/PC to find and update.**

TG said that comments had been received the Plan should contain specific carbon targets. It was felt that the plan was not a complete picture of activity but identified gaps – targets already existed in RES/RSS and would need to drawn up as part of SIRS. SB said he will include scale of ambitions on carbon reduction in the appropriate place.

**Action – SB to amend and email to TG/PC.**

It was agreed by the partnership that a better quality graph is needed in the CCP.

**Action – MR to find better graph and email to TG/PC.**

SB said the tone of the CCP is too down beat and needs to be more tailored to the region. JW also mentioned the CCP needs a sense of urgency. AS said the challenge can be linked in with the adaptation study.

**Action – SB to send YF suggested amendments to JW, JW to send on news sections to TG/PC.**

AB commented on the built environment section saying it had changed to housing and that there should be something else on SUD's. SB said it would be better to mention mitigation and the run off of water.

Discussion had taken place over adding 'water' as an objective, TG passed on comments on different water issues in the Lincolnshire part of the region. AB raised the issue of sustainable urban drainage. It was agreed that 'water' would be added in a way similar to energy & waste pointing out where it was covered in the rest of the document, such as land management and where work was already taking place. Water are currently working on.

**Action - JS/GH to draft 'water' section to add to CCP (also liaise with Anglia region). Email to PC/TG.**

**POST MEETING NOTE – all revised sections to be sent to PC by WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY copied to Jon Clubb, Regional Climate Change Co-ordinator (jon.clubb@lgyh.gov.uk)**

#### **4. Adaptation**

##### **4.1 Regional Adaptation Study & regional team development (MR)**

Recent steering group meeting was held and they are well into stage 3 – impacts assessment. Cross sectoral workshops are being held to bring this together meaning the study is on schedule. An executive summary will be published on a microsite on the yourclimate website.

##### **4.2 Developments on UK Climate Projections (AS)**

AS said they are going to include a section on the UK Climate projections. UKIP08 has now changed to UK Climate Projections. The figures haven't changed but there will be further additions. Also, due to the delay Defra have reviewed the methodology.

Launch is due in Spring 2009 but will not be complete in time for the launch on Fri 13<sup>th</sup> March 09.

#### **5. Explore possibility of launching 'Adaptation Study' jointly with CCP.**

It is agreed by the Climate Change Partnership that the Adaptation study will be launched jointly with the Climate Change Plan on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March in York. It was agreed by all that all logo's within the partnership will be used as representation at the launch.

**Action – YHA to lead on the launch on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. MR to email PC details of events company to invite to next CCP meeting (Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 09)**

**Action - SB to ask Richard Lambert to be launch leader in conjunction with YHA on Fri 13<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Action - PC to create template invitation to launch for AB to send out to Climate Change wider network.**

#### **6. Feedback from high level meeting with regional minister Rt Hon Rosie Winterton. Particularly : (AB)**

AB said it was clear that the Rt Hon Rosie Winterton wanted buy-in from all the big organizations across the region. SB said YF are holding a meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 09 where he will attempt to get buy-in off half a dozen big business organizations in the region.

#### **7. AOB (ALL)**

CM said the new CC Co-ordinator, Jon Clubb, will be introduced at the next CCP meeting. It was agreed after initial meetings with Partners that Jon would have a fuller induction programme to get to know their organisations better.

TG said that a review is needed of the partnership members in light of post-SNR discussions.

TG wants to discuss Defra's Local Regional Adaptation Board at next CCP meeting on Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 09.

8. **Dates of future meetings (ALL)**

Next meeting to be held on Mon 26<sup>th</sup> January at 2.30pm – Bradford Room, Lateral, Leeds.

**Close**

## **Project Brief**

### **Climate Change Action Plan & Regional Adaptation Study – Launch Event**

Date: 13 March 2009  
Venue: Events Centre, Royal York Hotel, York.  
Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm followed by lunch

#### **1. Project description**

The completion of the Yorkshire & Humber Climate Change Plan (CCP) and the Regional Adaptation Study (RAS) mark a major milestone in the drive to better understand the challenges and to accelerate action on tackling climate change in the region. This project is about publically launching these two complementary pieces of work and signalling a shift in emphasis from strategy to delivery.

#### **2. Objectives**

Key objectives for the launch event are to secure:

- the attendance of 60 – 70 partners and stakeholders from across the region who will help support and deliver the actions in the CCP and RAS,
- buy in and senior political representation at a regional and national level to raise the profile of the CCP and RAS,
- raised awareness of the results and key findings of the RAS,
- raised awareness and promotion of partnership activity to deliver the actions arising from the RAS and the CCP; and
- positive media coverage regionally and nationally, including trade and specialist press.

#### **3. Scope**

The scope of the event should ensure that equal prominence is given to both the CPP and RAS. Attendance will be by invitation only, which will be extended to our key delivery partners stakeholders.

- A draft programme for the event is attached at appendix A.

#### **4. Constraints**

The date for the event has been agreed as 13 March 2009. Attendance of Ministers at the event is subject to their availability which is subject to change at short notice. Alternative speakers will have to be planned for if a Minister is unable to attend.

#### **5. Sustainability**

The production of the launch event must be sensitive to its environmental impact. Therefore the venue should be readily accessible by public transport with clear directions provided to encourage attendees to travel by public transport, by bicycle or on foot. Quantities of printed materials on the day should be kept to a minimum with everything available on-line. Catering

should utilise local producers and be fair trade and / or organic where possible.

## 6. Partnerships

This event is being delivered by a partnership of the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly secretariat, Yorkshire Futures, staff from Local Government Yorkshire & Humber, and staff from the Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber.

## 7. High level milestones

The most immediate priority is to finalise the event programme, guest list, and to start to send out invitations for the launch. It is anticipated that design work on any printed materials will need to commence at the end of the first week in February to allow time for amendments, sign off and print.

Task	Owner	Start date	End date
Sign off scope for event	JC	26/1/09	26/1/09
Invitations sent out	PC / NF	26/1/09	13/2/09
Final text to designers	JC / MR	6/2/09	6/2/09
Artwork signed off for print	JC / MR	2/3/09	2/3/09
Initial drafts of speeches prepared	JC	2/2/09	13/2/09
Printed material delivered	JC / MR	9/3/09	9/3/09
Event delivered	NF / JC	13/3/09	13/3/09

## 8. Project costs

Estimated costs for the project are as follows:

Royal York Day Delegate rate at £49.00 per person - based on 100	= £4,900
Savilles AV suppliers/management on day	= £2,000
Misc costs, hire car, extra refreshments, etc	= £ 300
Print and design costs	= £2,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>= £9,700</b>

Jon Clubb  
**Regional Climate Change Coordinator**  
16 January 2009

## **CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN AND REGIONAL ADAPTATION STUDY LAUNCH EVENT**

**FRIDAY 13 MARCH 2009**

**EVENTS CENTRE, ROYAL YORK HOTEL, YORK**

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### **PROGRAMME**

9.30	Registration
10.00	Welcome and Introduction <i>Cllr Arthur Barker, Yorkshire and Humber Assembly Sustainable Development Board Chair</i>
10.15	Keynote Speech:  Rosie Winterton – TBC Ed Miliband – TBC
10.40	Q&A Session with Minister/s
10.55	Break
11.15	Climate Change Plan Background Jeremy Walker?
11.30	Regional Adaptation Study Background Royal Haskoning?
11.45	Q&A Panel session Chaired by Arthur Barker (LGYH)  Panel members:  Yorkshire Forward Yorkshire Futures Natural England Royal Haskoning Environment Agency/Jeremy Walker
12.15	Taking forward delivery of the strategy (Jon Clubb, LGYH)

12.20 Formal launch/ electronic sign up session?

12.30 Lunch and close of event



A photograph of a wind farm in a rural landscape. In the foreground, there is a field of tall, golden-brown grasses. Several white wind turbines are visible, with one large one on the right side of the frame. The background shows rolling hills under a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

# Climate Change Plan for Yorkshire and the Humber

*Your Climate, Our Future*

**2009 – 2014**

## **FOREWORD BY RT HON ROSIE WINTERTON MP**

Climate change is the greatest challenge facing our society. The problem is global. In the medium term international action is needed to reduce the threat it poses.

Meanwhile the climate and weather patterns are changing here and now. Severe weather events are getting more frequent. We have to adapt to this change. We also need to do whatever we can to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. This means finding solutions and changing the way we do things at local level too.

In 2005 Yorkshire and the Humber was the first region in England to produce a Climate Change Plan. Much has happened since then and the issue has climbed to the top of the political agenda. Increasingly climate change will impact on the international economy, business development and every community across the globe. As it does so it will both present big challenges and open up new opportunities. It is right that our region prepares proactively. This new regional Plan is part of that process. Its purpose is to ensure that all sectors are alive to the issues and that these continue to be embedded in regional plans and strategies. It has my wholehearted support as Minister for Yorkshire and the Humber.

*ROSIE WINTERTON*

## **A REALISITIC VISION**

As a region we are one of the most exposed in the UK to the issue of climate change. Due to our industrial base of power stations, oil refineries and chemical plants, we have one of the most carbon intensive economies in Europe. Additionally, the low lying parts of our region have the second highest flood risk in the UK after London. Consequently, we need to transform our economy, investment priorities and day to day practice if we are to be successful in reducing emissions and adapting to the changing climate. By adopting the right policies and promoting change, we can make the most of the opportunities that climate change may bring. This will be a huge challenge, but it can be done. Some of the key features of what the region would look like if it is to be successful in living with the changing climate are:

- Climate change mitigation and adaptation underpin future regional strategy and with leadership displayed at regional and local levels.
- The economy is more diverse, with the development of innovative, resource efficient, low carbon products and services in all sectors.
- Businesses use carbon trading effectively to stimulate investment in emissions reduction and new low carbon business opportunities.
- Waste is reduced by making products with fewer resources, breaking the link between economic growth and waste growth.
- Renewable energy forms an increasingly substantial proportion of our energy mix and the region is effective at reducing emissions from this sector.
- Resource efficient living is becoming part of every day lives. We have reduced consumption and waste and many more people are buying local.

- Car use is reducing year on year. Cycling and walking or public transport are much more popular ways to travel.
- All new development is zero carbon. Most of the region's homes and all public buildings have been retrofitted to improve resource efficiency.
- There is less waste. More than half is recycled or composted. More than 75% of our municipal waste has a value recovered from it.
- Agriculture and forestry are achieving higher production in a longer growing season supplying more local markets, and are effectively maintaining soil quality and managing more extreme weather with new disease and pest threats.
- We are better prepared for the management of extreme weather events, including floods and droughts
- We are able to help the natural environment, its habitats and biodiversity stay healthy and have been able to adapt to the changes through an extensive network of green corridors and infrastructure.
- Cities and towns are creating networks of green infrastructure, designed to minimise effects of heat waves in urban areas, to enhance biodiversity and help manage flood risk.

## THE CHALLENGE

In Yorkshire and The Humber latest forecasts are that, compared with the 1990's, **by 2080 average temperatures will have risen by between 1.6°C and 3.9°C** and annual rainfall will reduce by between 10% and 20%. The growing season may lengthen further. The prospect of warmer weather, more time to grow things and less Yorkshire rain may sound appealing, but it hides big threats.

These temperature changes may bring a large rise in the level of North Sea of up to 1 metre. This might not sound much, but when virtually all of Hull and much of the Humber sub region is already below high tide level, it's easy to see that any rise in sea level brings a higher risk of serious flooding. The increases in air temperature will also bring more extreme weather events.

We will experience more extreme weather events, and the flooding, heat waves, storm damage and drought that will result will have most impact in urban areas where population densities are greatest. Pressure on water supply will also grow. Some species and habitats in the region will suffer serious threats, although some others may benefit. Air quality is also likely to suffer. Public health services will face new challenges. Agriculture too will have to deal with new pressures and threats. Coastal areas will experience increased land erosion, loss of intertidal habitats and more tidal flooding.

The impact of climate change will be global, and there will be knock-on effects for the UK and our region, for example as a result of greatly increase competition for food and water resources or migration. Reducing our emissions can also contribute to reducing the rate of future global climate change. Demand for new technologies, processes and products will create a new businesses environment – leading to new opportunities and exposing us to new risks and competition.



We must prepare for these changes and adapt. At the same time we need to help prevent further climate change by reducing carbon emissions. In this regard there are already regional and national targets to cut carbon/greenhouse gas emissions and increase supply of energy from renewable sources. New long term emissions targets will also form part of the Climate Change Act.

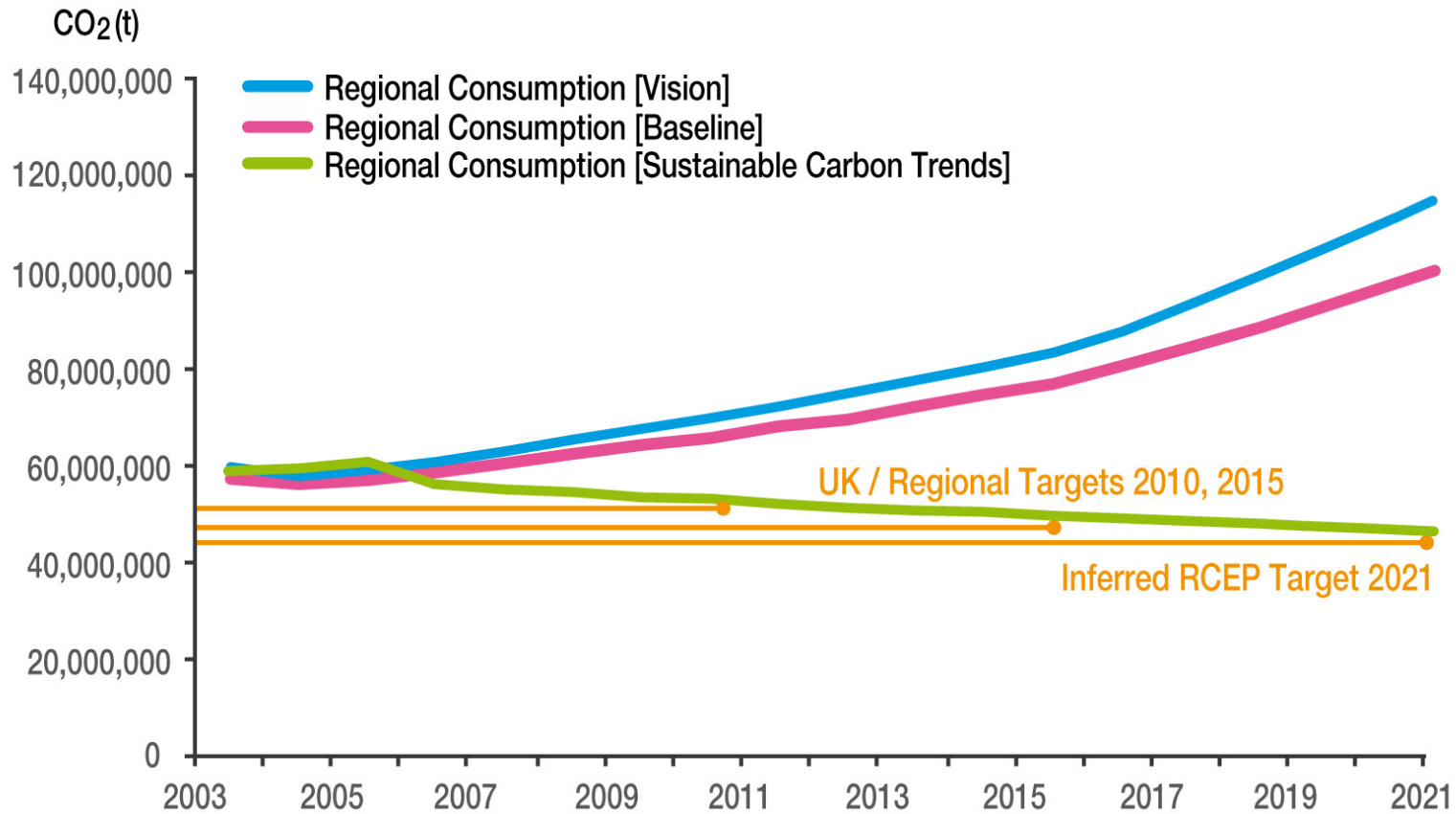
As the figures below show, meeting our region's existing climate change targets is a considerable challenge. The generation and use of energy, goods and services, much of which is exported out with the region, means we produce high levels of greenhouse gas emissions – and recent studies suggest that without significant change emissions will increase steadily, while target levels call for reductions. In similar vein, the region's power generation from renewable sources in 2007 had achieved only about a quarter of the modest target level set for 2010.

Although achievement is lagging behind the targets, there are very many programmes and initiatives in the region which will help to improve delivery. These are led by organisations in every sector – local councils, companies and business organisations, voluntary groups, health trusts, regional agencies, government bodies and many others. There are growing networks between concerned individuals; and organisations. Awareness of the issues is rising. But more will need to be done if the challenging national and regional targets are to be met. By setting out a framework for ensuring that as many plans, policies and decisions affecting the region can take account of climate change issues the task should become more manageable.

This framework for action will not be static. It will need to be reviewed in light of significant new regulation and knowledge. It will be developed as new information becomes available, as new technologies come on stream and new initiatives taken up. The legal context will develop once the Climate Change Bill becomes law. More national and international research can be expected. Specifically 2009 will also see the UK Climate Impacts Programme publish detailed regional and local information about the

predicted effects of climate change. The Yorkshire and Humber Regional Adaptation Study will also be completed. The plan will be updated periodically and appropriate actions will be added.

Graph illustrating that consumption is project to almost double between 2003 – 2021 under current strategies.



Source: [Yorkshire & Humber Assembly: Evaluating the Contribution that Key Regional Strategies make towards addressing Climate Change](#) (page 4).



## **THE PLAN**

This action plan sets a strategic direction for managing and combating climate change in the Yorkshire and Humber region over the next five years.

The plan does not list lots of detailed actions. It is not specifically linked to CO<sub>2</sub> targets and cannot provide a breakdown of how they will be achieved. There are already a number of national, regional and local initiatives to deliver these targets. The plan sets out a way forward, which will become clearer in the future Single Integrated Regional Strategy - that will bring together the Regional Economic Strategy (RES) and Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).

It identifies gaps and sets out added value so partnership working will bring greater impacts rather than listing the mitigation and adaptive actions that every organisation needs to be putting in place.

The plan's purpose is to demonstrate the principles for regional and local leaders, and for decision makers in all sectors of what we require to help the region adapt to climate change, and to reduce our contribution to its causes. It covers areas where discussions with regional and local stakeholders suggest that current work and programmes on their own will not deliver the outcomes required and joint action will be required.

Although it begins with a vision of how Yorkshire and The Humber might want to look in 2020, this plan is intended to inform and influence developments over the next five years. Its framework for action is divided into nine priority areas:

- **STRATEGY AND MONITORING**, because new regional and local plans such as the Integrated Regional Strategy, Sustainable Community Plans and Multi Area Agreements being developed. The latest information on climate change impacts and forecasts needs to be an integral part of them. The Plan puts a responsibility on the region to track progress and take remedial action where necessary.
- **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**, because almost half of our carbon emissions come from the operation of our housing stock. Although the Government aims to have all new build carbon neutral from 2019 at least 70% of the housing stock we will have in 2050 is already built to much lower carbon efficiency standards.
- **TRANSPORT**, because around 30% of greenhouse gas emissions come from transport. Research also tells us that making significant progress will be very difficult without a big reduction in car use or the development of low carbon alternatives.
- **HEALTH SERVICES**, because the health sector must deal with the growing impact of extreme weather on health and welfare, which will get more serious as the population ages. The health sector also generates significant carbon emissions.
- **BUSINESS**, because industry and business account for around a quarter of carbon emissions, and because there are major business opportunities in developing low carbon technologies, products and processes.

- **LAND MANAGEMENT**, because the way the land is managed needs to adapt to changing weather patterns and can help to increase the resilience of the region to the impact of climate change. Different land management practices can also reduce the impact of change on species and agriculture, as well as create opportunities for sustainable food and energy supply, and carbon sequestration.
- **CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT**, because adapting to change and reducing future emissions require all of us to be prepared to do things differently and to make choices which at first seem difficult and inconvenient.
- **ENERGY**, because the consumption of fossil fuel based energy sources is the biggest direct influence on the volume of greenhouse gas emissions.
- **WASTE**, because waste streams are important potential sources of materials and energy. Increasing recycling and reducing landfill will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **WATER**, because the pressures on water resources and water and sewerage infrastructure will increase. Water efficiency is key to reducing the impact of water treatment and pumping on carbon emissions and ensuring security of water supply over the longer term. The region already recognises its vulnerability to flooding and must improve resilience to increased flood risk as a result of climate change.

The resources required are indicated by

£ - likely to be delivered from existing allocated resources,

££ - additional resources will be needed,

£££ - this needs a major shift in mainstream funding to deliver.

## PRIORITY AREA 1: STRATEGY AND MONITORING

New arrangements for regional governance under the Sub National Review are still being finalised. Currently the region will be tasked with developing a single Integrated Regional Strategy (IRS) that incorporates the current statutory strategies and action plans, including the Climate Change Plan. The IRS will undergo a substantial process of sustainability appraisal and strategic environmental assessment. The Climate Change Plan and Partnership members must seek to strongly influence the development of the IRS. Progress against targets will need to be closely monitored, and will need to take into account current obligations under Planning Policy Statement 1 on Sustainable Development and its supplement on climate change, and legal requirements emerging from the Climate Change Act of 2008.

Work at the sub regional and local level will need to be co-ordinated across sectors, as will be work on adaptation to climate change following completion of the regional adaptation study.

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<b>1. Climate Change Partnership to fully engage in the consultation processes for the development of the IRS, including feeding in the results of the Regional Adaptation Study</b>	Action on climate change is mainstreamed in the Integrated Regional Strategy, including adaptation risks identified	Climate Change Partnership, LGYH, Yorkshire Forward	2009-2010	£
<b>2. Leadership and advocacy on the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change is displayed at regional and local levels that can promote and support activity to ensure the delivery of the IRS reflects our climate change ambitions and implements any regional obligations of the Climate Change Act.</b>	The capacity exists in the region to ensure the implementation of the IRS meets our ambitions in climate change mitigation and adaptation and the establishment of a low carbon economy.	Climate Change Partnership, LGYH, Yorkshire Forward	2009-2014	£

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<b>3. Carbon trajectory research</b>	IRS developed in the context of a well evidenced regional carbon trajectory	Yorkshire Forward (YF), Yorkshire Futures, YHA	2009-10	£
<b>4. Regional greenhouse gas inventory</b>	Regular exercise to evidence regional progress against targets and to take corrective action where necessary	Yorkshire Forward	Every 3 years from 2009	£
<b>5. Appropriate targets agreed in each Local Agreement and in relevant Multi-Area Agreements. Progress against targets tracked and regional and local support provided to share best practice and support delivery.</b>	Emissions targets met, local authorities and partners infrastructure and services more resilient to climate change	Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber (GOYH), Local authorities, Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP)s, YF, Environment Agency (EA), Regional Improvement and Excellence Partnership (RIEP)	2009 -11	££

## PRIORITY AREA 2: BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Approximately 46 % of the UK's total carbon emissions are generated from the operation of our building stock. Encouraging adoption of building design, maintenance and refurbishment leads to better homes that use far less energy – providing more affordable warmth for inhabitants and helping to meet the region's climate change targets by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

A key driver for improved building design will be through enhance energy efficiency of new building stock, with the aim of all new housing being zero carbon from 2016, public buildings from 2018 and commercial buildings from 2019.

The majority of the housing stock in Y&H will be around in 2050 has already been built, so retrofitting and refurbishment will play a key part in reducing carbon emissions. The better understanding of modeling tools such as REAP (Resource and Energy Analysis Program) to determine the impacts of housing policy measures will also aid decision makers greatly.

The Government also published The Yorkshire and Humber Plan – (The Regional Spatial Strategy) in May 2008. The Plan is now being updated to reflect the Government's plans for increased rates/levels of house building. The impacts of additional housing units and their associated impacts on climate change will need to be considered in great detail.

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<b>1. To establish a clear regional pathway to ensure the region becomes a model for low carbon housing through a number of initiatives including:</b>	A clear reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the region's housing stock and demonstrable progress towards achieving the	Regeneration and Housing Thematic Board (under proposed new regional governance arrangements) in	2009 - 2013	££

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<b>1.1 support and promote flagship interventions in the region such as the Kirklees free home insulation scheme* and the Henley Rise* development in Rotherham</b>	aspirations detailed in the Code for Sustainable Homes	conjunction with the Homes and Communities Agency, and the sub-regional Housing Partnerships. We will also need to integrate the region's centre for excellence in skills for regeneration and the built environment.		
<b>1.2 boost regional skills and expertise in sustainable design and construction by integrating these with existing skills initiatives</b>				
<b>1.3 for existing homes research the relative carbon impacts of retrofitting/refurbishment and demolition to inform the choice between stock options</b>				
<b>1.4 consider how to provide support to existing and new communities in terms of renewable energy supply infrastructure and management at all levels</b>				
<b>1.5 adopt the 5 key recommendations contained in the UK Green Building Council report on Low Carbon Existing Homes and support the Government Low Carbon Homes Strategy</b>				



Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<b>2. Supporting the recommendations arising from the UK Green Building council consultation on the proposed Code for Sustainable Buildings</b>		Adaptation study team?	Proposals expected March 2009	
<b>3. ensure the recommendations of the Regional Adaptation Study are incorporated in to the Regional Housing Strategy to increase the resilience of new and existing housing to climate change</b>	Sector better informed on risk from changing climate and can prepare better and prioritise actions	Adaptation study team – supported by CC Co-ordinator will advise the regional housing board	Initial input October 2008- Full report February 2009 Delivery by 2012	£ to deliver study £££ to make changes required

- Yorkshire and Humber Assembly [Advice Note on Climate Change and Sustainable Design and Construction](#)
- “Making homes more energy efficient : How to reduce domestic carbon emissions while delivering a growth based housing strategy” Carbon footprint of housing in the Leeds City Region - Environment Agency and SEI report 2008
- UK Green Building Council report “Low Carbon Existing Homes” (October 2008)
- UK Green Building Council Consultation – Code for Sustainable Buildings Task Group (November/December 2008)

### PRIORITY AREA 3: TRANSPORT

The transport sector is a major source of climate change emissions and it is vital that the region investigates and delivers ways of moving towards a low carbon transport system. Recent evaluated measures to reduce CO2 emissions from transport concentrating on what could be practically delivered through transport focused interventions by key organisations in the region. The actions below reflect the recommendations of this report.\*

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<b>1. Work towards a low carbon and sustainable transport system in Yorkshire and Humber by (amongst other measures):</b>	Significant progress towards achieving the Accelerated scenario identified in the JMP/SEI report (2008)	Transport thematic board (under the proposed new regional governance arrangements) in conjunction with Integrated Transport Authorities and Local Authorities	2009 – 2013	££
<b>1.1 Increasing the number of bus and cycle lanes using DfT funding</b>				
<b>1.2 Promoting changing attitudes to different modes of transport (as exemplified by the Sustainable Towns Demonstration project) to facilitate a shift to more sustainable modes of transport</b>				
<b>1.3 Encouraging greater use of travel plans with these being explicitly linked to planning, for example by utilising the Doncaster model (a good example of travel plans being linked to planning decisions)</b>				
<b>1.4 Exploring the potential for the introduction of road user charging in specific areas</b>				
<b>1.5 Identifying and promoting a suite of initiatives to decrease the number of journeys undertaken and increase average vehicle</b>				

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
occupancy				
1.6 encouraging the implementation of more car club initiatives (such as those currently existing in Calderdale and Leeds) and the use of low carbon vehicles				
1.7 promote the need for faster long distance train travel to facilitate substituting rail journeys for air travel internally in the UK and also to the near continent				
2 Ensure recommendations from the regional adaptation study, (particularly from the infrastructure & utilities sector) are incorporated into key transport policy documents	Sector better informed on risk from changing climate and can prepare better and prioritise actions	Regional Adaptation Study Team – supported by CC Co-ordinator	Initial input October 2008; Full report _ February 2009; delivery by 2012	£ to deliver study £££ to make changes required

- [Achieving Low Carbon Sustainable Transport Systems in Yorkshire and The Humber](#), Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, March 2008

## PRIORITY AREA 4: HEALTH SERVICES

Recent national and regional major weather events greatly raised the importance in considering the health impacts of climate change. There is a key role the health and resilience sectors can play in preparing for these impacts whilst working with other key sectors.

The Health Protection Agency\* has already outlined the key impacts and how agencies need to respond – but these actions are mostly longer term than the scope of this plan. The shorter term actions, including those needed to prepare for future challenges are given below.

The health sector is keen to play its part in reducing emissions and needs to follow actions outlined under Priority Area 2 (Built Environment) and Priority Area 5 (Business). Actions below how the sector can work together.

The actions to reduce the impacts of climate change can also have benefits to the health of the population, such as increased cycling and walking and improving green spaces and planting trees. This can be positively utilised in selling the benefits of action on climate change.

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<b>Ensure that vulnerability of sections of the population are kept under review so that any future research results (such as from the SCORCHIO project)+ are shared in the region to help assess risk and help action planning</b>	Results from research projects circulated promptly to key stakeholders. Response tailored to needs of the population.	GOYH/Regional CC Coordinator / Directors of Public Health	On-going reviewed annually	Limited for sharing knowledge  ££ for extra studies
<b>Regional &amp; local resilience fora to keep risk under review with climate</b>	Annual Community Risk review to take account of	GOYH / Regional Resilience Forum /	Review annually	Part of existing process

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<b>scenarios emerging including direct impacts – such as disease threat including insect borne diseases and more indirect impacts – such as air pollution changes, including increased ozone levels.</b>	UKCP09 scenarios <sup>2</sup> and other developing regional and sub-regional data sources.	HPA		
<b>Population to change behaviours to prepare for a changing climate and the possible health impacts including food safety and excess heat Longer term planning is need on life styles in a warmer climate, such as when activities are taking place and care for vulnerable parts of the population.</b>	Behaviour change communications tool supporting Your Climate - to include health impacts and life style under a changing climate. Should show positive links to the well-being agenda.	GOYH/Regional CC Coordinator / DoH	January 2009	Website maintenance £
<b>Support continuous development of carbon reduction projects across the health sector</b>	All NHS organisations engaged in the programme.	Strategic Health Authority (SHA) to lead with PCT / NHS Trusts to deliver.	Sign up during 2009. More detailed programme to be developed.	£ initial short term capital  ££ - £££ service redesign
<b>Building design and local plan makers to take into account the need to prepare for scenarios with much higher temperatures. The retrofitting of current housing and other buildings need to take into account the necessary</b>	Lower deaths/illness from high or low temperature, less days lost at business or in education	Feed into Action Plan on built environment	See 'Built Environment above	See 'Built Environment above

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
adaptation measures.				
<b>Ensure recommendations from the regional adaptation study, (particularly from the health &amp; welfare sector) are incorporated into key regional documents</b>	Sector better informed on risk from changing climate and can prepare better and prioritise actions. This can include better provision of public drinking water under a warmer climate..	Regional adaptation study team – supported by CC Coordinator	Initial input October 2008 Full report _ February 2009 delivery by 2012	£ to deliver study  £££ to make changes required

- [\\*Health Protection Agency's 'Health effects of Climate Change in the UK 2008'](#)
- [+Sustainable Cities: Options for Responding to Climate Change Impacts and Outcomes](#)

## PRIORITY AREA 5: BUSINESS

Engagement with business is critical if we are to develop a lower carbon economy that can mitigate and adapt to climate change. The Stern Review of the economics of climate change highlighted the billions of pounds of opportunity that a low carbon economy can bring. All of the major national business organisations (e.g. CBI, Chambers of Commerce) have put climate change at the centre of their strategies and a number of businesses such as BT and Marks and Spencer are acknowledged as leaders in the field. Regional business support and engagement using Business Link for small and medium enterprises and delivered through both national and regional delivery partners will ensure that businesses of all sizes and sectors are prepared for a lower carbon economy.

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<b>Deliver practical support for businesses to improve their resource efficiency</b>	Businesses reduce costs and emissions	Strategic lead from YF, with delivery through Resource Efficiency Yorkshire (REY), Business Link, MAS and national delivery partners (e.g. Carbon Trust, Envirowise, and WRAP etc).	2009 onwards	£
<b>Establish high level business leadership group of Executive Directors from major regional companies</b>	Formation of influential group of regional business leaders to drive action on climate change	Carbon Action Yorkshire (CAY), Business in The Community (BiTC)	2008 onwards	£
<b>Increased use of carbon foot printing by businesses</b>	Businesses can measure then manage their carbon emissions	YF, BiTC ,REY, CAY, Business Link, Carbon Trust	2009 onwards	£
<b>Increase awareness and take up of sustainable procurement</b>	Businesses reduce their emissions through the procurement of low carbon	Strategic lead from YF with delivery through appropriate partners	2009 onwards	££

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
	products and services			
<b>Increase business awareness of the benefits of developing low carbon products and services</b>	Business are ready to compete in the emerging global low carbon economy	CAY, YF	2009 onwards	£
<b>Support businesses to deploy renewable energy and develop at an effective scale and products services for the renewable energy market</b>	Increased take up of renewable energy by businesses. Regional businesses more able to compete in the renewable energy market.	FEY, YF	2009 onwards	£££
<b>Ensure recommendations from the regional adaptation study, (particularly from the business &amp; economic sector) are incorporated into key regional documents</b>	Sector better informed on risk from changing climate and can prepare better and prioritise actions	Adaptation Study team – supported by CC Co-ordinator	Initial input October 2008 Full report February 2009 delivery by 2012	£ to deliver study £££ to make changes required



## PRIORITY AREA 6: LAND MANAGEMENT

There is much activity in the land management sector in response to climate change issues. These activities are being carried out by a number of different organisations and groups. The wide range of activities and the number of organisations involved adds to the complexity of the issues for this sector.

We want to ensure the Region's land is managed in a way that optimises its use whilst maximising its ability to provide resilience to climate change and minimising emissions. We want to ensure changes in land management practices are balanced so as to not exacerbate the issues Land management needs to balance the requirements for food, biodiversity, flooding, forestry, wetlands, bio-fuels and development. A multifunctional approach will be promoted, where multiple benefits are sought from use and management. As the Region's population grows the pressures on the land will increase.

Current land management practices can be enhanced by a coordinated approach which maximises the resources of the Region with the aim of ensuring climate change adaptation and mitigation. This approach will need to consider current strategies, plans and projects in order to provide a coordination and consistency.

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
Establish a Regional Land Management Forum to provide essential links between those key organisations involved in land management. Is a forum for the issues of 'non developed land' and land / soil quality. It will have strong links to development and spatial planning and the IRF. The composition and work will be detailed in the Terms of reference for the Forum.	A coordinated and coherent approach to key land management plans and activities, with the aim of optimising land management activities to address climate change.	Lead: Regional Climate Change Coordinator. Partners: Environment Agency, Natural England, Government Office, Yorkshire Forward. Yorkshire Water. Local Authorities Representative,	Forum Established by April 2009	£

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
		Forestry Commission, MoD National Park Authorities, National Farmers Union, CLA, National Trust. Woodland Trust. University Representation		
<b>Produce an overview report of the current land management in the Region</b> – establishing a baseline, current practices, identifying gaps and providing recommendations for optimising land management to address climate change.	Report on the current picture of land management in the Region, with respect to climate change adaptation and mitigation.	Commissioned by Regional Climate Change Land Management Forum	April 2010	££
<b>Develop a land management database/hub</b> – ensuring information on land management plans, activities, projects, contacts, guidance and best practice can be easily accessed. Bringing together current mapping work and if required building on this to map and quantify the potential for carbon sinks and ensure that these sinks are safeguarded.	Enable practitioners to make links between their own and other organisations' activities and encourages better coordination.	Regional Climate Change Land Management Forum	Work to commence 2009 Completion date 2011	£££
<b>Share best practice on land management practices within priority</b>	Land management practices with regard to Climate Change	Environment Agency, Forestry Commission,	Ongoing As an when	£

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<b>topics which will include softer flood management schemes, the creation of habitat networks/green infrastructure, water demand and the protection of carbon sinks such as in the uplands</b>	improved in the region.	YF, Natural England,	project/work complete All complete by April 2012	
<b>Produce Regional climate change land management guidance –</b> Providing a coordinated approach with guidance that incorporates existing strategies, policies, national and other region's information, research and best practice to allow informed decisions on land management.& use	Barriers to climate change orientated land management addressed	Regional Climate Change Land Management Forum	October 2010	££
<b>Identify barriers to land management change for climate change and take forward actions resolve those issues</b>	Highlights what can be done to remove the barriers that prevent land management actions to address climate change and identify who should be responsible for those actions. Where possible take action to resolve the issues or influence policy to make action possible	Regional Climate Change Land Management Forum	April 2011	££
<b>Produce a Regional land management climate change strategy</b>	Provides the framework for addressing climate change and land management in the Region.	Regional Climate Change Land Management Forum	April 2010	££
<b>Monitoring and reporting</b>	The Forum will monitor and report	Regional Climate	April 2009	£

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
	on progress against the action every six months. These will be made available on the “Your Climate “ website.	Change Land Management Forum		
<b>Ensure recommendations from the regional adaptation study, (particularly from the biodiversity sector) are incorporated into key regional documents</b>	Sector better informed on risk from changing climate and can prepare better and prioritise actions that include the region’s ability to have robust ecosystems and ‘functional habitat networks’ which allow organisms to respond to the threat of climate change	Adaptation Study team – supported by CC Co-ordinator	Initial input October 2008 Full report _ February 2009 delivery by 2012	£ to deliver study  £££ to make changes required

## PRIORITY AREA 7: CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

A key factor in delivering both reduction in carbon emissions and developing resilience to a changing climate is changing the behaviours of all citizens, and through the goods and services they purchase the behaviours of businesses and public bodies.

This Plan is aimed at regional and local bodies but the Climate Change Partnership want to ensure that information is available on a simple web based system on how individuals in the region can take their own steps to address climate change.

Defra have identified the key behaviours\* that they consider can and should be changed to deliver the benefits needed and the attitudes of different groups to these changes. They are set out below and the full paper is at:

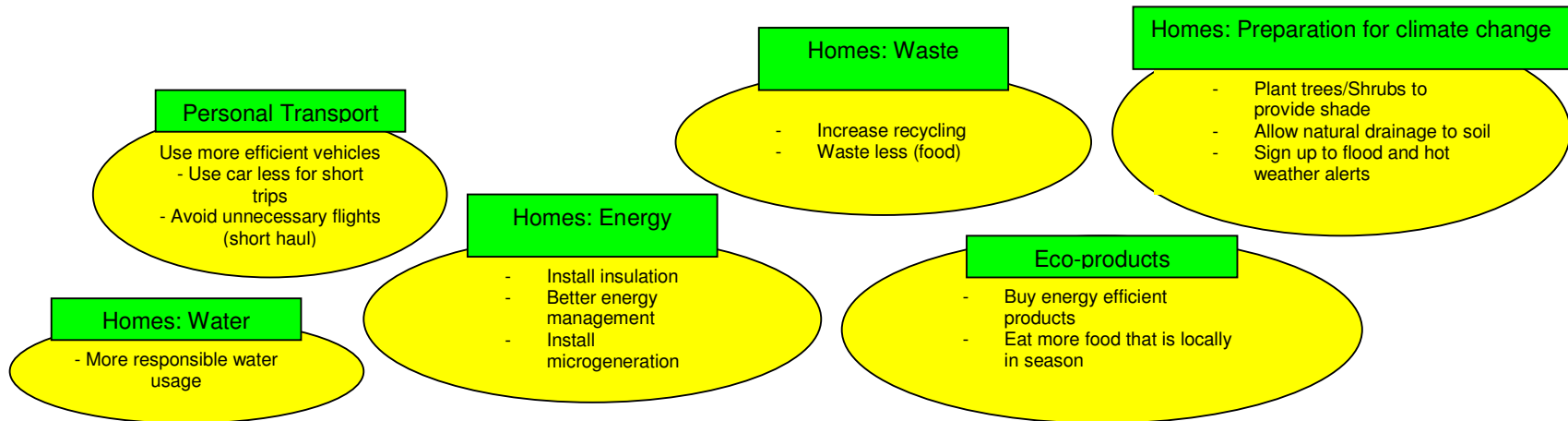
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/evidence/social/behaviour/index.htm>

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
<p><b>Establish a group to look at the behaviours to be addressed and the level to address them i.e. look at national, regional and/or local level and examine how programmes of activity can be taken forward in Y&amp;H.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to support current local and sub-regional work, build on examples such as the Care4air work in South Yorkshire.</li> <li>• Utilise businesses as influencers of customer choice and as employers</li> </ul>	<p>Co-ordinated campaigns help regional and local bodies to bring about changes in behaviour, which reduce emissions and improve resilience</p> <p>Production of a regionally/locally focused guide to behaviour change</p>	<p>GOYH</p> <p>Local authorities</p> <p>VCS sector - FoE /WWF/ YHREF/Faith sector</p> <p>Businesses representatives such as BltC</p>	<p>Establish group by March 09</p>	<p>Partner time to discuss best approach</p> <p>May need extra resource to generate guide and produce website of information</p>

Action	Outcome	Lead & partners	Timescale	Resource Implications
of staff, use customers to influence services and products available				
<b>Use schools as excellent places to encourage environmental good practice and so that young people sell the benefits to their families to encourage in the home</b> <b>Coordinate activity between the Climate Change Partnership and sustainable schools work</b>	Future generations are aware of the need and informed on how to make pro-environmental behaviours	GOYH/Sustainable schools – LA/LEA/Education for sustainable development	Initial work by Summer 09 – on-going programme	£ to and build on maintain existing networks  ££ to fund exemplar and mainstream projects
<b>CCP website (Your Climate) to provide links to enable citizens to gain information on how to take positive action</b> – to provide links to existing websites and information at the national, regional and local level	Y&H citizens better able to make pro-environmental choices and local communities able to respond	GOYH /YHREF Hub	March 2009 – to be regularly updated LAs	£ Time to establish website and regularly update
<b>Take forward annual programmes of co-ordinated activity in Y&amp;H to support the other areas for action in the CCP</b>  <b>Develop work on adaptation behaviours including developing green space and planting appropriate tree species, not covering gardens with hard services, signing up to alerts</b>	Pro-environmental behaviours promoted, which reduce carbon emissions in the region	Contact with other groups where cuts across specialist areas, e.g. Waste Regional Advisory Group on waste minimisation	Annual progress	££ Resource from /business  Potential support from RIEP

\* DEFRA Headline Behaviour Goals

The behaviour changes to be considered for bringing about at the regional and local level to reduce emissions are shown below. Further adaptation behaviours need to be considered.



## **PRIORITY AREA 8: ENERGY**

Although the region is a substantial energy producer, with large shares of both national oil refining capacity and power generation, the key to reducing future emissions lies in reducing demand through lower use and better management.

We want to see more efficient energy use in all sectors and reduced demand through alternative modes of transport and improved processes, while also stimulating cleaner power generation from both conventional and new, renewable sources.

Actions in other priority areas – especially the built environment, transport and business – will make a major contribution here. And importantly other strategies exist to promote these objectives and monitor progress towards them

To co-ordinate these activities, the region has an established Energy Infrastructure Strategy with active programmes led by Yorkshire Forward on renewable energy, carbon capture and storage, heat networks and energy services and fuel poverty.

The Climate Change Partnership will work with the Regional Energy Forum to ensure that progress against targets for emissions and renewable fuels is tracked and monitored.

Details can be found at:

- [Regional Energy Infrastructure Strategy](#)
- [Vision for Biomass](#)
- The Status of Biofuels in Yorkshire and Humber
- Vision for Coal
- [A Carbon Capture and Storage Network for Yorkshire and Humber](#)
- [Energy Services and Heat Networks](#)
- [Regional Affordable Warmth Action Plan](#)



## **PRIORITY AREA 9: WASTE**

There are both regional and local strategies for the management of municipal waste that will continue to lift recycling rates and reduce landfill, including by recovery of energy.

Commercial and business waste management and minimisation is of great importance too and has the potential to increase the resource efficiency of business in the region (see Priority Area 5).

Minimising domestic waste through more effective engagement of the individual citizen is an important dimension in Priority Area 7, where strategies for combining local initiatives and regional work will be investigated.

Waste management is part of the current regional spatial strategy and will need to be included in the new integrated regional strategy. The Climate Change Partnership will work with local authorities and others to track and monitor progress against already established waste reduction targets.

## **PRIORITY AREA 10: WATER**

Climate Change will put pressure on water resources and water and sewerage infrastructure. On average, summer rainfall will reduce, resulting in lower availability and increased demand, as well as affecting river water quality, potentially increasing the need for energy intensive treatment. Changed winter rainfall patterns and variability in extreme rainfall events will increase the risk of flooding from all sources.

Although Yorkshire and Humber does not have the immediate availability problems faced by other parts of the country, by 2050 the mean monthly summer river flow in the region could be 50% lower, leading to greater incidences of drought. The huge uncertainties associated with climate change mean that planning for the future should include both immediate and longer term measures. This will ensure we are minimising risk and building resilience to the impacts of climate change, through working collaboratively to promote win-win solutions such as water efficiency.

Water is a key issue for adaptation, and the way we pump, treat, clean, heat and use water has profound implications for energy use. Although the water industry requires significant amounts of energy to pump and treat water, emissions associated with domestic hot water use have a much greater carbon impact, emitting over 5% of total UK GHG emissions. Saving water is therefore crucial to reducing carbon emissions and can make a useful contribution to achieving zero carbon homes.

Climate change will also increase the risk of all types of flooding. The Region already recognises its vulnerability to flooding and the need to take action to improve its resilience to future change. A cooperative and coordinated approach will be and taking action on the recommendation from the from the PITT review. Other priority areas will include actions which contribute to the reduction of future flood risk.

There are a number of recent national and regional policies which will further assist with the management of climate change impacts on the water sector. For example, the Climate Change Act will introduce a statutory requirement for water companies to report on the actions they are taking to respond to climate change.

Other priority areas, particularly the built environment, business and community engagement, will play a key role in contributing to both water conservation and reducing flood risk. The Climate Change Partnership will monitor progress in addressing the impact of climate change on the water sector through a review of all these areas.

Relevant water related documents include:

- [Environment Agency Water Resources Strategy 2009, \(Regional Action Plans end of 2009\)](#)
- [Water Company water resource management plans \(final due July 2009\)](#)
- [Water Company Business Plan 2010-2015 \(final to be submitted April 2009\)](#)
- [Catchment Abstraction Management plans for Yorkshire and Humber Catchments](#)
- Drought Plans (due 2010)
- [Catchment Flood Management Plans for the Yorkshire and Humber Catchments](#)
- [Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy](#)

## **NEXT STEPS**

This Action Plan, together with a number of companion documents, provides a framework for ensuring that the region puts climate change issues centre stage in future plans and strategies. The Climate Change Partnership will monitor progress against it, making periodic reports to regional leaders in all sectors, and publishing them where appropriate. The prospect of good progress is greatly enhanced by the commitment of key regional organisations as evidenced by the statement below:

### **CLIMATE CHANGE IN YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER *OUR COMMITMENT***

We recognise that the climate is changing now, and that more change is in the pipeline. It will take time and co-ordinated international action to stabilise and reverse these changes. But that does not mean we have to wait before taking action in the region and locally.

Climate change and action to combat it and adapt to its effects present both challenges for our region and opportunities for our economy. In developing new regional strategies we will plan for these challenges and address how best to help businesses and communities make the most of the opportunities. We will use this Plan to help guide our work.

As a region we want to lead the field in living with climate change and reducing its future impact. We believe the success of Yorkshire and the Humber depends upon it.

*CHAIRS/CHIEF EXECS YF, LGYH, EA, YHA, etc*



<b>Briefing for:</b>	Climate Change Partnership 26 January 2009
<b>Title:</b>	Integrating climate change into the Sub National Review
<b>Purpose of briefing:</b>	To set out the current proposals for implementation of the Sub National Review and to discuss how to ensure that an appropriate structure is in place that gives prominence and urgency to climate change actions over the short, medium and long term.
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Jon Clubb (Regional Climate Change Coordinator) <a href="mailto:jon.clubb@lgyh.gov.uk">jon.clubb@lgyh.gov.uk</a> / 07970 120827
<b>Date:</b>	22 January 2009

## 1. Background

1.1 The Government published the Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration in July 2007. Commonly known as the sub-national review or SNR it considered how to strengthen economic performance in England's regions and tackle social deprivation and inequality. The main elements of the SNR were:

- Empowering local authorities to promote sustainable economic development and neighbourhood renewal.
- Supporting local authorities to work across traditional administrative boundaries at a sub-regional level.
- Streamlining regional structures, with more accountable regional development agencies that work jointly with local authorities to produce a Single Integrated Regional Strategy.
- Reforming central Government's relations with regions and localities.

1.2 In March 2008 the Government published a consultation document 'Prosperous Places' that contained proposals on taking the SNR forward. Regionally there have been extensive discussions on future governance arrangements with a jointly agreed position between Local Government Yorkshire and Humber and Yorkshire Forward submitted to the Government.

## 2. Development and delivery of a Single Integrated Regional Strategy

2.1 As part of taking forward the SNR, each English region will be responsible for producing a Single Integrated Regional Strategy (IRS) that will build on and replace existing regional economic and spatial strategies. The Government

has recently published guidance (January 2009) which sets out a limited number of national high priority issues it expects to see reflected in our region's IRS. One of these is to ensure the IRS will secure progress against the UK's greenhouse gas emissions targets and budgets - and makes a full contribution to national energy policies, including renewable energy. This is in addition to earlier guidance (November 2008) that recommends the IRS will say how the region will manage the impacts of unavoidable climate change.

2.2 New governance structures to take forward the implementation of the SNR and production and delivery of the IRS have been developed. This includes a strategic relationship between the Strategic Leaders Board (SLB) and the Yorkshire Forward Board (YFB) who will be jointly responsible for sign off of the IRS prior to its submission to the Government. To ensure effective delivery, through monitoring and review, four thematic regional boards will also be set up to cover:

- Spatial planning
- Regeneration and Housing
- Work and Skills
- Transport

2.3 Additionally, an Independent Board is proposed to ensure that the principles of sustainable development and economic opportunity are embedded throughout the development and delivery of the IRS. Proposals on the development of this board are currently out for consultation from 20 January – 6 February 2009.

### **3. Role of the Regional Climate Change Partnership**

3.1 Originally known as the Yorkshire & Humber Climate Change Executive Group, the Regional Climate Change Partnership has coordinated actions to tackle the cause and effects of climate change in the region through the delivery and monitoring of 'Your Climate', the region's climate change action plan. Most recently it has driven forward a major revision of the plan which is due to be launched on 13 March 2009 in tandem with the Regional Adaptation Study that was commissioned by the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly.

3.2 In light of the new arrangements to take forward the IRS, including the abolition of the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, it is necessary to review the role of the partnership and consider how it sits within the proposed new regional governance arrangements. Crucially the explicit drive to ensure we tackle climate change must not be lost during the transitional arrangements, but we must also seek over the medium to long term to ensure that action on climate change is clearly integrated and visible within the new structures.

3.3 In the short to medium term the Regional Climate Change Partnership will complete the revision and launch of the new Climate Change Plan, ensure actions arising from the Regional Adaptation Study are included, integrate

actions to deliver against the Climate Change Bill, and drive forward delivery of the plan with robust monitoring arrangements put in place. The partnership will also need to establish strong links with the new Regional Improvement and Efficiency (RIEP) Climate Change Board to ensure that relevant opportunities to support local authorities deliver their actions are not missed during the RIEP's three year programme. Additionally, there will need to be a continued awareness of the work of the Yorkshire Regional Flood Defense Committee (YRFDC) as this strongly supports adaptation [to climate change] measures.

3.4 Over the medium to long term it will be necessary consider a holistic approach on how actions to tackle the cause and effects of climate change are led regionally – with a clearly constituted body that is held accountable for progress. There is already evidence that there is a need for a 'high level' body following the recent high level climate change planning meeting with the Regional Minister held during November 2008. At this meeting the possibility of convening a regular meeting was raised.

#### **4. Risks and issues**

4.1 A high level meeting was hosted on 15 January 2009 by the Chief Executive of Leeds City Council with the Chair of the Climate Change Partnership, the Chair of the Regional Flood Defense Committee, the Chief Executive of Local Government Yorkshire & Humber and the Executive Director (Strategy) from Yorkshire Forward. In light of the SNR a number of additional risks and issues were identified, in broad terms, to taking forward action on climate change at a regional level:

- The Climate Change Partnership did not have formal authority to deliver and was not being held accountable.
- The new Independent Board would need to have a clear terms of reference and the SLB and YFB would need to be satisfied it was fully independent.
- There was a risk that the scope of work for the Independent Board, i.e. sustainable development, could be unmanageable and that the urgency of climate change actions might not get sufficient consideration.
- Functional sub-regions would have a key role to play in delivering the IRS [and climate change actions], but it was unclear whether they all had capacity to do so.

#### **5. Recommendations**

5.1 To note the context and proposed arrangements for the development of a Single Integrated Regional Strategy and the expectations from the Government to deliver against the climate change agenda.

5.2 That the Climate Change Partnership agrees to continue their work in the short to medium term as set out in paragraph 3.3.

5.3 That the Climate Change Partnership consider their response to the longer term governance of regional climate change actions for submission to the Strategic Leaders' Board on 6 March 2009. This should explore the need for strong delivery support arrangements that are directed by an accountable high level strategic group.

**References**

- Prosperous Places: taking forward the review of sub-national economic development and regeneration (DBERR & CLG).
- Sub national review – the view from the region (LGYH).
- Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Bill – Policy Document on Regional Strategies, January 2009.
- Embedding Sustainable Development in new Regional Structures in Yorkshire and Humber (URSUS).



## AGENDA ITEM:

### REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP MEETING: 26 JANUARY 2009

#### REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STUDY - PROGRESS

##### For Discussion

Members are asked to note progress on the Regional Adaptation Study

1. At the Regional Adaptation Study Steering Group meeting on 10 December 2008, Royal Haskoning reported that the Study was on schedule and making good progress with Stage 1 (data collation and baseline review) and Stage 2 (climate and weather assessments) having been completed. Work is nearing completion on Stage 3 which comprises an assessment of the impacts on various sectors and the adaptation approaches required to minimise these.
2. The Steering Group also had a further discussion on a communication plan and launch once the final report is received in February 2009. Consideration was given to a proposal, from the Regional Climate Change Partnership, that the Regional Adaptation Study report be launched jointly with the revised Regional Climate Change Plan. The Steering Group endorsed this proposal and it was subsequently agreed that the joint launch would take place on Friday 13 March 2009 in York. The Assembly's Events Management Team will organise this. Yorkshire Futures and the Environment Agency have offered to fund the joint launch.
3. Following the announcement (on 30 September 2008) by Defra, the Met Office Hadley Centre and UK Climate Impacts Programme that they had decided to delay the launch of the UK 21st Century Climate Change Projections (2008) project (UKCIP08), Assembly officers discussed this development with Royal Haskoning. An options paper, prepared in conjunction with UKCIP, was subsequently considered by the Steering Group. It was agreed to delay this element of the work until the UK Climate Projections were released. This would maintain conformity with the original project scope. UKCIP would then support Royal Haskoning in this work following the launch of the Projections. The Projections, originally scheduled for launching on 20 November 2008, are now likely to be published in spring 2009.
4. Having completed Stages 1 and 2 of the Study, Royal Haskoning have progressed to Stage 3 and are now undertaking an assessment of the impacts on various sectors and the adaptation approaches required to minimise these. As part of this five sectoral consultation workshops have been held covering the following sectors:
  - Infrastructure and Utilities;
  - Business and Economy;
  - Health and Welfare;
  - Public and Voluntary Services; and
  - Biodiversity.

The response to these was very good and over 100 delegates, representing a wide variety of regional stakeholders, attended the workshops.

- 5.** The results of these individual workshops are to be brought together and reviewed again to see how the work on adaptation measures in one sector might impact on another. A cross-sectoral workshop to investigate these issues is to be held on Wednesday 21 January 2009 in Leeds. It is anticipated that this will be attended by about 90 delegates giving a good representation from all sectors. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.
  
- 6.** To enhance the credibility of the Study amongst Local Authorities, those Yorkshire and Humber Local Authorities who have signed up in some way to National Indicator 188 (Resilience to Climate Change) are to be offered an opportunity to comment on the findings of the draft final report. The Study is progressing well and the draft final report is on schedule for presentation to the Steering Group on 18 February 2009.

Martyn Roberts  
Sustainable Development Policy Officer  
YHA

January 2009