



POWER
Low Carbon Economies



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ANNEX 2

Best practice Identified and transferred

Section	Indication of content
1 Title of the best practice	Collaborative working
2 Precise theme/issue tackled by the practice	Tackle barriers to community engagement through collaborative working.
3 Objectives of the best practice	To develop partnerships with other organisations to promote behavioral change.
4 Location	<i>Country:</i> UK <i>Region:</i> Hampshire
5 Detailed description of the best practice	<p>Local authorities should consider developing partnerships with third sector organisations (and vice-versa) to build resilient communities.</p> <p><i>National Governments</i> use their powers to tax, spend and regulate to create markets in which businesses act to reduce their emissions and make low-carbon options for travel and action in the home available and attractive to the general public.</p> <p><i>The Third Sector</i> has a crucial role to play in using its voice to increase public support and demand for this action, giving individuals the opportunity to act together in advocacy and in changing behaviour.</p> <p>In order to be effective, engagement activities must be connected to local targets and policies. Third sector organisations have an essential role in assisting LA's meet their climate change, sustainability and adaptation objectives.</p> <p><i>DECC is leading a cross government Low Carbon Community Challenge which supports partnership and community level approaches to behaviour change and recognises the key role of the third sector to identify the best means of mobilising and maximising the role of community groups.</i></p> <p>Source: 'Shaping Our Future', 2010, UK Joint Ministerial Third Sector Task Force</p>

Kirklees Council and Scottish Power – A partnership case study

Kirklees Council and Scottish Power have joined forces to provide an area-by-area approach to installing home insulation measures. Both contribute an equal share of £10 million each.

All households across the district have been visited by trained assessors. Where additional insulation is required they arrange for a contractor to install mineral-fibre insulation in lofts and cavity walls at no cost to the homeowner. 24% of the local population have already benefitted from energy efficiency measures, which means some 36,000 lofts insulated and 17,000 cavity walls filled. This amounts to 33,000 tonnes CO₂ being saved each year.

This co-ordinated approach to delivering a low carbon Kirklees has benefitted the community in a number of additional ways including:

- the creation of 129 local jobs;
- reduced fuel poverty and £7.8 million fuel bill savings per year;
- increased awareness and uptake of state benefit support by eligible residents; and
- distribution of carbon monoxide detectors and 22,500 referrals for fire safety checks.

Source: Warm Homes, Greener Homes: A Strategy for Household Energy Management, (March 2010) DECC & CLG

Whitehill Bordon Eco Town

Whitehill Bordon achieved Eco Town Status in July 2009. Once the MOD move out work will begin on a new infrastructure, town centre and approximately 3500 eco homes.

East Hants District Council have been awarded £400,000 of funding by DECC through their Low Carbon Communities Challenge to initiate a retrofit programme as part of an early wins campaign designed to help draw together the old community and the proposed new eco town.

The scheme will provide interest free loans of up to £10,000 for approximately 46 self nominating homes. It is hoped that the scheme will become self perpetuating after the first year.

East Hants District Council have joined forces with:

- The Environment Centre through their TrIsCo project.
- The Town Council
- Dialogue by design (LCCC funded facilitators)
- Residents Association
- Global Action Plan
- Groundworks Solent

to deliver a comprehensive community engagement plan.

As part of the LCCC award a facilitator was designated to the project to provide support in the development of community engagement plans.

The first step in developing these plans was to carry out a stakeholder analysis.

The idea was to consider the people or groups in the community that the project wished to reach or influence and to identify pre-existing groups that are relevant to the projects community engagement targets.

A brainstorming exercise was undertaken where key stakeholders were identified and plotted onto a matrix in order to assess their relative importance to the scheme.

It was concluded that despite Whitehill Bordon being a poorly engaged community there were a number of groups which were very relevant to the development of the project. These were split into

- Businesses
- Organizations involved in the Eco town
- Residents
- Young people

Actions to take have been identified for each group and partners roles and responsibilities defined.

Timescale:

- January - 2010 LCCC Funding agreed.
- February - Engagement Planning meeting
- March - Plan agreed and shared with DECC
- April – Stakeholder Meeting
- May - Terms of Reference for stakeholder engagement group, Planning and implementation. Meeting with GAP and Groundworks solent
- June – Meeting with businesses. Eco-fit programme started or loans and insulation.
- March 2011- Project ends and review.

Warm Homes, Greener Homes Strategy in Portsmouth

Origin: Portsmouth City Council's Housing Partnership of the LSP (Local Strategic Partnership) has adopted the Greener Homes strategy. The priority of the strategy is dealing with improving the environmental performance of existing housing, within a context which addresses other sustainability issues. One of the key actions is to develop a network of exemplar retrofit properties.

Portsmouth City Council (PCC) is undertaking a retrofit pilot project at 84 Jubilee Road, Southsea. The area has a strong need for the work based on the quality of the housing stock, its environmental performance and issues of fuel poverty.

Timescale:

- Draft proposal agreed 21/04/10
- Development of tender, proposed plans through appropriate planning application stages: July-October 2010
- Estimated started of retrofit: October 2010
- estimate completion of retrofit: April 2011

tEC's involvement is from February 2010- September 2011 (in line with the TrIsCo project's timescale). Through the TrIsCo project financing

Bodies involved - representatives from the following organisations are involved in the initiative:

- PCC Housing Management
- PCC Community Housing
- PCC Corporate Communications
- PCC Planning Service
- Environment Agency
- the Environment Centre (tEC)

The purpose of the initiative:

- To develop, implement and monitor for effectiveness a scheme for refurbishing a typical Portsmouth brick construction early twentieth century terraced house owned by the city council.
- To use the house as a focus for learning, regarding retrofitting and refurbishment for local residents, professional staff, contractors, suppliers etc and to assess the effectiveness of this work.
- For the learning to be concentrated in a defined part of the city around the house, but to be available to other city

residents

Principles

1. To use the work to take forward and examine in practice a key action of the city Greener Homes strategy relating to developing exemplar properties to promote sustainable living to city householders.
2. To work in an area which has a strong need for the work based on the quality of the housing stock, its environmental performance and issues of fuel poverty.
3. To identify, develop and monitor "in use" an exemplar refurbishment/ retrofit house, to an agreed brief which is likely to lead to **replicable** "whole house" solutions.
4. To develop the work in ways which are likely to lead to maximum sustainability within the community and to monitor and evaluate this over an agreed period.

tEC is working with PCC on this initiative, delivering a range of community activities (with school children, local businesses and residents). A coherent communications strategy will ensure that links are made to other initiatives and strategies within the city. The effectiveness of the initiative will be monitored and evaluated with regards to the council's carbon reduction targets.

TrIsCo in Hythe and Dibden

Origin: the Environment Centre (tEC), a not for profit environmental charity based in Southampton is lead partner in the TrIsCo project (Transition Island Communities: Empowering Localities to Act), which aims to enable different 'islands' of communities to reduce their Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emissions by changing their behaviour towards their use of resources.

tEC had been searching for community islands to be involved in this project and met with New Forest District Council (NFDC) - with whom they have worked for a number of years- to discuss potential communities in the district. Hythe and Dibden was highlighted as a potential community island as the parish council is proactive on the climate change agenda and is keen to encourage community engagement in this area.

Bodies Involved: A series of meetings resulted in an agreement for the three parties: tEC, New Forest District Council and Hythe and Dibden Parish Council agreeing to deliver a range of activities within Hythe and Dibden, to be

	<p>developed and conducted in line with the Community Engagement Plan (CEP) created specifically for this project.</p> <p>NFDC is supporting the project as an opportunity to <i>'encourage the community to take action in their daily behaviour to achieve a sustainable lifestyle'</i>. Mary Rainbow, Sustainability & Energy Conservation Officer</p> <p>Hythe and Dibden Parish Council council: <i>"strongly believes that members of the community should be involved in decisions affecting them and their neighbourhood and in shaping the future of their Parish."</i> Source: Hythe and Dibden Parish Council Website</p> <p>The community engagement objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • education/ awareness raising on the climate change agenda • linking with the parish council's CO₂ reduction target and desire to influence the wider community • Capture and share what is learnt from the council and the community – successes and failures <p><i>Timescale:</i> Discussion of the project at the partnership level: October 2009- May 2010 Development of Community Engagement Plan: April - May 2010 Commencement of community activities: May 2010 Completion of community activities: June 2011</p> <p><i>Financial framework</i> Through the TrIsCo project tEC is able to offer a number of activities: include: 6 community roadshows; 4 school visits; 1 business roadshow; 1 environmental audit; a free advice phone line. The value of these activities is approximately £7,000 exc. VAT.</p> <p>Hythe and Dibden Parish will provide meeting venues; access to community groups and schools through Candy (Senior Youth Officer) and Helen (Parish Development Officer). They will also promote the initiative through the quarterly newsletter (Parish Picture) and the parish council's website and notice boards. Estimate costs for in-kind contribution: £984.00</p> <p>New Forest District Council is supporting the project by promoting it through its networks and providing small incentives for the carbon emission data collection (3 wind up radios per school) at a cost of approximately £144.00</p>
6 Evaluation	Possible demonstrated results (e.g. through indicators)

	<p>Increased participation in meetings and consultation events.</p> <p>Possible success factors Collaborative working has led to time and resource efficiency and a better, more rounded understanding of the projects key issues. It has also promoted a sense of ownership helped to mitigate feelings of being subjected to an initiative rather than benefiting from it.</p> <p>Difficulties encountered Working in partnership can lead to delays. tEC's work in Whitehill Bordon Eco Town has experienced delays due to the complex nature of the Partnership and its links with the Eco Town initiative, the current uncertainty of the funding stream and delays in the MODs preparation to move offsite.</p>
7 Lessons learnt from the best practice	
8 Contact information	<p>Adam Goulden, adam.goulden@environmentcentre.com website: www.environmentcentre.com/TrlsCo</p> <p>Hazel Hine, Portsmouth City Council hazel.hine@portsmouthcc.gov.uk</p>
9 Other possible interesting information	- Various documents (reports, presentations, etc.)
10. Best practice transferred	