

NOTES OF MEETING

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION CLIMATE PARTNERSHIP

Thursday 19th October 2023, 4.00pm

Attendees:

Chair Gideon Ben-Tovim	Nature Connected, Climate Partnership
Rachel Waggett	LCRCA, Principal Environment Officer (meeting admin)
Andy Sawyer	LCRCA, Key Route Network Manager
Sean Maher	LCRCA, Place & Net Zero Policy Officer
Emma Galbraith	LCRCA, Environment Officer
Archie McCluskey	LCRCA, Environment Officer
Patrick Hayes	LCRCA, Management Graduate
Don Naylor	Friends of the Earth
Nick Thompson	CPRE – The Countryside Charity, Sefton Coastal Landscape Partnership
Cllr Liz Grey	Wirral BC
Nicky Crosby	Extinction Rebellion
Mike Wolffe	St Helens BC
Annie Merry	Faiths for Change
Megan Bennett	Knowsley BC
Peter Owen	Energy Project Plus, Cool Wirral Partnership
Cllr Nathalie Nicholas	Liverpool CC
Vicki O’Kelly	University of Liverpool
Andrew Evans	Friends of the Earth

Apologies received from:

Vice Chair Cllr Gill Wood	Wirral BC, Climate Partnership
Cllr Paulette Lappin	Sefton Council

1. Welcome and introductions/ apologies for absence

GBT (Gideon Ben-Tovim) welcomed attendees and attendees introduced themselves as above.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest noted.

3. Notes of last meeting for agreement

Minutes from previous meeting agreed.

4. Matters arising

- Matter 1 – Rachel Waggett – 3rd round of the Community Environment Fund approved at the meeting of the Combined Authority on 06/10/2023. The workshops with the delivery partner will cover the comms plan approach, as raised by Mike Wolffe in the last meeting.
- Matter 2 – Rachel Waggett – Comms around climate change denialism – Raised at Net Zero Delivery Board who will take this away to think about it.
- Matter 3 – Don Naylor – Is the Combined Authority recruiting for a Net Zero Engagement Officer?
- Rachel Waggett – A comms officer has been appointed within the North West Net Zero Hub. This post covers the whole of North West England

- Matter 4 - Don Naylor – Regarding the Five Year Climate Action Plan item at the last meeting – there has been a report published by the National Infrastructure Commission in last couple of days in report, saying there is no place for hydrogen in heating homes. Should the Mayor of the LCR Steve Rotherham address this in regard to previous comments made about HyNet?
- Rachel Waggett – Pathway to Net Zero states that the Combined Authority does not see a role for hydrogen in heating. A link would be welcome to the HyNet point you cite. (UPDATE: Don Naylor now sent link to LCRCA Climate inbox).
- Matter 5 – Nick Thompson – Wants to know names of Combined Authority colleagues who are working on various relevant projects.
- Rachel Waggett – This will always depend on the specifics of the topic raised. Recommends sending enquiry to the Climate inbox climate@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk which can be passed to relevant colleagues.

5. Local Nature Recovery Strategy update on progress and initial public engagement (Emma Galbraith and Patrick Hayes, LCR Combined Authority)

- Emma Galbraith – Shares slides.
- Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) due for completion in March 2025
- The LNRS requires a public consultation
- The LNRS requires review every 3-10 years
- There is a designated location on the Combined Authority website and a designated inbox for the LNRS: LNRS@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk
- Survey live as of 18th October which will help decide biodiversity priority setting.
- The link to the consultation is here: <https://lcrlistens.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/engagement/local-nature-recovery-strategy/>
- Patrick Hayes – Explains what the consultation wants to gain feedback on.
- Explains who the audience for the consultation will be.
- Explains engagement methods.
- Video shown to promote the engagement.

Questions:

- Nicky Crosby – Are you in touch with Friends of Princes Park?
- Emma Galbraith – A call was put out via Local Authorities to engage these types of groups.
- Don Naylor – On the map in the presentation, is the extended red area to the North West Hilbre Island
- Emma Galbraith - Boundary supplied by DEFRA, goes out to low tide zone, so intertidal zones will be included.
- Cllr Liz Grey – To what extent is the LNRS focusing on existing areas versus new areas? Asking in relation to overcrowding of existing green areas.
- Emma Galbraith – Both. Opportunity mapping will identify areas to best support nature recovery.
- Nicky Crosby – Some green spaces are under threat from things like airport expansion. How will these contradictions be approached.
- Emma Galbraith – Development is a pressure to be considered. The LNRS must align with the Local Plans but will be focused on identifying areas where best to support nature recovery.
- Rachel Waggett – Many of our sites sit in areas under threat from sea level rise, so the LNRS is a complex undertaking with many pressures and contradictions to be faced.
- Gideon Ben-Tovim – Looks forward to seeing reports come to the Climate Partnership for members to see as the work is developed.
- Nick Thompson – Suggests that NGOs such as Nature Connected should be looking into conflicts. Hopes that the LNRS will arm such bodies with tools to take their arguments forward.

6. Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) funded project in the Liverpool City Region (Andy Sawyer, LCR Combined Authority)

- Andy Sawyer – Shares slides.



- Highlights recent UK policy change on petrol/diesel car sales ban, pushed back from 2030 to 2035, which is detrimental to the work being done and the rapidity of decarbonisation needed.
- Highlights that limitation to charging is one of the main factors stopping UK motorists from driving EVs.
- Explains what LEVI is and how it will help.
- Using LEVI as seed funding. Combined Authority wanting to turn initial investment into a greater pot to spend on electric vehicle (EV) charging.
- A number of coordinators will be funded across the Local Authorities for delivery.
- Bid into tranche 1 of the funding.
- Upon success of the bid, 90% of funding will be released, then remaining 10% upon securing contract.
- Combined Authority also wants to use this project to support car clubs and address Motability users.
- Energy Saving Trust suggests that a minimum 51% of funds need to be spent directly on residential on-street charging.
- Early Market Engagement exercise undertaken to gauge interest. There was a positive response.
- Suppliers are ambitious, so the seed funding from LEVI will hopefully be able to unlock further, more widespread and superfast EV charging across the LCR.
- Draft contracts have to accompany the stage 2 submission 23 page document.
- This is a collaborative project with input needed from all 6 Local Authorities. It is a scalable project which can grow as it goes on.
- Details next steps.
- Report going to the Combined Authority on 03/11/2023 to seek approval.
- Submission 30/11/2023.

Questions:

- Cllr Liz Grey – Is it possible to use road space instead of pavements?
- Andy Sawyer – This is a decision for the local highway authority. Where possible, no new ‘street clutter’ will be added, rather utilisation of existing infrastructure. Potentially a curbed buildout could be used but parking space is already at a premium. Backing from councillors would be very helpful as part of the collaborative process.
- Mike Wolffe – Doing a planning exercise first is important to site the chargers, as well as linking to Local Plans.
- Andy Sawyer – Hierarchy in LTP4 will be walking, cycling and wheeling before cars.
- Megan Bennett – A couple of workshops taken place and a mapping exercise underway with data colleagues. Identifying specific locations and targeting terraced housing.
- Vicky O’Kelly – Is there any support that the universities can provide in the space of data?
- Andy Sawyer – Of course, work will continue past the 30th November so any collaboration would be welcome.
- Megan Bennett – Would also welcome assistance from universities.
- Don Naylor – How is the challenge of damage to highway infrastructure, including pavements, going to be met? Plus, how will car clubs work alongside increased EV charging?
- Peter Owen – Agrees there is a problem with bumper-to-bumper parking.
- Andy Sawyer – This project doesn’t aim to address such issues. Reiterates that street layout is very diverse across the LCR and that this is the reason Local Authorities need to be fully engaged.
- Andy Sawyer – On car clubs – Enterprise car club is the only one that exists in LCR. This will be looked into more and contracts will make it possible for all Local Authorities to enter into discussions if there is a demand.
- Gideon Ben-Tovim – Is it true that lamppost charging isn’t very powerful?
- Andy Sawyer – They are slower speed but cheaper to use than fast charging. 80% charge on a lamppost charger will be 8-10 hours. They will still be effective however.

- Nick Thompson – Is it still equally or more carbon intensive to make an electric car compared to a petrol/diesel car?
- There is still a consideration here but from recent reading, is starting to become comparable, taking into account how long people keep the car, particularly as the source of grid electricity is changing fast which is a major consideration.

Post meeting note: A life-cycle analysis of combustion engine and electric vehicle cars has been carried out (available here [Global-Vehicle-LCA-White-Paper-A4-revised-v2.pdf \(theicct.org\)](https://www.theicct.org/publications/global-vehicle-lca-white-paper-a4-revised-v2.pdf)). The report shows that comparison depends on grid electricity carbon mix, however life-cycle emissions over the lifetime of EVs registered today (2021) in Europe, the United States, China, and India are already lower than a comparable gasoline car by 66%–69%.

7. AOB

- Gideon Ben-Tovim – Thanks Don Naylor for his contribution to the Climate Partnership.
- Don Naylor – Is there any update on the hydrogen buses being rolled-out?
- Mike Wolffe – 1 bus was at St Helens depot, filling-up last week.
- Rachel Waggett – Also thanks Don Naylor for his contribution and assistance.

8. Next Meetings

Thursday 23rd November 2023 4pm – 5.30pm