

LAIN Green New Deal Working Group minutes

22 September 2022

15:00-15:30 (Teams)

Attendees:

Alejandro Colsa (Greater London Authority) (Chair), Maddie Reason (University of London), Brian Cuthbertson (Church of England), Riikka Vihriala (NCC), Andrew Gilbert (London Jewish Forum), Mary Vine-Morris (Association of Colleges), Kirsty Macaulay (NHS), Andrew Cox (LSEC), Rabbi Mason (London Jewish Forum), Jane Bartman (Bloomberg), Giuliana-Huerta Mercado (Bloomberg/GLA), Adam Freed (Bloomberg), Olivia Tusinski (GLA) Suzie Alavi (GLA), Souraya Ali (GLA)

Additional attendees at the 'Open Q&A session on regional pipeline':

Simon Wyke (GLA), Paulius Mackela (3Ci), James Colley (NHS South East London), Mark Bagnall (NHS Barts Health, Steve Collins (NHS NE London ICB), Rebecca Waters (NHS NE London), Amit Sharma (NHS North East London), David Stevens (NHS East London), Severine Turgis (East London), Claudia Crouch (NHS North East London), Zoe Jennings (3Ci), Andrew Jackson (NHS Barking, Havering and Redbridge Uni Hospitals)

Apologies: Catherine Barber (Greater London Authority)

Agenda & Overview

Introductions were made by Alejandro Colsa (GLA), who noted that the Working Group's (WG) chair (Catherine) wasn't available to attend the meeting. Alejandro stepped in as Chair for this WG meeting.

Alejandro reminded Anchors that WG meetings are now every other month, with 1-2-1s with each Anchor in between to progress individual priorities.

Alejandro reminded that during the summer months the WG team has been working with each one of the Anchors on three key priorities:

1. Providing any support needed to accelerate decarbonisation projects (including the upcoming Government's PSDS Phase 3b call – expected for October).
2. The need to establish group-wide targets. Alejandro reminded that LAIN Steering Committee wants the working group to demonstrate what the 'ambition' from Anchors is regarding their carbon reduction targets (for both 2030 and interim by end of 2024).
3. The third priority this summer has been the contribution to the GLA's Regional Net Zero Pipeline. This will be a key tool for GLA to be able to assess the maturity of Anchors' decarbonisation projects and the type and nature of funding (grant) and/or finance (investment) that they may require.

Progress to date

Jane Bartman (Bloomberg) provided an update on progress to date regarding targets and achievements of the WG. These included:

- The WG have collectively identified the 6 core targets that they agree to work towards. These include specific, measurable net zero targets. WG members have also identified their interim emissions reductions targets for 2024 and 2030.
 - Two of our anchors (UoL and CoE) are going further, identifying opportunities to accelerate these targets.
- A key role of the Working Group is to help members access GLA and other supports. To that end, we have worked with anchors to identify priority buildings that can benefit from funding, financing, and technical assistance.

- WG members have identified 18 buildings that they will put forward to PSDS, Salix, MEEF, or the Mayor's planned green finance facility – these supports will help catalyze millions worth of retrofits and play a key role in helping our members reach their decarbonization targets.
- We've also connected our members to the Mayor's Retrofit Accelerator for Workplaces, with one RA-W relationship already formalized, and 3 more under consideration. RA-W provides no-cost support to help institutions access guaranteed energy savings and prepare for financing.

Relevant updates

Riikka Vihriala (New City College) provided an update on progress to develop and roll-out a green skills training programme for estates managers (building from an internally-delivered bespoke carbon literacy training within NCC). NCC is currently working with partners to develop full proposal and approach. The goal is to have the programme fully developed and with the roll-out started by March 2023.

In the meantime, Riikka recommended all Anchors begin with key steps, including:

- Check free courses already available at <https://carbonliteracy.com/toolkits/>
- Identify (list) the staff that would require carbon literacy training
- Undertake a skills audit to ensure you know what your relevant staff know/don't know (e.g. type(s) of training already taken)
- Undertake an assessment of the type of data they already have

Open Q&A on Regional Estate Pipeline

Alejandro opened an 'Open Q&A session' including external members from each anchor on the Regional Decarbonisation Pipeline'. Alejandro invited guests to share the recording and presentation within their organisations in case they have further questions.

Simon is leading the Green Finance area within the GLA and presented on the overall context of the wider GLA Green Finance Programme – supporting Net Zero by 2030. These included the GLA Power Purchase Agreement and Investment Platform; the Mayor's Energy Efficiency Fund; the GLA Green Bond/Finance Facility; and the Project pipeline development.

Simon then explained the London Regional Pipeline, which is a partnership between GLA, London Councils and Cities Investment Commission (3Ci). The overall aim is to develop a robust pipeline of net zero projects in the region that will contribute to our NZ2030 target, that can attract private sector investors and can help lobby government for support in achieving net zero targets.

Simon reminded Anchors that adding potential projects to the GLA's pipeline is not a commitment to deliver any of the specific projects noted/shared.

Paulius explained how this initiative relates to the national 3Ci initiative. 3Ci is a partnership of local government bodies, including London Councils, Core cities, and other cities in the UK; with the Connected Places Catapult. Their key aim is to find long term finance deals to deliver net zero at local level. 3Ci developed the pipeline submission template and is now developing a categorisation system to assess the submissions and understand how to best support them get the funding they need.

Alejandro set out the main request for the anchor institution members, which is to add their net zero projects to the project template. Alejandro reminded of four key things before submitting:

1. Earlier submissions are helpful, to provide more time for the team to support each anchor filling any gaps in the data.
2. Project data does not need to be perfect – it's better to submit data available and then address outstanding questions with the WG team.
3. Additional projects can be submitted later – anchors reminded not to wait to have all the potential projects before submitting.
4. The WG team (Alejandro, Jane, Giuliana) are available to help with questions.

A Q&A session with members followed – a summary of it can be found in Annex 1.

Next steps & AOB

- Next 121s will take place in October (being scheduled with anchors individually)
- GLA and LSEC to explore having a deep-dive led by LSEC in November's WG meeting
- GLA/BA working with LAIN team to progress the potential Anchor-wide event in December 2022 / early 2023 to start discussing how GND WG can highlight achievements
- Anchors to continue delivering on core priorities:
 - Continue exploring options for Anchor-wide carbon literacy training
 - Provide WG team with missing or updated data (e.g. net zero/interim decarbonization targets, green skills/workforce targets)
 - Continue providing submissions to the retrofit pipeline, and formalise relationship with GLA's Retrofit Accelerator Workplaces
- Next working group meeting will be 24th November 2022

APPENDIX – FAQ

Net Zero Project Pipeline Initiative

Question: *Why is the GLA collecting information on net zero projects?*

Answer: Mayor Khan has set a target of getting London to net zero by 2030, and plans to establish a green finance facility (GFF) to support this ambition. To ensure that the GLA is aware of and able to provide decarbonisation projects with the supports and financing that they need, it is critical that the GLA develop a **project pipeline of planned net zero projects**.

Gaining a better understanding of the scale and types of projects in the pipeline also helps to drive interest and investment from private sector finance, which will be an important component of the drive to net zero.

Question: *What is the 'National Net Zero Project Pipeline' spreadsheet?*

Answer: The GLA, London Councils, and Cities Commission for Climate Investment (3Ci) are working together to establish a regional pipeline of planned net zero projects. The spreadsheet template provides us with initial information to assess the maturity of the

projects and the type and nature of funding (grant) and/or finance (investment) that they may require.

Submitting your pipeline projects to the spreadsheet will help the GLA and our partners to assist you in connecting to supports, funding, and financing. Getting more information about decarbonisation projects in your pipeline also helps us understand and plan for the types of supports and financing that are most needed and valuable.

3Ci is also collecting data from over 50 local and regional authorities around the UK to build the net zero pipeline nationally.

Support available for Net Zero Projects

Question: *What types of supports, funding, and financing may I be able to access?*

Answer: There are several potential types of supports, including from the GLA and national government, that can support net zero projects. For instance, non-domestic public sector buildings may be able to benefit from no-cost technical assistance from the GLA's [Retrofit Accelerator-Workplaces](#). Projects that are 'shovel-ready' may be able to seek funding/financing from, e.g., the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS), [Salix](#), or [Mayor's Energy Efficiency Fund \(MEEF\)](#). Projects might also be connected to private sector financing in the future.

Question: *My organisation has its own project financing schemes, so I would not be interested in or able to receive financing from the GLA or national government. Should I still submit projects?*

Answer: Yes – there may be other supports, such as free technical assistance from the Retrofit Accelerator-Workplaces with guaranteed energy savings, that may be beneficial. If we have a sense of your pipeline we can help make sure that you are connected to these supports. It is also helpful for us to understand how large the pipeline is London-wide, and your submission contributes to that understanding.

My Organisation's Project Pipeline

Question: *My organisation's decarbonisation projects are in the very early stages – what is too early to submit?*

Answer: There is no 'too early' to submit. The earlier that organisations submit projects to the pipeline, the earlier we can work to identify and connect you with the support and technical assistance needed to ready projects for funding/financing. We can make sure that we are helping you take the right steps from the early stages, improving the likelihood of project success. This also helps us better understand the scale of the London-wide pipeline.

Completing the Net Zero Project Pipeline Spreadsheet

Question: *Are there specific types of projects that the GLA and its partners are looking for details on?*

Answer: Any decarbonisation projects are helpful and should be included in the Net Zero Project Pipeline Spreadsheet. The spreadsheet specifies 6 key asset classes (commercial

building decarbonisation, domestic building decarbonisation, renewable electricity generation, transport decarbonisation, waste management decarbonisation, and green infrastructure). Your project will likely fall into one or more of these (it is fine if you select two or more asset classes). If it does not or if you have questions, feel free to reach out to alejandro.colsa@london.gov.uk and paulius.mackela@cp.catapult.org.uk

Question: *Am I committing to anything by completing the Net Zero Project Pipeline spreadsheet?*

Answer: No, completing the spreadsheet does not commit you to anything; we understand that some projects may proceed more rapidly or slowly. Any information on potential projects is still valuable for us to understand the scope of your net zero planning and to make sure you are accessing available supports.

Question: *I don't have all of the details about my project that the spreadsheet asks. Should I wait to complete it until I do?*

Answer: No, it is fine to submit incomplete or tentative information. More details are helpful to guide us in connecting you to supports, but having the submission and general information about your project(s) is already useful. You will be able to re-submit a more detailed version when information is available.

Question: *The spreadsheet asks questions that are not relevant to my organisation (e.g. that are focused on local authority respondents, but I work at a higher education institution). What should I do with those?*

Answer: If questions are not applicable to your organisation, it is fine to not respond to those.

Question: *If I submit projects now but want to add other projects in the future, am I able to submit more?*

Answer: Yes, you are welcome to make multiple submissions.

Question: *Is there a deadline for net zero project submissions?*

Answer: No, but the earlier you provide project information, the sooner we can work to make sure you are receiving assistance. Earlier submissions also help us to understand more about the types of projects that anchors and other partners are pursuing.

Question: *I have multiple buildings in my estate that I am interested in retrofitting – should each building be included as a separate project in the spreadsheet, or should I include them all together?*

Answer: You should include each building as a separate project if the retrofit works are specific for each building. If your project includes renewable energy generation such as solar panel implementation that will provide energy to multiple buildings, you should include them together.

Question: *Who may see the projects that I submit?*

Answer: All data submitted will be shared with people working on Green Finance at the GLA, London Councils, 3Ci and, where appropriate, with central government. Data sharing will help to understand the investment opportunity, secure support for work towards net zero targets, and maximise the opportunity to access funding and finance for these projects.

Question: *My question wasn't answered here. Who should I contact?*

Answer: Please contact alejandro.colsa@london.gov.uk and paulius.mackela@cp.catapult.org.uk