

LAIN Green New Deal Working Group Minutes
28 April 2022
3pm – 4.30 GMT (remote)

Attendees:

Mary Vine-Morris (Association of Colleges), Giuliana Huerta-Mercado, Adam Freed (Bloomberg Associates), Alejandro Colsa Perez (Chair), Nick Biskinis, James Lee, Simon Wyke (Greater London Authority), Rabbi Mark Goldsmith (London Jewish Alliance), Riikka Vihriala (New City College), Kirsty Macaulay, Nilam Jadav-Patel (NHS), Matthew Wilkinson (University of London)

Apologies:

Brian Cuthbertson (Church of England, Diocese of London)

1. Introduction & Purpose:

ACP made quick introductions and reflected on the individual 121s with the large public sector/facing Working Group members (NHS London, University of London, London South Eastern Colleges and New City College).

ACP stated that Members should take turns to offer a deep dive on progress or reflect on challenges involving in estate decarbonisation and workforce development.

2. Updated Working Group targets/workplan:

ACP re-confirmed the agreement on targets, KPIs and took the group through the progress to date in the development of the workplan. Members agreed with the progress to date and did not raise any issues.

MVM said actions bringing together all London colleges should be included within the plan (ACP confirmed it will).

3. University of London Decarbonisation Plan:

MW gave a comprehensive overview of the University of London and the decarbonisation activities and objectives (see presentation for details).

Key remarks from Anchors members included:

- MG highlighted the need for Anchors to support ‘horizontal’ stakeholder partners (such as Ecosynagoge) to implement and embed sustainability, especially where there is no direct ‘control’ of such institutions.
 - MW highlighted their approach to influence and encourage (through perception and reputation), such as the pressure from National Union of Students (NUS) on accelerating work to net zero
- MG queried how organisations are able to backtrack historic carbon emissions (e.g. from 2010). MW highlighted how there are tools to enable organisations to do this such as through using energy bills/usage data
- Members discussed how the concept and approach to embedding ‘safeguarding’ within all institutions could be explored and potentially replicated for sustainability
- RV asked about finances. UoL qualified costs of refurbishment versus anticipated savings arising from energy efficiency. MQMW responded that the University uses a

tool developed for Higher Education to work out the carbon element within any procurement

- Members also highlighted the importance of getting senior sign-off for decisions. UoL used the opportunity of a key date (200th Anniversary and the need for legacy)

4. Green Bonds:

SW outlined the scope and purpose of the Mayor's Green Bonds (see presentation for more details).

SW said the GLA would be going out to London Boroughs and Members to look at pipeline projects; ACP asked Members what they would need from SW in terms of green bond and further considerations.

- MW asked if SW would consider presenting on green bonds to other universities the University of London was engaging with. Members asked about type of organisation getting support from Green Bond (e.g. civil society, faith groups, etc.)
 - SW highlighted initial Green Bond focusing on GLA Group, Boroughs and strategic public sector partners. However, the Mayor is developing a finance facility and future rounds will aim to be wider in scope

5. Introduction to faith communities' approach:

NB presented an overview of the approach the WG can take to ensure faith communities can play a key role in the implementation of the WG's plan (see slides for details).

MG noted there is also Ecosikh and Ecomosque. MG felt there was potential for the GLA to bring experts to the seminars Ecosynagogue held with its members. MG also felt there was opportunity to discuss estates greening and energy efficiency ideas with the University of London.

SW said the GLA had launched the Business Climate Challenge awards programme looking at awarding the commercial sectors initially, working with BIDs. This could be extended to places of worship. NB noted that the Mayor has strong relationships with faith community leaders, which offered scope for showcasing.

Actions:

- 1) Large estate anchors to contact RAW and LEA to discuss next steps and formalise engagement**
 - a. Retrofit Accelerator – Workplaces contact: Matthew Thomas**
Matthew.Thomas@london.gov.uk
 - b. Local Energy Project – contact: Philippa Ellis -**
philippa.ellis@london.gov.uk
- 2) AoC and GLA/Accelerator Programmes to hold workshop to highlight support available to wider colleges**
- 3) Action:**
- 4) Simon W to create a short note on Green Bond to be attached to minutes, to enable big four estate anchors to liaise with their finance team (and any other relevant internal team responsible for retrofit project decisions) and see what else they need to understand how to progress the pipeline development forward**
- 5) GLA/BA team to continue liaising with the large estate anchors to get the sense of what the remainder of the “X”s within the targets are (especially the energy consumption target for years 1 and 2)**

- 6) GLA/faith orgs to continue working on identifying the handful (2-3) actions for faith community organisations to include within the action plan**