



Business
Council
for Sustainable
Energy UK

The Role of Local Authorities

Sustainable UK Cities – Bristol

Introducing the UKBCSE

- Bring together the major energy companies in the UK
- Our goal is to support the fastest transition possible towards a sustainable energy economy consistent with the delivery of a secure and affordable energy infrastructure

What we do

- Develop practical and ambitious new thinking in energy policy
- Facilitate high level engagement between business, Government and NGOs
- Play an active role in international climate negotiations
- Sister organisations in US, Australia and Germany

Bristol Green Capital

- European Green Capital Bid
- Forum for the Future Sustainable City Region
- Bristol 3rd – 2007 Sustainable Cities Index
- Bristol Environmental Technologies and Services
- Avonmouth Wind Farm – potential to provide 20% of Bristol's City Council's Electricity

LGA Climate Change Commission

- Established to:
 - Critically challenge Local Government action on climate change
 - Make recommendations on how the local government response could be improved
- Reported December 2007 -planning to meet again to review progress against recommendations

Key recommendations

LEADERSHIP

- New performance management framework a critical opportunity to set climate change targets
- Community leadership + resources = action

Key recommendations

CAPACITY

- Harness community capacity
- Address any skill gaps that constrain local action
- Assess resilience of infrastructure to climate change

Recommendations

TRANSPARENCY

- Adopt climate change targets
- Challenge performance, internally and externally
- Move beyond declarations to practical action

Key recommendations

ENGAGEMENT

- Play to strengths –a trusted intermediary
- Promote environmental justice
- Use purchasing powers effectively
- Work with key partners

The opportunity ...

- Around £4 billion will be invested to cut carbon emissions from the nation's homes over the next three years
- Renewable energy targets will see 30-40% of electricity generation in the UK from Renewables
- Significant investment in decarbonising Britain's buildings – all new homes to be zero carbon by 2016

Power of partnerships

- Aberdeen
- Newcastle
- London
- Kirklees

Next steps

- Set out a positive vision
- Identify your potential partners
- Engage early

Don't wait –take the lead