AGENDA ITEM NO. 5



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY PANEL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN, ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH APRIL 2012 AT 5.00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor C.P. Mann - Chairman

Councillors:

H.A. Andrews, Mrs A. Blackman, D.V. Poole & Mrs J.A. Pritchard

Together with:

C. Jones (Head of Performance and Property), N. Liversuch (Manager Countryside & Landscape Services), P. Cooke (Team Leader, Sustainable Development & Living Environment), P. Rossiter (Energy and Water Officer), N. Davies (Living Environment Officer), S.M. Kauczok (Committee Services Officer).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors J. Criddle, M. Davies and Mrs V. Jenkins and Mr A. O'Sullivan, Chief Executive.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the beginning or during the course of the meeting.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Sustainable Development Advisory Panel meeting held on 1st February 2012 (minute nos. 1-5; page nos. 1-3) be approved and signed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The representative of the Forestry Commission who had been due to attend the meeting to talk about sustainability within the forestry industry had been unable to attend this meeting but would attend a future meeting of the Panel.

4. CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL PEDOMETER CHALLENGE

The CCBC Pedometer Challenge, which was held from 30th January 2012 to 2nd March 2012 consisted of a baseline week and a four week challenge. The challenge attracted 727 participants i.e. 81 teams of between 2 and 40 members and 54 individuals, approximately 8% of the workforce. One of the main aims of the challenge was to promote physical activity and encourage people to be more active, to improve their health and well-being. The British Heart Foundation recommends 10,000 steps a day for an average healthy person.

Pedometers had been distributed to participants who were encouraged to choose a virtual challenge goal. A map of Wales provided popular walking routes and distances to help plan routes. The cost of the pedometers was jointly funded by a grant from Let's Walk Cymru and the Council's Health Improvement Team.

The challenge has been deemed a success based on the number of participants, the total distance achieved over the five-week period, comments received during and following the challenge and the achievement of the challenge aims. An award ceremony is being held to present the winning teams and individuals with their certificates and to promote the success of the first CCBC Pedometer Challenge.

The Panel acknowledged the success of the Pedometer Challenge and endorsed the facilitation of future challenges within the Authority.

5. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STATUTORY GUIDANCE

In January 2012 the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development published new statutory guidance on climate change adaptation and our responsibilities under the guidance. The Welsh Government is expecting key reporting authorities to make progress in preparing for a changing climate during 2011/2012.

The guidance sets out a five-part cyclical approach to developing a planned response to managing climate change impacts. Parts 1 and 2 have already been published and parts 3-5 will be issued later in the year. Part 1 (Starting) of the guidance sets out what is meant by 'preparing for a changing climate'. Part 2 (Investigating) involves refining the climate change impacts identified in Part 1 and identifying levels of sensitivity and adaptive capacity. It also includes a climate change risk assessment that explores the likelihood and consequence of each impact and provides a list of prioritised impacts to develop actions for Part 3. Part 3 (Planning) leads to an adaptation plan using information generated by previous investigations undertaken in Part 2. Part 4 (Implementing) discusses implementation of the adaptation plan produced in Part 3. The principal goal of Part 5 (Reviewing) is to determine whether the aims and objectives set out in the adaptation plan are being achieved.

Members discussed how the Authority should tackle the issues set out in the guidance and requested that a report, containing a proposed action plan and timeframe, be prepared for consideration at a future meeting.

The Panel was advised that a Joint Project Board had been established in response to legislation to assess the impact of flooding and identify high-risk areas in the County Borough. Officers were requested to keep Members up to date with progress in this respect and to arrange for a presentation to be made to the Sustainable Development Advisory Panel at an appropriate time.

The Panel noted the new statutory guidance issued by the Welsh Government on Climate Change Adaptation and the Authority's responsibilities under the guidance.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no matters raised under this heading.

The meeting closed at 5.45 pm.

Approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman of the Sustainable Development Advisory Panel subject to any amendments being recorded in the minutes of the next meeting.

CHAIRMAN