



Climate South East Bulletin February 2009

Please share the information in this update with colleagues in your organisation.

If you'd like to receive further information, join one of our groups, or include your news in the next newsletter, please contact us.

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Climate South East partners can register on our website: www.climatesoutheast.org.uk.

Partners' News and Events:

RAPID-WATCH Joins CSE We are pleased to welcome the RAPID-WATCH programme at the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, as our newest partner. [Find out more](#) about RAPID-WATCH's work to improve understanding about the risks and implications of rapid climate change. And [take part](#) in a brief questionnaire to help the programme find out what stakeholders already know.

Wealden District Council Joins CSE We are pleased to welcome Wealden District Council as our newest local authority partner. Wealden in East Sussex have signed up to the climate change adaptation national indicator 188.

WWF's Earth Hour 2009 WWF wants a billion people to switch off their lights for one hour on March 28, 2009. Find out more and sign up [here](#).

UKCIP to launch UKCP 09 Climate Change Scenarios in the Spring Details [here](#). Climate SE will continue to work closely with UKCIP to ensure that partners can make the most of the new scenarios and tools. An introductory [presentation](#) about UKCP 09 is on the Climate SE website.

UKCIP Launches CLARA for Small Business Advisors UKCIP's [new online resource](#) aims to help business advisors support SMEs in understanding and preparing for climate change impacts.

Tomorrow's Kent: The impacts of climate change on Kent and its countryside Published December 2008 by CPRE Kent. Read full report [here](#).

Natural England Vacancy Natural England is looking for a Senior Specialist in Climate Change Adaptation. See the full advertisement [here](#).

Woking Borough Council Climate Change Beacon Open Day April 22, 2009. Watch this space for more information. To find out about Woking's Beacon status and climate change activities, click [here](#).

The Environment Centre Breakfast Briefings for Businesses tEC's Business Support Network is inviting members and non-members to a series of breakfast briefings throughout the year. The first, [Small Gadgets to Save Big Bucks](#), will be held at the Wellsplace Conference Centre on February 27.

Other News and Events:

Defra Launches new Food and Environment Research Agency FERA brings together Defra's Central Science Laboratory, Plant Health Division, Plant Health and Seeds Inspectorate and the Plant Variety Rights Office and Seeds Division as one agency. Defra hopes that this will significantly strengthen its work in plant and crop protection, food chain safety, environmental risk assessment and crisis response and promote better integration between policy development, scientific evidence and inspection services. Read more [here](#).

IDEA Launches Climate Change Leadership Academy for senior elected members with portfolios relating to climate change, including Housing, Transport, Environment and Planning, Regeneration, and Corporate Strategy. March 25 & 26, 2009 at University of Warwick Conference Centre. More information available [here](#).

Capita's Local Action on Climate Change Conference Supported by DECC, Capita's 4th Annual Local Action on Climate Change conference aims to address strategy and practical guidance in helping local authorities and stakeholders meet National Indicators 185-188. More information and registration details available in the [programme](#).

London Climate Change Partnership Forum: Living in a Changing Climate Monday, February 16 at City Hall, London. See programme and registration info [here](#).

Renewable Energy Advice Workshop for Residents Arun District Council will host a [free workshop](#) for residents on February 24. The event is part of a new council initiative to offer advice to local residents about renewable energy technology, installers, and funding schemes.

Good Food Grants Available The Good Food Small Grants Scheme awards small grants to projects in communities and schools in Brighton and Hove that support healthy eating and sustainability. Find out more [here](#).

Brighton Science Festival Sustainability Evening The Brighton Science Festival will host "Too Hot to Handle," a free evening of discussion about sustainability. Pooran Desai of BioRegional, Tony Whitbread of the Sussex Wildlife Trust, and others will debate the motion: "The government should stop searching for alternative energy for tomorrow and prepare for climate change catastrophe today." Feb. 25. For details see the festival [programme](#).

Welsh Guide to Retrofitting Homes [This guide](#) is designed to help people with plans to improve their homes cut their carbon emissions, save on fuel bills, and protect against climate change impacts.

POWER Interregional Programme Launch POWER is a €5.8m programme, partly funded by Interreg IVC, to support projects in energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable transport, eco-innovation and environmental technologies, and behaviour change. Partners in seven

European regions will be invited to submit potential projects beginning in mid-February. Up to twelve projects will be selected. For more information see the [POWER Programme website](#).

President Obama's New Environment Team The new U.S. President has affirmed that climate change will be a priority of his administration. Meet his [environment appointees](#).

Partnership Projects, Groups, Meetings, Events

Climate South East Executive Committee This group is open to Executive Committee members only and steers the strategic direction and work of the partnership. Sector group chairs also attend Executive Committee meetings twice a year. If there are any issues you wish to bring to the Committee's or the Chair's attention, please notify [Matthew](#) or [Kristen](#).

If you are interested in becoming an Executive Committee member please let us know. Elections are held at our AGM each September.

2009 Executive Committee Meetings:

17 February
21 April
16 June (with working group chairs)
18 August
13 October
8 December (with working group chairs)

Working Groups:

CSE has a number of groups working on issues within particular sectors. Please let us know if you wish to attend any of these groups Encourage colleagues within your organisation who have a relevant interest to join in and help steer sector work. Partners are also welcome to suggest ideas for new working groups. Just get in touch with [Matthew](#) or [Kristen](#).

For meeting dates, papers, and other information, see the [Working Groups](#) page on our website (partners can register to log in). Or contact [Kristen](#) for details.

Planning Working Group: The Climate South East Planning group works to ensure that measures to improve resilience to climate change impacts and to prevent further ecological degradation are implemented in planning policy at local, regional, national, and European levels. The group is currently contributing to the Regional Assembly's Regional Vulnerability Assessment scoping work and its Climate Change Guide for LDF Planners.

Tourism Working Group: The Tourism group brings together Climate SE members with a particular interest in tourism and a commitment to work toward a more sustainable and climate-resilient tourism sector.

Biodiversity Working Group: The Biodiversity group is currently scoping some work to examine how well existing policies and programmes aimed at protecting biodiversity incorporate future climate change scenarios. A project spec will be circulated shortly. The group is also looking at ways of supporting local authorities in addressing requirements of NI 197. We welcome input from LA partners.

Business & Economy Working Group: The group is currently working on a Defra-funded project aimed at providing simple messages about climate change adaptation, tailored to small businesses in the food and drink area of the hospitality sector, which can be incorporated into existing sources of support and guidance for SMEs.

Emissions Monitoring Working Group: The EMG is currently looking for ways to support local authorities and others in monitoring and reporting their greenhouse gas emissions as part of their obligations under NI 185 and 186. A meeting of the group is scheduled for February 24 in Guildford. Partners' views and agenda items are welcome; please contact [Kristen](#).

Communities Working Group: CSE and Partners are preparing to begin mapping community activity throughout the south east that addresses the causes and effects of climate change. This work will help support local authorities and community action by identifying and sharing good initiatives, sources of funding, gaps that we can address, and ways of capturing activity that are relevant to local authorities. We will be contacting partners in the next few weeks and hope to hear from you all!

Resilient Organisations Project: CSE is working with Doogie Black of Climate Sense trialling a peer-to-peer review process between partners using the PACT organisational capacity building tool. The National Energy Foundation and Crawley Borough Council are currently participating in the trial, which seeks to determine the feasibility of having Climate SE partners use the tool to review each other. For more information, contact [Kristen](#).

DCReASE: Delivering Carbon Reduction Across the South East is a networking group of organisations with the common purpose of reducing carbon emissions in the region, focusing primarily on the domestic sector. The mission of the group is to provide regional co-ordination and engagement for the implementation of carbon reduction measures and to help the region meet its climate change and fuel poverty targets.

LRAP: CSE represents all of the UK's regional climate change partnerships on the Local and Regional Adaptation Partnership board, whose role is to provide effective support at the local and regional level for climate change adaptation. Defra asked Government Office for London (GOL) to convene the LRAP board to produce a coordinated and effective three-year support programme to improve delivery of climate change adaptation.

Climate South East AGM: September 15, 2009 (Location TBA). Hold the date!

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