

# **Green Nottingham Partnership**

## **Terms of Reference**

September 2012

### **Purpose**

The Green Nottingham Partnership, which was formed in 2010, recognises the environmental issues that affect Nottingham and its citizens, and aims to deliver actions that will reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, increase resilience and improve quality of life. It recognises that there are both impacts and opportunities from this agenda, and shared benefits for us all.

The Sustainable Community Strategy, the “Nottingham Plan”, sets out a vision for Nottingham that has environmental sustainability at its heart. We have set, and are committed to, ambitious targets to reduce our carbon emissions by 26% of 2005 levels by 2020, to increase the amount of energy generated from low or zero carbon sources to 20%, and to recycle 50% of our waste.

In order to meet these targets, there needs to be concerted and coordinated effort. There are a wide range of organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors that are carrying out vital work to reduce our environmental impact. A key purpose is to bring together the different organisations with a critical role in tackling the environmental challenges highlighted in the Nottingham Plan. Focus and resources are directed to priority areas, for example where carbon emissions are highest and shared solutions are required. Actions are delivered via a governance structure that delegates actions to those able to deliver whilst ensuring effective performance management and scrutiny. In carrying out its work the Partnership is responsive to the community – listening to and working with people in our community lies at the heart of the partnerships activities.

The Green Nottingham Partnership adds value by providing:

- Leadership;
- Focus and co-ordination;
- Opportunities for sharing resources, ideas and solutions;
- A means of preventing overlap and duplication.
- A method of mainstreaming environmental sustainability
- A shared commitment to environmental improvement that other spatial and themed partnerships can easily interact with

### **Status of the Partnership**

- The partnership is charged with addressing the Green Nottingham aims and agenda as set out in the Nottingham Plan to 2020. It is based on good will and a shared common purpose.
- Members of the Partnership are equal partners – although their contributions may differ.

- It is a non-statutory partnership – it does not have separate legal entity.
- It is accountable to One Nottingham
- It is accountable to other partnership bodies delivering against the objectives of the Nottingham Plan where there is an agreed or statutory requirement to do so

## Role

The Green Nottingham Partnership will lead on meeting the 2020 targets and objectives for Green Nottingham as outlined in the Nottingham Plan to 2020. These are:

Target / objective	
GN1	Reduce the city's carbon emissions by 26% of 2005 levels by 2020, to 1444 kt CO <sub>2</sub>
GN2	20% of the energy used in the city will be produced within the Greater Nottingham area from renewable or low/zero carbon sources (Baseline: 2008: less than 1%)
GN3	Improving the ability with which we use natural resources, including water
GN4	Increase the reuse, recycling and composting of household waste to 50% (Baseline 2008/09: 32%)
GN5	Improve our ability to mitigate or adapt to environmental challenges
GN6	Create jobs for local people in an extending and innovative environmental sector
GN7	Ensure that everyone understands the environmental challenge and how we can play our part in responding to it

Its key roles are:

- Setting strategy, and planning and reviewing delivery against the appropriate Nottingham Plan target and objective
- Receiving regular updates on progress against these targets and objectives
- Co-ordinating delivery of projects to meet the relevant Nottingham Plan target and objective –actions are set out in a delivery plan, which is updated annually, and assessing the contribution each action makes towards our objectives
- Removing barriers to joint working within the theme

The partnership is also required to perform a cross-cutting role in order to mainstream actions throughout the five other themed action programmes that seek to move Nottingham to a lower carbon future and operate within our environmental limits. Some of the Green Nottingham targets have also been adopted by the most appropriate main themes due to their critical role in delivery. The Green Nottingham Partnership will therefore work across the main partnerships to support them in this role.

## Membership

Chair: Richard Barlow, Browne Jacobson

Member representative: Portfolio Holder for Energy and Sustainability

Secretariat: Business Support Team, Nottingham City Council

Senior representatives from Nottingham City partners, including:

- Nottingham City Council
- Nottingham Primary Care Trust / NHS
- Enviroenergy
- Climate East Midlands
- University of Nottingham
- Nottingham Trent University
- Greater Nottingham Transport Partnership
- Boots
- Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce
- Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust
- Experian
- Nottingham Development Enterprise
- One Nottingham
- Nottingham Energy Partnership
- Environment Agency
- Severn Trent Water

In addition there are two third sector advocates.

- Membership of the Green Nottingham Partnership will be regularly reviewed. Invitations for additional representatives to join will be by prior agreement between the existing members
- Members of the Partnership will be named representatives, with one named substitute.

The role and function of the Green Nottingham Partnership is to:

- Identify strategic environmental priorities for Nottingham city within the context of global, national, regional and local environmental targets and objectives;
- Communicate these priorities to the One Nottingham Board, and assist other theme partnerships in understanding how their areas of responsibility can contribute to improving local environmental sustainability
- Support the delivery of the Nottingham Energy Strategy, Waste Strategy, Climate Change Strategy and Breathing Spaces Strategy, monitor progress and review the learn lessons for the relevant Green Nottingham target and objective
- Have joint ownership (with Nottingham City Council) of Nottingham's Climate Local Commitments, and responsibility for the delivery of shared actions
- Empower the local community, businesses and partners to take action on sustainability and climate change
- Commission activity, identify resources and establish joint-commissioning frameworks where necessary in support of the action plans

- Write an annual report on progress, which is shared publicly (e.g. via Climate Local annual reporting requirements)
- Promote best practice sharing, and respond to consultations
- Comply with statutory guidance, where this exists and guidance from the One Nottingham Board.
- Provide regular updates to the Nottingham Plan Performance Group
- Receive regular reports from the Health and Environment Partnership (HEP)

### **Expectations and Responsibilities of Members of the Partnership**

Members of the Green Nottingham Partnership may legitimately expect: -

- To be treated as equal, respected and valued, to be heard and to express views.
- To air differences in the Partnership meetings.
- To demonstrate loyalty to the Partnership by taking a collective responsibility for decisions made.
- To express the views, priorities and interests of their organisations/ partnerships.
- To make information produced by the Partnership and agreed by the Partnership available to all its members.
- To operate in a positive no blame culture that focuses on results and aims to motivate by achievements.
- The Partnership to have a favourable impact on achieving their targets, where they are compatible with the Nottingham Plan to 2020.
- The Partnership to understand their organisation / partnership and the constraints under which it operates.

Members of the Partnership bear certain responsibilities: -

- To demonstrate commitment to the Partnership by prioritising attendance, or ensuring adequate representation at Partnership meetings
- To treat each other as equal, with respect and demonstrate that they value contributions by listening and responding and encouraging real dialogue.
- To reach a consensus through focused discussion and forthright debate.
- To promote and support the aims and values of the Partnership by leadership and example within their own organisations/partnerships and within the community.
- To learn from each other and from experience.
- To seek to understand other partners' positions, motivations, constraints and culture - and to develop openness and trust.
- To contribute to the achievement of targets of other organisations, through co-operation and identifying and removing barriers to achieving them.
- To make an active contribution, abide by agreements made and have a commitment to action.

- To provide information as promised to the Partnership within the deadlines set.
- Align consultation processes and share contacts base where possible.
- If any Member misses more than two meetings in a row the Green Nottingham Partnership reserves the right to review his/her membership.

### **Accountability**

The Green Nottingham Partnership is accountable to the One Nottingham Board.

The Green Nottingham Partnership and the theme groups are non-executive bodies, which rely on trying to achieve consensus amongst the organisations represented. Therefore members of the partnership will be asked if they can support particular proposals but it is not the case that an overall majority is regarded as binding on all the organisations.

Actions to be assigned to individual officers during meetings – an action log will be issued and reviewed at each meeting

All members to feedback to their respective line managers and teams if appropriate

Minutes and project updates to be uploaded to the Nottingham Green Partnership intranet pages

### **Timescales**

Meetings to be held quarterly unless agreed otherwise.