

Regional Groups Initiative: Leeds City Region Summary Project Plan

March 2010



Low Emission
Strategies

Building on Good Practice

Introduction

The Leeds City Region (LCR) group is led by City of York Council and Leeds City Council and supported primarily by the following:

- WYTEG – West Yorkshire Transport Emissions Group incorporating:
 - Leeds City Council
 - Wakefield Council
 - City of Bradford Metropolitan DC
 - Kirklees Council
 - Calderdale Council
 - Institute of Transport Studies
 - Highways Agency
- ITS – Institute of Transport Studies, University of Leeds
- METRO – Integrated Transport Authority
- First West Yorkshire Ltd
- GWE Biogas Ltd

Other interested parties include:

- Stockholm Environment Institute
- Harrogate Borough Council
- Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
- Hull City Council
- City Car Club
- CO₂ sense (Yorkshire Forward)

The nominated regional champion representative for the group is Liz Bates, Principal Environmental Protection Officer, City of York Council.

The vision of the LCR group is: *To transform the Yorkshire region into a recognised centre of excellence for the implementation of low emission planning policies and the practical demonstration and assessment of low emission vehicles*

Long Term Aims, objectives and 2010/11 outcomes

Long Term Aim	Objectives	2010/11 Outcomes
<p>To achieve the widespread use of planning obligations across the region to reduce emissions from buildings and transport</p>	<p>Build on, and roll out across the Yorkshire region and beyond, the planning based LES work already commenced in Leeds and York. Secure commitment to adopt or a timeline / action plan for adoption of Low Emission Strategies SPD from partner local authorities in the Leeds City Region.</p> <p>Secure commitment to adopt or a timeline/action plan for adoption of an overarching low emission strategy for York</p>	<p>Develop regional guidance to assist the implementation of the emerging national SPD template for LES.</p> <p>Set up working groups with partner local authorities to develop the regional guidance and secure commitment to adoption of LES SPDs across the region.</p> <p>Hold a Yorkshire based RTPi event to engage town planners and other interested parties in the development and adoption of the regional guidance</p> <p>Develop a LES consultation document on a 'Low Emission Strategy for York'</p>
<p>To increase the uptake of low emission vehicles within regional local authority fleets and other large fleet operators</p> <p>To establish a low emissions skill base and ancillary industries within the region</p>	<p>Make progress towards the further deployment of bio-methane, hybrid and electric vehicles in the LCR by seeking funding to support the establishment of infrastructure and actively supporting and promoting vehicle trials.</p>	<p>Submit a regional 'Plugged in Places' application incorporating an action plan to roll out electric vehicle infrastructure within the region.</p> <p>Develop local partnerships and disseminate information to encourage the uptake of low emission vehicles in the LCR.</p> <p>Develop a timeline/ action plan to further demonstrate the use of bio-methane within the region</p> <p>Develop a timeline/ action plan to adopt an alternatively fuelled bus demonstration project in Leeds</p>

Long Term Aim	Objectives	2010/11 Outcomes
To improve understanding of the causes of local air quality management issues within the LCR region and use this evidence base to ensure the most appropriate mitigation measures are adopted in the region	Obtain a better understanding of how the make up of the local vehicle fleet influences air quality Develop improved modelling tools for assessing impact of low emission measures	Submit a regional bid in partnership with ITS to undertake further in-use vehicle emission testing in the region and improve knowledge of local vehicle fleets. Use this information to inform the development of the York LES and other regional projects. Use model output data to inform development of LES in York and assess likely impact of hybrid bus project

Communications

Between lead authorities

Communications between Leeds and York are ongoing on a weekly basis via telephone and e-mail. Progress meetings will be held a minimum of once a quarter. Other meetings will be arranged as and when required.

With local authority partners and transport authority

The initial point of contact for other local authorities and the regional transport authority will be the West Yorkshire Transport Emissions Group (WYTEG). This group currently meets approximately once every 8 weeks, but meetings can be scheduled more frequently or less often depending on the workload of the group.

The meetings of this group will be used an opportunity to disseminate information to the region and provide updates. The members of this group will also be drawn upon to establish smaller working groups to support the 'Plugged in Places' bid and ITS air quality grant funding bid. Where sub-groups are created a chair will be nominated and will feedback progress to the regional champion / lead authorities.

Progress will be reported to the wider Yorkshire area by reporting progress at Yorkshire and Humberside Pollution Advisory Council (YAHPAC) Meetings. These meetings take place approximately every eight weeks.

With other partners

Other partners such as Sainsbury's, GWE biogas, City Car Club and First West Yorkshire Ltd will be invited to an initial meeting where they will have the opportunity to share their input/experiences with other partners. They will then liaise individually with the lead authorities (mainly at Leeds) to ensure each of the low emission vehicle / infrastructure projects are progressed satisfactorily. A progress reporting session will be arranged towards the end of the year to share experiences and highlight success.