

# Orkney Environment Partnership Meeting

27<sup>th</sup> November 2013, St Magnus Centre, Kirkwall

## Attendees:

Gail Churchill (Chair)	SNH
Clare Gee	Orkney Islands Council, Arts, Museums & Heritage
Alastair Morton	Orkney Islands Council, Energy & Utilities
Brian Moss	National Farmers' Union
Anna Whelan	Orkney Islands Council, Corporate & Community Strategy
Maria Cuthbertson	Orkney Islands Council, Waste Services
Jenni Kakkonen	Orkney Islands Council, Marine Services
Barbara Foulkes	Visit Scotland
John Crossley	Orkney Field Club
Alan Younie	Scottish Government Rural Payments & Inspections Directorate
Alan Dundas	SEPA/Orkney Zero Waste
Craig MacInnes	OREF
David Brown	Orkney Islands Council, Environmental Health
Robert Leslie	OHAL
Jill Sutcliffe (Minutes)	Orkney Islands Council, Support Services

## Apologies:

Eileen Summers  
 Sarah Sankey  
 Gavin Barr  
 Elaine Clarke  
 Rob Crichton  
 Louise Wilson  
 Jon Side

		<b>Action</b>
1 & 2.	GC welcomed everyone to the meeting, and explained that as Chris Matthews has now retired from SEPA a new Chair would need to be elected. Alan Younie proposed GC, and this was seconded by BF. BF then volunteered for the now vacant position of Vice-Chair. These appointments were agreed unanimously.	
3.	<b>Report from Community Planning Steering Group meeting</b>	
4.	<p>AW advised that the Environment Strategy went to the last Steering group meeting, no comments were received and the strategy has therefore been approved. There was some concern about the lack of ownership of the actions in the action plan, and the lack of timescales. It was agreed that the Action Plan is still a work in progress.</p> <p>Thanks were given to ES for all her hard work putting the Strategy together.</p> <p><b>Recycling Data Reporting Update</b></p> <p>MC reported that recent changes in the way in which data is reported has resulted in it appearing that recycling in Orkney had decreased, but that is not actually the case.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reporting has moved from financial year to calendar year</li> <li>• Reporting is now on an annual basis instead of the previous quarterly basis</li> <li>• Street sweeping have been moved from household waste to commercial waste</li> <li>• Compost has been changed from recycled waste to recovered waste</li> <li>• Metals removed from incinerated waste must now be considered as recovered and not recycled</li> <li>• All waste has to fit certain criteria and, as Orkney does not have sufficient quantities of waste, it does not reach these criteria targets, and therefore is not credited with doing good work</li> <li>• More carbon is involved in recycling waste from the county as it is taken south by</li> </ul>	

	<p>road, than in shipping it to Shetland for incineration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Closed-loop” recycling not an option in Orkney due to expense</li> <li>• Glass is currently crushed to make aggregate, some initiatives are in place to re-use bottles. Use of crushed glass as aggregate helps reduce carbon emissions due to quarrying.</li> </ul> <p>All compost must meet certain specifications which Orkney cannot meet due to the low levels of compost production; community composting schemes have some exemptions, AD at SEPA can provide details if interested.</p> <p>Some companies ship out their own waste for recycling; this isn’t included in the data at all.</p> <p>AD advised that Orkney’s landfill is very low, but waste prevention gets ignored in Scottish figures. Also, Orkney allowances for landfill are lower than those for Shetland or Western Isles, so Orkney is once again penalised.</p> <p>MC will be looking into ways to utilise space on ships returning empty from Shetland.</p> <p>DB suggested a survey be carried out to see what is the most appropriate/cost effective way of disposing of waste. AD agreed that a study could be carried out, as it seems unfair that a “one size fits all” approach is being used which penalises communities such as Orkney.</p> <p>BF suggested that the community needs to be advised in a positive light what Orkney <u>is</u> doing with its waste, and be shown the reasons why national targets are not being met. MC agreed that Orkney is working to the best of its ability within its budget, and CM felt that there needed to be a statement in the media celebrating the positive results we are achieving.</p>	<b>MC</b>
5.	<p><b>Environment Strategy Action Plan</b></p> <p>Feedback received from the Environment Partnership Liaison group was similar to that received from the Steering Group.</p> <p>Once the Action Plan is in place it will be reviewed annually, or possibly twice annually. It was agreed the reviewing the action plan would be a standing item on the agenda.</p> <p>The group then proceeded to update the “action status” using the RAG method (with the addition of blue for on-going actions), as follows:</p> <p>1.1.1 – BLUE. To be considered by next LBAP group meeting, and findings reported to next meeting.  1.1.2 - as above  1.2.1 – BLUE. SEPA reviewing their 2014 programme in December, sampling is on-going.  1.2.2 – GREEN.  1.2.3 – BLUE. Happens every 3 years, next due in 2015. All OK at last sampling.  1.3.1 – AMBER. Current scheme rolled over into 2014. New scheme to be introduced in late 2014.  1.3.2 - to be considered by next LBAP group meeting, and findings reported to next meeting.  1.4.1 – RED. Need to ask ES to speak to the groups involved.  1.4.2 – DB pointed out that is the the same action as in 5.3.1, and that 1.4.2 should be deleted. Check with ES.  1.5.1 – RED. ES to speak to AW.  1.5.2 – RED. Need feedback from Outdoor Orkney Group (which meets on 13<sup>th</sup> December).  2.1.1 – RED. Feedback needed from Stuart West via ES.  2.1.2 – RED. Feedback needed from Stuart West via ES.  2.2.1 – RED. To be considered by next LBAP group meeting.  2.3.1 – RED. To be considered by next LBAP group meeting.  2.3.2 – BLUE.</p>	<b>ES for all</b>

<p>2.4.2 – GREEN. Plan was developed in 2013, baseline survey completed in 2013, annual monitoring to take place from Summer 2014 onwards.</p> <p>2.5.1 – RED. To be considered by next LBAP group meeting.</p> <p>2.6.1 – RED.</p> <p>2.7.1 – RED. ES to speak to RSPB.</p> <p>2.7.2 – GREEN. A rolling programme is in place.</p> <p>2.7.3 – AMBER. ONF is in hand, with Anne Bignall and Julian Branscombe.</p> <p>3.1.1 – RED.</p> <p>3.1.2 – RED.</p> <p>3.2.1 – AMBER. Kirkwall THI is going ahead but not all funding in place. ES to get update.</p> <p>3.2.2 – GREEN. The new Urban Conservation Management Plan has now been adopted.</p> <p>3.2.3 - GREEN. The BID is up and running and Anthea Hume is in place as the BIID Manager.</p> <p>3.3.1 – AMBER. Areas and issues currently being evaluated.</p> <p>3.3.2 – RED. ES to obtain feedback from D&amp;MP.</p> <p>3.3.3 – RED. Planned to be ready to go to D&amp;I Committee in June 2014.</p> <p>3.4 – the “strategy” needs to have its own action. CG and Stuart West to discuss.</p> <p>3.4.1 – GREEN. Out for public consultation during Dec 2013/Jan 2014.</p> <p>3.4.2 – GREEN. On target. Application lodged with HLF; HS funding in place.</p> <p>3.4.3 – RED. ES to obtain feedback from D&amp;MP.</p> <p>3.4.4 – RED. ES to speak to Julie Gibson.</p> <p>3.5.1 – GREEN. Rangers have been visiting schools.</p> <p>3.5.2 – RED. Needs discussion as no targets have been set.</p> <p>3.5.3 – RED. Needs clarification, not an appropriate action as it stands. CG/ES to discuss.</p> <p>3.6.1 – AMBER. Placemaking workshops taking place 12/13 December.</p> <p>3.7.1 – RED.</p> <p>3.7.2 – RED.</p> <p>3.7.3 – GREEN.</p> <p>4.1.1 – AMBER. On-going, not yet on target. AD to update ES.</p> <p>4.2.1 – RED. To be considered by next LBAP group meeting.</p> <p>4.2.2 – RED. AD to feed back to ES.</p> <p>4.3.1 – GREEN. Has been approved by Committee. Workshops taking place in December to discuss scope of the management plan. AM to feedback to ES after the workshops.</p> <p>4.3.2 – GREEN. Draft plan will be in place early 2014.</p> <p>4.4.1 – RED. NFU to present potential action to next meeting.</p> <p>4.4.2 – GREEN.</p> <p>4.5.1 – AMBER. Core Path Plan has been approved. ES to seek feedback from D&amp;MP.</p> <p>4.5.2 – RED. ES to speak to Transport.</p> <p>4.5.3 – RED.</p> <p>5.1.1 – GREEN.</p> <p>5.1.2 – GREEN.</p> <p>5.2.1 - GREEN.</p> <p>5.2.2 - GREEN.</p> <p>5.2.3 - GREEN. Already on the Orkney Zero Waste website.</p> <p>5.3.1 - GREEN.</p> <p>5.3.2 - GREEN. How can this be measured? DB to consider revised wording.</p> <p>5.4.1 – AMBER.</p> <p>5.4.2 – RED. AD to feedback to next meeting.</p> <p>5.4.3 - GREEN.</p> <p>5.5.1 – AMBER. “Effective” cannot be measured. AD to give ES suitable wording for a target.</p> <p>5.5.2 - GREEN.</p> <p>6.1.1 – AMBER.</p> <p>6.1.2 – AMBER.</p> <p>6.2 – JC commented that sustainability includes things other than biodiversity &amp; organic. Can “sustainability” be expanded to include all farms? AY to check with SAC.</p> <p>6.2.1 - GREEN. AY to check with SAC to see if this is going to be an annual event.</p> <p>6.2.2 - GREEN.</p> <p>6.3.1 - GREEN. Local group is meeting next week.</p> <p>7.1.1 – RED.</p> <p>7.2.1 - RED.</p> <p>7.2.2 - RED.</p>	<p><b>CG</b></p> <p><b>CG/ES</b></p> <p><b>AD</b></p> <p><b>AD</b></p> <p><b>AM</b></p> <p><b>BM</b></p> <p><b>DB</b></p> <p><b>AD</b></p> <p><b>AD</b></p> <p><b>AY</b></p> <p><b>AY</b></p>
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	<p>7.2.3 - RED.  7.3.1 – AMBER.  7.3.2 – AMBER. DB advised that Environmental Health should also be a partner. ES to obtain feedback from Outdoor Orkney Group.  8.1.1 – GREEN.  8.1.2 - GREEN. ES to check.  8.2.1 - GREEN.  8.2.2 - GREEN.  8.3.1 - GREEN.  8.3.2 - GREEN.  8.4.1 - GREEN  8.4.2 – AMBER. Orkney Zero Waste has funding for marketing to encourage tourists to recycle. New businesses are aware of this strategy, uncertain about existing businesses.  8.4.2 – AMBER. As above.  8.4.4 – GREEN.  8.5.1 - GREEN.  8.5.2 - GREEN. Visit Scotland should be the lead, with OTG, HS and SNH as partners.  8.5.3 – AMBER. This has commenced. Looking at an Interpretation Centre and Green Energy Trail.  9.1.1 – RED.  9.1.2 – RED.  9.2.1 - GREEN.  9.2.2 - GREEN.  9.2.3 – AMBER. Due to go out to public consultation in Summer 2014.  9.3.1 - GREEN. Securing funding for assessment of energy use in Orkney. Will be looking at how best to use the surplus power being generated.  9.3.2 – RED.  9.3.3 – GREEN.</p> <p>JC suggested that there should be an action in “eco-system services” of developing a systematic approach to eco-system benefits in financial terms when contentious planning applications are considered. The lead could be OIC, with SEPA and SNH as partners. GC suggested this should be discussed at the next LBAP meeting, and <b><i>put on the agenda for the next meeting of this group.</i></b></p> <p>BF stated that there is an overlap between sections 1 &amp; 2 and that the LBAP group needs to look at streamlining the document.</p> <p><b><i>It was agreed that Miriam Frier should be invited to the next meeting.</i></b></p> <p>JC raised the issue of black plastic covering for silage and the problems recycling this. Orkney Zero Waste will look at this and include an action, depending on the outcome.</p> <p>ES to update the Action Plan and circulate for comment. <b><i>It will be reviewed from the front to the back at the next meeting.</i></b></p>	<p><b>GC –  <u>AGENDA  ITEM</u></b></p> <p><b>GC –  <u>AGENDA  ITEM</u></b></p> <p><b>AD</b></p> <p><b>ES</b></p>
6.	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>BF was concerned that feedback to the document had said it was too “woolly”, and that targets and dates need to be firmed up. GC asked all to look at their targets, think about dates, and feed back to ES by 6<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p>ES will e-mail those not at the meeting asking them to do the same.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>ES</b></p>
7.	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>February 2014 was identified as the best date for the next meeting – ES to confirm date, time and venue</p>	<p><b>ES</b></p>