

Hampshire 2050 Partnership **26 November 2019**

Partners attended the initial re-purposed Hampshire 2050 Partnership, with a key focus on the changing climate, from a wide range of sectors and organisations across Hampshire.

As part of the opening welcome from the Leader of the County Council, Councillor Keith Mans, Partners heard that:

- One of the key aspects of both the Hampshire 2050 Commission of Inquiry and the Climate Emergency declaration is the need to reach beyond the County Council to tackle issues for Hampshire the place, and to work in partnership with other organisations and support community and individual actions to help reduce carbon emissions.
- This was a new series of refreshed events with a seminar/workshop feel. The aim of the Partnership would be to coordinate and oversee delivery of the 2050 Commission recommendations.
- Partners were strongly encouraged to give feedback on the event to ensure that it remained purposeful.
- Partners endorsed the proposed twice-yearly event format with one event running in the Spring and one in the Summer.

Keynote Speech

Dr Hugh Ellis, Policy Director
Town and Country Planning Association

- Hugh's presentation clearly emphasised the significance of cultural change and political leadership in effecting climate change.
- As a society, individuals can play their part but the large scale, systemic change and amendment to legislation will be the most important drivers.
- Global temperatures are currently 1.1 degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels and the sea level is due to rise by 2m by the year 2100.
- In 2018, a record 37 billion tonnes of CO₂ were released into the atmosphere and carbon emissions are not estimated to have peaked even by the year 2030.
- Hugh spoke about the importance of infrastructure spending and how we plan and use places and spaces. He mentioned the work being conducted in the Netherlands to combine climate resilience with social environment and place making. Hugh termed this as adapting spaces to 'live with water' as opposed to 'keeping water out'.
- Hugh noted his belief that the UK has the engineering solutions and pioneering technology to address the climate change issue through the importance of place and neighbourhood planning, but that political leadership was key in implementing this.

Workshop Session

Within discussion groups, Partners considered the below questions:

- What are the top three issues for your organisation on Climate Change?
- What role does your organisation have on these issues?

Feedback included comments such as:

- National Planning Policy Framework and policy within Local Plans has not caught up with the climate change agenda (because addressing the issue is not statutory in local and national policy, it is not always considered extensively as part of planning).
- Smaller rural communities are at risk in the future and we should focus upon what communities and society will look like in the future.
- Leadership is not just required at a political level but across civic, business and the community.
- Education is important at all levels to effect behavioural change.
- We need to link strategic intent through policy to bring around changes.
- There is scope within the construction industry for innovation.
- Partnership working is of great value and importance achieve common goals collectively.

**David Mason, Environment Technical Director
Skanska**

- David's presentation highlighted how Skanska were recording real time data on their carbon emissions and analysing trends to formulate a pathway to ensure net zero construction by 2045.
- Skanska are a high-profile organisation, working on highways with a 'touch point' to the public and public perception and therefore it is of real importance and value that they lead the way.
- David noted the challenge of reconciling the rising population and significant housing development with the pressures of the climate change agenda.
- One of David's key messages was that we need to be smarter about what we build and how we build it. This includes the supply chain and all materials used. Currently the production of two main construction materials, cement and steel, produce volumes of CO₂.
- David mentioned some of the innovative ways of working that Skanska had been considering for the future. These included the use of cross laminated timber which reduces the impact of concrete and steel, acts as a long-term carbon store and, through sustainable production, can encourage local forestry.
- David also touched upon the future of construction plant and showed images of a Skanska/Volvo site run entirely by electric and autonomous plant vehicles.

It was reassuring to hear the speakers endorse the work to date and compare Hampshire favourably against other areas of the country where there is less collaboration and collective sign up to action, but there is an enormous amount to do.

Partners agreed that the event had been very valuable and the ongoing 2050 Partnership events would be crucial in terms of working collaboratively to achieve shared goals. Partners also considered it important to raise issues, such as those discussed at the event, with Central Government.