

MINUTES: Business Advisory Group

Thursday 9th July 2009

34/38 Beverley Road, Hull



PRESENT

John Britton	BCG Bridgepoint
Christine Ware	High 10
Darren Glew	Eltherington Aluminium
Peter Latham-Warde	PLW Consultancy
John Roberts	Destinova Consulting
Jeff Clarkson	Clarkson Business Strategy
Nick Miller	James Legal
Dr David Calvert	Environmental Technologies Centre of Industrial Collaboration
Ben Delaney	ONE HULL Business Forum

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Apologies for Absence

319. Ben Delaney welcomed Dr David Calvert to the meeting and noted apologies from Glen Little, Sheena Kurring, Alex Burgess and Barry Schofield.
320. Ben Delaney explained that the ONE HULL Environment and Climate Change Standing Advisory Group was looking to develop an environmental strategy for Hull's businesses and was looking to the Business Forum to lead its development.

Agenda Item 2: Minutes

321. The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th May were agreed as a true and correct record.

Agenda Item 3: Matters Arising

322. A discussion was had regarding the announcement from KCOM to outsource the management of its network assets to BT's wholesale division.

Agenda Item 4: Commercial Approaches to Combating Climate Change

323. Dr Calvert introduced the Environmental Technologies Centre of Industrial Collaboration and explained its purpose was to work with local businesses and advise them on reducing wastage, minimise the use of raw materials and meet the demands of environmental legislation. He said the Centre was not a regulator of businesses but set up to support businesses as environmental pressures would become increasingly stringent and there was a need for businesses to be aware of what they would need to do to comply.

324. Dr Calvert explained the Carbon Trading process which would initially affect large businesses and public sector organisations but would be extended to smaller organisations in the future. He said this would force businesses to consider their environmental impact more thoroughly as there would be financial implications for those businesses that produced too much carbon.
325. Dr Calvert said the Humber Environmental Network would be reformed and host its first meeting on Thursday July 16th. The Network would host a series of events in the region which would provide the latest information on environmental developments which would be free for businesses to attend as the network was being supported by Resource Efficiency Yorkshire and Yorkshire Forward. He added that there would be a membership fee after the first year as the Network would have to become sustainable.
326. Dr Calvert explained the programme of events for the year. It was agreed that all information on upcoming events would be circulated to Advisory Group members.
327. John Britton said that regulations gave weight to the environmental message but added that with many companies facing pressures due to the recession the environment could become less of a priority for businesses. Dr Calvert acknowledged that there would be some difficult decisions to be made by businesses and Government as economic pressures would impact on spending priorities. He added that further difficult decisions would also arise because of planning issues such as the placing of wind turbines near residential areas.

Agenda Item 5: ONE HULL, Hull Forward and Yorkshire Forward

328. Ben Delaney gave a brief Power Point presentation on the role and structure of ONE HULL, Hull Forward and Yorkshire Forward.

Agenda Item 6: Any other business

329. There was no other business

Agenda Item 7: Dates of future meetings

330. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 17th September at 3.00pm