



Main Commission Meeting

Minutes

2.00 - 5.30pm, 7th September 2022

CITU, Leeds

Refreshments and Networking

Welcome and Introductions

Apologies:

Cllr Jack Hemingway, Beckie Hart, Bill Adams, Melanie Taylor, Oliver Harmar, Mark Jones, Peter O'Brien, Gordon Rogers, Robert Hall, Jenny Patient.

Dan Parsons has left the region and will be replaced by Robin Inglis (York University) as Co-Chair of the Research & Evidence Panel (we are discussing the commissioner aspect with her so can't announce that yet).

Replacements are to be confirmed for the following Commissioners:

Martin Stead (Sewell – Construction sector)

Patrick Erwin (Northern Power Grid)

Kate Adams (NFU) who has a new role in Brussels and will confirm a replacement Commissioner. Thanks were given for her commitment and recognition of her contribution.

Action Log and Minutes from the last meeting

Actions from the last meeting:

[Action 20: Commissioners invited to join the Climate Pledge Task and Finish Group by emailing \[yhclimate@leeds.ac.uk\]\(mailto:yhclimate@leeds.ac.uk\)](#)

Completed

[Action 21: Commissioners to use the timetable of Delivering Impact Sessions \(Paper 2\) to identify sessions appropriate for them to get involved in. And to get involved in the process of nominating speakers for the Delivering Impact Sessions.](#)

Ongoing

[Action 22: YHCC Secretariat Team to develop a clear and simple mechanism for this](#)

Completed

The minutes from the June meeting were approved.

Co-Directors Update

- Action Update (Paper 1) (Rosa – exceptions only)
- Recruitment (Andy)
- Welcome to the four Engagement and Impact Officers:

- Sam Herbert as the new Engagement and Impact Officer (Climate Resilience and Land, Water, Nature, Food)
 - Kat Armstrong as the new Engagement and Impact Officer (Net Zero and Future Economy)
 - Jon Kedwards as the new Engagement and Impact Officer (Business and Community Engagement)
 - Andrew Wood as the new Senior Engagement and Impact Officer (Regional Policy and Planning)
- Delivering Impact Sessions (Rosa)
 - All Commissioners and panel members are invited to all the sessions to cross pollinate and utilise all expertise.
 - The dates are in the diary and Commissioners can put themselves forward to join any.
 - Pledge Task & Finish Group (Rosa)
 - Support with the task and finish group has been fantastic. There is lots of traction and the proposal is clearly defined.
 - Next steps include building a collaboration with the Climate Action Coalition, developing the comms material, the landing page and how to quantify impact.
 - It will be launched 'softly' before the Climate Summit, and formally at the Summit.

Action 23 - Wallace to take the Climate Action Pledge to the Yorkshire Leaders Board

- Commonplace Platform (Andy)
 - Commonplace Platform is a consultation mechanism to be used alongside the delivering impact sessions. The platform will contain a video of the sessions with any additional information, it is very user friendly and the main way to engage with civil society around the region. There are already 10,000 people signed up for this platform across the region.
 - As soon as up and running the secretariat can share links to see the platform.
 - The purpose of the platform to act as a visible, accessible and transparent space to show the work that is happening, share learning and work alongside feedback. (Rather than a tool for consultation). The platform shows the diversity across the region so we can understand the representation.
 - The Commission is currently recruiting to post to lead on this.
- Finances (Andy)
 - For the commission's general awareness and transparency, in addition to salary commitments for the Secretariat, the Commission funded a 10K contribution to design and production of the YHCC Climate Action Plan and 24K to fund the Commonplace Digital Platform for two years.

Updates from the fora, panels and working groups (3 mins each) Paper 2

- National and regional policy fora
- Climate resilience Panel
- Net zero Panel
- Future economy Panel
- Research & evidence Panel

- Update in the meeting: New Chair Dr Robin Ingles. They have won a bid for national funding to support students getting involved in third sector activities – this will link into the climate commission work with key organisations.
- Communities & engagement Panel

Action 24: Helen to make the connection of the ‘make my money matter’ media campaign (pension funds to have a better climate impact) with the Communities and Engagement Panel.

- Land, water, nature and food Panel

Draft letter to new Prime Minister & Cabinet – key messages shared with Commission for consideration.

Paper 3

(Slide shared during discussion)

- Short but impactful statement to the Prime Minister with clear national policy asks that support climate action at a regional level.
- The statement will include five key policy asks, including the aviation statement. This will be the focus of the first National Policy Forum meeting.

Comments from the discussion:

- Is there something around jobs and skills and the just transition we want to add in here?
- There was discussion around the inclusion of aviation as a regional priority, with some question of this but overall support that it does need to be included as a national policy ask.
- Retrofit is included in isolation which is an oversimplification and needs to be linked into adaption and resilience (flooding/heating) and power infrastructure.
- Retrofit also links to opportunities for job creation and reducing unemployment with the need to support the north and focussed investment.
- We need to send the letter to MPs in the region that are part of the new cabinet.
- Do we want to include CCS within this?

Break

‘3 in 60’ Session on Land Use

Slides attached separately

Introduction to land use from Rachael Bice, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. Followed by three 10 minutes presentations with 5 minute Q&A:

‘Commission can have the courage to provide the thought leadership in this area.’

Rachael Bice, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

Insight into our water and other natural systems

Lee Pitcher, Yorkshire Water

Findings from the North Yorkshire Rural Commission on rural society and economy and implications for land use

Dr Debbie Treblico, North Yorkshire Rural Commission

Some challenges and opportunities of food production across the urban landscape
John Le Corney, Heeley City Farm

Q&A and reflections:

- We should be proposing a regional land use approach in line with the 6th carbon budget. The emphasis is on collaboration for solution finding. There was agreement from the Commission on this.
- Aim to link other climate aspects into this with a focus on community engagement and how to utilise nature in local areas.
- It's useful to have a focus on agriculture (linked to energy use and % of total) and the need to engage with the farming community.
- How to be innovative with the current landscape (incorporating circular economy) and Yorkshire Water are a key player in this.
- Consideration of the Landowners role in land use strategy. The 6 biggest landowners did start to work together on how to address this.
- Key points to be mindful of are considering climate ambitions but bring farmers with us rather than pushing them away as they can feel overwhelmed. We need to offer to support and facilitate discussions.
- How to utilise devolved powers focusing on skills and education?
- How do we connect everyone together? There is a lot of cross over with working with young people in rural communities, urban farming, mental health, water and SUDs... there are so many elements that we can link everyone together.
- How can we capitalise on the public sector and NHS requirement for the social value and Net Zero agenda to be embedded in the frameworks (PPN 06/20 and PPN 06/21) to address a 10% weighting.
- The UK Infrastructure Bank are looking for research evidence that could help them identify how best to finance natural capital from an infrastructure perspective and which would be connected to the UKIB's remit. Any evidence we could share would be helpful. (Peter O'Brien)

Reflections, priorities for next meeting and AOB

Circulate by email

YHCC comms strategy on responding to emergencies and decision-making process on policy letters (Andy Gouldson)

Close

Tour of CITU and Refreshments

Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 7 December 15.00 - 17.30

Annex 1 Attendees (based on acceptances of the meeting)

Chair Liz Barber,

Vice Chairs

Co-Directors

Prof Andy Gouldson, University of Leeds

Rosa Foster, University of Leeds and Environment Agency

Senior Officer Nominees

Wallace Sampson, Chief Executive, Harrogate Borough Council

Kate Josephs, Chief Executive, Sheffield City Council

Commissioners

Amir Hussein, Yeme Architects

Amandeep Kaur Mann, Eco-Sikh

Bruce Heppenstall, Drax

Emma Bridge, Chief Executive, Community Energy England

Kate Adams, Environmental and Land Use Advisor, NFU Northeast Region

Natasha Nauth, Relationship Director, NatWest

Peter Cole, Principal Environmental and Sustainability Officer, Transport for the North

Philip Holdgate, Head of Production Sustainability, ITV Studios

Rachael Bice, Chief Executive, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

Rob Purdy, Director of Balance Sheet Management, YBS

Representatives from RYCA

Sarah Clark, Operations Manager, Aura Innovation Centre, University of Hull

Simon Pringle

Secretariat

Kathryn Lock, Policy and Communications Manager

Amelia Duncan, Policy Fellow

Kat Armstrong, Engagement and Impact Officer

Sam Herbert, Engagement and Impact Officer

Jon Kedward, Engagement and Impact Officer

Margo Hanson, Research Manager