MOBILISING LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS FOR CARBON NEUTRAL STROUD 2030

Proposal

An offer to SDC to assist with a workshop to mobilise local stakeholders in support of development and delivery of a 2030 Plan of Action.

Purposes

To motivate local stakeholders to get involved in development and delivery of the 2030 Plan of Action.

To build relationships and effective ways of working together.

To inform development of the 2030 Plan of Action.

To identify how local stakeholders can become involved and contribute to development and deployment of the Plan of Action.

To develop stakeholder 'ownership' and buy-in to the Plan.

Target Participants and Invites

Local stakeholders with (a) knowledge and experience and/or (b) roles and responsibilities relevant to development and delivery of the Plan of Action. [See also Qiv in the last section below.]

It is envisaged that an initial invite list of key stakeholders will be used, complemented by promotion through key networks and open publicity about the event.

It is proposed to ask stakeholders to register for the event using 'eventbrite' and in so doing to briefly indicate their areas of knowledge/experience and/or roles/responsibilities, and any contributions to achieving the Plan that they might wish to offer.

The information gathered through registration can be displayed ('stakeholder mapping'), so participants get a sense of who's in the room, including the range of knowledge, experience, roles and offers.

Format

Introductory presentation to the whole group, following by smaller group discussions, report backs to the whole group, and a final rallying call.

Group discussions to be based on key building block topics in the Gloucester Energy Strategy, plus topics from the SDC motion.

Example Format:

9.30   Tea/coffee and networking
10.00   The SDC Carbon Neutral Motion and Gloucestershire Energy Strategy
10.30   Introduction to topics and aims of group discussions (and to stakeholder mapping)
10.40   Group discussions A
        -       communicating and engaging effectively with the public about taking action
        -       enabling public body carbon reductions
        -       enabling business sector carbon reductions
        -       decarbonising heat
        -       developing stronger planning policies
        -       developing business models for renewable energy
11.45   Report backs to whole group
12.15   Lunch and networking
1.30   Group discussions B
        -       making housing retrofit happen
        -       tackling fuel poverty
        -       decarbonising transport
        -       reducing greenhouse gases from agriculture
        -       trees, woodland and reforestation
        -       adapting to climate change
        -       engaging county, regional and national stakeholders
2.35   Report backs to whole group
3.05   What now? Immediate next steps (short presentation – SDC leader?)
3.15   Pledges to Act
3.25   Finish

Each group could consider the questions: What's been done so far in the district? What more can we do? What are the first next steps? What resources/funding could be available? Who should take the lead?

Each group would need a background information provider, a facilitator (to maintain focus on the questions) and a note taker/rapporteur.

In the penultimate session – Immediate Next Steps – an SDC speaker to give a commitment about how the outputs from the event will be used, and how participants can be involved as the process moves forward.

In the final session – Pledges to Act – ask each participant to fill in short questionnaire – with contact details, headline knowledge and experience, roles and responsibilities, and how they would be prepared to help.

Further issues for discussion

These might include:

i. Does SDC wish to present its own proposals for governance and organisational structure for involving stakeholders, or use a group discussion session to develop proposals?
ii. Should the event be on a weekday or at the weekend?
iii. Should a registration fee be put in place? This would increase the number of those who register attending on the day, but may impose a financial hurdle to registration for some stakeholders.
iv. It is suggested that a separate event be organised for mobilising local communities and local community action, with a focus on local community groups, Parish and Town Councils and, for example, resilience building and neighbourhood planning. Does this seem appropriate?