**ALEO East Meeting**

**14th March 2018, 1:30 – 4:00**

**East Herts Council, Charringtons House, The Causeway, Bishops Stortford, CM23 2ER**

**Agenda**

12.00       Arrival and Lunch

01.00       Welcome and Introduction

01.05       Minutes of last meeting, action points and matters arising

01.20 Smart Energy Meters - Free Resources for Councils Jo O’Riordan, Smart Energy GB

 02.00      Eco Flex 2 - latest industry position: Q&A panel session. Nina Heigham, Aran Services Ltd

 02.40 Local Energy East: overview of a BEIS-funded Regional Energy project in the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough, Hertfordshire and New Anglia LEP areas. David Walton Suffolk County Council

03.00   Regional round-up

 Industry Briefing

 AOB:

 Appointment of Secretariat.

03.30      Close

This meeting has been kindly sponsored by Aran Services. To find out more about Aran please visit: [www.aranservices.co.uk](http://www.aranservices.co.uk) or contact Nina Heigham at nina@aranservices.co.uk

**Minutes of Meeting on 14th March 2018**

1. **Matters arising from the last meeting**

David Walton briefly covered the minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd November 2018.

The future direction of ALEO East was discussed and the following agreed:

* + Location of meetings – we will work with the NEA to assess locations based on feedback. Members are requested to suggest venues and towns. Huntingdon, Colchester, Cambridge, Norwich and Bury St Edmunds were suggested.
	+ Membership – request all current members to suggest new members from within their contacts at local authorities, housing associations and third sector organisations.
	+ Speakers – members are requested to suggest topics of interest and speakers.
	+ Webinar – it was suggested that holding webinars may be a possibility
	+ Case study template – this was still outstanding
	+ Forum – the national ALEO website has a forum and it was decided this met the needs of the group and we would not to set up an individual one for ALEO East.
	+ Suggested that ALEO and NEA should have a combined and possibly shorter meeting

The minutes were accepted.

1. Presentation on **Smart Meters by Jo O’Riordan and Liz Dawson of Smart Energy GB. -** A presentation on Smart Meters. Latest rollout information, support available from Smart Energy GB as follows:
- Personalised promotional material such as leaflets, posters, FAQ’s and any other items available on he website can be personalised for your local authority or organisation. Details https://www.smartenergygb.org/en/resources/resource-centre
- Suggestions for promotional material are requested.
- An employer pack to engage employees is available. Includes things such as low energy cooking recipes
- First generation meters, SMETS1, will begin to be enrolled onto the new national network for smart meters by the end of the year. This will be an over the air change without the need of an engineer. After January 2019 only SMETS2 meters will be installed.
-Members suggested that they would like to see current research on how smart meters affect consumer behaviour in reducing energy use.
- They also requested an infographic. Smart Energy GB said that this could be produced and requested members to send ideas, text or graphics.
- Presentation can be found here <https://smartenergygb.box.com/shared/static/474s7zmvc1mrni5q9fi1ozs2gsdf9f7l.pdf>
- There are now 11 million smart meters installed,
- You can contact **Jo O’Riordan** with comments and questions at Jo.ORiordan@smartenergygb.org
- Additional information requested and supplied after the meeting can be found at the bottom of the page
2. **ECO Flex 2** Discussion and question and answer session **by Nina Heigham of Aran Services.** Points discussed:
- Some authorities finding it difficult to access LA Flex funding due to restrictive LA Flex statements of intent. It was suggested that local authorities should widen the criteria in their statements of intent to include low incomes, issues with the cold, harder to treat properties to make it easier to help more residents.
- CERO/ HECROW funding still available until end of June/July. This will be last chance to fund loft insulation and cavity wall insulation. Promote availability of these energy initiatives that will end shortly on council websites and newsletters now.
- Gary Crockett discussed his success in promoting energy efficiency measures to those suffering ill health through hospitals. He has agreed to write a case study for the use of members.
3. **Local Energy East presentation by David Walton Suffolk County Council**. This is a BEIS-funded project in the Greater Cambridge, Greater Peterborough (GCGP), Hertfordshire and New Anglia LEP areas which has been running since April 2017.
The project will deliver a regional energy investment and delivery strategy this April 2018, which will form the basis of work to be taken forward by a ‘Local Energy Hub’ in our region.
The Hub will be hosted by the GCGP LEP for the next two years with funding provided by BEIS and will assist LAs with project identification, feasibility studies, funding readiness and delivery.
Mapping of energy related infrastructure has been carried out which should be of use for example with strategic planning decisions. It includes energy generation facilities such as wind turbines, solar farms and anaerobic digesters as well as grid capacity and other data layers.
A web-based stakeholder portal (mapping tool) will be made available as an output from the work.
Local Authorities are recommended to identify potential energy infrastructure projects in their area, so these can be highlighted to the Local Energy Hub once this is formed.
4. **Project updates and regional update**
* No updates made.
1. **AOB**
* En-form was approved as the Secretariat for the next 2 years until March 2020.
-Confirmed that In future ALEO East meeting will be two meetings per year in the Spring and Autumn. We would work with NEA to improve meetings based on feedback received by both organisations.
1. **Attendance - 19**
2. **Date of Next Meeting**

31st October 2018 from 10am till 3pm at West Suffolk House , Western Way,

Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3YU

**Additional Information Supplied after the meeting:**

**1. Smart Energy GB** have published their latest [*Smart energy outlook*](https://www.smartenergygb.org/en/resources/press-centre/press-releases-folder/smart-energy-outlook-march18?tab=1&docspage=1), the largest independent barometer of national public opinion on energy and smart meters carried out by Populus.

This latest edition shows that 98 per cent of the Great British population are aware of smart meters and the enthusiasm to get a smart meter installed soon is also high as 19 million adults in Britain are now ready to seek or accept a smart meter in the next six months.

Other key findings include:

* 82% of people with smart meters have taken at least one step to reduce their energy use
* Nearly three quarters (73%) of people with smart meters would recommend them to others
* 72% of people with an In Home Display check it regularly
* 82% of people with smart meters have a better idea of their energy costs.

 You can view the full report [here](https://www.smartenergygb.org/en/-/media/SmartEnergy/essential-documents/press-resources/Documents/Smart-energy-outlook---March-2018.ashx?la=en&hash=7032A1758BE76C8C5E2C1A822EAC5449A4CEB30E).

Today we have also published out *Annual report* for 2017. This is available on our website [here.](https://www.smartenergygb.org/en/about-us/essential-documents)

**2. Below are some links to Smart Meter resources that may be useful:**

* [Smart meters and energy usage: a survey of energy behaviour before and after upgrading to a smart meter](https://www.smartenergygb.org/en/-/media/SmartEnergy/essential-documents/press-resources/Documents/Smart-meters-and-energy-usage-October-2017.ashx) - shows that smart meters are having a positive impact on how people report using energy around the home
* [Smart energy outlook](https://www.smartenergygb.org/en/-/media/SmartEnergy/essential-documents/press-resources/Documents/Smart-energy-outlook-report-August-2017.ashx) – bi-annual survey of almost 10,000 energy consumers – the latest version is out soon
* Resource centre
* [Information leaflet](https://www.smartenergygb.org/en/resources/resource-centre/materials/informational-leaflet?BackUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.smartenergygb.org%2Fen%2Fresources%2Fresource-centre%2Fmaterials) – this resource is designed to be used when talking to people aged 65 and over, who do not use the internet - print fulfilled
* To sign up to our monthly campaign update [**here**](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YLQQSN3)

**3. Smart Meter Information from the NEA Fuel Poverty Forum held in the morning**

**Smart Meters**

I do recommend getting involved in the Smart Meter project, especially if you are working directly with households vulnerable to fuel poverty. The materials provided by SEGB are very good, but they are only useful when made accessible, by frontline staff, to those that need the extra support. Every household is going see an increase in their electricity costs to cover the smart meter rollout and it is our householders that will be disproportionally affected by this. We need to ensure they are at least benefitting from the technology.

Smart Meter Funds – <https://www.cafonline.org/charities/grantmaking/smart-energy-gb-in-communities>

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