

**ALEO London: Executive Committee Meeting  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**Café 171, The Jerwood Space**

**Minutes**

**Attendees**

Neil Pearce	Barking & Dagenham
Fran Evans	Camden
Ieman Barmaki	Enfield
Natalie Sansom	Harrow (Treasurer)
John Kolm-Murray	Islington (Vice Chair)
Shadia Rahman	Kingston
Martin O'Brien	Lewisham (Chair)
Rachael Mills	SE <sup>2</sup> (Secretariat)

**1. Updates**

1.1 The PM has responded to JKM's letter. This is good profile for ALEO. Nothing has been received from the other Leaders.

**Action: RM to circulate letter**

**2. National Consultations**

2.1 Ofgem transition to ECO consultation closes next week. It has raised some queries such as whether LAs can only refer in their own area (which would breach LA collaboration rules) and the definition of social housing for the F&G rated properties (e.g. Is it anything below market rent? What about 'pay to stay'? Could void opportunities be missed if eligibility is based on the outgoing tenant?). ALEO is submitting a response.

2.2 The Government response to the ECO consultation is expected 'at Christmas'

2.3 ALEO responded to the Ofgem PPM consultation re safeguarding vulnerable people

2.4 BEIS and Ofgem have issued an open request for evidence to improve the efficiency and flexibility of the energy system.

2.5 WHD data sharing with the broader group is now unlikely to happen in 2017, so hopefully will be in place for 2018/19. However, will a wider pool of people mean the discount is reduced (as the fund is fixed at £320m)?

**3. GLA update**

3.1 The GLA Environment Committee (Elected Member scrutiny) has called for evidence and opportunities for fuel poverty and carbon reduction. The deadline is 21<sup>st</sup> November.

3.2 On Monday (14<sup>th</sup> November), MOB and JKM met with Brooke Flanagan and James Murray to discuss the Fuel Poverty Action Plan. The GLA is looking to put in place an overarching environment strategy in 2017: Energy for London. This will be the umbrella strategy to include

carbon, fuel poverty, building energy efficiency (RE:FIT), supply, community, renewables and 'zero carbon'. The intention is that the Fuel Poverty Action Plan will provide a focus on the specific activities and deliverables and is hoped to be in place by September 2016.

**How do we want to engage with the Fuel Poverty Action Plan individually and collectively as ALEO London?**

3.3 Not all the funds were spent in the GLA Boiler Cashback Scheme and so they are looking to ring-fence £1m of grant for vulnerable people, with quite broad eligibility. It is thought that 86% efficient boilers that are broken will be repaired under the scheme: less efficient boilers will be replaced. Social housing will be excluded. The GLA want to start the scheme as soon as possible (December 2016?) and are keen to get the funds spent quickly to prove there is a demand (and so further funds can be requested). **They want the Boroughs be referrers: we should rise to challenge but also manage expectations.** We need to positively engage to make it work and prove our role, but need to make sure it works for us too. It is understood that James Hardy will organise a meeting with the Boroughs very soon (Nov/Dec).

3.4 CAG are reviewing RENEW.

#### **4. Members survey**

4.1 We received a good response from the survey: it's thought that the Boroughs that didn't respond have less going on. It paints a representative picture of the current state of energy efficiency / fuel poverty work across Boroughs: activities are happening but resources are, with some exceptions, in decline and the trajectory is that it will worsen. There is usually less than 1 person undertaking the work, but they are managing to keep the plates spinning.

#### **4.2 What should we do about the declining resources across the capital?**

- What is role of ALEO to create activities in London as a whole?
- Can we free some time to put something together that is beyond BAU?
- Can we come together with a single agreed message and have open dialogue with the GLA, influencing the Fuel Poverty Action Plan and requesting more resource.
- It is important to recognise that one size doesn't fit all – eg Boroughs have different approaches to and needs for fuel poverty action.

#### **4.3 Is there a role for the sub-regions?**

- Boroughs have different priorities and strengths, eg fuel poverty, able-to-pay, white labelling, renewables
- Boroughs could offer leadership / mentoring to neighbouring Boroughs
- Clusters could be led by "active Boroughs" for example on particular issues where they have expertise
- Maybe not geographic: could be clustered depending on profile of the Boroughs
- Could devolve projects on very specific basis to neighbouring Boroughs
- There is not necessarily a consistent view of sub regions and how they relate to the boroughs

#### **4.4 Could ALEO run schemes on behalf of the GLA in the future? (EST is running the grant scheme)**

- Perhaps use WHD Industry Initiative money to resource? (part of which is run directly by BEIS)
- Maybe 2017/18?
- Partner with GLA?

**Action: Committee to generate a think piece on a whole array of options.**

- Attempt to articulate the options
- Get a core group to sign up to something others may then follow (although it may not be possible to please everyone)
- Prepare and discuss at ALEOL meeting in January
- JKM at GLA/NEA fuel poverty on 29<sup>th</sup> November - could share early ideas on collaboration

## **5. Agenda for next meeting**

5.1 The meeting is booked for the morning of Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January at City Hall

5.2 Speaker suggestions:

- RM to chase Shirley Rodriguez
- Brooke and James – up-date since May 2015 fuel poverty workshop
- Closed 2<sup>nd</sup> half of meeting (full members only) to discuss collaborative working

5.3 Other ideas (maybe for following meeting):

- Bonfield – RM to approach now with date
- BEIS EPC Regulation speaker from ALEO national conference
- Pro- active links to Environmental Health (eg Rob Sail, Westminster)
- Early findings from Lewisham / SE<sup>2</sup> research

## **6. Finance**

6.1 Ieman Barmaki is confirmed as the new Treasurer

- **Action: NS to share reporting templates**
- **Action: SE<sup>2</sup> to share details of invoicing**

6.2 New signatories to the bank account agreed: JKM, NP, IB – documentation was signed

## **7. AOB**

7.1 Attendance from non-London local authorities

- There was a discussion on whether this would dilute the London impact of ALEOL and the impact this could have on the other ALEOs
- It was agreed to allow on request local authorities bordering the Greater London area join as Associate Members for a 1 year trial basis through 2017

7.2 It was agreed that ALEO London lunches will now be 100% vegetarian