

ALEO London: Executive Committee Meeting  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Café 171, The Jerwood Space

Minutes

Attendees

Malcolm Bell	Croydon
Ieman Barmaki	Enfield (Treasurer)
John Kolm-Murray	Islington (Vice Chair)
Shadia Rahman	Kingston
Martin O'Brien	Lewisham (Chair)
Rachael Mills	SE <sup>2</sup> (Secretariat)

Apologies

Neil Pearce	Barking & Dagenham
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1. Updates

- 1.1 The Government response to the ECO Transition consultation has now been published. The critical element for Boroughs is the LA flexibility criteria: this is discussed in more detail below.
- 1.2 The GLA Better Boiler scheme is still going. Members wondered if the 'online only' application process was creating a barrier to uptake.  
 RM to get update on numbers and then promote again to members  
 RM to ask if any members would like leaflets and then request from GLA
- 1.3 LAs have been promised EPC data from DCLG data for some time. We've now been told they are in a 'testing phase' and are still unable to confirm when the data will be available to us.
- 1.4 HECA Reports are due on 31 March.  
 RM to suggest to members that members include a standard statement to say they are working with other Boroughs, ALEO and London Councils  
 RM to request members submit links to their published reports so we can share
- 1.5 Further smart meter funding, through Smart Energy GB, is expected to be announced soon.  
 RM to circulate details when they become available
- 1.6 There's no news yet on the roll out of HNIP funding. ALEO London to keep watching brief.
- 1.7 Fuel Poverty Awareness Day was last week. Some members participated in the Twitter Thunderclap. NEA also launched a new [advice page](#) on their website, which includes a range of free printed and online resources and their new 'Steps to Affordable Warmth' video.  
 RM to request and then feedback any results on the Thunderclap
- 1.8 Ofgem has published its [response to the CMA review](#), which includes a price cap on pre-payment meters. They have also launched a [consultation on standards of conduct for suppliers](#), which closes on 13<sup>th</sup> March.

- 1.9 The latest UK greenhouse gas emissions figures show that we're [on track to meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> carbon budget](#). The emissions reductions plans to meet the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> budgets are expected at the end of March.
- 1.10 The [Green Deal Finance Company](#) has been privatised.
- 1.11 [BEIS has announced £28m](#) for (non-domestic) energy innovation projects.
- 1.12 The [All Party Parliamentary Fuel Poverty and Energy Efficiency Group](#) has launched a [prospectus for universal affordable warmth](#).
- 1.13 BEIS published the outputs of a pilot study designed to develop an approach to deliver tailored, high quality energy efficiency advice during smart meter installation visits. The results include a toolkit with a number of fact sheets for different energy efficiency measures, including 'zero cost ways of saving energy' and 'keeping cosy and warm'. All the documents and the results of the study can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/best-practice-guidance-for-the-delivery-of-energy-efficiency-advice-to-households-during-smart-meter-installation-visits>.

## 2. Collaborative working

- 2.1 A revised note on collaborative working had been circulated. MO'B said that the revised draft reflected the emergence of SHINE's wider offer to boroughs and also reflects the constraints in terms of resourcing additional working at a subregional level. He added that where boroughs found it helpful to work subregionally this could be highly effective but recognised that there were many other groupings.

**The general approach outlined was agreed.**

MO'B to:

- Contact boroughs absent from the last five meetings to understand why they haven't been able to attend and encourage them to come.
- Speak to contacts in the 4 boroughs that pay membership fees but don't attend to understand whether the forum can work better for them
- Encourage the 9 boroughs attending but not paying membership to pay (but continue to welcome them to meetings if they can't)

RM to encourage boroughs to provide the link to statutory HECA returns in London to inform priorities and confirm active boroughs

- 2.2 The Committee would seek to develop a narrative for London that emphasises the relevance of action on fuel poverty for all London boroughs and the proposed set of priorities was intended to help shape responses to consultations, influence the development of relevant strategies and action plans by external bodies and provide focus as we move towards greater collaboration.

## 3. ECO Transition: LA Flexibility Criteria

- 3.1 The ECO transition phase provides £640m per year for 18 months from April 2017 to September 2018. The Affordable Warmth element has increased from being 35% of the scheme to being 70%, with a strong emphasis on loft and cavity wall insulation. Up to 10% of this can be allocated through the LA Flexibility Criteria (LA Flex): we need to make this work and prove that Boroughs have a key role to play.

3.2 Through the LA Flex, local authorities endorse a householder as eligible and then passes them on to a Supplier, whereupon all the usual ECO scrutiny applies (Suppliers are audited on this, not LAs). Supplier/LA partnerships will be key.

3.3 In order to take advantage of LA Flex, local authorities must have a **statement of intent** (SOI). This states how you will identify those who are eligible, and must be signed by the CEO and published. The statement of intent should be as flexible as possible to allow the maximum number of people to be supported through the funding: future changes will have to be signed off by the CEO again.

3.4 The ALEO London Committee consider it **critical** that all Boroughs have a statement of intent in place (or they will not be able to take advantage of the LA Flex). This is a great opportunity for partnership working and to encourage regional co-operation. It was suggested that those Boroughs further ahead in their thinking could develop an outline SOI template for other Boroughs to use.

### 3.5 Agreed next steps:

1. RM to update members on the statement of intent and request volunteers for a task group to draft a template SOI.
2. RM to approach London Councils about joint working and hosting a workshop (end March/beginning of April) for the wider membership to discuss the SOI and the template
3. ALEOL to reach out to members who don't attend to make sure they're engaged with the SOI process and to check to see if they need any support

## 4. Agenda for next meeting

4.1 The meeting is booked for the afternoon of Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at Southwark. This meeting will also be the AGM.

4.2 It was agreed that this meeting would be used to help broker introductions between the energy suppliers and the Boroughs. The Big 6 to be invited alongside smaller suppliers with ECO obligations

RM to approach Energy UK to attend and also to help invite suppliers

## 5. Finance

5.1 It was agreed that no further free trials will be given to Associate Members.

5.2 SE2 to give final chase to pending invoices for 2016/17

5.3 SE2 to beginning invoicing cycle again in April for 2017/18

5.4 SE2 to provide information to IB for Treasurer's Report at AGM

5.5 JKM to try once more to set up as signatory on bank account.

## 6. AOB

6.1 RM to approach City of London to host Autumn meeting