



ALEO Executive

Minutes of the online meeting held on 9th July, 2020 (10 .00 – 11.00 a.m.)
Online meeting

Attendance

Amanda Martin (AM) Chair, ALEO South East
 Angela Eason (AE) (Secretariat)
 David Walton (DW) Chair, ALEO East
 John Kolm-Murray (JKM) – ALEO National Chair
 Justin Bailey (JB) Vice Chair, ALEO South East
 Martin O’Brien (MOB) Chair, ALEO London
 Rachel Jones (RJ) – Chair, ALEO West Midlands ALEO

No apologies had been received for this meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions

JKM welcomed the group and introductions were made. No apologies had been received for absence. JKM enquired as to the wider membership. AE is to update all contact details to ensure all Chairs/Vice Chairs are invited.

Actions	By whom	By when
AE to update Chair/Vice Chair and Secretariat contact list to ensure invites received by all. To inform JKM if non-attendance one week prior to the meeting	AE	End July, 2020

2. Minutes from previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes from meeting held on 9th July, 2020 agreed as a true record. Actions still outstanding to be carried forward. It was noted that a couple of actions had been overtaken by current events. All actions had been completed with the following to be carried forward:

Actions	By whom	By when
The Executive to work on a statement to support the memberships		
In line with current Redress guidelines set up criteria to inform ALEO groups to enable them to link in with national bid	RJ & JKM	When charitable status is achieved

Chairs reported that they had managed to keep meetings going and attendance had improved with online meetings. A variety of software, including Zoom had been used.

3. Update from the Chair

3.1 The role of Energy hubs

JKM initiated a discussion on the role of Energy Hubs. RJ reported that in the WM SHAP had submitted proposals for funding for social housing and secondments for fuel poverty. ALEO WM wanted to ensure that there was no duplicating of posts and knowledge shared between LA's and Hub.

DW reported that there was good support in the East with Energy Hub and currently interacting with the decarbonisation agenda. Role is undertaken on a consultancy basis however there appeared to be a conflict with the hub interacting with ALEO.

AM reported that the representative of SE Energy hub attends meetings. Had not heard of fuel poverty roles.

MOB reported that Greater SE hub covers three regions and has a massive geographical area and population and was treated as one area (Greater SE has 42% of population). There appears to be duplication in roles.

It was agreed that it would be useful for JKM to contact Patrick Alcorn to discuss relationships and strategic direction.

Actions	By whom	By when
Contact Patrick Alcorn to discuss relationships and strategic direction.	JKM	End July, 2020
Feedback any points on Energy Hubs to JKM to support the conversation	ALL	20 th July, 2020

3.2 Home Upgrade Grant

HUGS may have been superseded by Green Energy Grants and the board agreed that speculation about situation would not be helpful. Noted that at the ALEO Conference held yesterday that Andrej Miller announced that deal announced on 08.07.20 was not a replacement for HUG. The Board Discussed that those in fuel poverty and/or vulnerable might be open to mis-sold energy saving schemes if contractors had free access to clients. Agreed that JKM would follow up with Andrej to ascertain how the scheme would work.

Actions	By whom	By when
Contact Andrej Miller to ascertain how scheme is going to work and how contractors would be monitored	JKM	End July, 2020

3.3 Redress Funding

Groundworks in London had received Redress funding which will support London LA to undertake work. There was a consensus that Local Authorities should be able to apply for Redress funding rather than going through charitable sector. It was agreed that the way forward should be LA and Charities working together. LA's had a role in strategic work and commissioning. JKM reported that he had previously

written to Ofgem to ask them to consider LA's applying for redress and they had replied saying that not permitted but would perhaps consider in the future. There are big areas of the country who are not benefitting from Redress. Noted that some LA's are delivering directly e.g. Croydon is setting up their own in-house fuel poverty team.

Actions	By whom	By when
Write to Ofgem to ask for re-consideration of their decision not to allow LA's to apply for redress funding	JKM	End July, 2020

3.4 Eco Flex

JKM reported that he had attended the launch of the Committee on [Fuel Poverty's annual report](#). Although not read in detail one thing that was picked up on of specific interest to LA's is that they make a recommendation about ECO Flex:

Recommendation 6: BEIS should carry out a thorough analysis on ECO3 Local Authority Flex to identify if it is delivering the desired results. This flexible approach should not be incorporated in a future Home Energy Efficiency Programme unless it is shown and enabled to be effective.

One of the Committee members requested that ALEO could collate feedback on this and a survey and a small number of case studies would be useful as evidence. Agreed that this would be undertaken.

Actions	By whom	By when
Draft a survey to Local Authorities to ascertain the effectiveness of ECO3 and how it has run requesting case studies – send to Executive and once approved to all ALEO members.	AE/RJ	25 th July, 2020

4. Secretariat update

4.1 Finance

There is currently approximately 7K in the ALEO account. Agreed that specific funding should be sought before ALEO becomes a charity for a new website.

4.2 Contacts:

An update of all ALEO Chairs/Vice Chairs and Secretariats to be requested from all areas.

4.3 Charitable status

AE reported that this was in progress.

5. Any other business

5.1 National Conference

Agreed that this went well for a first-time online Conference despite the keynote speaker Lord Deben not being able to access the Conference even though compatibility test had been undertaken. 53 responses to the survey had been received as of today. 4/5 stars for overall Conference; 4.73 for booking method; 4.30 for variety of speakers; 4.3 for quality of speakers. Lots of positive comments. 94% said that Conference

had met the aim of increasing knowledge and understanding of Decarbonisation of Heat and Fuel Poverty; 61% said that future conferences should be online and face to face with 39% saying that they should just be online.

5.2 HECA reporting

RJ queried as to what HECA reporting we should be doing as not clear what is expected. Agreed to contact Sam Balch to ask for clarity.

5.3 End Fuel Poverty Coalition campaign

MOB reported that he had received information about the End Fuel Poverty Coalition. They had a new campaign anticipating that this winter would see people who have not previously been in Fuel Poverty.

5.4 EAC Call for Evidence

Agreed that there would not be a National Response but MOB happy to share information with colleagues. The deadline is 13th July, 2020. Noted that the London response is based on their geographical area.

Actions	By whom	By when
JKM to contact Sam Balch re: HECA reporting	JKM	End July, 2020
MOB to send AE End Fuel Poverty Coalition information and AE to include in newsletter	MOB/AE	End July, 2020

6. Date of next meeting

8th October, 2020 –to be an online meeting and inviting all ALEO Chairs and Vice Chairs. Agreed that online meetings worked well and that this would be the way forward with perhaps one annual face to face meeting. DW submitted apologies for the meeting.

2021 meeting dates:

7th January, 2021

15th April, 2021

1st July, 2021

7th October, 2021

Actions	By whom	By when
AE to extend invite to all regions	AE	End August, 2020