

Sustainability Committee

Minutes (SC(3)-03-08)

Date: 7 February 2008

Time: 9:00 – 11:00

Venue: Committee Room 3

Assembly Members in Attendance

Mick Bates (Chair), Montgomeryshire
Lorraine Barrett, Cardiff South and Penarth
Alun Davies, Mid and West Wales
Irene James, Islwyn
Alun Ffred Jones, Arfon
Darren Millar, Clwyd West
Brynle Williams, North Wales
Leanne Wood, South Wales Central

Committee Service

Virginia Hawkins, Clerk
Joanne Clinton, Deputy Clerk

Others in attendance

Ruth Wood, Research Associate, Tyndall Centre
Lorraine Frater, Research Manager, Centre for Business Relationships, Accountability, Sustainability and Society, Cardiff University
Roger Wade, Waste and PARCH Adviser, Environment Agency Wales
Peter Wilkinson, Waste and PARCH Adviser, Environment Agency Wales
Mike Batt, Manager for Wales, the Carbon Trust in Wales

Item 1: Introduction, Apologies and Substitutions

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Lesley Griffiths and Karen Sinclair. Irene James was substituting for Karen Sinclair.

Item 2: Inquiry into carbon reduction in Wales: evidence session on industry and public bodies

Papers: SC(3)-03-08 (p.1) and (p.2)

2.1 The Chair welcomed Ruth Wood from the Tyndall Centre and Lorraine Frater from the Centre for Business Relationships, Accountability, Sustainability and Society, at Cardiff University, to the meeting and invited them to introduce their written submissions. Members questioned the witnesses.

2.2 Ruth Wood agreed to provide information on the impact of aviation on CO₂ emissions.

2.3 Lorraine Frater agreed to provide a written response to questions on the extent to which action on financial rewards and penalties could be taken on a Wales-only basis, and the possible timetable for introducing such requirements into public sector organisations in Wales. Ms Frater also agreed to provide information on the types of action that could be taken by the Welsh Government to tackle CO₂ emissions from industry and public bodies.

Item 3: Inquiry into carbon reduction in Wales: evidence session on industry and public bodies

3.1 The Chair welcomed Roger Wade and Peter Wilkinson from the Environment Agency Wales and Mike Batt from the Carbon Trust in Wales, and invited them to introduce their written submissions. Members questioned the witnesses.

3.2 Peter Wilkinson and Mike Batt agreed to provide written clarification as to exactly what could be used for anaerobic digestion, and whether biogas was subject to the Renewable Obligation Certificates.