

10 January 2011

Dear Colleague,

I would like to invite you to a meeting with representatives from the Local Government Group Environment & Housing Programme Board and the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities on 2 February 2011 in Stockport Town Hall.

As part of the Group's commitment to strengthening further the involvement of all interested elected Members in the development of its activities, the Board has decided to test out replacing a couple of its meetings a year with open events on a particular theme, co-hosted with one or more member councils. These will enable us as Board Members to learn from the input of a larger group of interested Members, and the discussion will be set in the context of a particular local approach from which those who attend may be able to draw lessons for their own authorities.

The first such event will be co-hosted with the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities. It will look at what Greater Manchester authorities are doing to make energy and climate part of the wider economic strategy they are developing through their Local Enterprise Partnership, and what they are learning as one of the Local Carbon Framework Pilots. You will hear both from AGMA about their experience, and from me about the Group's work, talking to Government about policy, and supporting the sector with know-how and development programmes. Among other things, we will be able to talk about the discussions which LGA Members, including myself, have been having with Chris Huhne and his team about the council role in energy and climate issues, and the policy changes we are pressing for in support of that.

I will be co-hosting the meeting alongside Cllr Dave Goddard, Leader of Stockport and Chair of the AGMA Environment Commission, which includes low carbon, energy and climate change within its responsibilities. My fellow Board Members Mike Haines, David Smith and Berni Turner will also be there.

The meeting will take place at Stockport Town Hall, Edward Street, Stockport, SK1 3XE from 11.00am – 1.00pm. Refreshments will be available from 10.30am and lunch will be provided after the meeting.

There are a limited number of places available and they will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. We would be grateful if those wishing to attend could please email the LGA Member Support team at: sarah.monaghan@local.gov.uk by **Friday 21 January**. It would be helpful if you could please include in your reply details of any dietary or access requirements that you may have.

I look forward to seeing you on 2 February.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clyde Loakes', written in a cursive style.

Cllr Clyde Loakes
Vice-Chair, LG Group Environment & Housing Programme Board