

Security marking: None

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Local Government House
Smith Square
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Our ref: TG/ME-J/SandieDunne/290711

Your ref:

Date: 29 July 2011

Dear Sandie,

Climate Change Adaptation

As follow up to your recent meeting with Julie Foley, Phil Rothwell and David Rooke, I am pleased to ask formally if you would consider being a delivery partner to the Environment Agency's new climate change adaptation advice programme. I would also like to confirm our offer of an Environment Agency funded secondment into the Local Government Group to support delivery.

The new programme aims to build on the work carried out by the UK Climate Impacts Programme and to improve the resilience of key sectors to climate risks. We propose to target the programme on a number of key sectors and themes, including infrastructure, the built environment, business and the economy, health and wellbeing and the natural environment. We recognise that local government is a key sector, with direct relevance to all the other sectors and themes, as well as having specific local government objectives. These include embedding climate resilience into core services as well championing climate resilience in communities and with business.

We are keen that that new programme builds capacity and embeds expertise where it is most needed - in the sectors themselves - and as such we would like to offer you an Environment Agency funded secondment to support delivery. This would start as soon as practically possible and end in March 2013 (approximately 18 months duration) to help develop and deliver the local government sector elements of the programme.

We are currently at the early stages of scoping and developing the delivery plans for each of the sectors. We are keen to ensure this is done in partnership with you and others, so that we focus our efforts in the most strategic places. As such, a possible work programme for the secondment might include –

- Review current progress and needs of the local government sector, including for tools, advice or evidence gaps.
- Scope opportunities and synergies to embed advice and support into existing initiatives, mechanisms and channels.
- Work in partnership with leading local authorities, sector leads and other local government groups (e.g. ADEPT, SOLACE, LGID, LGIU etc) to secure their support for the programme.

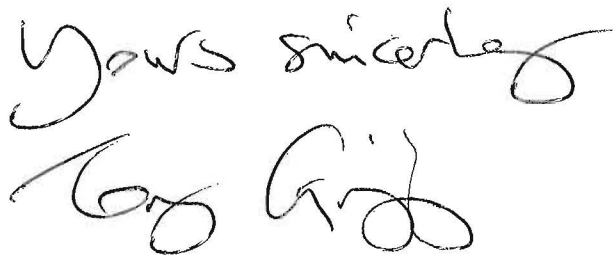
- Scope potential projects for funding in 2012/13 and beyond (although the exact amount of available project spend is unclear at the moment).
- Monitor progress to feed into the overall programme reporting.
- Gather evidence of the obstacles and barriers to adaptation and develop sector-led suggestions for overcoming these.
- Work with other sector delivery partners such as ClimateUK to ensure a joined up approach to delivery.

The post will need to work in partnership with multiple partners, including the Environment Agency as the overall delivery body for the programme, but also Defra (in particular the Adapting to Climate Change team) and DCLG.

We envisage the post being a senior advisor, line managed by a senior person within LG Group, but working very closely with the overall programme team in the Environment Agency. The governance, work programme and deliverables would need to be mutually agreed by both parties. LG Group would need to provide all the support services required for staff members.

In exchange, we hope that LGG would provide leadership within the sector to deliver and drive forward this agenda as delivery partner for the programme outcomes. This would include helping to shape the programme, providing access to key staff, networks and members, as well as the expertise in the LG Group to ensure the programme was tailored to the sectors bespoke needs

If this proposal is acceptable to you, we would be pleased to meet with you or your team to further agree the details and progress the recruitment as soon as possible.



Tony Grayling
Head of Climate Change and Communities