

# Climate Response Expertise

Appendix A

Local Partnerships has a multidisciplinary background based largely around efficiency and place-based services. We have expertise across a wide range of climate response activities. A summary of key areas where we can provide expertise are provided below.

## Emissions Reporting and Carbon Accounting

Our team has been working on carbon accounting for over a decade and has been involved in both utilisation of established accounting methodologies and development of new measures. We are very familiar with both the global GHG Protocol and the UK government reporting approaches both for the public and private sectors (BEIS, Defra, Treasury) which, whilst they are based on the same principles, differ slightly. We have extensive experience of carbon accounting methodologies and practice and are able to work with both established data sets and areas where data needs to be interpreted or developed.

We have been working with authorities to determine their emissions baselines, plot forward trajectories and develop action plans for dealing with greenhouse gas reductions in order to become carbon neutral authorities.

Our recommendations span a wide range of measures from asset reviews to building energy efficiency, utility scale renewable energy generation schemes and air quality measures. We always challenge ambition and look to influence the wider area as well as the authority's own emissions.

## Adaptation

As the impacts of global heating become more severe over time a Authority's Climate Action Strategies will require a plan for adaptation. This approach needs to be based around accurate local climate forecasts and to be monitored over time.

Our team has wide-ranging development expertise and have worked on regeneration, flood alleviation and SUDs.

Members of our team have experience working with the Environment Agency and of delivering complex infrastructure projects so we have a robust understanding of the many facets of adaptation work.

## Case Study

### **CARBON AUDIT, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL**

We are currently engaged with the new Buckinghamshire Council to undertake a carbon audit which includes:

- Undertaking carbon baseline and reporting: including setting boundaries and making recommendations for carbon accounting / reporting protocols based on guidance and standards, and calculating a collated carbon baseline, based on carbon emissions and offsets.
- Setting a carbon budget: using the baseline to develop a carbon budget for the new Buckinghamshire Council to meet a net-zero position by 2050, providing guidance and advice on the use of carbon offsets
- Identify interventions: based on the scope and sources of emissions, we are identifying a range of potential projects / measures which would reduce and / or remove greenhouse gas emissions from these sources



## Renewable Energy

We support public sector bodies across Wales in the development and delivery of strategic regional carbon reduction plans (as part of their City Deals and Regional Growth Plans), local renewable energy generation projects (such as wind and solar facilities) and improving the energy efficiency of their estates. The scope of our work is evolving, with a greater emphasis on helping the Welsh public sector address the key environmental challenges of the 'Climate Emergency' and achieving 'Net Zero' carbon emissions by 2050.

We have recently been assisting the Welsh Government with the development of a new renewable energy programme aimed at rapidly increasing the level of renewable energy generation in Wales, both on land and in the marine environment. The intent is that renewables development and investment activity will also create new jobs and businesses, skills and knowhow, and financial returns that will all be retained in Wales

## Air Quality

Air pollution is believed to be responsible for 40,000 premature deaths per year in the UK. Tackling air pollution, and thus improving air quality, is a key goal for local and central governments alike. We have worked with Defra and the Department for Transport on the Joint Air Quality Unit's (JAQU) national programme to reduce levels of nitrogen dioxide – a particularly toxic pollutant – in 33 local authority areas.

The primary source of nitrogen dioxide is road traffic and concentrations build up in urban areas with heavy road usage and congestion. We helped the affected local authorities develop plans to reduce the most polluting traffic, encouraging people to walk, cycle, take public transport and accelerate the uptake of cleaner forms of transport, such as electric vehicles.

We supported local authorities to develop these complex plans. We provided guidance in areas such as governance, risk management, project planning, finance and procurement. We helped a number of councils to develop outline business cases for their plans. We supported Leeds and Birmingham to achieve approval by JAQU for their final business cases and the associated applications. Leeds and Birmingham are implementing their schemes which will go live in January 2020

## RELEVANT PROJECTS

---

We are supporting a number of local authorities with their climate response. Current and recent projects include:

- Portsmouth City Council, carbon strategy review
- Milton Keynes Council, sustainability strategy action plan
- Basingstoke and Dean Borough Council, climate emergency declaration support
- The new unitary Buckinghamshire Council, carbon audit (see case study)
- Manchester City Council, carbon reduction programme
- Cardiff City Council, carbon reduction programme



We are also currently bidding for work related to climate adaptation and options for carbon offset and sequestration.

## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

---

We are developing exciting new partnerships to bring expertise from the forefront of the field to bear on the challenges being faced by local authorities, examples include:

- UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP). UKCIP is part of the School of Geography and Environment at the University of Oxford. They have worked on many UK and international climate change adaptation projects, in particular development of climate models and adaptation solutions and how the science can be communicated in written and visual forms. We are able to work with them to provide detailed climate projections for local authorities
- UK Fires is a collaboration between the universities of Cambridge, Oxford, Nottingham, Bath and Imperial College London. They who have recently published their Absolute Zero report (<https://ukfires.org/absolute-zero/>). We are able to work with them on resource efficiency and future industrial strategy.
- The Woodland Trust is a charity that cares for over 1,000 woods which are open for public access. Woodland Trust is active in the development, establishment and management of new broadleaf woodland around the UK and work to restore forest quality to ancient woodlands. Working with the Woodland Trust, we are able to bring their expertise in broadleaf and ancient woodland and in the establishment of new woodland to our work.

## ADDED VALUE

---

We are proud that our work can provide significant added value beyond the initial scope of a project for authorities. Examples of how we can add additional value to our clients when working in this space is set out below.

- Local Partnerships is jointly owned by the Local Government Association, HM Treasury and the Welsh Government. This means we occupy a unique position in the public sector which allows us to work impartially and collaboratively across the public sector.
- Our team of specialists brings a formidable combination of public and private sector experience, offering the highest quality and most effective support to the public sector. We are a hands-on organisation and work collaboratively for the benefit of our clients, often sitting alongside project teams, rather than providing advice from afar. Our range of expertise, both within the climate response space and across the range of Local Government services means we can understand your business model across a wide range of areas and will provide an action plan based on best quality practitioner's advice. We focus on delivery and develop practical and implementable plans backed up by genuine sector expertise and commercial knowledge.
- We can bring wider learning our wider work in the sector. A value-add activity we will undertake is engaging with both UK100 and C40 cities to learn from and share with other cities and forward-thinking authorities around the UK and globally.



### Jo Wall, Strategic Director, Climate Response, Local Partnerships

Jo is the Strategic Director for Climate Response at Local Partnerships and has over 30 years' experience across the multiple disciplines required to respond to the climate emergency including policy development, leadership, finance and a clear understanding of the technical solutions. Jo has led on the development of complex business cases, change management programmes, public consultation and project and programme management.

Jo has a background in land and property and has run local authority place based services. Jo has been an active project developer in both the renewable energy and housing sectors which has helped her develop a sound understanding of planning-based adaptation requirements. She is a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

### Rachel Toresen-Owuor, Programme Director – Re:fit, Local Partnerships

As Programme Director, Rachel is responsible for the national Re:fit programme at Local Partnerships, delivering energy savings to the public sector via energy performance contracts.

Rachel holds an MSc in Climate Change and Sustainable Development and has nine years Local Authority experience, where she led on sustainability, carbon and energy management, utilities procurement and climate and energy strategy development. During her time in Local Government Rachel developed and delivered carbon management plans, led on carbon and greenhouse gas reporting and led the development of a countywide energy strategy, bringing together a wide range of stakeholders from community groups, business and local government. Rachel has experience with climate risk assessment and the impact of severe weather events on council service delivery and coordinated and facilitated the Local Transportation Adaptation Steering Group during her time working with ADEPT, working alongside Climate Southeast and liaising with the Local Adaptation Advisory Panel. Experienced in stakeholder engagement, project, programme and contract management, Rachel has delivered multiple energy efficiency programmes and renewable energy projects and a multi-phase energy performance contract.

### Kevin Jones, Strategic Director – Infrastructure, Local Partnerships

Kevin has over 25 years' experience of delivering large complex projects across a number of infrastructure sectors including energy and transport. He previously worked in Local Government where he led the delivery of a capital programme in excess of £150million per year including regeneration, transport and education projects. Prior to that he spent over fifteen years working for a major contracting organisation in the power and energy sector managing major projects both in the UK and around the world. As a qualified engineer he possesses extensive technical, commercial and procurement experience applied in both public and private sector environments.

Kevin possess a broad range of experience across multiple infrastructure sectors including energy, transport and flood risk. He has assisted the Environment Agency in undertaking a strategic review of their Flood Risk Management Delivery Programme and supported multiple local authorities in the delivery of strategic transport projects. Most recently he undertook a review of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority's approach to strategic planning of both hard and social infrastructure. This last piece of work examined how resilience (and adaptation) of infrastructure could be improved by improving how different infrastructure sectors work together across boundaries.



### Simon Bandy, Strategic Director – Growth, Local Partnerships

As a chartered Town Planner, Simon has experience in regeneration, development and infrastructure delivery – with specific experience of responding to energy and climate change targets. Over the past 25 years he has worked for Local Partnerships, the Homes and Communities Agency, English Partnerships and Ashford Borough Council. Simon has been responsible for delivering many Government projects and programmes including working with the Environment Agency on water management, transport schemes, the Growth Areas Programme, Affordable Housing programme and Communities Infrastructure Fund. He has project managed the acquisition and delivery of a large number of development sites and associated transport infrastructure. In recent months Simon has led the development of a coordinated growth programme in Lincolnshire. Simon has led Local Partnerships work with LEPs and is a Board, Audit and Development Committee member at Golding Homes (a housing association based in Maidstone, Kent).

Simon's specific energy and climate change experience includes being responsible for the Re-Fit team at Local Partnerships between 2013 and 2016. He also managed a research project (working for the then DECC) looking at all of the energy and energy saving projects being managed by local authorities in England. This provided the department with information on the resource and capability support that local authorities require to deliver this part of their business.

### Mayra Vivo-Torres, Associate, Local Partnerships

Mayra's has wide and deep experience in the Energy and Sustainability sector, from managing the renewal of the Greening Government Commitments at the former Department of Energy and Climate Change, to being an energy consultant in the generation sector and taking on a Sustainability Director role at NHS consultancy Essentia.

Over the last decade her main focus has been managing the design and delivery of different carbon reduction programmes in central, local government and the NHS on projects ranging from lighting and intelligent buildings to CHP, Demand Side Response and large-scale renewables. She has extensive experience in setting up carbon accounting schemes, including researching and selecting the appropriate tools, setting up accounting protocols, undertake boundary setting at calculating emissions baselines.

She is a qualified economist and business graduate with expertise in the public and private sector; including the government, SME, corporate and power generation sectors. She is an accredited BREEAM and Non-Domestic Energy Assessor. Her focus on sustainability and engagement with sector means that she has a strong understanding of future changes and innovative practice in sustainability and carbon accounting.

At Local Partnerships, she has led on 12 Re:fit client projects, including flagship projects for Defra and Manchester City Council. Elsewhere, she has supported Global Action Plan's environmental programmes for EMI Records, Innocent Drinks and the New Scientist, and led on Power Consulting's energy efficiency overhauls of several large power stations.

### Keith Routledge, Associate, Local Partnerships

Keith has worked on delivering energy and carbon management projects to public and private sector organisations He has also provided ESOS Lead Assessor services and third-party auditing of the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) Energy Efficiency Scheme.



With Local Partnerships, he has led on the delivery of a number of Re:fit projects and recently worked with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and Buckinghamshire County Council on their initiatives following declarations of 'climate emergency'.

He is a Registered Professional Energy Consultant with the Energy Institute, Certified Measurement and Verification Professional (CMVP) and an accredited Project Developer and Quality Assurance Provider with the Investor Confidence Project (ICP).

Keith's experience includes delivery of carbon footprint assessment, producing corporate reports using GHG Protocol and Carbon Reduction Commitment submission validation and auditing.

### Richard Evans, Project Director, Local Partnerships

Richard began his career in forestry, and now works primarily in the renewable energy space. Since joining Local Partnerships in 2017 Richard has been a strategic lead within the Welsh Government Green Growth Wales programme and the Welsh Government Energy Service, supporting the delivery of renewable energy generation and energy efficiency projects and raising the low carbon ambition of public sector organisations across Wales.

Richard has over twenty years of commercial and management experience and has extensive experience in the renewable energy industry, delivering large, complex energy infrastructure projects across England and Wales. Successfully bringing these complex projects forward included land assembly, stakeholder engagement as well as robust project management.

When at the Forestry Commission gained experience of quantifying timber volumes through recognised mensuration techniques.

Richard has a BSc (Hons) in Forestry Management.

### Jane Forshaw, Project Director, Local Partnerships

Jane has over 25 years of experience working in the public and private sector as a deliverer of sustainability policy and practice. She has worked at a senior/director level in several metropolitan local authorities and as chief executive for not for profit environmental companies. Jane is also a member of the Welsh Government Woodland Strategy Advisory Group and a member of the Advisory Board to the Woodland Trust in Wales.

Jane has wide experience of leading organisational change programmes which have sustainability and innovation as fundamental driving principles. Jane's areas of specialisation include delivery of energy infrastructure, low carbon enterprise and waste management.