

**Goldsmiths
University of London**

ESTATES COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE

9 June 2009

- Present:** Mr Hugh Jones (Chair), Ms Vicky Annand, Mr Michael Dick, Mr Graham Gaskell, Ms Kay Stables, Ms Rebecca Watts, Ms Patsy Carter (Secretary).
- In attendance:** Dr Richard Carmichael, Mr Adam Cresswell, Mr Nick Jones, Ms Craigie-Lee Paterson, Ms Charlie Wainwright, Professor John Wood.
- Apologies:** Environmental Adviser, Head of Procurement, Head of RCCS.

OPEN BUSINESS

1 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed the members of the Committee who were in attendance.

2 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held 22 January 2009 be approved.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Item 3, note (iv) Terms of Reference, Composition and Membership

The Committee noted that members of the former Environment and Policy Working Group (EPWG) and the Carbon Champions Network (CCN) were in attendance and were welcome to attend future meetings of the Committee.

4 DRAFT ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY STATEMENT

Received

the draft Environment and Sustainability Policy Statement from the Environmental Adviser (09-147).

At the meeting of the Committee held 22 January 2009 the Committee had recommended that the policy should be amended further to ensure consistency and coherence with existing or environmental documents that were in development with particular reference to the Energy Policy and Energy Strategy.

Noted

- (i) that the Environment and Sustainability Policy would be the overarching environmental policy document and was developed in-conjunction with existing key environmental strategies and plans and was also devised to correspond with the 'Green League scoring methodology' and on that principle would assist the College with improving its position on the Green League Table;
- (ii) that of the strategies and plans listed there were a number still under development and a particular development would be the Ethical Investment Policy;
- (iii) that of the objectives listed in the policy the Education Awareness and Community Involvement would be escalated to become the first objective;
- (iv) that further clarity would be achieved if strategies and plans were identified alongside the relevant objective heading in the policy;
- (v) that it was necessary to consider carefully how the political aspirations linked to the College's environmental aspirations and to ensure that short term target setting would not conflict with the Government's national carbon reduction target to achieve savings of upto 80% by 2050 against 1990 levels.

Recommended

- (i) that the draft Policy should be amended by Estates and Facilities, re-circulated to the Committee and then sent to the next Estates Committee 13 August to recommend approval by Council.

5 DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR A CAMPUS WIDE RECYCLING SYSTEM

Received:

the draft proposal for a campus wide Recycling system from the Head of RCCS (09-292)

The Committee were invited to note and comment on the draft proposal. The intention of the proposal was to introduce a new re-cycling system to be rolled out for non-residential use.

Noted:

- (i) that the proposed system had been established and had been in use within the halls of residences for up to two years;
- (ii) that the aim of the system would be the recycling of mixed paper, plastic, cans, glass, card from all parts of the College, that would enable a significant reduction in the use of plastic bin liners for individual desk waste bins and a reduction in the number of bins to be emptied by the cleaners and facilitate a simpler work routine for the cleaners;
- (iii) that if the reusable recycling bags were branded "Goldsmiths" there was an opportunity to put the College's name to a very positive scheme;
- (iv) that there were potential financial savings from the appointment of a single provider of builders' skips for all parts of the College;
- (v) that financial savings on the costs of refuse disposal via a renegotiated waste removal contract for compactors, bins and skips could be achieved;
- (vi) that the Students' Union were already operating a recycling system and it was important to note that students do not access some of the areas referenced in the proposal document and did not use individual bins and to achieve maximum impact and paradigm change a generic system for the common areas used by students should be incorporated into the proposal;
- (vii) that the success of the system would rely heavily on individual being responsible for their actions and their commitment to making the system work.

Recommended

- (i) that the findings of the waste review would influence the recycling proposal and that the proposal should be re-submitted to the next meeting of the Committee;
- (ii) that once approved by the Estates Committee the new Recycling scheme should be introduced as a pilot and trialled in high visibility areas and the examples given were the Ben Pimlott Building, Loafers, Library, Laurie Grove, Dixon Road and all food areas.

Campus Wide Waste Management Review

A waste management company had been appointed to undertake a waste management review. The main objective of the review was to establish waste streams, provide the College with waste and recycling audit data and to identify and recommend practical, commercially justifiable ways of improving recycling and landfill diversions.

Noted:

that the findings following the waste review would inform the proposed Recycling scheme and the findings of the review would be reported at the next meeting of the Committee.

6 CARBON CHAMPIONS NETWORK

The Committee discussed the links between the Carbon Champions Network and the Environment and Sustainability Committee. The question raised was how could all members of the College be engaged and how the good work that had been done and work in progress talked about and broadly publicised.

Noted:

- (i) that the intention of the Carbon Champions Network was to be totally inclusive and provide an informal forum and communication channels for students and staff to discuss the development of campus wide environmental activities, aspirational ideas;
- (ii) that a similar model to the Equality and Diversity Champions Group who met termly and reported to the Equality and Diversity Committee;
- (iii) that it was important to advise and notify the College Community of how they could get involved.

Recommended

- (i) that the staff induction presentations would be one way to publicise the College's environmental commitments and reinforce the need for individual commitment to environmental actions.

7 CARBON MANAGEMENT FOCUS GROUPS

Received:

an oral report from the Campaign Awareness Focus Group

The Carbon Champions network had met 20 May 2009 and had discussed how the College could campaign for and promote 'drinking tap water' instead of bottled water, promote the use of white paper recycling bins, the use of Hallmark for campaign awareness and the development of informal communications channels.

Noted:

- (i) that there was a lot of information available on the College web-site but this was disjointed and a central access point was required;
- (ii) that Fresher's Week would be used to promote the Greening Goldsmiths and other Environmental websites.

Recommended

- (i) that there should be a single web portal, well sign posted to ensure that users can navigate their way around the website intuitively;
- (ii) that the Registrar and Secretary and the Internal Communications Manager would review the Greening Goldsmiths Website to improve the links;
- (iii) that there should be a soft re-launch of the Carbon Champions Network;
- (iv) that there should be a contact and Carbon Champions representing each department.

Building Energy Management Group

Received:

the revised target dates for the Carbon Management Strategy and action Plan and an oral report from the Director of Estates and Facilities (09-148).

Noted:

- (i) that the strategy described Goldsmiths' Carbon Management Strategy and would be used to assist in the attainment of the College's overall 2020 carbon emission goals;
- (ii) that there were target dates that would change and would be re-aligned to reflect the appointment of the new Energy and Environmental Manager October 2009;

the Energy Management Activities Report and an oral report from the Director of Estates and Facilities. (09-149)

- (i) Display Energy Certificates had been received for all qualifying buildings and the ratings represented comparative energy efficiency; a score of 100 was typical;
- (ii) That the Ben Pimlott building had a comparatively highly rated in terms of its energy consumption and this would be reduced following the re-programming of the Simmtronic Lighting Control System;
- (iii) that the energy performance scores of Halls were substantially less than the typical value of 100;
- (iv) that the contractor had been appointed to supply and install Valve Insulation Jackets to boiler rooms within the main building, Deptford Town Hall Building, Education Building, Warmington Tower, Raymont Hall, Surrey House and the New Academic Building;
- (v) that tamper-resistant Thermostatic Radiator Valves with a maximum setting of 21c had been identified and suitability was being assessed by the Estates Department.

AOB

Received:

an oral report from the Head of Administration, Estates and Facilities regarding the progress of installing Cycling Provisions on campus.

Noted:

- (i) that new bike parking locations had been identified and the new facilities and it was intended that the new provisions would be installed in the first term of the new academic year;
- (ii) that the lighting around the Lockwood and Whitehead buildings had been enhanced.

Recommended:

- (i) that improvement to shower facilities on campus should be carried out to support the promotion of green transport modes to and from the College;
- (ii) that the current level of car parking spaces should be rebalanced to enable increased bike parking spaces around the Richard Hoggart Building.

PC
September 2009