

The funders' footprint?

Climate change and the environment: how can funders have an impact?

London Funders members' meeting, 22 March 2010

Mazars LLP, Tower Hill, London E1



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WELCOME

46 participants were welcomed to the meeting by **Debbie Pippard**, Head of Big Lottery Fund's London Region and Vice Chair of London Funders. She was pleased that London Funders was tackling this vital topic and hoped our usual combination of high quality content plus networking time would make for a productive session that would mean each member took away practical value and discussions would also point to actions that London Funders might take.

She thanked several donors supporting the costs of the event: The City Bridge Trust and Government Office for London and her own organisation, Big Lottery Fund. CCLA had also provided memory sticks which London Funders had loaded with useful material for each participant and Mazars LLP had provided their wonderful meeting facilities overlooking the Tower of London and St Katharine Dock. Paul Gibson, our host from Mazars, added his good wishes for the meeting.

Debbie reflected on the motivation for London Funders in arranging this meeting. Its Board and staff took environmental responsibility seriously and were aware of good practice and increasing amounts of "green" activity amongst funders – both in addressing their own environmental policies and how the sector could be supported and encouraged in taking action. The specific timing had been triggered by the joint ministerial and third sector task force on climate change and sustainability which had many recommendations for both government and the third sector. This meeting had been timed to follow closely on the publication of the task force report, *Shaping the Future*, and indeed one of the report's recommendations was for this meeting of London Funders to take place (page 36 Action 5).

SCENE-SETTING

Donnachadh McCarthy, Chair of this meeting

Donnachadh is founder of 3 Acorns Eco-Audits, and a journalist, author and television commentator on the climate crisis. He lives out his environmental values (including living in a carbon-negative home) and shared a few stories about how he came to take the protection of the environment and avoidance of damaging, man-made climate change so seriously. Especially of relevance to this audience, it was Donnachadh who pioneered The City Bridge Trust's programme of eco audits of voluntary and community organisations.



A majority of the audience confirmed their belief that the biggest crisis facing us is the climate crisis. Only two or three, however, had measured their own carbon footprint, though a slightly better number knew that of their organisation. Donnachadh believes in embedding good practice in voluntary and community organisations since the sector represents about 5% of the UK economy. "Greening" the third sector would make an appreciable difference and could influence a much bigger swathe of the population too.

He also reminded us that amidst continued scepticism that it is humans who have brought about increasingly rapid and damaging climate change, even sceptics will admit that proven environmental damage like acidic oceans, and water and food insecurity needs to be tackled urgently.

CONTEXT AND CHALLENGES

Stephen Hale, CEO, Green Alliance

[Shaping the future](#)

Green Alliance is a think-tank and with NCVO it provided the Secretariat for the joint ministerial and third sector task force. Stephen shared his own learning curve about what will make a difference to attitudes about climate change. He is convinced that we need to unlock a broad and deep social movement to influence government. He therefore welcomed this meeting as an opportunity to understand the obstacles to individuals, voluntary organisations and funders in taking on the issues and see how foundations can encourage ripples of action which will spread to engage government in the debate and begin to make the need for policy change and appropriate investment overwhelming.

The task force which produced *Shaping the Future* involved four government departments (DEFRA, DECC, CLG and OTS) and 15 people from the voluntary sector, representing a good diversity of organisations. Their approach was informed by the belief that to create change, they needed to focus on opportunity and not threat – "if we tell the story to scare or in a way that will only be understood by environmentalists, then we will not create change", said Stephen. So *Shaping the Future* aims to make sense of the situation for non-specialists and identify areas for change and improvement that will

engage and inspire people. It makes some commitments though it achieved fewer promises of action from the government departments than Stephen had hoped to see.



One challenge is “climate literacy” – many voluntary sector groups could be engaged, but are not sure where to start. A programme to increase the literacy of one or more of the key bodies that convene the sector locally could play a vital role. Green Alliance sees a part of its role as helping people understand what climate change means for them. In general terms in their work they have seen commitment to better environmental practice growing well over the last three years – though, of course, with a setback in the last few months in the form of a flurry of scepticism about academics’ authority. There are increasing numbers of good examples to share but of course Government constraints on public spending mean we will all have to work harder to demonstrate that investment in climate change work will result in lower carbon emissions. The Scottish government is maintaining spending on such investment and showing results, not only in cutting carbon, but increasing community cohesion and improving the job market. This sort of investment is transformational and much more effective than, for example, the way the UK government has been spending money on advertising to raise awareness of climate change.

So Stephen’s advice is to think transformationally – not just about one’s carbon footprint but the strategic impact of one’s policies and actions – connecting mission with outcomes and bringing climate change into the DNA of voluntary organisations.

Clare Thomas, Chief Grants Officer, The City Bridge Trust **What can funders do about climate change?**

Clare started by praising London Funders’ responsiveness to the task force report. London Funders is a network she sees as having great value for London’s voluntary and community sector and its cross-sector membership is a unique opportunity for funders to learn and work together.

She told the story of The City Bridge Trust’s 15 years of developing its ideas about how to support environmental work – an area of importance to their funding right from the start. (See our [website](#) for Clare’s presentation.) Its first step in the field was to support bio-diversity projects – birds, bees, bats and more. Gradually they realised how much more they could do by understanding the impact of the environment on London – resource use and waste, air quality and issues around food and water – and thus shifted to the language of sustainable development. Their first response to this was a significant grant to research and establish a strategic resource for London: they established London Sustainability Exchange with five years of funding and until 2006 this, with some related grantmaking, was their main focus.

“...think transformationallybring climate change into the DNA of voluntary organisations”



From 2006 a broader remit was taken on, to start to understand what the voluntary and community sector’s environmental performance looked like and how feasible it would be to create change. They were keen to accelerate their rate of funding in this field but found demand quite low. They started to offer eco-audits from 2006: these were given free to 12 diverse organisations to maximise the scope for learning about how to reduce carbon use in the sector. 3 Acorns did the audits, tailoring recommendations to each organisation’s type of work and their main office premises. Follow up visits were made (initially after six months though a year’s interval was later seen as more effective). There was change and improvement in practice. Some of the organisations audited have gone on to be strong advocates in the field. Merton Voluntary Service Council spread the word to its 300 members and to Merton Council; NCVO created a climate change unit; most of the 12 audited organisations found they saved money through the changes they made.

As a funder, The City Bridge Trust also learned a lot from these. Change was best embedded where links were made between charitable objects and environmental issues – in other words, linking social justice and environmental justice. For example, for an organisation working with older people, fuel poverty can be substantially the result of wasted energy from badly insulated homes; for a refugee group where their country of origin is degraded by environmental change, acting responsibly in their activities here is an important expression of commitment. Some change needs long term championing and staff turnover can limit this. Some change needs capital investment. Leased premises and shared

bills (common to many voluntary organisations) make the need for change both less obvious and less easy to make happen.

The City Bridge Trust's grantmaking has shifted in response to some of these challenges. For example, in offering additional funding to help organisations with the costs of adaptation of premises, they have also increasingly asked funded organisations to report evaluation outcomes that show environmental value from their work, measurable change in environmental practice and the benefit of such practice to their core business.

Clare made it clear that The City Bridge Trust sees climate change as a funding issue and she encouraged other funders to use their influence – to take part in funder conversations on climate change and consider ways of embedding – and supporting - expectations of better practice in their funding. She drew a parallel with the way funders had supported progress in the equalities agenda, now embedded in the VCS. Her Trust and the Baring Foundation had just funded Green Alliance to do a scoping study to look at leadership in the sector, environmental literacy and how to communicate the importance of this work. She hoped that London Funders would work with them in tackling the recommendations from this study.

Clare drew a parallel with the way funders had supported progress in the equalities agenda, now embedded in the VCS

Questions and discussion

Some more examples of good outcomes were shared: eg Sutton CAB realising that advice on poverty should cover how households can get help in improving their insulation, etc, to achieve lower energy bills; and homelessness charities engaging with similar issues as they helped people move into new permanent homes – ensuring lower weekly outgoings.

Stephen was asked for more detail on any commitments the four Government departments had made following the task force report. He explained that DEFRA already had a third sector strategy and advisory board and that the task force had helped jolt DECC into a similar commitment along with a designated staff leader on third sector links.

OTS and CLG were proving slower to engage though both were aiming to identify areas for action. Government's interest overall is still very much on the role of voluntary organisations in social and economic regeneration, without the environmental lens.

Gilly Green, Comic Relief, raised some questions with Clare about how her Trust asked applicants about the steps they were taking. Comic Relief were pleased that all their applicants seemed to be able to identify relevant actions and some responses had been impressive. None had tried to write "not applicable". Clare encouraged funders to be confident about asking these questions. It was helpful to link groups new to thinking about the issues with good resources to help answer questions.

LONDON'S THREATS, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The next speakers provided a rapid introduction to the "science" – projections and how to understand them, the likely impact on London of different scenarios, and some commentary on national and regional targets and action. (Their very informative presentations can be found on our [website](#).)

Dr Penny Bramwell, Head of Environment and Sustainable Development Unit, Government Office for London

Climate change projections and London's vulnerability

Penny and her team represent DEFRA, DECC and other relevant departments at London regional level. She showed a series of slides of projections for levels of greenhouse gas emissions over the next century on various scenarios based on assumptions of high, medium and low figures, and showing the level that would be required to stabilise emissions and therefore avoid temperature rise above 2°C. She showed how readily inaction or limited action will lead to adverse effects – starting with risks to infrastructure and bio-diversity and leading to heat related death and risks to food supply. Her slides made vivid how lower summer rainfall, higher winter rainfall, rising temperatures and a relative sea level rise would have their effect on London. She reminded us that in 2003, ten days of



temperatures over 30°C saw at last 600 premature deaths in London: on conservative estimates this temperature will represent a cool summer by 2050.

London is a major “heat island” with temperatures 8-9°C higher than the urban fringes. Penny reminded us of the numbers of vulnerable people in central London, unable to leave. The key impact in London would be overheating, drought and flood risk and even with action to mitigate change, these will be areas where protection of the vulnerable and adaptation are essential.

Government work is therefore focused both on a shift to a lower carbon economy and on work on domestic adaptation, eg to relieve future water stress. She shared current plans and noted that the Climate Change Act makes the UK the first country in the world to have a legally binding long-term framework to cut emissions, adapt to climate change and make a commitment to a low carbon economy. Some measures are already in place with the “Greener Homes, Warmer Homes” strategy – much of it being rolled out through local borough activity.

Leah Davis, Environment Programme Officer, Greater London Authority (Climate Change and Energy team)

Climate change and London: mitigation and adaptation



Leah introduced the Mayoral strategy relating to mitigation. Her initial slides offered a specifically London view of similar information to Penny’s – showing the impact of flood, drought and overheating on Londoners. London has about 12% of the UK’s population and produces around 8% of the UK’s total CO₂ emissions, (urban areas being relatively efficient). There is still a great deal that can be done to lower London’s carbon footprint. Mitigation through retrofitting workplaces (representing 43% of London’s CO₂ emissions) and homes (36%) is therefore a high priority for the Mayor along with standards in new development. Reducing CO₂ emissions from transport and energy supply, for example from HEEP (the Homes Energy Efficiency programme) and BEEP (the Building Energy Efficiency Programme) both help to retrofit buildings with energy efficiency measures. HEEP

works through the boroughs and offers “easy”, and free, energy efficiency measures to households. Increased electric vehicle use and decentralised energy are also both on the agenda.

Leah and her colleagues are attempting to understand more fully the problems caused by adverse changes in rainfall and temperature, raising awareness of the risks and preparing people better for change. The policies are sensitive to the needs of fuel-poor households, areas of especially poor air quality and the health implications for vulnerable people of rising temperatures.

The Mayoral targets aim for 60% lower greenhouse gas emissions than 1990 levels by 2025 – faster than the UK target. The GLA’s own premises and operations (Mayor, Assembly, Transport for London, London Development Agency, Police and Fire services) are all expected to contribute to meeting these targets. Some funding is currently available towards these programmes and in the longer term the Mayor aims to set up a London Green Fund for which he will seek support from a variety of sources.

Questions and discussion

Steph Blackwell highlighted the complexity of many of these issues by reminding colleagues that electric vehicle use had its own challenges since there were environmental risks in mining lithium for batteries.

Jessica Brown asked if public authorities understood the importance of investing in order to make longer term savings on energy use. Penny said that the utility companies were required to make savings and that in the recent Homes and Energy White Paper local authorities have to be partners with them in planning supply. They can direct energy companies to work with them on investment programmes. None have significant cash to invest but there are increasingly clever ways being developed to make some of this change happen. Penny also noted that there were obligations on landlords to make improvements in rented workspace.

MARKETPLACE OF IDEAS AND EXPERIENCE

Nine topics were offered so that small groups could hear some expert input and then discuss issues – some of these sessions were run twice to meet demand and every participant had the chance of looking at two different topics.

1 Eco-audits – saving money and the planet

How an eco-audit influenced the practice of a council for voluntary service and has rippled out to its members throughout the borough and into the public sector (eg schools) – saving lots of money along the way. How appropriate is it for funders to set “green” conditions for their funded organisations?

Facilitator Chris Frost, Chief Executive, Merton Voluntary Service Council

In going through an eco-audit, Merton VSC realised that the important change for them, in the first place, was that it saved money for them and other organisations in a multi-tenanted building. They also discovered that fair-trade and organic food could be not only better but cheaper. They made 20 changes in three months, from using 30% less paper by using a double-side default setting on computer printers to dealing with an underground hot water leak that showed up when they checked their water meter. Small changes could result in changed behaviour, eg having recycling bins near a desk and waste bins farther away. Merton VSC initiated awareness-raising among their members and in the Council. They are now delighted that a new grouping, Sustainable Merton, has allowed them to take a step back and see other leadership taking work forward.

If one barrel of oil produces the same energy as a person for 12.5 years, let's reduce oil consumption and get young people into productive jobs

2 Investing for a sustainable future

How investment can maintain/improve asset value and at the same time focus on a green agenda.

Facilitator Helen Wildsmith, Head of Ethical and Responsible Investment, CCLA

Responsible investment can include investment in green technology and can be aligned with the investor's mission (in micro-finance, for example, or the World Bank's Immunisation Fund). Increasingly, investors are using their rights as shareholders to challenge companies' environmental practice – raising questions at AGMs, etc. Pension funds and other major investors can get companies to transform their practice, and even help whole industries through transformation. On the broadest front, increasingly economists are aware that not dealing with environmental issues will inflict long term damage on economies. As with all investment, if money is being put into new technology, it is wise to keep it diversified and not all in one venture. Helen provided an example of clever use of capital when the Dutch government invested in new technology for electricity generation overseas. It set up a good risk/return scenario with pension funds adding to a first 20% layer of government investment - a “less capitalistic and short term approach”.



3 Embedding good environmental practice into the grants process

Big Lottery Fund piloted how applicant groups could be encouraged to build in sustainable development to the way they work. This is now being more firmly embedded into all funding programmes. This session was a chance to hear about how BIG's policy has evolved.

Facilitator Elaine Warner, Senior Policy Adviser, Big Lottery Fund

The group agreed that all aspects of sustainable development need to be part of this approach, not just environmental sustainability. Organisations may need capacity building support to make changes that lead to sustainability. Funders' requirements need to be realistic and proportionate. In application guidance, if funders require environmental targets, they may well need to help organisations make links between their mission and sustainable development; offer examples that will act as prompts; and build in expectations about how groups will report on their environmental practice.

4 Helping non-environmental voluntary organisations understand how climate change affects their mission

The Baring Foundation has been supporting four national projects and is reflecting now on the reports and recommendations from these. This was an opportunity to discuss Baring's journey in developing their thinking and funding.

Facilitator Matthew Smerdon, Deputy Director, Baring Foundation

Points from the group included absolute agreement on the value of working with non-environmental voluntary organisations to help them make connections between climate change and their mission. There was also discussion about what would motivate organisations: if it is regulation, there is a risk that some organisations will then engage in a rather cynical way but, on the other hand, making organisations do this can mean they do things very quickly. The Charity Commission's guidance, *CC10 Hallmarks of an Effective Charity*, has helpfully included a hallmark relating to climate change and organisations have been very receptive to this. Would incentives help? The group agreed that commissioners have the potential to include incentives in contracts to secure behaviour change. Education? If organisations fully understand the problem they will have no choice but to engage in the issues. Peer pressure could do a lot to reinforce good practice. The group concluded that it probably requires a combination of work at all of these levels. Engaging the right staff is important, certainly the CEO, but then also the middle managers who have to implement the work and Board leadership is also important.

5 Using funding to encourage good environmental practice among grant recipients

This was an opportunity to learn from The City Bridge Trust about their successes and disappointments in several years' experience of encouraging their funded groups to take action to reduce their environmental impact.

Facilitator John Merivale, The City Bridge Trust

John's experience, borne out by others in this discussion, is that groups do not know where to start in making appropriate changes and can be overwhelmed by what needs to be done. Action on climate change tends still to be low priority for groups but in general it was felt that funders should prompt but not enforce. As others said in the course of the day, this group agreed that green issues need to be embedded into the way groups think and work just like good equalities awareness and practice.



6 Shared Energy

With support from the Baring Foundation, bassac, working in partnership with Groundwork, New Economics Foundation, Community Sector Coalition and the Community Development Foundation has had a special initiative to help its members think about how climate change could affect their own organisations and the community groups and communities they serve.

Facilitator Karen Mellanby, Head of Programmes, bassac

The group heard how the project has supported practical action and scenario planning, using many lively tools to encourage participation: these will soon be available as a toolkit for community groups. bassac's report to Baring includes much learning about how to foster enthusiasm and overcome resistance, helping community groups see the reasons for engagement in these issues.

7 The internal "green team"

The session reviewed how a dozen of the Football Foundation's staff have been developing green guidelines for all staff to encourage good environmental practice and aim to make it enjoyable – eg they launched the guidelines in a session with a game show format, and they have an engaging "marketing" campaign including signs around the office to nudge colleagues into good practice.

Facilitators Christina Edsger and Rhys Evans, Football Foundation

A lot of detail was shared about how the commitment to change came about and how ideas were introduced to colleagues. An office move had provided opportunities for experiments in achieving behaviour change. Group members looked at how the ideas might be translated to their own organisations. They noted that management buy-in to change is essential and spent some time discussing the challenges in monitoring progress: good ways of "auditing" are needed so that change can be tracked. It could also be helpful for organisations to share practical information like the names of recycling providers.

8 One borough's work on creating a low carbon zone

Haringey has become a leader in sound environmental policy and practice. With GLA and DECC funding they are working on a low carbon zone (Muswell Hill) and developing it partly through community groups and social enterprises.

Facilitator Alex Gear, Greenest Borough Strategy Programme Manager, London Borough of Haringey

The group felt that the low carbon zone idea was interesting and potent, of particular value in spreading the climate change/low carbon message and focussing on practicable short term actions. The Muswell Hill area case study depends on implementing ways of measuring local carbon emissions and the impact of low carbon initiatives: some measures are relatively straightforward, such as better home insulation and the associated fuel cost impacts; others are harder such as transport fuel consumption. An advantage of the initiative is the forging of better links between a range of groups on this common theme.

9 Green Up!

The making of a manual of advice for community groups on working with their councils on the environment and sustainability. This provided a chance to discuss the background and purpose of this publication with its author and to hear her experience of learning from local groups in order to offer a way for them through the maze of consultation mechanisms, planning procedures and opportunities for collaboration.

Facilitator Agnes Gautier, Community Development Foundation

The group agreed that the guide is a bridge between councils and community groups which want to work on environmental issues. If funders use this guide, then better results will come from encouraging feedback from groups about their own experience. Borough participants saw this as a useful part of a series of guides on engaging with community groups on the environment. (See our [website](#) for the publication.)

East London Mosque, in their eco-audit, made the a link with their spiritual values; their worshippers of Bangladeshi origin also vividly understood the importance of climate change mitigation

PLENARY SESSION

Led by the meeting Chair and some of the keynote speakers and small group facilitators, there was a final round of discussion, noting key messages and action points, starting with the questions: What do funders need? What can London Funders do to help?

Among points raised were:

- Help develop a list of basic, practical steps – “do-able, share-able ideas”, or “ten things a voluntary organisation can do”.
- Help funders look at where the sticks and carrots are in encouraging better practice in funded groups. Eg The City Bridge Trust started asking organisations about their environmental performance – the funding may have been a kind of stick – but essentially gave authority the need for action on these issues.
- The need to explain why a funder is asking groups to report on action. Karen Mellanby thinks it essential to inspire groups to think about the links with their work and mission. Steph Blackwell warned of the importance of any requirements being proportionate to the size and experience of different groups.
- Rhys Evans noted it is important not to penalise groups but find ways of breaking down barriers to change. So, devise straightforward questions – eg about a group’s decisions on its own supply chain.
- Elaine Warner briefly described the way Big Lottery Fund is approaching this, beginning with a gentle introduction to help groups see the relevance.
- Leah Davis wants to see the sector get to the point where good environmental practice is one of the hallmarks of a well run business or voluntary group, alongside good governance, financial management and other key factors.
- It would be good to aim for some consistency in funders’ approach.
- Groups will need to measure their performance – which means establishing a baseline and keeping records. Many funders seem uncertain about how to do this or how to ask groups to do it.
- How much funding is available at present to support this work? Is there a need for some mapping and gap analysis?

“Don’t underestimate funders’ clout”

It was agreed there is a need to share more specific information about funding methods. Penny briefly described the way some work is being supported by Salix and the Carbon Trust through a fund that aims to recycle the money needed for environmental projects: Salix delivers interest free funding to accelerate investment in energy efficiency technologies across the UK public sector (eg through boroughs). Repayment of the loans is based on savings made as a result of projects supported – then the rollout of funds can start again.

- John Merivale talked about several examples of the use of influence to communicate the issues. At one end of the spectrum, his Trust funds Arcola Theatre which is aiming to be carbon neutral in its activities but which also gets environmental messages into all its performances. They have also supported Fair Pensions which encourages pension funds to challenge company practice (eg currently tackling BP and Shell on extracting oil from tar sands). Helen Wildsmith also encouraged everyone with a pension fund to join in the action proposed on Fair Pensions’ website.
- Penny Bramwell expressed an interest in continuing to work with London Funders – in her role as Chair of DEFRA’s local and regional adaptation partnership board.
- Leah Davis encouraged action – “don’t underestimate funders’ clout”, she said. She confirmed the number of useful resources that could be offered to groups and would help London Funders to share these with members.

Action point 1

Funders could share examples of the questions being asked of funded groups and the explanation offered

Action point 2

Collect experience of ways of measuring carbon emissions and good environmental practice and how to set an effective baseline

Action point 3

Funders to collate some good tools and methods to offer groups along with examples of how second tier organisations have cascaded interest and action out to wider networks

Action point 4

Share case studies of ways that funders work their money harder in pursuing these goals around environmental awareness and good practice

Action point 5

London Funders to talk to Clare Thomas about the Baring Foundation/City Bridge Trust scoping study and how work can be progressed in London

Action point 6

As a result of interest from this meeting, London Funders will convene a group to look at these issues and actions, starting with six to eight meetings and then a review

Karen Mellanby's final comment was a masterly summary of much of the nature of discussion in the course of the afternoon: **"this meeting has been about the rationale of funders supporting groups in environmental awareness and practical action – not just supporting the environmental sector. By helping groups make links to the issues, and asking for environmental outcomes as they monitor and evaluate, funders will be supporting behavioural change and that change will be locally based and locally owned. If funders keep together on this they will accumulate evidence that can be used for further influence."**

At the end of the meeting, Debbie Pippard, in her role as Vice Chair of London Funders, signed the Third Sector Declaration on Climate Change. The full text is on page 15 of the report and more information can be found on <http://www.justact.org.uk/declaration/>.



With thanks to Martina Protze-Galas for all the photographs used in this report (except for the cover)

BIOGRAPHIES

Speakers

Dr Penny Bramwell has been Head of Environment and Sustainable Development at Government Office for London since October 2002. She is responsible for taking forward the environment and sustainable development agenda in partnership with others in London on behalf of Government. Penny chairs the Local and Regional Adaptation Partnership Board and is a member of key London partnerships, including the London Sustainable Development Commission, London Food Board and London Climate Change Partnership. Previously she held positions in DEFRA where she led the GM policy team and climate change impact and adaptation team (when she scoped out the plan for and established the 'UK climate impacts programme'). Penny's PhD is in Environmental Microbiology and her post-doctoral research at Oxford was on GMOs.

Leah Davis is the Greater London Authority's Environment Programme Officer in the climate change mitigation and energy team. Her role includes managing the production of the Mayor's Climate Change Mitigation and Energy Strategy, which sets out the programme to reduce London's CO₂ emissions by 60% by 2025. Prior to working at the GLA, Leah was Environment Communications Manager for Business in the Community where her role included managing policy and communications for the Prince's Mayday Network – the UK's largest group of businesses committed to taking action on climate change. Immediately after university, Leah worked as a Research Assistant to the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in London, focussing on national and international climate change policy.

Stephen Hale has been the Director of Green Alliance since 2006. He is the author of *The new politics of climate change* (2008) and third sector chair of the Government's Task Force on Climate Change and the Third Sector. Before joining Green Alliance he was a special adviser at the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, focusing on climate change. He has worked in the private sector as an adviser on environmental and social issues. He has a Masters Degree in sustainable development, and a degree in economic and social studies. Stephen is also a trustee of Christian Aid. Stephen is shortly to take up a senior post at Oxfam International in Geneva.

Donnachadh McCarthy is the founder of 3 Acorns Eco-audits which works with businesses, charities, schools and homes and has won several national environmental awards. Donnachadh is much in demand as an eco-journalist, speaker on climate change and television and radio commentator on environmental topics. He was the on-screen eco-auditor for the BBC2 series "It's not easy being green" and several other series. He wrote the weekly "Home Ecologist" column for *The Independent* and has written for other newspapers and magazines and published several books. Donnachadh believes that as an advocate of radical action to tackle the climate crisis he must lead by example and his home in Camberwell was the first to sell solar PV electricity to London Energy/ EDF Energy and to gain planning permission for a building-attached wind turbine: these and other systems have helped him make his home not just carbon-neutral but carbon-negative. He undertook the eco-audits project for the City Bridge Trust which won a Green Apple Award. His earlier career was as a professional dancer, including with the Royal Opera Ballet Covent Garden.

Clare Thomas MBE has been Chief Grants Officer of the City Bridge Trust since 1996. Clare was formerly an Adviser to the Active Community Unit at the Home Office on charities, voluntary organisations and grantmaking. She has worked as Trust Administrator for Sir John Cass Foundation and Deputy Director of the Rainer Foundation. She has been a teacher in Haringey, a social worker and a project leader for Islington Family Service Unit. Clare is a former Chair of the National Offender Management Services Advisory Group and is currently Chair of both the Association of Charitable Foundations and The Building Exploratory. She has served as a board member of NCVO, London Bombings Charitable Fund and adviser to several funds administered by the British Red Cross. Clare is currently part of the Government's Task Force on Climate Change and the Third Sector and has recently joined the BBC's Appeals Advisory Committee.

Facilitators

Christina Edsger has been at the Football Foundation since 2007 and works in the Performance and Standards team which monitors and evaluates Football Foundation funded projects to ensure that project objectives are achieved. Christina has helped implement environmental methods and processes internally to ensure that staff are aware of their environmental responsibilities.

Rhys Evans joined the Football Foundation in 2007, as ICT Manager, having previously worked in the legal sector. He is responsible for ICT services to staff and stakeholders, and the management and procurement of development projects. Rhys was responsible for the creation of the Foundation's environmental sustainability group and has led the group from having no environmental policy to integrating sustainable practices into internal operations and the activity of projects receiving funding.

Chris Frost is the Chief Executive of Merton Voluntary Service Council. Four years ago MVSC was one of ten charities invited by the City Bridge Trust to participate in a pilot project looking at how the voluntary sector can reduce its carbon footprint. The resulting eco-audit continues to influence MVSC's own work as well as that of numerous other agencies with which it works.

Agnes Gautier has over eight years experience in the voluntary sector as a campaigner and policy officer. She has an MSc in European Social Policy from the London School of Economics. Work experience includes the International Labour Office (United Nations), and the National Union of Students where she worked on the successful campaign to introduce Tenancy Deposit Schemes. She is Projects Officer at Community Development Foundation, where she wrote the Green-Up guide. She volunteers for the British Red Cross and the Refugee Council, where she mentors newly arrived refugees.

Alex Grear is the Greenest Borough Strategy Programme Manager for the London Borough of Haringey. His role is to provide strategic management of the implementation of the Strategy. This outlines the Local Strategic Partnership's approach to embed environmental sustainability throughout the borough.

Karen Mellanby is Head of Programmes at bassac where she is responsible for the strategic management and development of programmes that aim to increase the influence, impact and sustainability of bassac members and the wider voluntary and community sector, eg currently support and resources for collaborative work, impact assessment resources and capacity building support; research and skills development around campaigning; and development of resources to support community organisations working on climate change. She is a qualified social worker and practice teacher and has worked most recently as deputy chief executive of Action for Advocacy.

John Merivale joined the City Bridge Trust in 2005, where he handles various grants and has a particular interest in the Trust's environmental funding. He took the lead on the Trust's *Greening the Third Sector* initiative, which offers environmental audits to London organisations, and in an environmental context he has managed grants to bodies including FairPensions, Open House, Arcola Theatre, and Global Cool. Before this he worked for 20 years as a landscape architect and has varied experience in urban design and regeneration, also specialising in landscape design history. He set up and ran a Groundwork Trust in south west London.

Matthew Smerdon is Deputy Director of the Baring Foundation. He leads the Foundation's Strengthening the Voluntary Sector grants programme and its Special Initiative on Climate Change and the Third Sector.

Elaine Warner is a Senior Policy Adviser with the Big Lottery Fund where she has responsibility for strategic policy development in a number of funding programmes including Reaching Communities as well as wider policies such as sustainable development and community cohesion. Before joining the Fund, Elaine spent many years working on strategic policy development in local government, at local, regional, national, and international level, including some years working on European policy in Brussels.

Helen Wildsmith joined CCLA in 2008, and as Head of Ethical & Responsible Investment she is responsible for developing and implementing their client-driven approach in this evolving area. Prior to this she worked as a consultant to CCLA and the sector, and was the Executive Director of UKSIF (the sustainable investment and finance association) from 2002-5. She started her career at NatWest in 1990, specialising in strategy development and project management across the group, and has an MSc in Voluntary Sector Organisation from the London School of Economics. She is now Vice Chair of UKSIF and a member of FTSE4Good's policy committee.

ATTENDANCE LIST

First name	Last name	Organisation
Donnachadh	McCarthy	3 Acorns Eco-audits (Chair)
Matthew	Smerdon	Baring Foundation
Madeleine	Rooke-Ley	Barrow Cadbury Trust
Jeremy	Fennell	bassac
Karen	Mellanby	bassac
Debbie	Pippard	Big Lottery Fund
Elaine	Warner	Big Lottery Fund
Alexandra	Czerniewska	Capital Community Foundation
Helen	Wildsmith	CCLA Investment Management Ltd
Jaishree	Mistry	Charity Bank
Jenny	Field	The City Bridge Trust
John	Merivale	The City Bridge Trust
Ciaran	Rafferty	The City Bridge Trust
Clare	Thomas, MBE	The City Bridge Trust (speaker)
Douglas	Gunn	City Parochial Foundation
Gilly	Green	Comic Relief
Sue	Wicks	Comic Relief
Agnes	Gautier	Community Development Foundation
Casey	Lord	Cripplegate Foundation
Christina	Edsger	Football Foundation
Rhys	Evans	Football Foundation
Penny	Bramwell	Government Office for London (speaker)
Sue	Halstead	Government Office for London
Leah	Davis	Greater London Authority (speaker)
Stephen	Hale	Green Alliance (speaker)
Steph	Blackwell	J. Anthony Clark Trust
Patricia	Cahalane	London Borough of Haringey
Alex	Grear	London Borough of Haringey
Malcolm	John	London Borough of Harrow
Enid	Watts	London Borough of Hounslow
Maxine	Quintyne-Kolaru	London Councils
Siobhan	McKenna	London Development Agency
Jessie	Sampah	London Development Agency
Tim	Oshodi	London Diocesan Fund
Peter	Lewis	London Voluntary Service Council
Paul	Gibson	Mazars LLP
Katherine	Peacock	Mazars LLP
Katherine	Payne	The Mercers' Company
Chris	Frost	Merton Voluntary Service Council
Rita	Fentener	Red Ochre
Lucy	Ashdown	Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea
Barnaby	Hopson	Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames
Sheila	Begum	St Katharine & Shadwell Trust
Shubi	Choudhury	St Katharine & Shadwell Trust
Jessica	Brown	Tellus Mater Foundation
Jason	Mollring	UnLtd
Gaynor	Humphreys	London Funders
Martina	Protze-Galas	London Funders
Yvonne	Schwartz	London Funders

THIRD SECTOR DECLARATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Everyone has a right to a clean and healthy environment. We know that climate change is a major challenge to this right, ours and future generations'. Climate change is not only about the environment. It can have positive and negative impacts on our ability to support a prosperous and fair society. Climate change projections continue to show that the UK will increasingly suffer from climate change and that it will also have a massive negative impact on the poor in this country and others around the world. So we need to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change now.

There can be no excuses for doing nothing. We need to just act.

Regardless of our mission and vision or how we define our organisation - voluntary community group, non governmental organisation or social enterprise - we know we need to take action, for the following reasons:

- climate change will bring around one of the greatest social, environmental and economic threats to society. Issues such as health, housing, transport, waste, food production and equality will all be affected by the impacts of climate change such as flooding or more extreme weather events
- injustice, poverty, exclusion and disadvantage all reduce the ability of countries, communities, families and individuals to respond positively to that challenge
- reducing our carbon emissions enough to avoid the worst impacts of climate change will require a transformation in our economy and society, and it's essential that this transition to a low carbon future is fair and equitable

For those reasons we accept that we must:

- Act – on climate change because it is inextricably bound to our work on environmental and social justice
- Commit – to taking positive steps to reduce any negative impacts we may have on climate change
- Partnerships – work with our partners to communicate inspiring and effective initiatives
- Help – to create or support progressive national policies
- Reduce – the worst impacts of climate change specifically for the most vulnerable people in society
- Strengthen – as well as build our organisation's, project's or group's resilience to climate change
- Adapt – our services, projects and campaigns to ensure that the people we work with and for, act on and are resilient to climate change

To achieve social, economic and environmental benefits of tackling climate change, we commit our organisation, group or project to a sustained, comprehensive and accountable response to the challenge of climate change whilst encouraging similar action amongst those we work with.

We therefore commit London Funders from this date to:

- Publicly support the need for urgent action to deliver behaviour change at all levels to combat climate change.
- Produce plans and appropriate strategies to reduce our carbon dioxide emissions.
- Make sure our plan is made public within a year.
- Ensure the plan is monitored and evaluated, at least annually, and the results are easily understood, accessible and published.
- Work with central and local government and others to advocate for, and support policies and initiatives that will assist the UK to reach or exceed the national target to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.
- Act as a leader in encouraging and enabling our members, service users and clients to adapt to the impact of climate change, to reduce their carbon emissions and take other relevant initiatives.
- Inform, inspire and encourage action as part of a wider movement that can make a real difference on climate change.

Signed by 

on behalf of London Funders Board



London Funders exists to strengthen and support London's funders to better meet the needs of Londoners

London Funders is the membership organisation which works with funders and investors supporting London's voluntary and community organisations. It links all the sectors, providing foundations, funders from the public sector and corporate givers with opportunities to share their experience and learn from each other. It helps to forge productive relationships which contribute to the wider benefit and overall sustainability of London's voluntary and community organisations. It aims to contribute to a vibrant, varied, fit for purpose third sector which is appropriately and fairly funded.

London Funders

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