

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY  
RSS Cross Cutting Group  
Action Notes**

**Thursday 6th May 2004  
Berkeley House, Cross Lanes, Guildford**

Present:	Tony Curtis(Chair)	Basingstoke District Council
	Ray Bowers	South East England Regional Assembly
	Chris Corrigan	RSPB
	Tony Stevens	Horsham District Council

Apologies:	Sue Archer	RAISE
	Martin Tugwell	South East England Regional Assembly
	Roger Hargreaves	Surrey County Council
	Chris Swanwick	Wycombe District Council
	Douglas Horner	CBI
	John Glasson	Oxford Brookes
	Leigh Herington	Kent County Council
	Paul Newbold	Portsmouth City Council
	Rashid Bashir	SEEDA

**1. Apologies**

**2. Minutes from Last Meeting**

These were agreed and passed.

**3. South East Plan Discussion Papers**

Climate Change

David Payne joined us for this particular topic and introduced the main points from a discussion paper on the impacts of climate change prepared by the Natural Resources and Climate Change Advisory Group.

David also updated the group on the work we are undertaking with the Environment Agency on water resources/quality and flood risk and the EU funded ESPACE project.

The Group agreed that the paper highlighted the main impacts which we will need to take account of in the South East Plan. The Group will need to ensure that these impacts are taken into account by other Advisory Groups. The key points of the paper should be circulated to the other groups to assist with this process.

#### **4. Sub Regional Studies**

Ray Bowers updated the Group on progress with the studies. Reports had been received for the Western Corridor, Central Oxfordshire, Sussex Coast, South Hampshire and Blackwater Valley but still awaited from the Crawley-Gatwick, East Kent and London Fringe study group.

- Tony Stevens mentioned problems with Crawley/Gatwick but it was acknowledged that this to some extent was due to previous history.

It was pointed out that a potential problem could arise later on with local authorities claiming that they had not been fully involved or consulted due to the studies being carried out by individual member/officer level.

#### **5. Taking Forward Cross Cutting Themes**

##### Discussion on Potential Research Areas

It was agreed that we need to produce a Plan which convinces the people.

There was uncertainty on how the SE Plan process will be taken forward particularly in conjunction with the development of spatial options.

It was agreed that Martin and Ray would produce a clear and definitive timeline of what work needs to be undertaken and by when. Meetings of the Group need to be linked with the timings of key technical outputs and meetings of StAG. The Group felt that hypothetical spatial distributions need to be drawn up as soon as possible to facilitate testing on the STM and with the Environmental Agency.

#### **6. Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment**

##### Update on Progress

Wout joined the meeting for this item, he gave feedback on the report issued by the consultants and supplied the group with a table showing the different stages to be gone through.

##### Role of Cross Cutting Group

There were several issues raised in this section, such as the role of the Cross Cutting Group and the newly appointed Sustainability Appraisal Sounding Board (SA Board). Independent consultants will be appointed to undertake the appraisal at key stages. It was agreed that any reports from the consultants and Sounding Board would be passed to the Cross Cutting Group for comment and advice to StAG.

Wout agreed to produce a time line to enable the group to tie in with our meetings.

A suggestion was made that better planning of key meetings such as RPC, StAG and Cross Cutting Group could be implemented to enable better flow of information/papers.

**7. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Dates of Next Meeting(s)**

Tuesday 25.05.04 @ 14.00 – Berkeley House