

SOUTH EAST ENGLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY MONITORING ADVISORY GROUP

Actions arising from the meeting held on Wednesday, 5 April 2006

Present:

Graham Ashworth	Chair
Catherine Chapman	Environment Agency
Chris Waite	SEERAWP
George Burnett	Surrey County Council
Janet Chard	Wycombe District Council
Mike Holford	Brighton & Hove City Council
Peter Welsh	Kent County Council
Sunethra Mendis	GOSE
John Pounder	South East England Regional Assembly
Kate Aulman	South East England Regional Assembly
Sandrine Mathard	South East England Regional Assembly
Sabine Rumscheidt	SEEDA
Ivan Perkovic	SEEDA
Phil Eadie	SEEDA

Item 1: Introductions and apologies for absence

Apologies were received from:

Alan Cole	Hampshire County Council
Andy Howe	Environment Agency
Bryan Lyttle	Berkshire Joint Strategic Planning Unit

Item 2: Minutes/updates from the last meeting

Transport task group

- (i) George Burnett advised that the accessibility indicator for the South East Plan should use the Accession data. The rail freight indicator is still problematic and few statistics are available. Figures for aggregates could be available but other types of freight are still problematic.
- (ii) Peter Welsh and Janet Chard found the accession software difficult to use.
- (iii) John Pounder suggested that there was a need for a more consistent approach to the used of Accession throughout the region, and that the task group could play an important and ongoing role in helping to share experience and good practice.

Actions:

- The task group will meet again when accession data is available. It will continue to consider the problems related to the availability of the data, will advise on the accession data and ensure that data has been supplied.
- Chris Waite to supply rail freight aggregates data.

- Assembly officers and GB to agree a Term of Reference defining objectives for the transport task group in relation to accessibility monitoring.

South East Plan Monitoring Framework

- (i) John Pounder explained that any policy or other actions arising from the Regional Monitoring Report will be taken forward as part of the Implementation Plan.
- (ii) Chris Waite recommended grouping the mineral and waste indicators. He also questioned the sustainability of the indicator 'Proportion of aggregates transported within beyond the region by rail or water – total and proportion of total mineral production'.
- (iii) It was recommended that Table G I includes policies.
- (iv) John Pounder explained that the indicators did not monitor policies but policy objectives.
- (v) Kate Aulman mentioned that the policies will be included in the annex of the Regional Monitoring Report which will provide a matrix relating policies and objectives to indicators.

Actions:

- All comments regarding the South East Plan Monitoring Framework should be made through the formal public consultation which runs until 23 June 2006.
- Regional Assembly to email the South East Plan timetable to the group with the minutes of the meeting.
- MAG to review any monitoring implications of the forthcoming sub regional delivery frameworks at its next meeting.

Item 3: Monitoring Systems Task Group

Part A: Local Authority Data Collection and Transfer

Comments on draft objectives:

- (i) 2.3 was not perceived as being practical. It was agreed that the study will focus on a sample of case studies and best practice examples.
- (ii) The role of the monitoring task group was also clarified. The task group will inform on the choice of a practical system and will produce a report specifying which local authorities have been looked at, the systems they use, the relationships between counties and districts.
- (iii) In 2.5.6 'Unitaries' should also be included.
- (iv) Peter Welsh explained that Kent County Council system created a web based system with map based data which is relevant to Part A. It was mentioned that the system could include a wide range of indicators all related to planning applications and is site location based. It could also be used with any boundary, including sub-regional boundaries.

Part B: Regional data sets: agreed

Actions:

- The task group to meet as soon as possible, report at the next MAG meeting and draw conclusions by the end of the year.
- Peter Welsh to give a demonstration of Kent County Council system in Maidstone in September/October.
- The Regional Assembly to approach districts not represented through MAG to participate in the task group.

Item 4: Affordable Housing task group

- (i) The group was informed that Dick Feasey will chair the task group. Commenting on the draft ToR members stressed the need to get to grips with the different data collected by housing and planning authorities and how this might be reconciled for the purposes of monitoring delivery of all forms of affordable housing.

Actions:

- ToR to be revised to take account of following points raised by MAG.
- Emphasise on the need for more consistent data collection by local authorities.
- Focus on delivery of new build affordable housing and losses to existing stock.
- Need to define a baseline from which measures of change to the overall stock can be made.

Item 5: IRF Review

- (i) Kate Aulman explained the IRF review will begin in May 06 and will end in 2007. It is anticipated that any additional IRF indicators should be capable of fitting within South East Plan monitoring framework.

Action:

- The group to feedback on the IRF review later in the year.

Item 6: Waste monitoring data

- (i) Kate Aulman explained that the Regional Assembly is working with ERM to get baseline data up to March 2006 and subsequent 6 monthly updates from 2007 onwards.
- (ii) Waste movements, particularly exports from London should be collected at national level.
- (iii) PW suggested that 'per capita waste generation' should be calculated by household or dwellings but not population.
- (iv) Chris Waite explained there is an OPDM waste survey with which the Assembly needs to reconcile its own data.

Actions:

- Definitions of municipal and domestic waste to be added to paper.
- Chris Waite to provide waste data contact name at OPDM.
- Kate Aulman to review 'per capita waste generation' indicator with Assembly colleagues and investigate the possibility of calculating energy per household or per dwelling.

Item 7: RMR2005

- (i) A draft structure for the regional monitoring report 2006 will be discussed at the next meeting.
- (ii) All AMRs have been published but they are sometimes difficult to find on the web.
- (iii) There were some differences between data provided to Regional Assembly and those published in the AMRs.

Actions:

- Sunethra Mendis to investigate differences between RMR and AMRs and share findings with the Assembly.
- Janet Chard to provide GOSE and the Assembly the methodology used by Wycombe DC for generating affordable housing.
- Sunethra Mendis to share examples of Best Practice.
- The Regional Assembly to write to relevant local authorities seeking explanation of data discrepancies.

Item 9: SEE-IN

Phil Eadie provided a verbal update of current SEE-iN work, including:

- Data seminar to be held in Oxford on 9 May.
- Research into existing gaps in data in the region.
- Joint working with county observatories.

Action:

- Let Phil Eadie know of any existing or planned sub-regional or county observatories.

Date of the next meeting:

24 July 2006