

SYNOPSIS OF THE LGTF BOARD MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2008

Roger Latham gave an update on the establishment of the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnerships, and the the impact on the future of LGTF. He proposed that the LGTF pursue two strands of activity in parallel over the coming months:

- With CLG support towards LGA sponsorship on construction related efficiency and improvement activity.
- With Constructing Excellence to explore support to the local government community through membership subscription.

He also noted that he would be standing down from Nottinghamshire County Council the following month. He therefore proposed the chairmanship of the LGTF be taken over by Andrew Smith, Hampshire County Council with immediate effect. This recommendation was unanimously endorsed by the Board.

David Moon (WRAP) gave a presentation on the reduction of construction waste sent to landfill sites. Their target is to halve this by 2012 and reduce it entirely by 2020.

- Members of the Board discussed this, the need to engage with smaller contractors, and to broaden existing KPI's to cover this area of activity.
- The Chairman invited members of the Board to consider this area of activity particularly in relation to demonstration projects.

Brian Adams gave an update on CSCS and the adoption of the Smartcard scheme to ensure a competent workforce within the industry. Currently approximately 1.2 million cards have been issued which accounts to 50% of the industry. The aim is to have a fully qualified workforce by 2010.

- Members of the board discussed how best to secure better local authority engagement with the scheme.

Bob King gave a brief explanation of the Sustainable Construction Guide, launched today, and thanked members of the Board for their contributions. He also commended the plain English guide recently published by CE. Copies of the guides have now been distributed to all local authorities.

Peter Bishop discussed the subject of Fair Payments. John Loannou (OGC) outlined PSCCF activity in this area. He also pointed out that LGTF were signatories to the scheme.

- The Board noted that this was a subject area for demonstration projects but that few had come forward, such proposals were of greater relevance where longer term relationships were in place.
- The Board were asked by the chairman to consider how best they could benchmark local authority activity in this area.

John De Souza, Constructing Excellence gave an update on current activity on demonstration projects and confirmed that the LGTF sub-group which led activity in this area would continue to work with him in the development of demonstration projects.

Peter Cunningham, Constructing Excellence updated the Board on the Clients Charter and outlined the review that had recently been undertaken into the operation of charter, links to the 2012 Construction Commitments, and steps being taken to improve the process.

Peter Bishop outlined the Asset Management Guidance that had been developed with CIPFA, which will be distributed to local authorities later in the month.

Suggested dates for future meetings will be circulated after consultation with Andrew Smith's diary