



Climate Change Adaptation – Event Report

Thursday 22nd October - Leeds Town Hall

Speakers:

David Middleton, CEO of BCSD-UK set the scene with a presentation “Armageddon or Business Opportunity” highlighting how society must change to meet the challenge of Climate Change and the business opportunity arising.

Robin Bailey of the Environment Agency gave an overview of the recent flooding in the region. Some sound bites:-

“In 2007, 1/6th of the annual rainfall fell in Hull in just one day”
“We were very close to getting water into a blast furnace”.
“They have an excellent plan to evacuate people in the event of a terrorist attack. They get everyone into the car park. That’s not much use in a flooding emergency”.



Alex Moczarski of The UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP) “Promoting the tools and knowledge to help organisations adapt to the impacts of climate change”. Projections to help support decisions.

John Firth of Acclimatise “Building business resilience to inevitable climate change”
“This is something that sinks into all the functions of business”

David Bowe The European Union

“European leaders gave task to the European Commission which has revamped the emissions trading scheme. What is emerging is much tougher than the old one. This will really start to bite.”
“Yorkshire must be ready. CCS is just in our grasp. Big opportunity for business”

Andy Horrocks Yorkshire Forward - The Regional Adaptation Study.

“Extremes of weather impact on people’s ability to get to work”
“Through engagement with business we want to showcase what businesses are doing to adapt.”

Alice Truswell of Meadowhall then gave a report on the environmental strategy at Meadowhall including an enlightening video of the effects of the floods in 2007.

“Since the credit crunch it is difficult to get approval for investment that does not pay back in 3 to 5 years”.

Henrik Frijs told of The Swedish Experience:

“We share same problems and challenges. Best we work together to solve them”.

Olle Hedenstrom also travelled from Sweden for the event and described the products of 3 companies from Skane region of Southern Sweden.



Opportunities to collaborate or JV with these and other Swedish companies will be identified and explored for further progress with Skane. If you are interested in your business being involved please contact fred.mead@engnet.org.uk Presentations can be viewed at www.bcsd-uk.co.uk

Affiliated branch in the UK

