



**Business Council for
Sustainable Development
United Kingdom**

BCSD-UK UPDATE – September 2007

An update report from the Business Council for Sustainable Development – United Kingdom, the only affiliated branch in the UK of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development.

This report is circulated to members and contacts.

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1: John Firth fuels rigorous climate change debate at BCSD-UK General Meeting

“I was impressed with the quality of the network group the BCSD-UK can assemble. The issue of corporate engagement with climate change was pitched excellently; the fact that it needs to be widespread, not just be kept within the Environmental department”. - **John Clement, MidMarsh Consultants Ltd**

“I didn't always agree with the presentations but it was all the better for it. I like a challenge and I found it very thought provoking. I have been to too many meetings where everyone just agrees with each other.” - **Paul Pritchard, Royal & Sun Alliance**

“The meeting reinforced the importance of businesses needing to adapt to climate change.” - **Sunny Sehgal, HSBC**

“It was very thought provoking with invaluable insights.” - **Tony Norris, Geldards**

“It raised the profile of not just climate change but of all things sustainable and environmental.” - **Janet Bailey, Faber Maunsell**

“What Paul Turner from Lloyds TSB said about recruitment was interesting. The fact that 80% of students put ‘Working for an environmentally conscious company’ in their top 5 means that companies who want to attract graduates need to appear to be doing Sustainable Development.” - Garfield Cameron, Ruston WHEB

BCSD-UK members and invited guests assembled at the London HQ of host LloydsTSB for the BCSD-UK September General Meeting where keynote speaker John Firth (Acclimatise) gave a stark reality check and wake up call on the need to adapt to climate change. Whilst we might mitigate against future causes, the damage already done means it is essential we adapt to the consequences which will impact on us for decades. He also warned that the growing rush towards carbon neutrality does not mean achieving climate proofing. John has a unique and highly practical business view that is capturing more and more attention within the business community and causing businesses to rethink forward corporate and project planning. Other speakers were, as is the tradition of BCSD-UK General Meetings, new members LloydsTSB and AECOM with Paul Turner and Richard John respectively.

PowerPoint slides from the presentations can be downloaded from www.bcsd-uk.co.uk (Members site only) or those who attended can call Katie Hoare on 0121 693 8334.

2: EU’s submission to the recent United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Vienna.

Thanks to our contacts at DEFRA, members can access the EU’s submission to the recent United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Vienna. It’s the most recent EU position on the future framework and makes for interesting reading.

The report is available via the Members site on www.bcsd-uk.co.uk or via David Middleton on 0121 693 8336.

3: BCSD-UK Scottish Summit – November 6th – latest update

Subjects to be covered at the BCSD-UK Sustainable Development Business Summit (Scotland) on November 6th in Glasgow will include:

- How 190 global businesses suggest we can tackle the energy and climate challenge
- How Scottish businesses are responding to crucial issues such as- energy provision; distinguishing between carbon footprinting and climate change adaptation; delivering carbon reduction in the build and construction sector; resources
- The first reporting platform in the UK for the Business Taskforce on Sustainable Consumption and Production and its findings from two workstreams on distributed energy and mobility

Contributions from businesses will come from Arup, WSP, SDC, CIOB, Acclimatise, Biffa, Shell, Scottish & Newcastle, Scottish and Southern Energy, Scottish Enterprise, Sustainable Transport Team – The Scottish Government, Corus, Envirowise and others.

4: September Management Committee

BCSD-UK Management Committee members meeting at LloydsTSB after the General Meeting there approved the most recent financial report, received reports from the Energy Group; Waste Group; from the WindSupply project; development of the Scottish Summit; and progress on new projects (EEB-UK led by Arup and Eco Build and Construction led by WSP). The CEO provided updates on strategic discussions in hand in Yorkshire and the East Midlands, developments in Scotland, and links to the World Business Council including attending their next Liaison Delegates meeting in Brussels in October. He also reported on developments for the BCSD-UK to explore key issues related to the carbon economy.

5: Renewables Technology Audit 07 – October 18

Now taking delegate bookings, this BCSD-UK supported business to business investigation of market growth, supply response and innovation development includes

Biffa Leicester – Mick Davies, General Manager

Birmingham City Council – Sandy Taylor, Head of Climate Change and Sustainability

Green BioDiesel Limited – Dr Matthew Davies, Director

RTA '07 – David Middleton

Shadow Environment Minister – Gregory Barker MP,

Veolia Water Solutions & Technologies – Mike Froom, Business Development Director

Worcester Bosch Group – Garry Albutt, Technical Sales Manager, Renewable Energy Products

A morning through to lunch event to be staged at Millennium Point, Birmingham.
More information and booking info via Katie Hoare on 0121 693 8334.

6: Happenings post Hatton Garden WBCSD 2050 launch event - inc video now available

On July 3rd, BCSD-UK launched into the UK the World Business Council for Sustainable Development's Policy Directions 2050 on Energy and Climate. The half day event was staged at the new offices in Hatton Garden of AECOM UK/Europe which delayed moving in so the event could be hosted there.

Sponsoring host member, AECOM UK/Europe has produced a video of the event which highlights the presentations from Ken Dalton (CEO AECOM UK/Europe; Stefanie Held (Programme Director, Energy & Climate, WBCSD); Chris Dodwell (Head of International Climate Change and Ozone at DEFRA); Gregory Barker (Shadow Environment Minister); James Smith (Chairman, Shell UK); Dr Stewart Davies (Business Commissioner, Sustainable Development Commission); Richard John (Director, Sustainable Development Group, AECOM UK/Europe.

Copies of the video are available on request to Katie Hoare on 0121 693 8334.

7: Meetings and happenings past and planned

Recent past and immediate future meetings attended by the BCSD-UK CEO:

Past

- **Scottish Government and Scottish Enterprise meetings, Glasgow**
- **BCSD-UK Scottish Steering Group Meeting in Edinburgh**
- **Leicestershire County Council Environmental Scrutiny Committee (speaker)**
- **River Nene Regional Park Conference, Northants (speaker)**
- **DEFRA re COP meetings etc post Kyoto in follow up to Hatton Garden event**
- **FIRA landscape designers in Birmingham re sustainable development**
- **BPE Solicitors of Cheltenham re their involvement with sustainable development**
- **Mike Smith at Yorkshire Forward**
- **Groundwork Resource Efficiency event in Birmingham (speaker)**
- **Perkins Engines (Caterpillar) in Peterborough re sustainable development matters**
- **Advanced Plasma Power re waste to energy**

Planned

- **West Midlands Excellence Network at BMW Hams Hall (speaker)**
- **Presentation to Directors of EMDA**
- **Advisory Group Meeting of Business Taskforce for Sustainable Consumption and Production**
- **WBCSD LD Meeting, Brussels**

David Middleton
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David Middleton is CEO of the two not-for-profit sustainable development business networks - the Business Council for Sustainable Development - United Kingdom, and the Midlands Environmental Business Company. Both are managed by Environmental Business Communications of which he is MD.