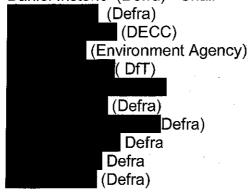
## Note of 1<sup>st</sup> Atmosphere and Local Environment Steering Group 1July 2013

Attendees: Daniel Instone (Defra) - Chair



 Daniel welcomed all to the meeting. He explained that this group was a new Steering Group for the ALE Programme. It is designed to look at Interdepartmental issues which may affect the Programme, as the success of the ALE Programme is highly dependent on the policies of other Government Departments. It will focus on strategic issues rather than Programme Management (PPM).

## Agenda Item 2 – Terms of Reference

2. Daniel agreed to give further thought to adding more external bodies to the group including Public Health England and a Local Authority representative to help improve the external challenge. Daniel also agreed to circulate a draft vision for the group.

Action: to give further thought to circulating a vision and to adding external bodies to the group

## <u>Agenda Item 3 – Programme update on major issues</u>

- 3. The paper produced for the Group gave a snapshot of what has been happening on ALE issues over the last year. It concludes that the challenge for the programme is the need to work closely with other Government Depts. Daniel pointed out that one thing not in the paper was that we were reviewing the boundaries of the ALE Programme and Local Environmental Quality work is expected to go to the Waste Programme (litter having strong links with waste).
- 4. All agreed that Air Quality issues and concerns have increased recently for example in the Public Health Community. However the profile for issues such as air quality and noise did not seem as high for businesses as issues such as CO<sub>2</sub> and waste.
- 5. One area that had been identified as a possible opportunity for UK companies was that they would be well placed to supply products and expertise if air pollution became a more important issue in countries such a China and India. There is a horizon scanning expert group on Air Quality which could consider the issue.

Action – to put the question the next expert group meeting a to discuss with the ALE air quality policy team other means of getting a bett handle on related business opportunities.	
Other issues raised were     thought that it was important to link into the work on planni guidance and the red tape challenge on noise abatement zones     said that DECC were concerned that Air Quality standar favoured small or medium sized biomass boilers that shutdown/start up qu often  Action: to send a note to setting out the issue	ds
<u>Agenda Item 4 - Local Environment, Health, Wellbeing and Economy – Paper and Presentation</u>	-
7. gave the attached presentation. Growth was identified as relevated to all steering group members and is a topical issue. The conclusion was the benefits of action are high and that there is a strong case to take action are better integrate policies.	nat

Action – to circulate the presentation

## <u>AOB</u>

9. It was agreed that the next meeting would be in 3 months' time. Topics for discussion yet to be decided.

8. Daniel concluded that there are some gaps in the analysis, with some data being more robust that others, but we have come along way form the past. We now have a reasonable and compelling narrative which he hoped could be used

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July 2013