

27th November 2008

Our ref: R00071

Freedom of Information Request

Information requested

1. Who are the SEEDA broadband contacts - and given it runs through each RES target what is the status on delivery?

The Broadband and ICT Team are the point of contact within SEEDA for broadband issues.

Work at a National Level to support the Broadband Stakeholders Group and to respond to Ofcom consultations continues on behalf of Regional Development Agencies. These responses are published on Ofcom's website

Work to identify those local authorities who wish to improve their broadband infrastructure is on target. Plans in some key areas aim to encourage private investment in next generation access networks.

Work to survey and map broadband speeds is complete and due for publication on the SEEDA website (www.seeda.co.uk). This information will form a benchmark for the Region to allow monitoring of the progress of deployment of Next Generation broadband.

2. Who and what are the SEEDA seaside regional regeneration activities, especially Kent?

The following are coastal regeneration initiatives/projects in which SEEDA is involved:

Seaside Coastal Areas

Kent

- **Margate Renewal Partnership** (www.margaterenewal.co.uk/). Margate Renewal Partnership has been set up to spearhead the regeneration of Margate. It is made up of key stakeholders who have an important role to

play in the transformation of Margate. The Partnership aims to create a vibrant town with a mix of traditional seaside attractions and modern and creative quarters.

- **Turner Contemporary** details are on SEEDA's website www.seeda.co.uk/news_&_events/press_releases/2008/20080724.asp and there is also a specific Turner Contemporary website (www.turnercontemporary.com/). Turner Contemporary is a visual arts organisation that celebrates JMW Turner's association with Margate and, through a varied programme of exhibitions and events, promotes an understanding and enjoyment of historical and contemporary art. Work is underway to build a permanent gallery in Margate.
- **Dover Pride** (www.doverpride.org.uk). Dover Pride is an independent organisation which brings together public authorities, businesses and voluntary and community sectors. Dover Pride works to provide added value to projects within Dover. A major part of its role is in bringing people and organisations together to work as a whole to deliver a prosperous and vibrant town.

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight

- **Cowes Waterfront Initiative** (www.coweswaterfront.co.uk). Cowes Waterfront initiative is a regeneration project for the Medina Valley which aims to create jobs, attract investment and bring new facilities to Cowes, East Cowes and Newport Harbour.
- **Woolston Riverside, Southampton.** (www.woolstonriverside.co.uk/proposals.asp). A redevelopment of this historic site to provide homes, community facilities and commercial uses such as a supermarket, small offices, restaurants, cafes and a hotel.
- **Daedalus, Lee-on-Solent** on the Gosport peninsula (www.daedalus-seeda.co.uk). Land at Daedalus, a former MoD site based at Lee-on-the-Solent, Hampshire, has been acquired by SEEDA to provide an opportunity for a sustainable, high quality mixed-use development with potentially far-reaching benefits for the Solent area.

Details of the schemes can also be found on SEEDA's website:

www.seeda.co.uk/Solent_Waterfront/

- **Places from Spaces** – working with Portsmouth, Southampton and Brighton & Hove City Councils (www.placesfromspaces.org.uk). The project brings together officers and members of the local authorities with the universities in each of the cities to explore the nature and future development of public space in the cities through a series of workshops and study visits.

Sussex

- **West Sussex 5 Towns Network** (Shoreham, Littlehampton, Bognor Regis, Selsey and Worthing) (www.5-town-network.org.uk/). This project, funded by SEEDA, established a network of regeneration practitioners across the towns of Selsey, Bognor Regis, Littlehampton, Worthing and Shoreham-by-Sea.

- **Brighton and Hove – Convention Centre and Community Stadium** www.brighton-hove.gov.uk links to planning pages on the community stadium
- **Brighton and Hove / Adur – Shoreham Port Growth Point.** News items on SEEDA, Brighton and Hove and Adur District Councils' websites. (www.seeda.co.uk/news_&_events/press_releases/2008/20080716b.asp)
- **SeaSpace, Hastings** (www.seaspace.org.uk). Sea Space is the economic development company for Hastings and Bexhill.

Thames Gateway Estuary

Looking at coastal estuaries, SEEDA is working in the Thames gateway, North Kent. A summary of our activity can be found on the link below but specific area links have also been provided where they are available. (www.seeda.co.uk/enabling_infrastructure_&_development/growth_areas/thames_gateway/index.asp)

Swale Forward

- **Queenborough and Rushenden, Isle of Sheppey** (www.qrregen.co.uk). The Queenborough & Rushenden Regeneration project will breathe new life into the Isle of Sheppey, a unique area situated at the very heart of Thames Gateway in North Kent. The project aims to create a vibrant environment in which to live and work, combining superb new transport links, hundreds of employment opportunities, community and leisure facilities, environmental improvements and new housing.

Kent Thameside

(www.kent-thameside.co.uk)

SEEDA schemes in Kent Thameside are:

- **Northfleet Embankment East.** A regeneration project providing homes, community facilities and a commercial centre.
- **Dartford Town Centre and Northern Gateway .** A regeneration project for this area.
- **Swanscombe, North East Gravesend.** Initial investigations are underway to explore its potential as a regeneration site.

Medway Renaissance

- **Rochester Riverside, Medway** (www.medwayrenaissance.com). A 15 year regeneration programme now entering its delivery phase to turn Medway into a thriving river city.
- **Chatham Maritime, Medway** (www.chatham-maritime.co.uk or www.medwayrenaissance.com). Since 1999 SEEDA has been working to turn this site into a mixed-use flagship development in the heart of the Thames Gateway, combining investment in business, leisure and residential facilities to deliver the local community a sustainable lifestyle and to date in excess of £500 million of public and private funds have been invested in Chatham Maritime.

Tourism

Tourism South East receives a core grant from SEEDA and has a programme of helping Local Authorities in the region to prepare their regeneration proposals e.g. Camber Sands, Dover, Herne Bay, Ramsgate, Margate.

Sea Change

Sea Change places culture at the heart of regenerating England's seaside resorts by investing in arts, public space, cultural assets and heritage projects. SEEDA is one of the partners working with the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment on Sea Change in the South East. Details of Sea Change can be found on www.cabe.org.uk.

3. Zero Waste region sounds interesting: what are the specific plans for delivery? Also the Renewable Energy project and the Business Efficiency Programme?

Zero Waste

The Pathway to Zero Waste Initiative is referred to in SEEDA's corporate plan 2008-2011, on page 20 (available on SEEDA's website at www.seeda.co.uk/Corporate_Plan_2008-2011/).

The aim of the initiative is to minimise the disposal of waste to landfill in the SE region as quickly as possible. The initiative will in the first instance address construction waste, food and wood, as they are high volume wastes that currently have low economic value.

The initiative involves national, regional and local partners. The Environment Agency; the Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) have joined with SEEDA along with other regional networks in particular the National Industrial Symbiosis Programme (NISP), the Improvement and Efficiency South East (IESE) (a regional centre of excellence for Local Government), Envirobusiness, and the South East Centre for the Built Environment (SECBE).

All partners will pool their resources and show how a coordinated programme can create the changes needed. IESE will provide a critical conduit to local authorities who - along with industry - will also be key delivery partners in the achievement of the initiative's objectives.

A small programme team supports the initiative and is finalising a business plan which will be made available on the partners' website in due course.

Renewable energy

SEEDA's approach to renewable energy is set out in a paper taken by the SEEDA Board on 22 July 2008, as Item 5; this paper can be found on SEEDA's website under 'SEEDA Board minutes' on the front page of the website (www.seeda.co.uk/About_SEEDA/Board_Members/Board_Meetings/papers/July_2008/Item5-EnergyBoardPaper220708.doc)

A copy of the paper is attached.

Business efficiency

SEEDA's programme of support on business resource efficiency is to help business to save money through effective management of resources including energy, water, transport and waste. A key objective is to embed environmental sustainability within the business ethos, for example through sustainable procurement - encouraging large public and private companies to specify environmental standards when tendering for work. The main route for support is via the Business Link website (www.businesslink.gov.uk/) or by calling the Helpline on 0845 600 9 006.