

**ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE & COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
PANEL
8 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN – PROGRESS REPORT
TEAM MANAGER: CLIMATE CHANGE**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report sets out the progress achieved to date in the implementation of the Council's Carbon Management Plan by the Carbon Management Project Team.

2. SUGGESTED ACTION

- 2.1 **That this progress report be noted**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 In October 2008, the Council adopted its first Climate Change Action Plan, including an early action to participate in the Carbon Trust's 2008/09 Local Authority Carbon Management Programme. The resultant Carbon Management Plan was adopted by Council in June 2009.
- 3.2 The Carbon Management Plan sets a challenging target of reducing the Council's carbon dioxide emissions by 25% by 2012/13 from a 2007/08 baseline, with a value at stake of £4,107,225 compared to the "business as usual" scenario.
- 3.3 Table 4.2 shows planned and funded projects for 2008/09. Many of these were implemented late 2008/09 or early 2009/10, from which time their actual carbon dioxide savings will be realised.
- 3.4 Winter 2008/09 was the coldest for years, resulting in a higher number of "degree days" when heating is required to maintain comfort in buildings. Taking degree days into account, energy consumption in buildings, including schools, reduced by 3.5% in 2008/09.
- 3.5 It should be noted that 2008/09 is the baseline year for national performance indicator NI185: carbon dioxide reduction from LA operations. Projects implemented in 2008/09 will realise carbon dioxide savings in 2009/10, favouring NI185.
- 3.6 Table 4.3 shows near-term projects due for implementation in 2009/10. Good progress is being made with these.
- 3.7 Delay to the Civic Hub has created a risk to our carbon reduction targets. Energy efficiency improvements may be required in Easthampstead House and Seymour House once utilisation planning is completed.
- 3.8 School energy efficiency improvements remain a challenge due to their autonomous funding and management arrangements. When the Carbon

Reduction Commitment cap and trade scheme commences in 2010, school carbon emissions will be included in Council emissions at a cost to the Council. Changes to the Council's invest to save scheme, currently under review, may be necessary to incentivise schools to participate.

Contact for further information

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