

REPORT TO CABINET

REPORT OF: CORPORATE HEAD – HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

REPORT NO: ENV 453

DATE: 5th OCTOBER 2009

TITLE:	UPDATE TO CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN	
KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:	key decision	
PORTFOLIO HOLDER: NAME AND DESIGNATION:	COUNCILOR JOHN SMITH HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT	
CONTACT OFFICER:	MICHAEL RICKARD	
INITIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Equality and Diversity	Completed in 2008 on initial plan	Full impact assessment Required: No
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:	This report is publicly available via the Local Democracy link on the Council's website: www.southkesteven.gov.uk	
BACKGROUND PAPERS	Revised (Aug 2009) two part Carbon Management Plan attached.	

1. RECOMMENDATION

a) That delegated authority be given to the portfolio holder for Healthy Environment to approve any further changes to the Carbon Management Plan .

2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report is an update to the report (ENV 415) presented and approved by Cabinet on 6th October 2008. The report explains the reasons why the Carbon Management Plan (CMP) has been updated together with the specific details of the changes made. Exclusions to the report scope are detailed together with actions taken and those already planned.

The CMP was presented to the Communities Policy Development Group on the 17 September. At that meeting, the Group suggested that consideration should be given for a longer term 'payback' periods for projects and actions that are deemed to reduce carbon emissions.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

3.1 CMP format:

The South Kesteven District Council CMP is made up of two distinct parts;

- The Carbon Management Plan
- Technical Guide to the Carbon Management Plan

An initial baseline was developed last year using the framework set out by the Carbon Trust. At that point in time a 2005/6 baseline was used as it was thought that the national carbon reduction indicators would be based on that timeframe. Following publication of the indicator definitions for NI 185 (% reduction of carbon emissions from local authority operations) and 186 (community carbon emissions) the baseline level of emissions has been revised using the national framework. As a result of this change the CMP has been updated, although it remains in a similar format.

3.3 CMP Baseline changes made:

	2005/06	2008/09	Increase	Change	Notes
Buildings	4,609	6,035	1,426	31%	1
Street lighting	372	586	214	58%	2
Fleet	1,414	2,036	622	44%	3
Commute	351	0	-351	n/a	4
Waste	22	22	0	0%	
Water	6	6	0	0%	5
Total	6,774	8,685	1,911	28%	

Notes:

The 2008/09 baseline shows an overall increase of 1,911 tonnes (28%) of CO₂ over the 2005/06, giving a revised baseline figure of 8,685 tonnes.

DEFRA guidance states that the 2008/09 baseline stands for 2 years, with a reduction target for the authority over the three year process of 12.5% (1,086 tonnes of CO₂).

1. There is a 31% increase in energy from our buildings (heating & lighting). 6% of this increase is due to the inclusion of degree days in the calculation which allows accurate monitoring of year on year performance even if one year's average weather differs significantly to another. There has also been an increase from 30 to 35 buildings included within the data, although this only accounts for an extra 12 tonnes of CO₂. More accurate monitoring by the leisure centres has contributed a large proportion of the remaining increase.
2. The Council's street lighting supply has have been reviewed and the increase is a reflection of the outcome of that review.
3. Additional vehicles (total now 147) have been included in the new dataset since the 2005/06 survey was completed. An extra 199 tonnes (14%) is from the inclusion of external contractors and travel from cultural services acts. The changes in pool cars and fleet totals are due to a more accurate definition of the vehicles within the fleet category.
4. Following consideration of national guidance commute data has been removed from the baseline, this is due to a poor level of accuracy measurement and concerns over future comparisons. (A travel plan for SKDC is being considered, so

action to reduce emissions will still occur, although not measured directly through this mechanism).

5. There is no change to the data for waste and water, which combined, only account for 28 tonnes (0.3%) of the total emissions.

3.4 Actions taken so far to reduce carbon emissions

Actions which aim to reduce the Council's use of energy are fully incorporated within the Quality Organisation priority theme. The following initiatives have been put in place to work towards our reduction targets:

- A "switch it off" campaign has been run within the main Council buildings
- Recycling of office waste rates (now running at 60%).
- The fleet of pool cars is currently being upgraded from Renault Clio's to Citroen C1's; so far 10 of the 21 cars have been changed, each leading to a 20% reduction in CO₂ emissions for every mile that is travelled.
- The corridor lighting within St. Peters Hill is being replaced with lower wattage bulbs and where possible single bulbs replacing paired bulbs together with more PIR detectors being implemented.
- IT have trialed an automatic computer switch off system that will power down any PC / monitor left on accidentally overnight and then re-power them the following morning.

3.5 Planned actions

The CMP contains a range of actions on transport, energy use, waste reduction and procurement. The following bullet points summarise a range of initiatives which will provide the short-term focus for work on this area:

- The Council has signed up to the three month carbon management programme run by the Carbon Trust and fully funded by the East Midlands Improvement & Efficiency Partnership. This programme started mid -September and will be used to support the integration of the CMP into the core policies and processes of the Council to maximise opportunities to reduce both running costs and carbon emissions.
- Upgrade of the heating system is being planned across St. Peters Hill, with the boilers being replaced with more energy efficient ones together with proposed improvements to the controllability of the individual office heating system and where possible to the air quality and air circulation within the building. A review of the potential benefits of solar water heating/electricity generation will also be included in this work.
- Voltage optimisers are being sized and costed for seven of our own buildings, together with both Grantham car parks and the four leisure centres. Potential savings are considerable, particularly through the Leisure Connection sport centres, which account for 55% of our total electricity consumption. The

optimisers are fully compliant with Salix financing meaning no capital outlay is required to implement the solutions, although careful arrangements will need to be put in place with the external Leisure Connections contract.

- Investment in pool covers for the Grantham and Deepings swimming pools.
- Working with the accessibility team at Lincolnshire County Council to write a travel plan for SKDC, which is hoped, will reduce the environmental impact of staff commuting into work.
- There are plans to introduce a staff network throughout the organisations to help reduce our emissions on a day to day, office by office basis. This team will help to disseminate provided information to all staff and report back new ideas for future planning, good performance for reward and not so good performance for action.

3.5 Exclusions to the CMP

In addition to the removal of the commute data (note 4 of section 3.3) the CMP does not include any heating or lighting from our housing stock. This decision is based on guidance from DEFRA and enables comparisons to be made between authorities and will not be influenced by the ownership of social housing within their districts. Mileage incurred through the on-going maintenance of the building stock (Repairs & Improvement team activity) is included within the transport data figures.

The energy efficiency performance of the Council's housing is an important element in the recently completed stock condition survey. Following evaluation of the data consideration will be given to the need for specific measures to improve performance and so reduce the cost of energy consumption for Council tenants. These measures will be included in the future Housing Asset Management Plan.

4. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The only alternative option open to South Kesteven was to proceed with the original CMP utilising the 2005/06 baseline. After a full review of the CMP and its baseline together with consultation across key services within the Council it was decided to proceed with the updating of the CMP baseline. External consultation with fellow district authorities and the County Council has confirmed this course of action to be inline with DEFRA guidance and a joint Lincolnshire approach.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The actions contained in the Carbon Management Plan are deliverable with existing revenue and capital budget allocations. Going forward new opportunities may develop which could lead to additional funding being required however these will be supported by a business case as required.

6. RISK AND MITIGATION (INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND DATA QUALITY)

Delivery of the actions within the Carbon Management Plan is being monitored by a corporate team comprising corporate heads and a member of the strategic management team. The objectives within this plan form part of the Council's overall approach to improving its use of resources and are included in the Quality Organisation priority theme. Progress with these objectives will be reported through the performance management framework and local area agreement performance processes.

7. ISSUES ARISING FROM EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An equality impact assessment was carried out as part of the development of the original CMP. The review recently carried out has not resulted in any significant changes and as such indicates that a detailed assessment is not required.

8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

9. COMMENTS OF SECTION 151 OFFICER

The Carbon Management Plan will include financial implications which may impact from both a positive and negative perspective on the Council's overall financial position. It is important any proposals that require a financial contribution in advance are demonstrated in a business case that set out any 'invest to save' elements. Other initiatives that show a positive financial saving to the authority must be captured and incorporated into the budget setting process.

10. COMMENTS OF MONITORING OFFICER

The original Carbon Management Plan (CMP) was based on data from a survey undertaken by the Carbon Trust. From that the 2005/06 baseline was established. I understand from the report writer that the suggested revised baseline of 2008/09 is based on DEFRA guidance that relies on more comprehensive and accurate data that in turn provides a more accurate baseline. It is important that any baseline from which future emissions are to be measured is as accurate as possible. The revised CMP will, therefore, assist in providing a more accurate measure of the carbon emissions of this Council in the areas identified in the report. It will also affect how we manage assets owned by the Council and must be taken into account in the Asset Management Plan. All service managers should be consulted on any revised plan.

11. APPENDICES:

- 1 Revised Carbon Management Plan
- 2 Revised Technical Guide to the Carbon Management Plan