

REPORT TO: CABINET

DATE: 18 JULY 2019

TITLE: CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: COUNCILLOR DANNY PURTON, PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ENVIRONMENT

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This is not a Key Decision
It is on the Forward Plan as Decision Number I010338
Call-in Procedures may apply
This decision will affect no ward specifically.

RECOMMENDED that:

- A** The Council extends its Carbon Management Plan until the end of 2021/22, unless the target is reached prior to this date.

REASON FOR DECISION

- A** There is a risk that the Council will not achieve its target until the end of 2021/22 if identified projects are not completed on time.

BACKGROUND

1. In March 2016, Cabinet agreed to adopt Harlow Council's Carbon Management Plan 2016-2021 which set the Council a target to reduce its carbon emissions by 25 per cent from its 2014/15 baseline emissions of 2,700,000 kilogrammes (2,700 tonnes), the equivalent to 675 tonnes.
2. The Carbon Management Plan had identified a number of projects to help deliver a projected reduction of 198 tonnes of CO₂ emissions and that officers would identify further projects to provide additional reductions of 477 tonnes.

3. A number of additional projects to help deliver the remaining emissions reductions were identified as part of energy audits commissioned in late 2017. The energy audits were conducted on the Council's operational buildings that form part of the carbon emissions reporting process.

ISSUES/PROPOSALS

4. At the end of 2018/19, the Council has achieved CO₂ emissions reductions of 12.93 per cent, the equivalent of 349 tonnes. It has achieved these savings primarily through behavioural changes and the introduction of projects outside of the Carbon Management Plan. Additionally, some of these reductions can be attributed to warmer than average weather conditions.
5. Whilst the Council has achieved 349 tonnes of CO₂ emissions reductions, there is still a reduction of 326 tonnes remaining in order to achieve the target.
6. Officers have sought to implement a programme of carbon reduction projects, following the energy audits carried out in late 2017. The projects are estimated to deliver estimated CO₂ savings of 364 tonnes. This would see the Council achieve its target CO₂ reduction of 675 tonnes. The projects identified are listed below:

Table 1 - CO₂ Reduction Projects

| Projects | Estimated CO₂ reductions per year (tonnes) | Project delivery year |
|--|--|------------------------------|
| Latton Bush Centre – Boiler Replacements | 77.7 | End of 2019/20 |
| Civic Centre – LED Lighting | 30.7 | End of 2019/20 |
| Leah Manning Centre – Boiler Replacement | Unknown | End of 2020/21 |
| Mead Park Depot – Boiler Replacement | 49 | End of 2020/21 |
| Harlow Playhouse – Boiler Replacement | 36.8 | End of 2020/21 |
| Latton Bush Centre – LED Lighting * | 76 | End of 2020/21 |
| Solar PV Panels for Civic Centre, Latton Bush Centre and Mead Park Depot** | 93.3 | End of 2020/21 |
| Total | 363.5 | |

* Subject to approved capital funding to be placed by September 2019.

** Subject to feasibility studies and approved capital funding (bids to be placed by September 2019).

7. The projects identified have the ability to be delivered by the end of the Carbon Management Plan in 2021. However, CO₂ emissions reductions for those projects with anticipated delivery of 2021 will not be realised until the end of 2022. Therefore, there is a risk that the Council will not achieve its target until the end of 2022. Based on this, it is recommended that the Council extends its Carbon Management Plan until the end of 2021/22, unless the target is reached prior to this date.
8. Furthermore, some projects are subject to positive feasibility studies and capital funding bids being accepted. Those which are not considered feasible or do not receive capital funding approval, will negatively impact the Council achieving its target.
9. In addition to this, the Council's operational fleet, made up of the Council, HTS and Veolia vehicles is estimated to total 50 per cent of the Council's carbon emissions. No projects have been identified, to date, to reduce fleet emissions. However, the Council continue to work with stakeholders to implement plans to encourage the use of lower emitting vehicles in order to reduce carbon emissions. As an example, Veolia have introduced new fleet as part of the new waste contract that began on 1 April 2019. The fleet has been procured to the latest Euro VI standards, with an anticipated three hybrid vehicles being in operation by July 2019. These vehicles will be utilised for the life of the waste contract, ending in 2029.

IMPLICATIONS

Place (Includes Sustainability)

The Carbon Management Plan and its objectives are clearly demonstrating the Council's continued commitment to achieving practical and tangible sustainability outcomes.

Author: Simon Freeman, Head of Finance and Deputy to the Managing Director

Finance (Includes ICT)

It is currently envisaged that the proposed projects will be funded in the main through the non-housing capital programme and that where scheme funding is not already allocated bids will be progressed as part of the capital programme refresh later in the 2019/20 financial year through the normal annual budget processes.

Author: Simon Freeman, Head of Finance and Deputy to the Managing Director

Housing

As outlined in the report.

Author: Andrew Murray, Head of Housing

Community Wellbeing (Includes Equalities and Social Inclusion)

None specific.

Author: Jane Greer, Head of Community Wellbeing

Governance (Includes HR)

As outlined in the report.

Author: Simon Hill, Head of Governance

Appendices

None.

Background Papers

None.

Glossary of terms/abbreviations used

None.