

REPORT TO: CABINET

DATE: 31 MARCH 2016

TITLE: CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN 2016/2021

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: COUNCILLOR MARK WILKINSON

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This is a Key Decision

It is on the Forward Work Plan as Decision No. I004928

This decision may be subject to Call-in procedures.

This decision will affect no ward specifically.

RECOMMENDED that:

- A** The Carbon Management Plan 2016/2021 is adopted.
- B** The Carbon Management Plan is reviewed in 2018.

REASON FOR DECISION

- A** The Council has prioritised a clean and green environment and in achieving this will also tackle the increased financial pressure from predicted energy price increases and threat of climate change. This second iteration of the Carbon Management Plan takes the Council's strategy forward from April 2016 and ensures continuity of activity towards carbon reduction.
- B** Failure to act on reducing carbon emissions would lead to the Council incurring additional cumulative expenditure of £357,000 for the same period 2016-2021 based on 'business as usual' increases in usage against a reduced emissions scenario.

BACKGROUND

1. In 2010 the Council participated in the Carbon Trust's Local Authority Carbon Management Programme which provided the Council with relevant support and guidance on carbon reduction. A team of Officers within the Council were

involved in the Programme which created the Council's first Carbon Management Plan in 2011 and resulted in a number of actions being implemented across a spectrum of Council activities and set a target of reducing operational carbon emissions by 25% by 2015/16. By 2014/15 this target had already been achieved.

2. The Carbon Management Plan sets out the Council's strategy for its carbon reduction over the next five years. The Plan identifies the Council's current carbon emissions and how the Council wishes to improve upon this by setting new targets and objectives for five years going forward.
3. The identified reduction projects includes some which were contained but not implemented in the previous Carbon Management Plan 2011-2016 and also newly identified projects. All of the projects will be subject to an individual appraisal (both carbon and financial) before implementation to ensure that the estimated costs and arising reductions are affordable and maximise reduction. Further projects will need to be identified to meet the target reduction. Therefore, it is recommended that a further report is made to Cabinet in 2018 on this and the target achieved.
4. The updated Carbon Management Plan does not include actions on the Council's housing stock, as energy saving actions and introduction of more efficient technologies are now included within the Housing Asset Management Strategy. Improvements to the energy efficiency of the Council's housing stock are discussed regularly by Housing Officers. Energy savings and information around fuel poverty can be found in the latest Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) report. The reason for not including Council housing related projects within this Carbon Management Plan is to avoid duplication with existing Housing Services specific projects being implemented elsewhere. A report in 2015/16 has separately identified the current energy performance of the Housing portfolio and has targeted where improvements need to be made to meet current Government guidelines.

TARGET FOR 2021

5. The updated baseline figure for 2015 consumption will enable the Council to measure savings against the Carbon Management Plan. The Plan recommends that a challenging target is set for five years. A target of 25% reduction has therefore been set based on the savings that have been achieved from the original Carbon Management Plan 2011/2016.

IMPLICATIONS

Place (includes Sustainability)

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

Author: **Graeme Bloomer, Head of Place**

Finance (Includes ICT)

It is currently envisaged that the proposed work plan will be funded in the main through the Environment Reserve. Detailed financial appraisals of all projects will be undertaken as the project progresses and where necessary additional revenue and/or capital bids will be made through the normal annual budget processes.

Author: **Simon Freeman, Head of Finance**

Housing

Energy efficiency is a key asset management priority for Housing Services. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business plan short, medium term and long term priorities reflect the requirement for improving energy efficiency, reducing carbon emissions and tackling fuel poverty.

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)

None specific

Author: **Brian Keane, Head of Governance**

Background Papers

None