

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET – 21 NOVEMBER 2007

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL CARBON MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Report by the Executive Head of Finance and Asset Management

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the East Ayrshire Council Carbon Management Programme Strategy and Implementation Plan.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In June 2006, the Council entered an agreement with the Carbon Trust to participate in the Local Authority Carbon Management Programme. The Strategy and Implementation Plan (SIP) is the guiding document in achieving the Council's carbon reduction targets.
- 2.2 The Carbon Trust is a private company set up by the government in response to the threat of climate change, to accelerate the transition to a low carbon economy. The Carbon Trust provides councils with support and guidance to cut carbon emissions and capture energy savings.
- 2.3 The Local Authority Carbon Management programme is designed to deliver improved energy management to reduce emissions under the direct control of the local authority such as buildings, vehicle fleets, street-lighting and landfill sites.
- 2.4 It also provides practical support to organisations by helping them identify carbon saving opportunities, providing tools to analyse energy consumption and delivering workshop support for staff and senior managers to enable them to embed carbon management into the day to day business of the council.

3 CARBON MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- 3.1 The Carbon Management Programme Strategy and Implementation Plan is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 Participation in the Carbon Trust's Local Authority Carbon Management Programme has enabled the Council to quantify its carbon emissions and develop a clear plan of action.
- 3.3 The plan outlines the Council focus on four themes:
- Reducing the environmental impact of the council's energy consumption.
 - Reducing the environmental impact of the council's vehicle fleet.

- Reducing the environmental impact of landfill by reducing and recycling of the councils waste.
- Reducing the environmental impact of street lighting

3.4 An action plan has been developed ranging from short term, low cost measures to projects requiring significant investment and implementation time.

3.5 The baseline position in 2004-05 has been used for the calculation of the Council's carbon emission. This has been calculated as 19,119 tonnes of CO₂, including an allowance for 50% of the Council's electricity supply being from renewable sources. It is estimated that East Ayrshire Council's energy related carbon emissions could increase by 21.6% between 2004-05 and 2009-10. However the Council's target is to reduce its combined energy and waste carbon emission by 10% by 2010.

3.6 Failure to take action could see energy related cost rise to £5.908M by 2010 from a base of £2.732M in 2004/05. The actions proposed have the potential to reduce the energy related cost for 2009-10 by £1.036M.

3.7 The actions proposed in the Carbon Management Programme Strategy and Implementation Plan (SIP) will result in benefit to the Council and could be used as a springboard to influence change in the wider community. The Council recognises the need to be visionary and proactive with regard to carbon reduction.

4 EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE – GALSTON PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

4.1 East Ayrshire Council awarded a £7.2m contract to Barr Construction Ltd for the construction of a new Primary and Nursery School in Galston. Work started in February 2007 with completion scheduled for summer 2008.

4.2 The school will be one of the most modern design concepts in the UK incorporating a number renewable energy features ensuring a low carbon footprint. Systems will be installed into the school to monitor energy use and energy generation thus giving children the opportunity to learn first-hand about sustainability and environmental issues.

4.3 The environmentally-friendly features to reduce the environmental impact of the school and demonstrate the Council's commitment to the principles of energy efficiency, conservation and sustainable development include:

- A ground source heat pump for space heating, minimising gas consumption
- Solar cells and wind turbine for on site generation of electricity.
- A well insulated structure designed to minimise both heat loss in winter and solar gain in summer
- Long life, low energy and enhanced controlled lighting installation
- A grey water storage facility to recycle rain water.

5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal implications.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The financial implications are outlined in Section 5 of the Strategy and Implementation Plan (See Appendix 1).

7 COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The East Ayrshire Council Carbon Management Programme Strategy and Implementation Plan addresses the issues of energy efficiency, conservation and sustainable development, which are key principals of the Improving the Environment theme of the East Ayrshire Community Plan.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that members

- (i) Approve the East Ayrshire Council Carbon Management Programme Strategy and Implementation Plan.

Alex McPhee
Executive Head of Finance and Asset Management

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

For further information please contact John Bryson Acting Technical Services Manager on 01563 555495.