

Report of	Meeting	Date
Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) and Corporate Director (Business) (Introduced by the Executive Member (Policy and Performance) and the Executive Member (Business))	Executive Cabinet	1 October 2009

## **PROGRESS UPDATE ON THE FIRST YEAR OF THE COUNCIL'S CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To update Members on the progress that has been made on delivering the first year of the council's climate change action plan, and to set out what actions need to be taken next year to achieve Level 2 of NI 188 (Planning to adapt for climate change).

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2. Members are asked to note the content of the report and approve the actions put forward to achieve Level 2 of NI 188.
3. To support the virement of £90,000 from the under utilized grants schemes for local businesses to support the the delivery of a combined heat and power source at All Seasons Leisure Centre.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT**

4. The Council is progressing well in the delivery of the first year of its Climate Change Action Plan. We were assessed as being at Level 1 of the national standard for 'Planning to Adapt to climate change' and have made excellent progress in establishing baseline information on how much and what type of energy we use, and how this impacts on Chorley's carbon footprint.

In order to reach Level 2 of this indicator, we need to be influencing our LSP partners to carry out risk assessments on the effects of extreme weather conditions on local services.

We have also made progress in reducing our energy usage and are currently developing a staff travel plan which will aim to cut our carbon footprint by introducing staff car share schemes, bike to work initiatives, more fuel efficient transport, etc.

## CORPORATE PRIORITIES

5. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region		Develop local solutions to climate change.	X
Improving equality of opportunity and life chances		Develop the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live	
Involving people in their communities		Ensure Chorley Borough Council is a performing organization	

## BACKGROUND

6. In 2008/9, the council published its climate change action plan, which detailed how we intended to reduce our impact on the environment (our 'carbon footprint') through our activities and energy usage. The strategy was produced alongside the Local Strategic Partnership's commitment to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions significantly over the next ten years. It details how, through our community leadership role, we will promote the climate change agenda throughout service delivery to the residents and businesses of Chorley.

Chorley Council has a number of national indicators around climate change which it must demonstrate continual improvement against. These are:

- NI 185 (CO<sub>2</sub> reduction from local authority operations)
- NI 187 (Tackling fuel poverty)
- NI 188 (Planning to adapt to climate change)
- NI 189 (Flood risk management)
- NI 192 (Household waste recycled and composted)
- NI 194 (Improved air quality through local authority's estate and operations)

As a member of the Local Strategic Partnership, we also have a commitment to the following targets:

- NI 186 (Reduction in overall CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the local authority area)
- Local indicator: Reduction in residential CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

The action plan was formulated to ensure the council achieves these targets. This report is an update on our progress over the first year of the plan.

## PROGRESS AGAINST ACTIONS

7. We have made good progress in the delivery of the climate change action plan. Notable achievements include:

### Target Setting

- Targets agreed with LSP Partners on the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Chorley
- Baselines now established on how much energy we use throughout the council to enable us to set targets for 20% reduction by 2020.

## **Energy efficiency measures**

- Since January 2009, Chorley Council and EAGA our Energy partner have carried out loft and cavity wall insulation at approximately 500 properties. This project has been mainly targeted at the most deprived wards within the borough Chorley South West, Clayton le Woods North, Chorley East and Chorley North East. The scheme will be widened to other areas of the borough this year.
- Undertaken energy efficiency audits on council office buildings and identified efficiency measures that will be put in place in the coming year through an energy management plan.
- Through the LSP, we are working with Groundwork and residents in rural off-gas network villages to explore community energy sources to reduce energy costs and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- In partnership with our leisure provider, we have undertaken a feasibility study of using combined heat and power at All Seasons Leisure Centre. When implemented, it will lead to savings of up to £40,000 per year and 99 tonnes of carbon.
- Helped 31 companies undertake energy audits to identify areas for improvements. We have also made £60k p.a. available in grants to local businesses to help them make energy improvements.
- Continued to provide Warm Front grants to householders so they can make energy efficiency improvements to their homes.

## **Travel**

- Green staff travel plan currently being produced, including establishing a picture of staff journeys to work, business commuting and fleet travel to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Data collected for fleet and business travel to set targets for reduction for next year.




## **Sustainable Development**

- Sustainable Resources Development plan now in place which promotes sustainable development in Chorley through reducing carbon emissions, managing water supplies; the use of construction materials; encouraging waste recycling and the promotion of renewable energy capture.

## **Procurement**

- Sustainable procurement policy developed ensures that sustainability is a criteria when selecting tenders for the provision of council contracts.
- Authority on track to achieve Level 2 of the National Action Plan Framework for Sustainable Procurement by April 2010.



## PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS

INDICATOR	BASELINE 2007/8	TARGET 2008/9	PERFORMANCE 2008/9	STATUS
NI 185 (CO <sub>2</sub> reduction from local authority operations)	N/A	2008/9 was the baseline year	2836 tonnes	-
NI 187 (Tackling fuel poverty)	N/A	2008/9 was the baseline year	4.26%	-
NI 188 (Planning to adapt to climate change)	Level 0	Level 1	Level 1	
NI 189 (Flood risk management)	N/A	100%	100%	
NI 192 (Household waste recycled and composted)	47.19%	48%	48.43%	
NI 194 (Improved air quality through local authority's estate and operations)	N/A	2008/9 was the baseline year	6,459 kg of Nox* 349 kg of PM10**	-

\*NO<sub>x</sub> = Nitrous Oxide

\*\*PM10 = Vehicle particular matter (exhaust emissions)

## CHORLEY PARTNERSHIP TARGETS

INDICATOR	BASELINE 2005*	TARGET 2010	PERFORMANCE 2007**	STATUS
NI 186 (Reduction in overall CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in the local authority area)	5.6 tonnes per capita	5.04 tonnes per capita	5.7 tonnes per capita	
LI: (Reduction in residential CO <sub>2</sub> emissions)	2.6 tonnes per capita	2.32 tonnes per capita	2.6 tonnes per capita	

\* Data re-released by DEFRA in November 2007

\*\* Data released by DEFRA in November 2008

## NEXT STEPS

We have already delivered a lot of the actions in the climate change action plan through working towards Level 1 of NI 188 (Planning to adapt to climate change). In order to achieve Level 2, we need to undertake the following activity by April 2009:

- Undertake a detailed risk assessment of extreme weather conditions and prioritise the options for adaptation
- Start the process of implementing high priority 'quick win' actions
- Find out what has been done across the partner organisations on the LSP in Chorley to take into account adaptations to services that could be made to mitigate the impact of extreme weather conditions
- Involve LSP partners in the council's plans for adaptation of services
- Refresh action plan for 2009/10 to ensure actions are attributed to lead officers with timescales for completion.

## IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

8. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Corporate Directors' comments are included:

Finance	x	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		No significant implications in this area	

## COMMENTS OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION)

9. The Council committed in its Capital Programme funds to enable the grants schemes towards local businesses making their operations environmentally friendly. To date however, take up of the offer whereby 50% of the costs of schemes were met by the grant has been limited, probably due to the current recession. As such I now propose to recycle these funds into other schemes as outlined in this report. The feasibility study at All Seasons Leisure Centre requires funding and it is proposed that £90k is vired from the grants budget to this scheme to cover the implementation costs, making the Council the requisite revenue saving as well as achieving significant carbon reduction. The work to make the Councils Admin buildings more energy efficient is currently out to tender and I anticipate that the work should start and be completed within the next 6 to 8 weeks.

LESLEY-ANN FENTON AND JANE MEEK

ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (POLICY AND PERFORMANCE) AND CORPORATE DIRECTOR (BUSINESS).

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Claire Thompson	5348	8 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2009	