

# **Supplementary Committee Agenda**



## **Safer, Cleaner, Greener Scrutiny Standing Panel Tuesday, 10th July, 2012**

**Place:** Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping

**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Committee Secretary:** Adrian Hendry, Office of the Chief Executive  
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### **10.a Environmental Matters Update (Pages 3 - 6)**

(Planning and Economic Development) To consider the attached report.

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## SCRUTINY



### **Report to Safer Cleaner Greener Standing Panel**

**Date of meeting: 10 July 2012**

**Subject: Environmental Matters**

**Officer contact for further information:** Sarah Creitzman

**Committee Secretary:** A Hendry

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#### **Recommendations/Decisions Required:**

**That the Panel note the work of the Environmental Co-ordinator on the matters set out in the report.**

#### **Report:**

##### **Office Waste Recycling**

1. As mentioned in previous updates, the Green Corporate Working Party instigated a review of the Council's commercial waste disposal arrangements and it was found that all waste from the Civic Offices compactor is sent directly to landfill.
2. To ensure that Civic Offices commercial waste is recycled in future, a trial exercise was due to take place using specially designated food waste bins. Separating the food would decontaminate the Council's office waste and make it suitable for recycling by SITA. Unfortunately there has been no progress reported to the Green Corporate Working Party in this area for several months.

##### **Carbon Strategy Update/Nottingham Declaration**

3. The initial draft of the carbon strategy has been completed, covering the Council's energy use, greenhouse gas emissions and carbon reduction targets for the future. However, it is now being considered that this strategy could be written to encompass two other main streams of 'green' work within the Council; Countrycare and the Green Infrastructure. Discussions are underway to identify the best way of amalgamating the three areas into a comprehensive strategy with realistic goals for the Council to work towards.
4. Simultaneously, the Nottingham Declaration, which was signed by this Council and many others in 2007, has been replaced by the 'Climate Local Agreement'. The agreement differs from the original Nottingham Declaration by giving local authorities the opportunity to sign up to a number of strong pledges, but to create their own more specific goals with regards to reducing and off-setting carbon emissions. This will provide a helpful structure to guide the aims and objectives for the new carbon strategy. A copy of the Climate Local Agreement is attached.

## Measuring and Reporting the Council's Greenhouse Gas Emissions

5. As per last year's request to councils by the Department for Energy and Climate Change, the Environmental Co-ordinator collates data from energy and fuel records each financial year and converts them into emissions values using a calculator tool. Data is taken from the following sources:

<b>Data</b>	<b>Source</b>
Casual and Essential car mileage	HR mileage claim records
Lease car mileage	HR mileage claim records
Litres of fuel purchased from fuel cards for fleet vehicles and machinery.	Paper invoices for fuel-card payments showing litres and type of fuel purchased.
Electricity and gas use in Council Operational Buildings	Facilities Management energy data spreadsheets. Data is from the 5 largest Council-owned buildings showing use in kilowatt hours (KWh). The spreadsheets are collated from bills, mainly estimated.

6. Reporting of the Council's greenhouse gas emissions is continuing into its second year and will shortly be made available to staff and the general public for viewing on the new website.

**Reason for decision:**

**Options considered and rejected:**

**Consultation undertaken:**

**Resource implications:**

Budget provision:

Personnel:

Land:

Community Plan/BVPP reference:

Relevant statutory powers:

Background papers:

Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act Implications:

Key Decision reference: (if required)

# Climate Local [insert council(s) name]:

## Our commitment to taking action in a changing climate

We recognise that our council has an important role to help our residents and businesses to capture the opportunities and benefits of action on climate change. These include saving money on energy bills, generating income from renewable energy, attracting new jobs and investment in 'green' industries, supporting new sources of energy, managing local flood-risk and water scarcity and protecting our natural environment.

**We will progressively address the risks and pursue the opportunities presented by a changing climate, inline with local priorities, through our role as:**

- Community leader – helping local people and businesses to be smarter about their energy use and to prepare for climate impacts;
- Service provider – delivering services that are resource efficient, less carbon intensive, resilient and that protect those who are most vulnerable to climate impacts;
- Estate manager – ensuring that our own buildings and operations are resource efficient, use clean energy, and are well prepared for the impacts of a changing climate.

In signing this commitment, **we will:**

- **Set locally-owned and determined commitments** and actions to reduce carbon emissions and to manage climate impacts. These will be specific, measurable and challenging;
- **Publish our commitments, actions and progress**, enabling local communities to hold us to account;
- **Share the learning from our experiences and achievements** with other councils; and
- **Regularly refresh our commitments and actions** to ensure they are current and continue to reflect local priorities.

[Date]
[Name of council or group of councils]
[Signature of Leader or Mayor of Council]

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