

USE OF RESOURCES WORKING PARTY

KLoE Performance Characteristics

(for 2009 Use Of Resources Assessment)

January 2009

MANAGING RESOURCES

KL0E 3.1 IS THE ORGANISATION MAKING EFFECTIVE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES?

1. The council understands and can quantify its use of natural resources and can identify the main influencing factors

Performance Characteristics (Level 2):

The council is developing a strategy to reduce its own use of natural resources and its impact on the environment. The council is gathering information to set a base-line of the natural resources it uses and understands where it can most effectively intervene to reduce its use of natural resources.

The development of its strategy is based on a clear understanding of its own:

- carbon emissions;
- water use; and
- consumption of other resources.

The council shows evidence of working with others across its area in developing its strategy. It is also engaging with its staff and gaining their commitment to and ownership of the council's approach to reducing its impact on the environment. It has identified some initiatives to support its strategy and reduce its impact on the environment. It is producing plans to deliver these initiatives.

Performance Characteristics (Level 3):

The information that the council has on its impacts on the environment is being used to help reduce its use of natural resources. It knows which of its operations produce most carbon and is targeting these areas as a priority.

It has a strategy which shows how it will reduce its own use of natural resources and its impact on the environment. This strategy is supported by delivery plans, for example to address climate change mitigation and adaptation, achieve energy and water efficiency, and optimise the use of renewable resources. Other corporate plans within the council, such as financial or HR plans support the delivery of its strategy. It is working effectively with partners in developing, implementing and monitoring plans.

2. The council manages performance to reduce its impact on the environment

3. The council manages the environmental risks it faces, working effectively with partners

Performance Characteristics (Level 2):

The council is establishing systems and processes to manage its own performance to:

- reduce its use of energy, fuel, water and raw materials through reducing demand and using more efficient approaches or products;
- reduce the waste it produces, and reusing and recycling resources wherever possible; and
- manage habitats to increase biodiversity.

The council is incorporating targets into its arrangements and establishing the systems it needs to monitor progress in achieving these targets.

Performance Characteristics (Level 3):

The council has reliable information (this links with KLOE 2.2) which it uses to monitor its performance and manage progress in achieving its strategy. It is communicating performance against its strategy to the public, stakeholders and staff and engaging effectively with them.

It is making progress in delivering against its strategy, plans and targets. It is reducing its environmental impacts and consumption of natural resources from its operations in line with the targets it has set itself. This progress is spread across the organisation. It has identified the significant environmental risks that could impact on the delivery of its operations.

Sustainability impact appraisals are undertaken for all major projects and programmes. Where assessments show potential negative impacts, the council can demonstrate how it has responded for example, by either changing its policy, mitigating risks or having a plan to manage the effects.

The council considers the environmental impact of its suppliers of goods and services within its commissioning and procurement decisions and is working with them to achieve improvements.

The council is using its partnerships to help it to reduce its own impacts on the environment and preparing for climate change for example, using shared buildings.