

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



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 Simultaneously, the Nottingham Declaration, which was signed by this Council and many others in 2007, has been replaced by the 'Climate Local Agreement'.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:

Data	Source
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)