

GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2011

Carbon Management Programme Update January 2011

Overview

1. Below is a brief summary of the status of the Council's carbon reduction/energy efficiency projects. This update was circulated virtually to the Climate Change Board on 31 January 2011. Overall progress in delivering projects has varied partly due to the review of the capital programme review. The collection of accurate energy data remains to be an issue during 2010/11; however, the current project to install automatic meter readers will resolve this issue from 2011/12 onwards.

Energy Efficiency

Property

2. Further surveys have been undertaken at non-school sites, and a programme of 90 energy savings projects has been drawn up to be delivered from February 2011 to March 2012. Funding for these projects has been allocated in the capital programme.
3. In addition to technical solutions, the surveys identified areas where behavioural change could yield energy savings; discussions between Property Asset Management and Mouchel Parkman are taking place concerning how to encourage these behavioural changes.
4. A business case to fund the installation of renewable energy on the Council's non-school buildings has been incorporated in the capital programme. If successful it will allow 200kw solar panels to be installed in our buildings next financial year.

ICT

5. A desktop virtualisation trial will be held in ICT next financial year. Energy data will be collected before, during and after the trial to determine if the savings are significant enough to warrant a roll out of virtualisation to other offices.
6. A trial will be held in the next financial year on the Council's Multi Function Devise printers (MFDs). The trial will look at the possibility of putting MFDs on an automatic timer which will switch them off over night and back on again in the morning.

Street Lighting

7. The Street Lighting team continue to work on converting lighting columns to part-night lighting. Equipment has been ordered, and plans for the roll-out have been drawn up. However, currently it is unclear if a consultation will

need to be held with residents prior to any part-night implementation; a decision is expected from Highways and Transport shortly.

Eco-Offices

8. Six of the ten offices managed by Facilities Management have action plans to reduce energy use through the eco-offices project. The facilities managers in the buildings are being given one to one support and guidance as to how they can reduce energy consumption.
9. A staff consultation is currently being developed and will be published during climate change week in March. The consultation will inform future work that will enable behavioural changes needed to reduce energy consumption in our buildings.

Travel

10. Anyone who has an Oxfordshire County Council vehicle should now have a fuel card. Discussions have begun to determine how and if it is possible to provide schools with fuel cards for their mini buses. Fuel cards improve our mileage data collection process and provide financial savings.
11. The travel behaviour team are working with the Environment and Climate Change team and Strategic HR to design a programme to support staff to reduce their travel mileage in personal vehicles.

Schools

12. The Schools' Carbon Reduction Strategy has been approved by the Climate Change Board and Schools Forum. To underpin the strategy and its delivery plan a series of initiatives are currently being implemented including:
 - a. 97 schools will be receiving energy surveys between Jan 2011 and March 2011; this will enable more energy saving projects to be identified.
 - b. The first phase of installing automatic meter readers (AMR) has begun, which looks to install meters on 85% of sites. AMRs will capture accurate and timely meter readings, and will allow schools to view their energy use easily.
 - c. An alternative lighting trial that uses LEDs rather than traditional lighting has begun in one school. The trial is being measured and monitored to see if these types of lights can deliver higher energy savings and rolled out to more schools.
 - d. A second trial has begun in another school looking to reduce their energy use from their ICT equipment. Measurements will be taken before and after the trial to determine if savings are made.

Data Collection

13. Data collection for our energy use has proven difficult this year due to the Council's new energy supplier using estimated data. Due to the majority of sites only having access to estimated data, it has not been possible to provide accurate quarterly data. Actions are being taken to ensure meter readings are obtained by March 2011, to ensure accurate reporting of our Carbon Reduction Commitment footprint and the Carbon Management Programme year end report.
14. **The Growth & Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee is invited to note the report and to make comments to Cabinet member.**

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