

Report of the Director of City Strategy

## **Carbon Management Programme – Strategy & Implementation Plan**

### **Summary**

1. The purpose of this report is to present for approval the Strategy and Implementation Plan for the Local Authority Carbon Management Programme. This document sets targets for reduction of carbon dioxide emissions from City of York Council activities and outlines a project structure enabling these targets to be achieved.

### **Background**

2. In April 2007 City of York Council was selected for the Local Authority Carbon Management Programme. This one year programme, run by the Carbon Trust, helps local authorities to measure the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for which they are responsible, to set a target for reducing these emissions and set out an action plan of how this will be achieved.
3. The report 'Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan towards a Climate Change Strategy for the City' dated 11<sup>th</sup> September 2007 outlined the action plan and details the target '*The City of York Council will reduce its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 25% on 2006/07 baseline by 2013*'.
4. The final Strategy and Implementation Plan for approval is attached as Annex A.

### **Consultation**

5. Executive endorsed the Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan towards a Climate Change Strategy for York in September 2007. An update report was received by Executive on 18 December 2007.
6. The Strategy & Implementation Plan has been discussed and approved by the senior officer/member Carbon Management Board. An officer steering panel including representatives from each

directorates have identified the baseline and potential projects to reduce this baseline and has been involved in the development of the SIP. Other officers who will have a major input to the delivery of the programme have also been consulted on the draft SIP.

## Options

7. This is a final report and the option is whether or not to approve the report.
8. If it is approved the project will begin immediately and projects will be instigated in the near future to begin carbon savings. If it is rejected then there will be a delay in starting the programme.

## Analysis

9. Contained in the report attached as Annex A

## Corporate Priorities

- The SIP meets the following corporate and partnership objectives.
- 'Without Walls' – the Community Strategy which provides the sustainable framework for York;
- Corporate Direction Statement – *“We will seek to place environmental sustainability at the heart of everything we do”*
- Corporate Improvement Priority – *“Reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from council activities and encourage, empower and promote others to do the same”*
- Executive sign-up to the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change
- Corporate Value Statement – *“Encouraging Improvement in everything we do”*

## Implications

10. Financial – A budget of £250,000 was approved for inclusion in the 2008/09 capital programme to spend on carbon reduction projects. Match funding is available for building and streetlighting related carbon reduction projects from Salix. An application for Salix will be submitted early in the 2008/09 financial year.
11. Many projects which save carbon dioxide emissions also save money because of reduced energy bills (gas, electricity and fuel). Revenue savings achieved as a result of a project funded from the carbon capital programme will be returned to the carbon fund so that they can be spent on future carbon reduction projects. This mechanism is

a requirement of an application for Salix funding. A majority of the carbon reduction schemes also result in energy savings. Therefore an element of the carbon reduction programme can be self financing. The Executive have two main options in the approach to funding a carbon reduction scheme.

12. Human Resources: - Two new posts will be created: a Carbon Manager and a Data Analyst.. The job description of the currently vacant post of Assistant Sustainability Officer will be rewritten to account for one of the two new posts. It is envisaged that the other post will be funded from Salix.
13. Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder. There are no implications in these areas
14. Property and IT – contained in the report attached as Annex A

### **Risk Management**

15. Failure to meet carbon emission targets may result in the council being financially penalised under the Carbon Trading Scheme (including the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC)).
16. Failure to achieve reductions in energy use could result in further financial pressures for the council in a volatile energy market.
17. Failure to coordinate our approach to sustainability may result in a reduced level of performance in pursuit of the council's priorities.
18. To the image and reputation of the council.
19. A risk and issues log has been started and is at section 7.4 of the report attached as Annex A

### **Recommendations**

20. Members are asked to consider approval of the City of York Council Strategy and Implementation Plan for the Local Authority Carbon Management Programme.
21. Reason: To ensure a coordinated approach to the management of carbon emissions from council activities, with targets and milestones.

**Authors:** Tom Shepherd  
and Mike Slater  
City Strategy  
Tel: (01904) 551300  
Email: michael.slater@york.gov.uk

**Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**  
Bill Woolley  
Director of City Strategy  
Tel: (01904) 551330  
Email: bill.woolley@york.gov.uk

**Wards Affected: All**

**Report Approved**  **Date**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

### **Background Papers**

Report to and minutes of Executive 11<sup>th</sup> September 2007 –

- Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan towards a Climate Change Strategy for the City.

Report to and minutes of Executive 18<sup>th</sup> December 2007

- Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan towards a Climate Change Strategy for the City – Update Dec. 2007.
- Carbon Management, Energy and Sustainability – funding mechanism

### **Annex:**

a. Local Authority Carbon Management Programme: City of York Council Strategy and Implementation Plan.