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## **Reducing Carbon Emissions Scrutiny Sub-Committee**

**5 July 2006**

Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

### **DRAFT FINAL REPORT: Reducing Carbon Emissions from York's Public and Private Sector Housing Summary**

1. Members of the Reducing Carbon Emissions Scrutiny Sub-Committee are presented with the draft final report of the Housing Scrutiny Board delivering their research and findings regarding approaches Local Authorities might take to reducing carbon emissions in York's public and private sector housing.
2. Members of the Sub-Committee are recommended to;
  - consider the content, format and recommendations held in this report
  - agree, subject to any amendments, its submission to Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) in line with their decision to complete outstanding scrutiny topics as a matter of urgency.

### **Background**

3. Between 2005-2006 Scrutiny<sup>1</sup> at the City of York Council advanced the development more robust and holistic strategic approaches to delivering carbon reduction and energy sourcing across all sectors of the Council's work bar transportation fuel.
4. In July 2005 Members of the Housing Scrutiny Board chose to progress a registered topic regarding the 'Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions from York's Public and Private Sector Housing'. The topic was chosen by the Housing Scrutiny Board as complimentary to the aims of the other Scrutiny reviews and recommendations supporting the authority to monitor, manage and achieve carbon savings.
5. The report at Annex A presents their findings and recommendations at completion of their review.

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<sup>1</sup> Through work of the Boards: Environment and Sustainability, Housing and, Planning and Transport

## Consultation

6. During the course of this scrutiny, the following consultees were engaged:
  - Regional Energy Policy Manager: through attendance at a Board meeting for lines of questioning and advice regarding regional best practice approaches and through correspondence regarding region wide and national exemplars for presentation to the Board.
  - Energy Efficiency Advice Centre Officers (EEAC Officers): Through attendance at Board meetings regarding funding streams and grants available to different sectors of the public for improvements to efficiencies and the creation of the model home. Also the Board appointed the Project Manager of York EEAC as a Non-Statutory Co-opted Member of the Board for the life of the topic as a result of the ongoing value of his contributions.
  - Officers from National Energy Action and the EAGA partnership to advise on sources of support to Local authorities for the creation of Fuel poverty strategies and action plans and improvements to LA working on increased thermal efficiencies across all sectors.
  - City of York Council (CYC) Officers Sustainability, Performance Improvements and Equalities submitted early information regarding the sustainability, performance monitoring and equalities aspects of the topic to the Board for their feasibility report.
  - City of York Council (CYC) Officers Asset Manager (Housing Services) and Housing Strategy & Enabling Group - Housing Standards & Adaptations presented the Board and sub-groups of the Board with data at meetings regarding the Authorities HECA response, the Annual Housing Business Plan and work with private landlords etc.

## Options

7. **Either:** To approve the findings and recommendations of the Board in the report at Annex A
8. **Or:** To recommend no change to the authority's operations and approach to CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction from Public and Private Sector Housing at this time

## Analysis

9. The report at Annex A was drafted in line with;
  - a. the objectives of the topic registration as lodged (see Annex B of the attached draft final report)
  - b. findings of the board regarding the advice of the feasibility consultees (see above under 'Consultation')

## **Corporate Objectives**

10. The Scrutiny fits with the aims of the following Corporate Objectives  

‘Corporate Aim 1: Take Pride in the City, by improving quality and sustainability, creating a clean and safe environment.’ With particular reference to:

  - 1.2. Protect and enhance the built and green environment that makes York unique.
  - 1.4. Protect residents and our environment from pollution and other public health and safety hazards and act as role model in the sustainable use of resources.
11. In respect of the Corporate Strategy 2006 – 2009 this Scrutiny furthers the following Priorities:
  - Improve the actual and perceived condition and appearance of city’s streets, housing estates and publicly accessible spaces
  - Improve the health and lifestyles of the people who live in York, in particular among groups whose levels of health are the poorest
  - Improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city
  - Improve the quality and availability of decent affordable homes in the city
  - Improve our focus on the needs of customers and residents in designing and providing services
  - Improve leadership at all levels to provide clear, consistent direction to the organisation
  - Improve the way the Council and its partners work together to deliver better services for the people who live in York
  - Improve efficiency and reduce waste to free-up more resources
12. Analysis is also given in the Glossary of the report at Annex A regarding the Scrutiny’s relationship with the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) framework.

## **Implications**

13. There are no known implications in relation to the following at this stage of the draft final report:
  - **Finance**
  - **Human Resources (HR)**
  - **Equalities**
  - **Legal**
  - **Crime and Disorder**

- **Information Technology (IT)**
- **Property**
- **Other**

### **Risk Management**

14. There are no risk management implications associated with the draft final report at this stage.

### **Recommendations**

15. Members of the Sub-Committee are recommended to;
- Consider the content, format and recommendations held in this report
  - Agree, subject to any amendments, its submission to SMC in line with their decision to complete outstanding scrutiny topics as a matter of urgency.

### **Reason**

16. To facilitate completion of the former Housing Scrutiny Board's outstanding work.

### **Contact Details**

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**Chief Officer's name:** Suzan Hemingway

**Title:** Head of Civic, Legal and Democratic Services

**Report Approved**



**Date** 13/06/2006

### **Specialist Implications Officer(s)**

None

**Wards Affected:** *List wards or tick box to indicate all*

All

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

**Background Papers:**

Draft Final Report: Reducing Carbon Emissions from York's Public and Private Sector Property  
And as listed in the draft final report at Annex A.

**Annexes**

**Annex A** Draft Final Report: Reducing Carbon Emissions from York's Public and Private Sector Property .