

Report

Subject : Climate Change Implementation Plan

Report to : Cabinet

Date : Monday 28 April 2008

Author : James Chamberlain – Scrutiny Officer

Cabinet Member for Planning: Councillor Paul Clegg (Climate Change Champion)

1. Purpose:

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to present the implementation plan for the recommendations of the Climate Change Scrutiny Review, requested at the meeting of Cabinet held on 30 January 2008. The implementation plan is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

2. Summary:

- 2.1. At the meeting of Cabinet held on 30 January 2008, Members instructed officers to prepare an implementation plan to evaluate the feasibility and implementation of the Climate Change Scrutiny Review's recommendations.
- 2.2. Since 30 January the Scrutiny Officer has held discussions with various Service Unit Heads to help develop the implementation plan.
- 2.3. In February 2008, Councillor Paul Clegg was appointed lead Member for climate change (in accordance with recommendation 3 of the Climate Change Scrutiny Review). Since then, Councillor Clegg has also been involved in the development of the implementation plan.

3. Key Portfolio Holder Views:

- 3.1. The implementation plan sets out various issues to consider in relation to the implementation of each recommendation of the Climate Change Scrutiny Review.
- 3.2. Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) has had a significant impact on the implementation of many of the recommendations in that Salisbury District Council will cease to exist on 31 March 2009, and as a result of the impact of LGR on officer time and resources.
- 3.3. Notwithstanding LGR, there are some key areas in which Salisbury District Council can and should take action. Concrete actions may also have an impact on the development of policies at the level of the unitary authority.
- 3.4. The recommendations which are judged most viable at this time are: xyz

4. Recommendations:

- 4.1 That the Cabinet note the implementation plan attached as Appendix 1 to this report
- 4.2 That the Cabinet approve the implementation of recommendations xyz with Project Initiation Documents to be presented to Cabinet at the earliest possible opportunity for approval



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5. **Background Papers:** Climate Change Overview and Scrutiny Review (January 2008)

6. **Implications:**

- **Financial:**
- **Legal:** None
- **Human Rights:** None
- **Climate Change:** If approved, the recommendations would have a positive impact in terms of mitigating and adapting to climate change
- **Personnel (POD):** None
- **Community Safety:** None
- **Environmental:** If approved, the recommendations would have a positive impact in terms of mitigating and adapting to climate change
- **ICT:** None
- **Equality and Diversity:** None
- **Council's Core Values:** protecting the environment
- **Wards Affected:** All

Summary of Recommendations

No.	Description of Recommendation	Timescale ¹	Responsible Authority ²	Responsible Service Unit/Committee	Notes
1.	Adopt a corporate climate change strategy and action plan	Short term	SDC	Democratic Services (subject to approval of rec. 4)	An action plan for the implementation of achievable SDC recommendations should be incorporated into the Corporate Plan for 2008/09. A standalone corporate climate change strategy would set out the longer-term aspirations of the council, and given LGR, this work should feed into the Implementation Executive/Wiltshire Council. To achieve maximum impact this would also require the appointment of a climate change officer (see recommendation 4).
2.	Enshrine climate change adaptation and mitigation into the Council's corporate and service plans	Short term	SDC	All	New Corporate plan to be published in June 2008. Climate change adaptation and mitigation is now a political priority so the Corporate Plan will have a section on climate change. Not all services have a dedicated plan but CMT could request SUHS to revise service plans to include climate change if necessary
3.	Appoint a lead Member for climate change	Short term	SDC	DSU	Cllr Clegg appointed Lead Member
4.	Appoint a climate change officer	Medium term	SDC	DSU	DSU has a vacant post that incorporates responsibility for sustainability. DSU to complete a Job Description Questionnaire for review by POD for full costing (typical salaries are between £20-25,000), then discussions with WCC and other districts regarding possibility of joint appointment/secondment. The climate change review has been referred to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Transitional Board with the recommendation that it be referred to the

¹ Short term = achievable within 6 months. Medium Term = achievable before April 2009. Long Term = Unlikely to be implemented before April 2009

² SDC = Salisbury District Council. WCC = Wiltshire County Council. WC = Wiltshire Council (new unitary authority)

					Implementation Executive – it may be preferable to wait until the IE has considered it to proceed.
5.	Add 'climate change' to the list of implications at the end of every officer report	Short term	SDC	All	Amended standard report template and circulated to all units with an explanatory memo. Although it is recognised that the evaluation of climate impacts would be best done by the climate change officer, until this officer is appointed, officers writing reports will complete this section themselves. This will encourage officers and Members to consider climate change as part of their day-to-day business. Officers may require support and advice in this activity.
6.	Adopt an environmental management system such as EMAS or ISO 14001	Short term	SDC	Legal and Property Services	WCC have stated that this will be considered as part of the developing property strategy for the new Council. As this is likely to be a long process, however, in the meantime SDC should assess what energy efficiency measures it would be possible to implement within the next 12 months. The first step would therefore be to draw up a project plan for improving the energy efficiency of the council's buildings. It is recognised that this would be a time consuming task and may require the appointment of the climate change/sustainability officer.
7.	Install a Voltage Power Optimisation system in Council buildings	Short term	SDC	Legal and Property Services	See recommendation 6 above
8.	Introduce real time monitoring of electricity, gas and water use	Medium term	SDC	Legal and Property Services	See recommendation 6 above

9.	Set targets to purchase a certain percentage of the Council's electrical and thermal energy requirements from renewable sources	Medium term	SDC	Procurement	Green energy is currently purchased at Crane Lodge, Edgars Close, Five Rivers Leisure Centre, and City Hall. The Procurement Officer has confirmed with OGC Buying Solutions that SDC wish to have 'green' energy purchased on their behalf from April 2008 (effective October 2008) for the remaining properties under its control. Each Local Authority is limited to purchasing 10% 'green' energy due to demand outweighing supply. There is also the possibility of purchasing 'Good Quality CHP' (the second best alternative to 'green' energy) and the Procurement Officer will instruct OGC to purchase that energy on SDC's behalf where there is no additional cost.
10.	Investigate the viability of introducing additional energy efficiency measures to the Council's buildings	Short term	SDC	Legal and Property Services	See recommendation 6 above
11.	Invest in on-site micro-generation projects and explore the possibility of collaborative buying	Medium term	SDC	Legal and Property Services	See recommendation 6 above
12.	Adopt a Sustainable Procurement Guidance Note to incorporate the Government's Local Government Sustainable Procurement Action Plan	Short term	SDC	Procurement	Fiona Eden to provide information
13.	Pledge a commitment to adopting policies under the new LDF that require the highest possible standards of sustainability in the location, form and design of new	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning and Transportation	The Core Strategy will achieve this recommendation, so far as is compatible with current government guidance

	developments, particularly by encouraging developments that are close to amenities and jobs, and which are well served by public transport and footpaths and cycleways				
14.	Make sure all new developments achieve a 40% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions, and are carbon neutral on greenfield sites	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning and Transportation	Consultation on the Core Strategy will run from 28 February to 11 April. Cllrs Brown, Clegg and English have co-signed a letter setting out the review's recommendations and how they relate to the Core Strategy consultation document to help influence the outcome of this process in favour of this recommendation
15.	Adopt policies under the new LDF that require new developments to reach a specified level in the Code for Sustainable Homes	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning and Transportation	See recommendation 14 above
16.	Adopt a policy requiring at least 15% of energy in all developments to come from on site renewable energy sources	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning and Transportation	See recommendation 14 above
17.	Encourage the development of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS) in existing developments and require SUDS in new developments	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning and Transportation	See recommendation 14 above

18.	Work closely with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust to promote biodiversity	Medium term	SDC	Forward Planning and Transportation	See recommendation 14 above
19.	Expand the scope of planning gain through the LDF for nature conservation projects	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning and Transportation	See recommendation 14 above
20.	Regularly review current policies to ensure that they reflect best practice with regard to tackling climate change	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning and Transportation	See recommendation 14 above
21.	Commit to paying particular attention to PPS 1, PPS 3, PPS 9, PPS 22 and PPS 25, and any other relevant Planning Policy Statements and Guidance Notes that are published in the determination of all planning applications	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning and Transportation	See recommendation 14 above
22.	The planning department could also play a role in providing information on the improvements that could be made to buildings in terms of energy efficiency	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning and Transportation	See recommendation 14 above
23.	Adopt a plan to encourage and drive the delivery of sustainability by introducing	Short term	SDC	Strategic Housing	Affordable Housing is required to achieve Code level 3. The LAA ambition on Affordable Housing will include additional targets for a % of new affordable homes to achieve code level 4 together with

	criteria for new affordable housing developments				developing some exemplar projects. Further work will also be undertaken in strengthening the RSL eligibility criteria for developing in Wiltshire. Note: it is felt that not only affordable housing developments should be encouraged to meet sustainability criteria. In that case, this recommendation is essentially the same as recommendation 13.
24.	Commit additional resources to expand the home energy efficiency advisory role, develop partnership working and set targets for improvement	Medium term	SDC	Strategic Housing	Revisions need to be made to the Private Sector Housing Renewal Strategy that can target existing resources that by addressing fuel poverty we can improve home energy efficiency and contribute to reduction in carbon emissions. Report to Cabinet April/May 2008.
25.	Roll-out renewable energy projects such as solar thermal energy and air source heat pumps across the Council's housing stock	Medium term	SDC	Housing Management	Pilots for solar thermal and air source heat pumps will be initiated prior to April 2009. These would need to run for approximately 2 years to assess feasibility and suitability for roll-out in other council buildings
26.	Revise the Council's Capital Strategy to free up more money to spend on carbon emissions reduction projects	Short term	SDC	Financial Services	2008-09 Strategy has already been approved.
27.	Examine ways to adapt the Council's housing stock to predicted weather patterns and draw up a heat wave plan to ensure the well being of vulnerable people	Medium term	SDC	Housing Management	This recommendation can be divided into two broad areas of work: working in partnership with other local organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors, but in particular the PCT, to provide information and support to more vulnerable members of the community; and adapting the council's own housing stock. To date no work has been done on adaptation of the housing stock:

					consideration could be given to the adequacy of ventilation systems, shade provided by trees, fans etc.
28.	Formally consider Wiltshire County Council's forthcoming scrutiny review on the environmental impact of waste management.	Short term	SDC	Environment and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Panel/Cabinet	Report due to be published mid-March and could be considered at 28 April 2008 meeting or earlier by individual Members
29.	Monitor the environmental impact of the Colnbrook energy from waste plant	Medium term	SDC	Environment and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Panel	SDC is not well placed to monitor this as WCC and Wiltshire Waste Partnership will have their own mechanisms in place
30.	Consider the construction of anaerobic digestion plants	Medium Term	WC		This is an issue for Wiltshire Waste Partnership
31.	Establish a process to monitor the performance of the Council's new waste collection arrangements, and if necessary, reconsider the introduction of AWC	Short - medium term	SDC	Environment and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Panel/Cabinet	E&T receives regularly quarterly updates on performance of a range of indicators including recycling rates. Monitoring the new waste collection arrangements (commencing in October 2008) would be more suited to Wiltshire Council
32.	Insist that food waste disposers are installed in all new housing and explore schemes to encourage more households to adopt them.	Short term	SDC	Development Services/Environmental Services	This would need to be part of a countywide strategic review of waste management. In order to be more than simply a voluntary agreement, this would need to be a policy in the new LDF, which would likely attract opposition from water companies. This is a longer term project that should be referred to the Wiltshire Waste Partnership as an option for future consideration
33.	Continue to explore measures to increase the percentage of	Short term	SDC	Environmental Services	Matti Raudsepp is currently undertaking a study examining the feasibility of providing commercial recycling of glass to businesses in

	commercial waste the Council collects				the city. SDC actively promotes its commercial waste collection service
34.	Explore the possibility of providing recycling facilities for cooking oil	Medium term	WCC		Household recycling sites are operated by Hills Waste so this would have to be approved by Hills and the Wiltshire Waste Partnership
35.	Raise awareness of green travel plans among the local community, for example through the work of the South Wiltshire Economic Partnership and the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance	Medium term	SDC	Forward Planning & Transportation/Joint Transportation Unit	The planning process promotes green travel plans. WCC has a travel planning officer who works closely with schools. Could this role be better resourced to allow for closer working with businesses?
36.	Set up bus lanes to make services (particularly park and ride) into the city centre faster	Medium - long term	WCC	Highways	Bus priority measures may be more effective in certain circumstances than bus lanes
37.	Reduce the number of long stay car parking spaces in the city centre once the fifth park and ride site is launched, to ensure maximum usage	Medium-long term	WC	Salisbury Vision	<p>This is a key aim of the Salisbury Vision but if the city is to continue to prosper we must ensure that we provide enough parking spaces of the right type (short-stay, long-stay, city car parks, on-street and park and ride) so that shoppers, visitors and residents can go about their daily lives.</p> <p>Many of the Salisbury Vision projects will result in more people coming to the city, either for regular shopping, for leisure or simply as tourists. We must, therefore, make sure that we have enough car parking spaces not just for today's needs but for the future. To help us achieve this we will carry out a detailed study of parking demand.</p> <p>The removal of car parking spaces, through developments such as those proposed for the Salt Lane and Brown Street car parks will only be agreed if it is supported by the findings of the parking study.</p>
38.	Require the most stringent	Medium -	WCC	Highways	New contract is due in August 2010.

	emissions standards for the park and ride buses when the tender comes up for renewal	long term			
39.	Promote the use of park and ride sites by schools	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning & Transportation /Joint Transportation Unit	This has been promoted in the past but to date only one school uses park and ride sites for this purpose
40.	Encourage tourist coaches to use park and ride	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning & Transportation /Joint Transportation Unit	Only one Park and Ride site has a coach parking area (Britford). Is it more sustainable for coach passengers to alight from a coach then travel into town on a park and ride bus than it is for them to simply travel into the town on their original coach? This is linked to the Vision as the coach station could be affected by the redevelopment.
41.	Extend the existing cycle network to make Salisbury more cycle friendly	Medium-long term	WC	Joint Transportation Unit	
42.	Increase the number of bicycle racks in the city centre	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning & Transportation /Joint Transportation Unit	There is a small budget available for this – Eric Teagle to produce a list of suitable locations
43.	Explore the possibility of establishing a 'city bike' programme	Medium term	SDC	Forward Planning & Transportation /Joint Transportation Unit	This would be resource intensive and would require a great deal of planning even to produce a feasibility study. Unlikely to be achieved prior to Vesting Day

44.	Explore ways to increase the number of children who cycle or walk to school	Medium term	WCC		
45.	Provide secure bike shelters at park and ride sites and allow walkers and cyclists to use park and ride for free or at reduced cost	Short term	SDC	Forward Planning & Transportation	The Council cannot undercut other commercial operators therefore reduced rate fares could not be less than standard bus fares.
46.	Explore the legal issues around licensing bicycle taxis and promote their use in Salisbury	Medium term	SDC	Environmental Services	This is a matter for Forward Planning and Transportation. Promotion could only happen once legal issues have been explored
47.	Make sustainable transportation a key consideration in long term plans for Salisbury through the Salisbury Vision	Short term	SDC	Salisbury Vision	When Cabinet approves the Salisbury Vision, work will begin on implementing its proposals, one of which is concerned with sustainable transportation. Any such work on this issue will need to be incorporated into the work programme of the transportation team.
48.	Provide incentives to use more sustainable vehicles, such as reduced rate parking for hybrids and electric cars, and the provision of free recharging facilities	Long term	WC		It would be relatively unproblematic to reserve car parking spaces for such vehicles. The provision of recharging facilities could be costly and it would be worth examining the experiences of those local authorities in larger cities that have already implemented similar schemes
49.	Champion the inclusion of the three national indicators that relate to climate change (NI 185 CO2 reduction from Local Authority operations, NI 186	Short term	SDC	Cabinet/Full Council	Councillor Clegg has been championing this issue but the outcome won't be known until April/May 2008. The focus shouldn't only be on the Local Area Agreement however: the forthcoming Community Area Assessment will also be relevant, and there may be additional performance management processes to consider. This work would

	Per capita CO2 emissions in the LA area, NI 188 Adapting to climate change) within Wiltshire's selected indicators				be greatly assisted by a climate change/sustainability officer
50.	In the Salisbury Vision, emphasise the importance of climate change and the fact that Salisbury District Council has signed the Nottingham Declaration	Short term	SDC	Salisbury Vision	A section has been added to the Salisbury Vision on climate change. This includes a reference to the council being a signatory to The Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change. A web link is also provided to the Energy Saving Trust.
51.	Use the Vision and the Area Development Framework to send a clear message to developers about what Salisbury expects from its future buildings, as well as make sure a commitment to tackling climate change underpins development of the city	Short term	SDC	Salisbury Vision	The Salisbury Vision contains a commitment to tackling climate change and a promise to try to ensure that every project is designed, planned and implemented in such a way that it contributes to an improvement in the quality of life for the residents of Salisbury and that it has the minimum negative impact on the environment. The Vision also promises that the council will always try to make sure that everything we do benefits the local community and that, over time, it helps us reduce our carbon footprint to zero.
52.	Remain actively involved in all work tackling climate change at the regional level and ensure there is an effective two-way flow of communication using the Council's appointed Member and climate change	Short term	SDC		Climate change Member has now been appointed, but could have greater impact with the support of a climate change officer

	officer				
53.	Set up a local climate change partnership (at county or district level) to encourage local businesses to reduce their carbon emissions	Medium - long term	SDC/WCC /WC		This is dependent on the appointment of a climate change officer. It may be preferable to set up a local partnership before attempting it on a countywide scale. This work should also link in with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Community Network.
54.	Review the performance of the major supermarkets in relation to climate change	Short term	SDC	Environment and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Resources for such a review may be limited with attention largely devoted to scrutinising transition arrangements. Any work undertaken in this area should be working with supermarkets, rather than simply reviewing their performance.
55.	Continue and expand on the good work already being done by the Council and its partners in providing information and advice on reducing carbon emissions	Ongoing	SDC/WCC /WC		Work needs to be done to establish exactly what information and advice the councils currently offer. Coordinating this work would require the appointment of the climate change/sustainability officer.
56.	Set up a carbon footprint calculator on the Council's website	Short term	SDC	IT	This is now on the climate change scrutiny review web page
57.	Explore the possibility of making Salisbury plastic bag free	Medium term	SDC	Community Initiatives	Going completely plastic bag free may be hindered by national chain retailers, but a more realistic ambition would be to promote alternative bags and a reduction in use of plastic bags. City Centre Management has recently asked Members to provide information about whether they use re-usable bags and there is possibly a promotional role for CCM to play.
58.	Carry out a review of emergency planning to ensure	Short term	SDC/WCC		Stephen Thorne is the local coordinator and raising the issue with CMT. This also links with recommendation 27 in that it involves

	that it takes full account of the predicted changes in weather in Wiltshire.				examining how the local public sector copes with extreme weather across the piece
59.	Where any of the above recommendations do not specify targets, officers should do so in the process of drawing up action plans for their implementation.	Short term	SDC/WCC /WC		It would be impossible to measure performance against many of the recommendations, as work would either be initiated or not. Where appropriate, indicators could be set up to measure performance of recommendations that will be implemented.