

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY**PROGRESS REPORT APRIL to OCTOBER 2006****Service Policy Panel, 21 November 2006**

| Action / Target | Timescale | Progress update |
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| Survey staff at Duke House to establish the effectiveness of the Duke House Travel Plan in reducing single occupancy car use. | September 2006 | Not achieved to date, working with Worcestershire County Council to survey staff as soon as possible. |
| Report to CMT on the outcomes of the Duke House Travel Plan and the viability of rolling it out to other sites | December 2006 | On target to achieve. |
| Produce a Climate Change Action Plan to enable WFDC to deliver on its commitment to the Worcestershire Climate Change Pledge. | May 2006 | Climate Change Action Plan agreed by the Service Policy Panel on 21 June. Agreed to report progress to members on a regular basis. |
| Set targets for reductions in in-house energy consumption, based on 2005/6 baseline. | June 2006 | Not achieved to date. The Environmental Working Group is working to progress. |
| Set a target for reductions in water consumption, based on 2005/6 baseline. | June 2006 | Not achieved to date. The Environmental Working Group is working to progress. |
| Contribute to the Energy Saving Trust (EST) "Fleet Health Check" Survey and implement where practical, the recommendations of the EST "Fleet Health Check". | May 2006 | A report by the EST on a green fleet review for the Council and site specific advice was received on 8 November. Recommendations to be considered for action by the Environmental Working Group in December 2006. |
| Distribute 800 low energy light bulbs and Home Energy Check questionnaires to benefit claimants. | March 2007 | To date over 500 light bulbs have been distributed by Council Tax Benefits, and at community events. 4,600 are currently being distributed by Councillors. |
| Advocate sustainable construction techniques for the Single Site / Central Office Accommodation. | Ongoing | The design and build of the new Central Office Accommodation will be based on "green principles". The Health and Sustainability Team will organise site visits, aimed at key decision makers, to other office buildings built based on green principles. |
| Purchase 100% renewable | September | No progress to date. |

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| electricity for Duke House. | 2006 | |
| Embed in-house recycling at the Hub. | August 2006 | Metal cans, paper, envelopes and cardboard will all be recycled at the Hub. Mini glass banks are due to be installed soon. |
| Support awareness raising measures for staff on World Environment Day 2006, distribute free water hogs and energy saving light bulbs | June 2006 | The Health and Sustainability Team distributed 493 Green Goodie Packs to staff and members. 50 people made pledges to use the items in the packs, which equates to 450,000 litres of water and 2.8 tonnes of carbon saved and prevented 4,992 plastic bags being used. |
| Increase in-house waste minimisation and recycling. | October 2006 | Paper, cardboard, vending cups, can and printer cartridge recycling are all progressing well. Agreed to progress mini glass banks at the Town Hall and Civic Centre shortly. |
| Reduce A4 paper consumption by 3.5% based on 2004/5 figures. | March 2007 | In 2005/6, paper consumption actually increased by 4% against a target for 5 % reduction! Measures are in place to improve on this figure in 2006/7. |
| Purchase/develop a sustainability e-learning training package for new starters | July 2006 | Agreed to develop an in house sustainability training package for new starters. EWG to pilot in February 2007. |
| Ensure sustainable procurement is a key consideration for the internal officers Procurement Working Group. | Ongoing | Working to develop a draft Sustainability Policy to inform the activities of the Procurement Working Group. |
| Deliver on the Councils commitment to supply fairtrade tea and coffee at meetings and in vending machines. | Ongoing | Fairtrade tea and coffee is now being served in vending machines at Green Street, New Street, Civic Centre and at the Earl Baldwin Suite. Continuing to press for Fairtrade tea and coffee in the Board Room at Green Street and in Vending machines at Duke House and Coventry Street. |
| Report on progress made by the EWG in delivering the targets in this Action Plan to Councillors. | October 2006 and March 2007 | Reporting to members of the Service Policy Panel on 21 November 2006. |
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AFFORDABLE WARMTH STRATEGY**PROGRESS REPORT APRIL to OCTOBER 2006****Service Policy Panel, 21 November 2006**

| Objectives | Timescale | Progress update |
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| Operate an effective Wyre Forest Affordable Warmth Strategy. | Ongoing | The Steering Group, chaired by Wyre Forest District Council has met every six-weeks since April 2006. The Steering Group has been well supported by partner organisations, including Wyre Forest/Worcestershire PCT, SAFFA, WEEAC, Sure Start and the Fire and Rescue Service. |
| Ensure Wyre Forest residents are accessing the local Energy Efficiency Advice Centre (EEAC) | Ongoing | A number of activities have been carried out to promote the EEAC, including a 4-day electric blanket testing event in association with Energy Efficiency Week 2006. |
| Make 135 referrals through the Wyre Forest Affordable Warmth scheme to the EAAC. | March 2007 | Building on the 50 frontline staff trained in recognising the signs of fuel poverty in 2005/6 another 25 staff have been trained so far in 2006/7. This financial year trained staff have referred 52 households living in fuel poverty to the EEAC. Many of the householders have already received free heating and insulation measures through local and national grants. |
| Raise awareness of energy efficiency and affordable warmth. | Ongoing | 4 articles on fuel poverty and energy efficiency have been published in the local press in the last 6-months. The EAACs freephone telephone number has also been included in every edition of Newsywe this year. Members are also in the process of distributing 4,600 low energy light bulbs and leaflets promoting the EEAC. |
| Promote better understanding of fuel costs and payment arrangements. | September 2006 | In the process of developing "Did you know?" fact sheets on pre-payment meters and storage heaters for frontline staff to use. |
| Investigate feasibility of renewable energy sources as an alternative to mains gas in rural areas. | March 2007 | Agreed to hold a training session with the EEAC on renewables for Building Control/Planning Officers in February 2007. |
| Minimise fuel debt amongst low-income residents. | March 2007 | Thousands of low energy light bulbs and energy efficiency leaflets have been distributed to low income households through Members direct action and the Councils |

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| Facilitate achievement of affordable warmth in Social Housing. | Ongoing | Benefits Section. Currently working with RSL partners to look at achieving higher standards of energy efficiency in the Social Housing Sector through EcoHomes accreditation. |
| Achieving affordable warmth in Private Sector Housing. | Ongoing | In line with our new Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy, the Council is developing a scheme to target private sector landlords with grants for thermal efficiency work. |
| Explore alternative funding mechanisms. | Ongoing | Worked in partnership with the Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service and SSAFA Forces Help to secure funding to deliver a series of Home Safe Home events during Energy Efficiency Week. |
| Obtain high level commitment to the action plan | Ongoing | The Affordable Warmth Strategy and associated action plans have adopted by Wyre Forest District Council and Wyre Forest Primary Care Trust. |
| Review, monitor and communicate action plan progress. | Ongoing | Progress is reported to the Service Policy Panel at Wyre Forest District Council and the PCT Board. |
| <p>Other Comments: The Wyre Forest Affordable Warmth Strategy and Steering Group is a successful model which is now being replicated in Redditch and Bromsgrove, with a view to rolling it out to the rest of Worcestershire.</p> | | |