

**NOTICE OF DELEGATION OF DECISION TO CABINET MEMBER BY STRONG LEADER**

Section 15(4) of the Local Government Act 2000, the senior executive member may discharge any of the functions that are the responsibility of the Cabinet or may arrange for them to be discharged by another member of the Cabinet or Officer. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010, the Council adopted the Strong Leader Model for Corporate Governance 2011 as required under Part 3 of The Local Government and Public Involvement in-Health Act 2007 (The 2007 Act).

I, J-P Campion, as Strong Leader, delegate the decision to approve the Carbon Management Plan detailed in the Forward Plan to the Cabinet Member/Officer detailed below:

Cabinet Member: Councillor Julian Phillips

Dated:

9<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

Signed:



Leader of the Council

**NOTICE OF DECISION OF CABINET MEMBER**

Pursuant Section 15(4) of the Local Government Act 2000, as amended by section 63 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the senior executive member may discharge any of the functions that are the responsibility of the Cabinet or may arrange for them to be discharged by another member of the Cabinet or Officer. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010, the Council adopted the Strong Leader Model for Corporate Governance 2011 as required under Part 3 of The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (The 2007 Act).

In accordance with the authority delegated to me by the Leader, I have made the following decision:

Subject	Decision	Reason for decision	Date for Decision to be taken
Carbon Management Plan	To approve the CMP	The CMP will reduce co2 emissions and fuel/energy costs over the next 5 years	12.3.12

I confirm that the appropriate statutory officer consultation has taken place with regard to this decision.

Dated: 12<sup>th</sup> March 2012

Signed: JAC PHILLIPS

Councillor: JULIAN PHILLIPS  
Cabinet Member

To: Cabinet Member, Councillor J Phillips

From: Mike Parker  
Director of Economic Prosperity and Place  
Ext. 2500

13<sup>th</sup> March 2012

## **Carbon Management Plan**

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To seek approval for the Wyre Forest District Council Carbon Management Plan.

### **2. RECOMMENDATION**

**The Cabinet Member is asked to DECIDE that:**

2.1 **The Wyre Forest District Council Carbon Management Plan is approved.**

2.2 **Delegated authority to the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place to agree business cases when brought forward, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place-Shaping.**

2.3 **Members to receive regular updates on progress.**

### **3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Throughout 2011/12, the Council has been taking part in the Public Sector Carbon Management Programme, which is run for free by the Carbon Trust. Using the Carbon Trust's experience, knowledge and toolkits, a 5 year Carbon Management Plan has been developed. The Plan sets out a series of projects for carbon reduction from our buildings (including the move to the new HQ), our fleet, our car mileage and our service areas. The target is to see a reduction of 30% in our carbon emissions over the 5 year Plan period (2012/13- 2016/17).

3.2 The programme is an important strand in our plans for transformational change as it involves behavioural change coinciding with the new ways of working as well as potential revenue savings. An update on the programme was taken to the Transformation Board in September 2011.

3.3 Public Sector Carbon Management is one of the agreed projects for the delivery of the Wyre Forest Forward programme. Councillor Julian Phillips and Councillor James Shaw are the Member Leads for this.

3.4 One of the priorities within the Council's Corporate Plan 2011-2014 is 'Delivering together, with less.' The Carbon Management Plan will contribute to this by delivering services that use less energy through the fleet and business premises and by spending less on energy and fuel.

- 3.5 The Wyre Forest Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan aims to reduce carbon emissions within the district, including from the public sector. Development and implementation of the Carbon Management Plan will contribute towards this and demonstrate the Council's leadership in this area.
- 3.6 The Earth's climate is changing and we now know that human activities which lead to the release of excess greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), are the primary driver for this. Studies have shown that Worcestershire's climate has changed over the last century and this is expected to continue, with continuing changes in our temperature and rainfall patterns and increased frequency of short duration extreme weather events, such as storms and floods, predicted. As an example, the 2007 floods cost Worcestershire over £150 million, with many Wyre Forest households and businesses affected. Whilst a single such event cannot be attributed to climate change, the frequency of flooding events is expected to increase. The extremity of further climate change, locally and globally, is likely to depend on future levels of emissions of climate change gases. The more we do now to reduce emissions, the less extreme the expected impact.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 In 2010/11, the Council's energy and fuel costs totalled almost £659k. The Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) predicts that energy (gas and electricity) prices will carry on increasing, by 5.8% per year, and that fuel prices will increase by 3.7% per year. If the Council carries on with 'Business as Usual', i.e. does nothing to try and reduce energy and fuel use, by 2016/17, based on DECC predictions, our total energy and fuel bill will be in the region of £810k.
- 4.2 Through the Carbon Management Programme, a wide range of measures have been identified which could reduce the Council's energy and fuel use. Examples include installing insulation and new boilers to some existing council buildings, staff training and awareness activity and introduction of an on-demand electric bin lifting system on our refuse vehicles. The energy efficiency measures being included at the new HQ will also help to reduce total energy use. If these measures are implemented, and the predicted savings are realised, by 2016/17, our total energy and fuel bill will be in the region of £595k.
- 4.3 In 2010/11, the Council emitted 1,885 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. Of this, 55% of came from stationary sources (buildings & estate) and 45% from transport (fleet and business mileage). The Carbon Management Plan includes a target to reduce these CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 30% by 2016/17. Implementation of the projects identified in the Plan would mean we should meet this target, saving around 571 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- 4.4 Implementation of the Carbon Management Plan will mean that by 2016/17 our energy and fuel bill could be £215k lower than if we carry on with "business as usual". Cumulatively, over the next 5 years, we could avoid £710k of energy and fuel costs by implementing the Carbon Management Plan.
- 4.5 To implement the projects defined in this plan it is estimated will cost approximately £333k in capital and revenue. The Council has built the implementation costs and anticipated savings into its medium term financial strategy 2012-15. Each new project will be required to prepare a business case, which will be presented to Cabinet for approval on an ongoing basis, before funding is finally allocated.

- 4.6 For many years, the Council has been keen to encourage residents and businesses in the district to reduce their own carbon emissions. Implementation of the Carbon Management Plan will demonstrate leadership and examples of good practice to the local community.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Implementation of the Carbon Management Plan will mean that by 2016/17 our energy and fuel bill could be £215k lower than if we carry on with "business as usual". Cumulatively, over the next 5 years, we could avoid £710k of energy and fuel costs.
- 5.2 The capital and revenue costs of implementing the Plan (£333k) have been included in the medium term financial strategy 2012-2015.
- 5.3 Costs and savings for individual projects are largely estimates derived using Carbon Trust tools. More detailed quotes will be obtained as part of the business case development for each project. Business cases will be presented to Cabinet for approval.

## **6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Worcestershire Single Sustainable Community Strategy, which now incorporates Wyre Forest Matters priorities, includes a priority to mitigate and adapt to Climate Change.

## **7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out on the Climate Change Strategy in 2010.

## **8. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 8.1 Failure to implement the Carbon Management Plan could have significant financial consequences for the Council, particularly in light of rising energy and fuel costs. Failure to implement measures to tackle climate change could have many negative implications for the council and Wyre Forest residents.

## **9. CONCLUSION**

- 9.1 The Carbon Management Plan sets out a 5 year programme of activity to reduce the Council's carbon emissions and energy and fuel costs.

## **10. CONSULTEES**

- 10.1 Corporate Management Team (act as the Carbon Management Project Board).  
10.2 Carbon Management Team (cross directorate officer group).  
10.3 Carbon Trust Workshop attendees (held at Wyre Forest District Council in September 2011).

## **11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 11.1 Appendix 1 - Carbon Management Plan.