

10. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT (A595/MF)

Purpose of the report

This report details the environmental performance data for the 2013/14 financial year and progress against performance in previous and baseline years. The data relates to the environmental impacts arising from the Authority's operations and reflects the scope and methodology of reports as established in the Authority's Carbon Management Plan (CMP).

Key issues

- **Performance continues to improve and the Authority has demonstrated a 16% reduction in carbon emissions since the 2009/10 baseline period. This is broadly in line with the overall target of achieving a 30% reduction by the end of the 2016/17 year**

1.

Recommendations

2. 1. **That the environmental performance data detailed in Appendix 1 be adopted as a measure of the Authority's operational environmental performance over the 2013/14 reporting period.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

- 3.
- PDNPA Corporate objective 4
b) the Authority's own carbon footprint has been reduced by 30% (in line with the agreed Carbon Management Plan);
 - JIG Indicators CD3 – CO2 reduction from NPA operations.
 - National Park Management Plan links:

Theme: A DIVERSE WORKING AND CHERISHED LANDSCAPE (DL)

Outcome: DL4 - Greenhouse gas emissions will be reduced and a healthy national park will adapt to the effects of climate change

Delivery Aim: 4.1. Encourage individuals, communities and businesses in their aspirations to reduce their green house gas emissions and adapt to the effects and impacts of climate change

Delivery Action: 4.1.1 Support projects, appropriate to a protected landscape and which follow the energy hierarchy to achieve GHG emission reductions

Reporting on environmental performance is either an implicit requirement of the above objectives or is essential to monitor progress and achieve further improvements.

Additionally, the Authority signed up (in 2007) to the Nottingham Declaration which commits us to:

- 'Achieve a significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from our own authority's operations, especially energy sourcing and use'

The new Nottingham Declaration successor, Climate Local says that:

- We will progressively address the risks and pursue the opportunities presented by a changing climate, in line with local priorities, through our role as:
Community leader – helping local people and businesses to be smarter about their energy use and to prepare for climate impacts;
Service provider – delivering services that are resource efficient, less carbon

intensive, resilient and that protect those who are most vulnerable to climate impacts;

Estate manager – ensuring that our own buildings and operations are resource efficient, use clean energy, and are well prepared for the impacts of a changing climate.

Where we aim to be a community leader, a robust and comprehensive system of monitoring our own progress will allow us to communicate where initiatives have worked best and where we have achieved the greatest levels of impact.

Background

4. Appendix 1 fulfils the commitment to regular reporting established in Authority decision of 23rd January 2009 (Minute ref: 6/09) and the Authority's Environmental Management Policy.
5. The Authority approved the revision of the timescales to achieve a 30% reduction in carbon emissions by 2016/17 (minute ref: 9/14). A revised list of carbon management plan projects including a revised profile for achieving the target was approved by Senior Management Team in December 2013. A summary of the revised profile is provided in Figure 1 of Appendix 1.

Proposals

6. The report contained within Appendix 1 represents Authority's environmental impacts over the 2013/14 financial year. The report details the progress made in the key areas of environmental impact but the key trends and points of note are:
 - A total decrease in Carbon Emissions of 16% since the baseline year, representing a 161 tonnes reduction in emission against baseline and a 188 tonne reduction against a business as usual (BAU) scenario (19% against BAU emissions). This is a significant improvement over progress in previous years.
 - The reductions made include:
 - An 18% reduction in emissions related to energy use within buildings.
 - Emissions from travel and transport have decreased by 18% compared to baseline levels.
 - Some small improvements have been made in the tenanted housing stock.
 - Emissions from waste production and water use have fallen with the most significant reductions being in emissions resulting from waste production.

Financial savings from the measures associated with the Carbon Management Plan are broadly in line with those predicted in the revised profile. When anticipated increases are taken into consideration, the actual savings against the 'business as usual' scenario of continuing consumption at 2009/10 levels, savings are calculated to be approximately £85,000 to date.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

7. **Financial:**

Resources are in place to fund the current Carbon Management Plan for the period of the target (up to 2016/17). The Authority has already benefited significantly from the reductions in travel, energy use and waste production. Many of the financial benefits are not directly attributable to particular cost centres (or they are offset by increases in fuel and energy costs), whereas a number of projects have directly contributed towards efficiency savings.

8. **Risk Management:**

The most significant risk is that actions in the Carbon Management Plan to improve the Authority's environmental performance do not achieve the anticipated level of reductions. However, the monitoring of environmental performance will help this risk to be managed and will inform future proposals in an updated Carbon Management Plan beyond 2016/17 which will be developed to support the new corporate plan. However the ambitions of an updated plan will be subject to future resource and capital programme considerations.

9. **Sustainability:**

Sustainability of the Authority's operations is implicit within this report

10. **Background papers**

None

Appendices –

Appendix 1 - Environmental Management Annual Performance Report 2013/14

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Matt Freestone, Environmental Management Officer, 11 September 2014