

Time began 6.00pm  
Time ended 7.32pm

**COUNCIL CABINET  
12 JANUARY 2010**

Present: Councillor Jones (Chair)  
Councillors Allen, Care, Carr, Naitta, Skelton and  
Troup

In attendance Councillors Dhindsa and Holmes

**154/09 Climate Change Strategy**

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Climate Change Strategy. The report introduced the proposed Climate Change Strategy for the Council. The primary focus of the strategy and ongoing work of the Climate Change and Energy Management Unit was carbon emissions reduction. The strategy included a schedule detailing how and where CO2 emissions reductions could be achieved over each of the next 5 years as well as the anticipated dates and extent of emissions increases through service development. It was intended that this schedule was a live document which was regularly updated to maintain its currency.

**Options Considered**

There were no other options considered.

**Decision**

1. To approve the strategy.
2. To note the affect of service developments on Council carbon emissions and the difficulty in convincing staff and services of the need to change behaviours and so reduce emissions.
3. To agree the baseline figure of 40725tCO2 for the year 2008/09 and the commitment to cut emissions by 25% of this figure by the end of 2013/14.
4. To note the impact and potential difficulties of enforcing a proportionate share of the 25% cut across all service areas.
5. To encourage services to follow the energy hierarchy and seek ways to use less energy in preference to using what they do more efficiently.

**Reasons**

1. Stringent national and local commitments to carbon emission reduction had been made and a corporate strategy was needed to chart the route towards meeting those commitments.
2. National Indicator 185 and the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme both expected year on year emissions reductions although NI185 used weather corrected data and the CRC uses absolute emissions which makes direct comparisons more difficult.
3. Signing up to the 10:10 campaign was a further reason for having a route map in place so that changes could be assessed to account for new commitments such as this.
4. It was often the case that service developments caused increases in CO2 emissions so bringing different parts of the Council vision and function into conflict.
5. Achieving a proportionate share of the 25% cut across all service areas was likely to be very difficult since some services were better able to make cuts than others.