



Responding to Climate Change – taking the programme forward

SUMMARY

- 1.1 Full Council agreed the motion on the procedures page at its meeting on 2 January 2007.
- 1.2 The attached paper from the Director of Regeneration and Community outlines the key issues and a series of next steps for taking forward this crucial initiative and developing a sound plan of action.
- 1.3 Subject to any issues raised by Cabinet, I support the following recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To welcome Council's motion on climate change agreed at Council on 24 January 2007.
- 2.2 To endorse the need for multi-disciplinary works and for an action plan owned by all Cabinet Members and Council Departments.
- 2.3 To agree to the formation of a Climate Change Project Board as described in the Project Initiation Document and to seek Member nominations from all parties for a representative to sit on the Board.
- 2.4 To ask the Director of Regeneration and Community to bring forward a draft action plan for endorsement at the Climate Change Project Board.



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RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Council Cabinet considers the motion on climate change agreed at Council on 24 January 2007, and agrees the additional context and parameters set out in this report for taking forward the Council's climate change action programme.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Full Council agreed the following motion at its meeting on the 24 January 2007.

“Council welcomes and endorses the position taken by the Leader of the Council in signing Derby Campaign Against Climate Change's petition calling for a 25% reduction in CO₂ emissions from the Council within 5 years. It further welcomes the associated report to the 16 January Cabinet meeting and proposed action to take forward the Derby Declaration on Climate Change.

Council also welcomes the work that the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions have done over the last two years on energy use within the Council, and asks Cabinet to work closely with the Commissions in the development of the Council's Climate Change Action Programme.

Council further asks Cabinet to accept the challenge of reducing the CO₂ equivalent emissions from the whole of Derby by working with all sectors, groups and people in Derby in association with the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions.

In addition, Council endorses the view that it is right that Local Authorities should take a lead to promote action to reduce climate change across their areas of jurisdiction. It therefore asks the leaders of all political groups to promote the adoption of this practice to other councils in Derbyshire and the East Midlands.”

- 2.2 Work on a climate change action programme for the Council is being taken forward by adopting a broad Prince 2-based approach. The intention is to ensure that this complex and challenging area of work is developed in a structured way. A draft of the Project Initiation Document (PID) has been prepared and discussed with Corporate Directors and other officers and with the Leader of the Council. The aim of that detailed document is to set out the arrangements to help project manage the work over the next five years. The draft PID is available for information on CMIS.

2.3 The discussion at Council and at this Cabinet meeting is timely in helping to establish the context and parameters for the PID and the corporate action programme. In taking forward the discussions, Cabinet is asked to note and to consider the issues listed.

- **Corporate ownership** – The development and delivery of a climate change action programme must be owned by all Departments. In terms of one of the key ‘risk factors’ for this project, if aspirations are to be realised it is vital that programme delivery does not fall solely to the Environmental Co-ordination Team. A focused, manageable, and clearly phased approach is needed to the programme as a whole.
- **Proper resourcing** – The climate change action programme marks a significant development of the Council’s work programmes. It is important that all Departments recognise the need to secure resources already allocated to this area of work, and be alert to opportunities to bid for additional and external funding. The present Environmental Co-ordination Team will co-ordinate the corporate programme, and will continue to work on its existing programmes and projects, including the two major climate change projects recently developed: Derby 7Cs and ErBAN.

- **Management Arrangements**

I recommend that a project board is established as described in the PID. This should have all party representation.

- **Baselining** – An essential part of the programme will be establishing a baseline position on carbon emissions in Council services. To know what impacts we’re making and what reductions we’re achieving, we need to know exactly where we are now. This is a critical issue for reporting on and judging the effectiveness of the programme. It is likely to be a significant resourcing issue.
- **Building on what we have already / prioritising action** – We are not starting from scratch. There is much good work now being done, from which we can learn and from which we can build. Relevant work in progress will feature in phase 1 of the action programme alongside new projects. In developing and building the programme, we will need to be selective - to focus and to prioritise. This will mean bringing forward some actions at the expense of others.

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| Background papers: | None |
| List of appendices: | Appendix 1 - Implications Appendix 2 - Draft Project Initiation Document – See CMIS |

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| IMPLICATIONS |
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Financial

- 1.1 The adoption of a corporate climate change action programme will have financial implications. Detailed costings will be brought back to Cabinet when the programme is at a more advanced stage. Certain aspects of the programme could result in cost savings through the adoption of better energy saving measures and practices.
- 1.2 Overlapping with the need to identify specific spending implications and pressures over the next few years is the need to establish a suitable operational budget for day-to-day work on the programme. Beyond the short-term budgets for the Derby's 7Cs and ErBAN projects, there is no dedicated budget for climate change work at present.

Legal

2. None at the present time but this situation might significantly change with the arrival of the Climate Change Bill.

Personnel

3. Essential requirements of the Council's work on climate change are that it is corporate and collaborative. All Departments and a broad range of officers will need to be involved if the programme is to do justice to the issue.

Equalities impact

4. None.

Corporate Priorities

5. A priority in the emerging corporate plan is Leading Derby towards a better environment. Two of the key outcomes under this priority are reducing the level of carbon emissions and raising awareness on climate change and local environment issues.