

**Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson,
Interim Executive Director of Place**

Report to:	Executive
Date:	2 April 2019
Subject:	Carbon Management Plan 2018-2023
Decision Reference:	I017513
Key decision?	No

Summary:

Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) has been working with the Carbon Trust on a third Carbon Management Plan (CMP) which has now been completed.

LCC has successfully implemented two previous CMPs, CMP1 and CMP2 and this proposed CMP will continue to build on this success.

- CMP1 committed to a 20% reduction on the 2005/6 baseline by March 2012.
- CMP 2 committed to a 22% reduction on the 2011/12 baseline by March 2018 with the final saving being 23.4%.
- This CMP outlines LCC's vision for managing and reducing emissions arising from our activities and operations between 2018 to 2023.

The Plan details a programme of actions working towards this target and further actions to continue embedding carbon management in the policies and practices of the County Council.

Significant changes from the last Plan include

- improved ability to monitor and report on consumption and emissions as a result of Automatic Metering Programme.
- focus on investing in buildings retained following Property Reviews.

Recommendation(s):

That the Executive approve and formally adopt the CMP 2018-2023 attached at Appendix A to this Report and its target of a 20% reduction in emissions from a 2016/17 baseline of 28,679 tonnes CO₂ by 2023.

Alternatives Considered:

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| 1. | <p>Not to approve the Carbon Management Plan or make amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The Council needs to have a concerted approach to tackling emissions to meet the drivers set out on page 12 of the Plan at Appendix A.</p> <p>The contents of the Plan have been developed alongside the Carbon Trust to identify an appropriate target to build on the work already done and a list of projects that taken together will help to achieve the target set.</p> |
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Reasons for Recommendation:

The Council in carrying out its activities and Lincolnshire schools annually spend £10.7m on energy costs. Reducing those emissions by 20% over a 5 year period will realise a cumulative savings of £12.4 million. The Plan and target is an important example of leadership and backs up our recent commitment to the government's Emissions Reduction Pledge 2020.

1. Background

- 1.1 As part of the Carbon Trust Local Authority programme LCC prepared its first CMP in 2006 (one of first County Councils to do so). That plan was adopted in June 2007, for the period 2007-12, and included an aspirational target to reduce emissions by 20% by 2012. Data collection issues (now resolved) mean it was difficult to accurately assess reductions in emissions from the original (inaccurate) 2006-7 baseline. LCC adopted its second CMP in 2013 with a reduction target of 22% by March 2018. After the successful implementation of CMP2 the final reduction was 23.4%. In recently signing the Emissions Reduction Pledge 2020 the Council continues to demonstrate leadership in addressing climate change.
- 1.2 Over £2.6 million has been invested through our Salix Revolving Fund, providing annual savings of over £500,000 and reducing base costs permanently by this amount. In addition over 1.2MW of solar PV has been installed on County Council buildings and schools. Automatic metering is installed on over 1000 gas and electric meters in LCC buildings and schools and is providing half hourly data on energy consumption.
- 1.3 Carbon Management 3 Programme
- The CMP 3 programme seeks to build on progress achieved from CMP1 & CMP2.
- The development of Carbon Management Plan 3 has been carried out alongside the Carbon Trust whose aims are to:

- re-engage public sector organisations with carbon management, revisiting and reinvigorating governance structures and stakeholder engagement.
- help public sector organisations identify further opportunities to cut their carbon emissions and make on-going cost savings, widening the baseline scope where required (e.g. scope 3 emissions) and plugging 'gaps' towards aspirational targets.
- help public sector organisations update existing carbon strategies and improve monitoring and benefits realisation
- reinforce the financial business case for carbon reduction, with typical paybacks under 5 years.
- enable participants to learn from, mentor and support each other in managing carbon.

1.4 The Interim Executive Director of Place is the sponsor with support of the Strategic Accessibility and Growth Manager.

1.5 Rising costs

A focus on reducing emissions and cutting costs is an increasing priority. The latest baseline information is shown in diagram 1.

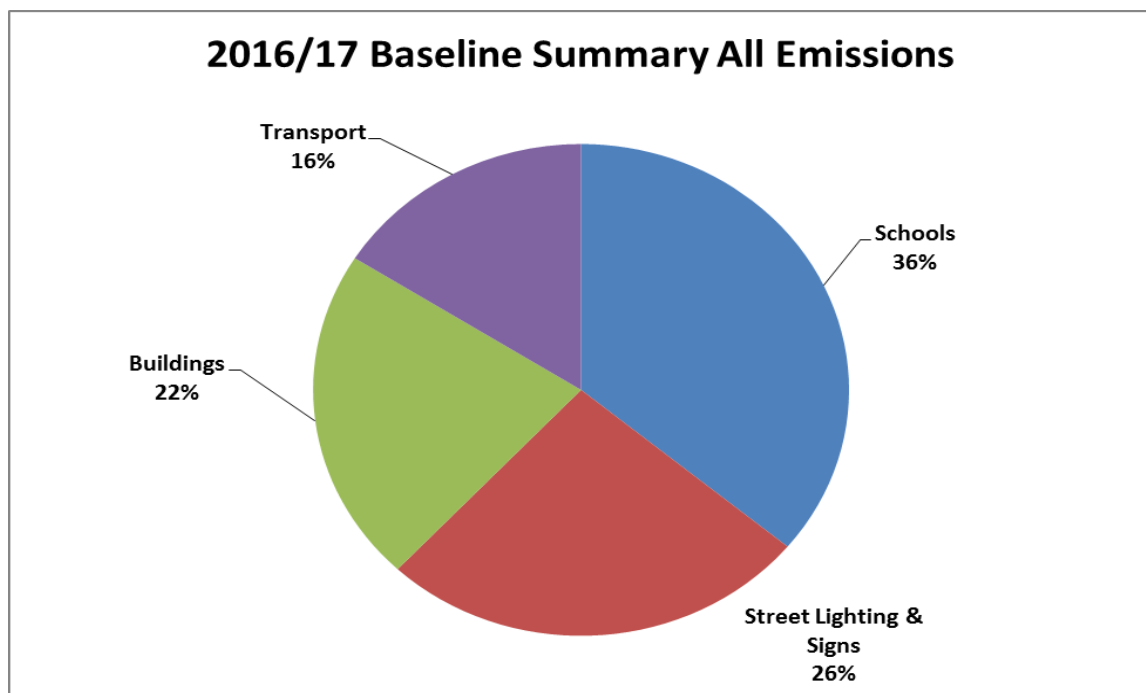


Diagram 1 – 2016/17 emissions baseline

Rising energy costs are a factor of modern life. LCC energy costs (including all schools) have continued to rise to 10.7m in 2017. There is future price uncertainty. Department for Energy and Climate Change medium scenarios suggest oil prices 45-64% and Gas prices 59-115% higher by 2020 and are generally held to be conservative scenarios.

- 1.6 The opportunities identified as projects include:
- Continued investment in proven technologies through LCC's Salix revolving fund.
 - Ensuring appropriate investment in rationalised portfolio to ensure low energy use in buildings retained.
 - Continued investment in appropriate solar PV schemes.
 - Working with schools to reduce bills and emissions.
 - Street lighting.
 - Travel Plan (including business miles).
 - Appropriate use of automatic metering information to raise awareness and monitor performance.
 - Culture change to ensure all staff play a role in carbon management and tackle climate change in their professional and personal life.

2. Legal Issues:

Equality Act 2010

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- * Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act
- * Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- * Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- * Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic
- * Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it
- * Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding

Compliance with the duties in section 149 may involve treating some persons more favourably than others

The duty cannot be delegated and must be discharged by the decision-maker. To discharge the statutory duty the decision-maker must analyse all the relevant material with the specific statutory obligations in mind. If a risk of adverse impact is identified consideration must be given to measures to avoid that impact as part of the decision making process

An Equality Impact Analysis was carried out by the Sustainability Team. The EIA did not identify any positive or adverse impacts from the implementation of CMP3 which were particular to people with a protected characteristic. The majority of the actions contained within the Plan are buildings or technology based and universal in their effects and neutral as between people with a protected characteristic and others who do not share that characteristic. It has been identified that the way in which the Council engages through its Internal and External Communications work stream as part of the Plan needs to be sensitive to the needs of different groups such as those with a disability or whose first language is not English to enable all people regardless of protected characteristics to benefit from the message.

Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA) and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS)

The Council must have regard to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the Joint Health & Well Being Strategy (JHWS) in coming to a decision

The CMP supports the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy by tackling the causes of climate change which are predicted to affect future climate with knock on health effects. Reductions from transport emissions that have been achieved in the previous 2 CMP's along with reductions from CMP3 will provide positive health benefits from reduced PM(10) and NO_x emissions.

Crime and Disorder

Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council must exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area and re-offending in its area

There is no direct impact on Crime and disorder from the implementation of CMP3.

3. Conclusion

3.1 There are significant opportunities identified for further investment and savings. The CMP quantifies those opportunities and details how they will be achieved (Appendix A). Some projects have been fully quantified and costed; others are at an earlier stage. Detailed project sheets are included in

the final Plan. Funding exists for nearly 100% of costed projects. £410,000 of Salix finance will be committed annually for the LED Street Lighting project. If fully implemented those projects already identified would reduce annual emissions by about 4,355 tonnes CO₂. Accordingly it is proposed that a target of reducing emissions by 20% over the Plan lifetime be adopted. Those already quantified would meet 76% of the target proposed.

- 3.2 Much of the programme is about embedding carbon management into existing processes. For example investment in those buildings retained to minimise energy costs. Likely technologies (which we know have less than 5 year paybacks) would include insulation, lighting upgrades, boiler settings and timings. Another good example is the changes in street lighting policy that have already taken place and the way in which traffic signal specification reflects best available technology.
- 3.3 Another key strand of embedding good carbon management practice across the authority will be creating ownership across teams and individuals. This will enable better decision making across the business.

4. Legal Comments:

The Report invites the Executive to adopt a Carbon Management Plan 2018-2023. This contributes to the fulfilment of legal duties at the national level.

The decision is consistent with the Policy Framework and within the remit of the Executive.

5. Resource Comments:

This report requests the adoption of a Carbon Management Plan 2018-2023. Adopting the plan will enable the Council to reduce its carbon emissions and make cost savings which will help to mitigate future cost pressures from energy price increases.

The cost of the investment projects identified to enable these savings to be achieved will be from the existing salix revolving fund and from existing budgets as identified.

6. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

c) Scrutiny Comments

This Report will be considered by the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee on 26 February 2019 and the comments of the Committee will be reported to the Executive.

d) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Yes

e) Risks and Impact Analysis

See the body of the Report

7. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Carbon Management Plan 2018-23

8. Background Papers

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Second Carbon Management Plan 2013-18	Environment Services, Lancaster House, 36 Orchard Street, Lincoln LN1 1XX
First Carbon Management Plan 2007-12	

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