

Open Report on behalf of Director for Children's Services

Report to:	Lincolnshire Schools Forum
Date:	10 July 2012
Subject:	Schools Collaboration On Resource Efficiency (SCORE)
Decision Reference:	
Key decision?	No

Summary:

The report provides information on proposals to roll out Schools Collaboration on Resource Efficiency (SCORE) to all Lincolnshire schools utilising DSG underspend. Roll out would be over four school years.

Actions Required:

Comment on and support the SCORE programme as detailed in the Business Plan

Alternatives Considered:

1. Provide fewer schools with support and advice.

Reasons for Recommendation:

Investment of £3,600,000 in the four year programme would result in annual savings of £2,020,000 (continuing into the future) by year five and cumulative savings of £4,035,000 (including reductions in CRC Energy Efficiency liability) at the end of the four years.

The programme will also aim to bring about behavioural change reducing energy use and consumption.

1. Background

1.1 It is estimated that school energy bills currently exceed £9 million a year. In addition to those costs, under the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC), Lincolnshire County Council is responsible for reporting on, monitoring and annually purchasing allowances to cover CO2 emissions (including all school emissions). On 2010-11 figures approximately £660,000 will be needed to do so.

1.2 As part of an East Midlands collaboration, a SCORE pilot was run from May 2011 to January 2012 with two school clusters in Lincoln and Caistor. Working with these clusters we explored the most effective means of providing whole school (estate and curriculum) support and advice to reduce energy consumption (and thereby bills) and CO2 emissions. Briefly the process included

- Schools signing up to term long programme of work and making a commitment to support
- Twilight briefing for school head teacher, Chair of Governor, bursar/caretaker, teachers in preparation
- Training day for pupils, teachers including basic building energy audit training
- Action week involving whole school (carrying out quick wins, energy audit, in school activity etc.)
- School Council/Eco Committee agreeing Action Plan detailing both behavioural and investment opportunities. Subsequent support was given to implement proposals where possible (including sourcing finance)
- Twilight sessions as required on heating systems etc.

1.3 On 30th January 2012 we held a celebration/feedback event at the Macaulay Centre with Cllr Bradwell in attendance. Lincolnshire Young Journalists Academy were also involved and are producing DVD for future use. The conclusions of the feedback were that schools had found the programme useful and effective and had all carried out actions to reduce energy consumption.

1.4 It is estimated that the pilot schools put in place measures that will, on average, save each school £39,000 from annual bills and identified investments that would realise a further £45,000 annual savings. On average implemented and identified measures would reduce energy spend by about 30% in pilot schools.

1.5 Reports on the pilot have been given to the Lincolnshire Schools Forum.

1.6 Funding would be from Dedicated Schools Grant underspend on an annual basis.

2. Conclusion

2.1 It is proposed that the programme is rolled out to all Lincolnshire schools over a four year period as described in the draft Business Plan.

2.2 To do so the following will be required

- £100,000 per year to provide two SCORE officers in partnership with Tidy Britain Group (under Eco Schools) and Apprentice administrative support (to add to the resource currently available in the Sustainability Team), publicity and marketing.
- £500,000 per year (for the four year programme) for investment in boiler optimisation and boiler room insulation by schools on the programme – investments with typical payback of three years or less
- £300,000 per year (for four year programme) as a Revolving Fund for use in energy efficiency investment in schools as highlighted through action plans

3. Legal Comments:

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4. Resource Comments:

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Case Studies on energy efficiency investment

7. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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