

Open Report on behalf of Director for Communities

Report to:	Lincolnshire Schools Forum
Date:	26 June 2013
Subject:	Energy Update

Summary:

The report provides an update on recent activity. Following the agreement of the Forum the Schools Collaboration on Resource Efficiency (SCoRE) programme is being implemented. The programme takes a whole school approach and supports schools in reducing their energy bills and spend. 60 schools have already completed the programme and it is planned to continue at a rate of 30 schools per term. Investment in proven technologies (such as boiler optimisation) follows and Frameworks have been established to obtain best value. Automatic metering has been put in place wherever possible and data is now available and visible. Monthly reports will be sent to schools showing gas and electric consumption. Programme spend is in line with agreed profile.

Actions Required:

That progress is noted.

1. Background

1.1 This report provides an update on the following strands of action that support schools in reducing energy consumption and bills.

1.2 Schools Collaboration on Resource Efficiency (SCoRE)

The SCoRE programme is now being rolled out across the county. Two SCoRE officers are employed by Keep Britain Tidy and seconded to the county council. They work full time on recruiting, training and supporting Lincolnshire schools with the elements of the SCoRE programme. There are three strands to the programme

- Behavioural and low cost savings
- Strategic investment in boiler room improvements
- Supporting investment identified in action plans in proven technologies

Each strand has the potential to deliver savings on energy consumption and spend. Schools need to remain committed, with energy consumption high on their

agenda to maintain these potential savings long-term as direct support from their SCoRE officer is withdrawn. There is confidence that reductions can be maintained with investment of appropriate technologies and improved energy management behaviour in the school.

SCoRE is funded through the DSG underspend and therefore available to all schools, including academies. The programme works with geographic clusters centred on a secondary and their key feeder primaries. Students are essential to delivering the programme. The latest SCoRE newsletters (one for Carbon Ambassadors and one aimed at the adult school population) are appended to the report (Appendices A and B).

60 schools have so far taken part (Appendix C) and sign up for the autumn term is progressing well. It is planned to involve 30 schools a term, although this is partly governed by schools' motivation and sign up! Schools begin the active phase of work with a training day for carbon ambassadors, a building audit and action planning before implementing quick win actions in an 'action week'. The first sets of schools have recently been invited to one of three 'celebration days' – celebrating success and setting the direction for continued action.

Results from the first 26 schools have now been analysed (Appendix C). Marton Primary School has performed exceptionally well, by reducing their electricity consumption over the spring term by 50%. Most other schools have ranged between 10-20% as expected and are well placed to continue with these lower consumption patterns. A couple of schools have shown an increase in electricity use, but this is related to opening new areas of the school at the same time that SCoRE activity was taking place. The two secondary schools that have completed the programme so far have both shown reductions of 5% and 6%. This is encouraging considering the challenges they face, but hopefully programme developments will continue to improve the impact made in large schools.

1.6 Investment in energy efficiency technologies.

The procurement process establishing Frameworks for boiler optimisation and boiler room insulation is well underway and implementation will start in SCoRE schools in the autumn term. This investment is carried out at no cost to the individual school.

As part of their work schools put together an action plan which details investment opportunities and their business cases. SCoRE facilitates that additional investment through a number of routes. Guidance has been prepared to assist schools (Appendix D). It has been agreed that LCC School Loans can be utilised by maintained schools for further investment in proven technologies. The guidance provides advice for academies on sources of investment funds.

3 Automatic metering, monitoring and targeting.

It is important to recognise that installation of the automatic meters will not itself reduce consumption and save money. To be effective schools need to understand what the data is telling them and to act on it. Part of the SCoRE activity in schools

provides training and understanding on how the data can be understood and acted upon. It is proposed that schools receive energy reports monthly. Those reports (see Appendix E for examples) are intended to go to head teachers, Chair of Governors and relevant contacts identified during SCoRE work.

All schools which can be set up automatically have been activated and data from installation date is available and visible. As part of SCoRE we will work with contacts to enable them to make best use of the data. Schools can request additional reports at any time.

2. Conclusion

The SCoRE programme has made a good start with good levels of participation and significant savings made through quick wins and action weeks. Programme spend is on profile. Despite regrettable delays monthly consumption reports have been made available to participating schools and will soon be available to all schools with enabled meters. Boiler optimisation and boiler room insulation work will start in September.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	SCoRE newsletter summer 2013
Appendix B	SCoRE Carbon ambassador newsletter summer 2013
Appendix C	Schools taking part in SCoRE and results
Appendix D	Funding for energy efficiency improvement guidance
Appendix E	Energy consumption report examples

5. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Douglas Robinson, who can be contacted on 01522 554816 or douglas.robinson@lincolnshire.gov.uk .

This page is intentionally left blank