

Open Report on behalf of Director for Communities

Report to:	Lincolnshire Schools Forum
Date:	09 October 2013
Subject:	School Collaboration on Resource Efficiency (SCoRE) 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high on their agenda to maintain these potential savings long-term as direct support from their SCoRE officer is withdrawn.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 background briefing and autumn newsletter are appended to the report (Appendices A and B).

60 schools have so far completed the programme (Appendix C) and 31 autumn term participant schools have started their activities with a training day. Six training days have been held at Bourne Academy, The West Grantham Academy St. Hugh's, Sir William Robertson Academy (Welbourn), Branston Community Academy, The Peele School (Long Sutton) and Banovallum School (Horncastle).

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'. It is planned to involve 30 schools a term, although this is partly governed by schools' motivation and sign up!

1.3 Investment in energy efficiency technologies.

The procurement process establishing Frameworks for boiler optimisation and boiler room insulation is complete 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. The guidance provides advice for academies on sources of investment funds.

1.4 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. As they participate schools will receive energy reports monthly. Those reports 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.

1.5 Low Carbon Schools conference

In partnership with Climate East Midlands and East Midlands local authorities we are holding the above event on 7th March 2014. It is a one day conference for people who lead, manage, teach and govern primary and secondary schools, academies and colleges together with those from local government and further afield that provide services and support. This is to explore what a low carbon school means in practice, why it's a desirable goal from a financial, educational and environmental perspective and the various ways you can make it happen through a whole school approach. It will be both practical and inspirational and feature a range of good practice examples from across the East Midlands. Appendix D provides more information.

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 background information
Appendix B	SCoRE autumn 2013 newsletter
Appendix C	Schools taking part in SCoRE and results
Appendix D	Low carbon schools event flyer (to follow)

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.