

## 6 Month Update Report on Climate Change Actions

## DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

**Key Objective 1: To reduce the impact of development on climate change and to ensure new developments are 'climate proofed'**

Ref	Lead Manager	Action	Progress (Oct 07 – March 08)	Date to be Achieved	Actions (March 08 - April 09)
DPM1	Development Control Manager	All development (either new build or conversion) with a floorspace in excess of 1,000m <sup>2</sup> , or ten or more residential units, to incorporate embedded energy from renewable sources, in order to provide at least 10% of the predicted energy requirements.	Guidance and advice on achieving the 10% requirement is being given by the Sustainable Communities Section. Improving links between Sustainable Communities, Development Control and Regeneration has ensured developers are more likely to be informed of the requirement at the earliest possible stage. So far, four developments have met the condition, although none have been completed. It is estimated that the total amount of energy offset by renewable technologies in the last two approved developments was 1,051 MWh.	Ongoing	Further information will be supplied to developers by developing a series of marketing packages, which will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New detailed information on SBC website.</li> <li>• New planning info sheet for developers.</li> </ul>
DPM2	Forward Planning Manager	Reduce the impact of development on climate change, through the Local Development Framework.	Production of Draft Windlestone Hall Supplementary Planning Document published March 2008. Local Development Framework Contextual Indicators published in March 2008.	01/2009	Publication of Affordable Housing SPD expected after the publication of the Durham Strategic Housing Market Assessment.
DPM3	Development Control Manager, Sustainable Communities	Developers to be encouraged to use most sustainable methods of construction available.	Advice given to developers via 'One Stop Shop' and individual requests via Development Control and Regeneration.	06/2008	Continue with advice through 'One Stop Shop'. Explore opportunities to produce sustainable construction guidance and promote Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 in all

	<b>Manager</b>				housing developments.
<b>DPA1</b>	<b>Forward Planning Manager</b>	All new development sites to be directed to flood zone 1 (areas that are at little or no risk of flooding) as identified in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment report.	Ongoing  Investigated the possibility of including flash flooding hotspots into the GIS. Such occurrences are usually down to drain blockages and as such are not a reflection on increased weather variability.	Ongoing	Investigation into flood mapping will continue.
<b>DPA2</b>	<b>Development Control Manager, Sustainable Communities Manager</b>	Promote design of new developments that takes into account future climatic conditions.	New developments advised on adaptation issues through One Stop Shop and Regeneration Department. This includes information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural Shading.</li> <li>• Optimisation of Solar Gain.</li> <li>• Natural Ventilation.</li> <li>• SUDS.</li> <li>• Green Roofs.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	

## PUBLIC BUILDINGS & CONSUMPTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### Key Objective 2: To substantially reduce the consumption of natural resources from Council activities

Ref	Lead Manager	Action	Progress (Oct 07 – March 08)	Date to be Achieved	Actions (March 08 - April 09)
PBM1	Energy Management Group	Implement the actions encompassed within the 2007 'Sustainable Energy and Water Policy' and associated 'Annual Energy Management Plan', to provide for a 3% reduction in energy consumption.	<p>Annual Energy Management Report produced. This contained the following achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICT implemented a programme of energy saving measures across the computer system in Nov 07. The software: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turns off monitors after 10 minutes of inactivity.</li> <li>• Turns off hard drives after 2 hours of inactivity.</li> <li>• Hibernates computers after 3 hours of inactivity.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 36 Variable Speed Drives were purchased on Heating &amp; Ventilation fans and swimming pool pumps. This reduces the amount of fuel used to heat and ventilate the LC's. Cost £48,925. Payback less than 1 year.</li> <li>• Gas boilers have been replaced at Newton Aycliffe, Ferryhill, and Shildon Sunnydale and gas burners have been replaced at Spennymoor.</li> <li>• Replacement of pool dosing systems saving water. Installation of water saving devices on both toilet and urinal flushing cisterns.</li> <li>• Lighting controls and occupancy sensors have been incorporated into most areas that were refurbished in 07/08 in the leisure centres.</li> <li>• All Valves and Flanges in plant rooms have now been insulated where appropriate.</li> <li>• All leisure centre managers have had extensive tour of plant rooms with detailed explanations of</li> </ul>	2007- 2012	<p>Trial installation of T5 high frequency lighting in small office area.</p> <p>Display Energy Certificates<sup>1</sup> to be installed in appropriate Council buildings in accordance with Energy Performance of Buildings Directive.</p>

<sup>1</sup> [www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/theenvironment/energyperformance/certificates/displayenergycertificates/](http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/theenvironment/energyperformance/certificates/displayenergycertificates/)

			how the plant works. Managers also hold budgets for energy.		
<b>PBM2</b>	Valuation & Corporate Property Services Manager	Establish a comprehensive management system for energy and water within the six main operational buildings.	Report agreed at Management Team on energy monitoring strategy. DCC to monitor energy and water usage, bill validation, produce annual consumption reports and ensure compliance with EPBD for main sites.	03/2008	Ensure DCC comply with terms of agreement. Investigate extension of agreement to include smaller sites.
<b>PBM3</b>	Energy Management Group	Reinvest up to 50% of financial savings from energy savings measures into new energy conservation initiatives and investigate potential external funding sources.	<b>Removed because of LGR</b>	07/2008	
<b>PBM4</b>	Technical Services Manager	Produce a strategy for the sustainable management of municipal waste throughout the Borough.	New recycling management contract now in place, with Greencycle. Daily tonnages are nearly double compared to the same period in 2007.	03/2009	Report upon recycling targets on 6 monthly basis.
<b>PBM5</b>	Valuation & Corporate Property Services Manager	Assess feasibility of generating electricity from on-site renewable technologies at each location within the Council's building portfolio. Where appropriate and cost effective, generate 5% of a building's total electricity usage by 2012.	No work undertaken. All capital works (and budgets) have been severely curtailed because of LGR, on the basis that significant works should not be carried out when we do not know what the future holds. Therefore no such works will be considered until after LGR and then the new Council will need to decide its strategy.	03/2012	
<b>PBA1</b>	Valuation & Corporate Property Services Manager	Review ventilation strategies in the existing building portfolio, to ensure that the most financially & environmentally sustainable standards are introduced.	No work undertaken. All capital works (and budgets) have been severely curtailed because of LGR, on the basis that significant works should not be carried out when we do not know what the future holds. Therefore no such works will be considered until after LGR and then the new Council will need to decide its strategy.	03/2009	

## HOUSING

**Key Objective 3: To improve the energy rating of all domestic properties in order to achieve an average SAP rating of 62 across the Borough by 2012**

Ref	Lead Manager	Action	Progress (Oct 07 – March 08)	Date to be Achieved	Actions (March 08 - April 09)
<b>HM1</b>	Sustainable Communities Manager	Continue to deliver energy efficiency and grants advice to all residents in partnership with the Home Improvement Agency (HIA), EAGA and The Energy Saving Trust (EST).	<p>New partnerships being developed with 'GoWarm' and 'Rights to Warmth' to deliver a comprehensive fuel poverty and insulation scheme for residents of the Borough.</p> <p>Group Repair Scheme (GRS) work on 2-28 Haig Street, Ferryhill Station commenced December 2007. The works selected by residents have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breaking out of the existing ground floor to provide a new insulated construction.</li> <li>• Cavity Wall insulation was programmed in but was omitted due to the presence of bats.</li> <li>• Stripping out of the existing central heating and hot water system and provision of a new central heating and hot water system incorporating a solar panel and energy efficient condensing wall mounting boiler.</li> <li>• Upgrading of the loft insulation.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	<p>Updates from 'GoWarm', 'Warm Front' and 'EST' to be delivered to SBC on a monthly basis.</p> <p>Distribute, in partnership with MEARS, energy efficiency publicity to Council residents.</p>
<b>HM2</b>	Sustainable Communities Manager	Accurately record household energy data to enable annual energy performance (SAP) reports to be produced for all non Council housing stock.	'GoWarm' are compiling SAP data for non Council housing stock.	03/2009	Investigate compliance with NI 187 through the use of 'GoWarm' SAP data. Investigate potential transfer of data from 'GoWarm' to Council Database.

<b>HM3</b>	Design & Management Manager - Housing	Review heating systems of grouped accommodation and investigate the potential for installing renewable technologies, where appropriate.	Central boiler plant renewals have taken place in two grouped accommodations. The 25 year old gas boilers have been renewed with new more efficient gas boilers, more and updated heating controls have been installed to improve the control of the system and increase energy efficiency at a cost of £300,000.	03/2009	A feasibility study is planned for a grouped accommodation scheme, which also provides heating about 12 or so small bungalows. The boiler is 25 years old and was originally solid fuel and was converted to gas and as such is extremely inefficient.
<b>HM4</b>	Design & Management Manager - Housing	Increase average SAP rating of Council housing to 78.	The Council has a target to ensure that all of its housing stock meets the Governments Decent Home Standard by 2010, in order to meet this target old gas boilers have been replaced with new high efficiency condensing combination boilers and improved heating controls have been installed.	03/2008	The recent stock condition survey indicated that no Council housing fail the thermal criteria and that a large proportion of the work required to meet the Decency Standard is boiler replacement. Therefore old boilers will be replaced with high efficiency gas boilers and improved controls will also be fitted to the heating systems. This will not only attain the Decent Homes, but will also go some way to achieving the Target SAP rating.

<b>HA1</b>	Design & Management Manager - Housing	Continue to carry out regular inspections of council housing stock in relation to the potential adverse impacts of a changing climate.	<p>The Council have focused the capital programme works to deal with the properties identified as failing decency, from the stock condition survey. This has seen an increase in the number of heating, electrical and roofing works carried out.</p> <p>The Council have also entered into a five year strategic partnership with Mears covering all Housing related construction services. This also includes the Capital Programme which will ensure the Council meets the Decent Homes target. This has cost an overall total of £5.6m.</p>	Ongoing	The Council will continue to focus the capital programme on achieving the Decent Homes targets, carrying out works identified to meet this target from the Stock Condition Survey.
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## GREENSPACE & BIODIVERSITY

### Key Objective 4: To manage green spaces to take account of changes to the climate

Ref	Lead Manager	Action	Progress (Oct 07 – March 08)	Date to be Achieved	Actions (March 08 - April 09)
<b>GSM 1</b>	Sustainable Communities Manager / Forward Planning Manager	Develop a Woodland Management Strategy to: a) Improve the management regime of existing woodland sites. b) Identify opportunities for extensive tree planting. c) Identify local opportunities to utilise felled materials as biofuel or fuel in biomass generators.	<i>Removed because of LGR</i>	03/2009	
<b>GSA1</b>	Sustainable Communities Manager / Forward Planning Manager	Discourage planting of high water demanding plants and encourage use of native species of local provenance in appropriate locations.	Streetscene have an ongoing programme of improving efficiencies across its service delivery area. Actions currently undertaken include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The use P4 soil conditioner to reduce the required watering in newly planted areas.</li> <li>• Mulch all planted areas' both old and new with our own re-cycled wood chips.</li> <li>• Top up with mulch where and when required.</li> <li>• Plant as early as possible in the dormant season Nov-Jan to establish a good root system that will require less water for the first season.</li> <li>• Water only for the first planting season (if required).</li> <li>• Reduce the re-planting of shrub beds in the Borough and replace with grass.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Looking for new locations for heather beds within 2008 to reduce watering further.



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use Micro PHC mycorrhizal fungi root dip on all new stock to reduce stress in drought conditions.</li> <li>• Use self watering hanging baskets with an enclosed water reservoir.</li> <li>• Phasing out the use of hanging baskets throughout the Borough.</li> <li>• Replaced 5 flower and shrub beds with heather beds which require less water.</li> </ul>		
<b>GSA2</b>	Sustainable Communities Manager / Forward Planning Manager	Develop a Green Space Strategy (GSS) to identify partnerships and resources for the protection and enhancement of important habitats and the links between them (ecological corridors).	The Green Space strategy has been put on hold due to a change in members of staff; the new officer covering this strategy has recently started in post.	11/2007	Progress in 2008.
<b>GSA3</b>	Sustainable Communities Manager / Forward Planning Manager	Incorporate potential climate change impacts and opportunities for adaptation, into site specific management plans, strategies and project work.	Due to a change in staff, the Countryside Officer (Projects and Maintenance) post has become vacant. It is hoped that the new officer will be reviewing the Local Nature Reserve (LNR) management plans through the summer season 2008.	03/2009	Progress in 2008.
<b>GSA4</b>	Sustainable Communities Manager / Forward Planning Manager	Disseminate guidance, and develop policy on the identification, avoidance and removal of invasive exotic plant species.	Guidance has yet to be developed.	03/2010	This will be an integral part of the work to complete the Green Space Strategy and as such will be picked up during the summer.

## TRANSPORT

### Key Objective 5: To reduce fuel consumption from all vehicles operated by the Council by 5% by 2012

Ref	Lead Manager	Action	Progress (Oct 07 – March 08)	Date to be Achieved	Actions (March 08 - April 09)
TM1	Sustainable Communities Manager & Policy and Finance Manager	Produce a comprehensive package of information/events to promote alternatives to the car to staff and residents.	<i>Staff Car Sharing scheme still ongoing. Other items removed because of LGR.</i>	Ongoing	
TM2	Transport Manager	Appraise all aspects of the utilisation of fleet vehicles, aiming to reduce costs and consumption of fuel.	Transport Section still waiting for approval to purchase a new fuel management system which will be able to provide mileage, MPG and consumption information. LGR may be a deciding factor in the approval for the capital investment required to install the fuel management system.	03/2008	Planned activities will be confirmed once a decision is made regarding the purchase of a new fuel management system.
TM3	Human Resources Manager	Review the environmental impacts of the Council's current policy on lease cars.	<i>Removed because of LGR</i>	03/2008	
TM4	Transport Manager & Sustainable Communities Manager	Implement actions outlined within the Borough Council's Travel Plan.	<i>Removed because of LGR</i>	03/2009	

## SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

### Key Objective 6: To reduce greenhouse gas emissions through sustainable procurement solutions

Ref	Lead Manager	Action	Progress (Oct 07 – March 08)	Date to be Achieved	Actions (March 08 - April 09)
<b>SPM1</b>	Policy & Finance Manager	Develop sustainable procurement practices and ensure effective communication to key staff and suppliers.	<p>All paper purchases currently contain a minimum of 75% post consumer waste and carry the NAPM logo.</p> <p>Use of electronic tender system instead of manual paper based system. Benefits include, no paper used in process for both SBC and suppliers, no postage costs, time efficiency savings.</p>	03/2009	Inclusion of Sustainability paragraph in upfront detail for all tender specifications distributed by Procurement.
<b>SPM2</b>	Policy & Finance Manager	Ensure sustainability impacts are identified and that 'whole life costing analysis' is adopted when determining purchasing specifications and evaluation criteria.	Sustainability is used as part of the evaluation criteria within the assessment toolkit. This % score can be changed in relation to the significance initiators place on sustainability for each contract.	03/2009	Promote the use of E-Tendering system to all departments.
<b>SPM3</b>	Audit Manager	Investigate purchase of renewable electricity (in preference to green electricity) at contract renewal periods.	<p>SBC are now in the North East Purchasing Organisation (NEPO) which allows the authority greater power to purchase energy at reduced costs. Renewable electricity is prohibitively expensive at the moment because of a shortage of supply. Electricity is therefore purchased from 'Good Quality CHP' (the simultaneous generation of usable heat and power (usually electricity) in a single process).</p> <p>Renewable energy aspect removed because of LGR timescale.</p>	03/2010	

## AWARENESS RAISING

**Key Objective 7: To ensure employees, businesses and residents have a clear understanding of the potential impacts of climate change, how they can adapt to these impacts and contribute positively towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions**

Ref	Lead Manager	Action	Progress	Date to be Achieved	Actions (March 08 - April 09)
<b>ARM 1</b>	Sustainable Communities Manager	Provide climate change and energy awareness advice to Borough Council Members, staff and residents.	<p>Actions taken from October 2007 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy consumption update provided to staff via 'Team Briefs'.</li> <li>• Energy Awareness leaflet produced and distributed to every member of staff.</li> <li>• A range of publicity information has been included with various issues of INFORM. From October to March there were 10 articles within INFORM based on a sustainability theme. This included a four month trial of SMART electricity monitors with public volunteers. 6 out of the 7 volunteers managed to reduce their electrical consumption over this period compared to the previous 4 months.</li> <li>• Three SMART electricity monitors have been installed into community buildings while a trial scheme involving 'supported housing schemes' is being investigated in partnership with Carelink.</li> <li>• Renewable energy advice has been distributed to all community organisations within the Borough. This was followed up with a further three site visits relaying more detailed energy efficiency and renewable</li> </ul>	Ongoing	<p>Produce further update for staff in April.</p> <p>Appoint a 'Climate Change Champion' both at Member and Chief Officer level, in line with recommendations from the Key Findings and Recommendations of the Climate Change Task and Finish Group from the Association of North East Councils (ANEC)<sup>2</sup>.</p>


<sup>2</sup> Association of North East Councils (2008), CLIMATE CHANGE: Key Findings and Recommendations of the Climate Change Task and Finish Group

			<p>energy information and advice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DEFRA funded regional Climate Change Dome made four visits to Sedgefield Borough during 2007. This provided residents with advice and information about Climate Change mitigation and adaptation.</li> </ul>		
<b>ARM 2</b>	Regeneration Manager & Sustainable Communities Manager	Develop a Borough-wide Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan in partnership with the LSP, communities and local businesses.	<b>Removed because of LGR.</b>	03/2009	
<b>ARM 3</b>	Economic Development Manager & Development Control Manager	Stimulate the development of a renewable energy infrastructure and environmentally sustainable buildings at key business locations within the Borough.	Economic Development are working with a major landowner on Aycliffe Business Park who are selling land to a renewable energy provider. This development will face lengthy planning issues and won't be in place for some time, but will ensure that waste products of one of Aycliffe's major companies are converted into energy.	08/2009	Working with developers of Green Lane Industrial Estate to integrate sustainable energy, BREEAM and 'eco-homes' into planning application due to be submitted in June 2008.
<b>ARA1</b>	Sustainable Communities Manager & Carelink Services Manager	Raise awareness of potential climate change impacts and provide adaptation advice to communities.	No Progress.	Ongoing	Highlight appropriate adaptation measures as a priority with vulnerable groups and service leads.
<b>ARA2</b>	Head of Financial Resources & DCC	Ensure emergency procedures for all sites are updated and meet requirements for increased risks.	<b>Removed because of LGR.</b>	03/2008	

## Carbon Management Matrix

	POLICY	ORGANISATION	INFORMATION AND DATA	COMMUNICATION AND TRAINING	FINANCE	MONITORING & EVALUATION
<b>Excellent</b>	Specific climate change policy with targets signed off and implemented + Action plan with clear goals and regular reviews to confirm actions undertaken and targets achieved/being progressed	As 4: + Climate change responsibilities integrated into responsibilities of senior managers in different departments <i>+ Political support from the highest level in the council.</i>	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions compiled for all main LA sources for a baseline year and regular collation of annual emissions data + Data externally verified	As 4: +Communication on carbon and energy related matters with the community and other key business partners	Well defined and effective internal financing mechanisms for carbon/energy saving projects + Extensive use of external finance sources as appropriate + Good internal resources for management/coordination tasks	Management Review of carbon management process by senior management. + Regular reviews by core team on progress with carbon management
<b>Very Good</b>	Specific climate change policy with targets developed and signed off, but not implemented	Climate change/carbon management is a <u>full</u> -time responsibility of an individual + Climate change responsibilities integrated into responsibilities of senior managers in different departments	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions compiled for all main LA sources for a baseline year (i.e. buildings, streetlighting, transport (fleet and commuting) and waste if relevant) + Data internally reviewed	Formalised communication and training plan for all staff on carbon and energy related matters, including integration in induction and other normal training processes	Internal & external funding on a regular basis for carbon/energy saving projects + Sufficient internal resources for management/coordination tasks	Regular reviews by core team on progress with carbon management (e.g. review of actions, check against emissions profile and targets, addition of new opportunities etc.)
<b>Good</b>	Climate change included in wider policy documents.	As 2: + Climate change responsibilities integrated into responsibilities of people in different departments	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions data compiled for some sources for a baseline year (e.g. buildings and streetlighting) and source data available for other sources (e.g. transport)	Ad hoc communication and training delivered to all staff on carbon and energy related matters	Internal & external funding on an ad hoc basis for carbon/energy saving projects + Limited internal resources for management/co-ordination tasks	Ad hoc assessment of all aspects of carbon/energy policies/strategies, targets and action plans
<b>Fair</b>	Climate change as an aspiration in non-policy documents	Climate change/carbon management is a part-time responsibility of an individual	No CO <sub>2</sub> emissions data compiled for any sources but energy data compiled on a regular basis	Communication and training to specific groups in the Council (e.g. energy team) on carbon or energy related matters	Some internal financing on an ad hoc basis for carbon and/or energy efficiency related projects + Limited internal resources for management/coordination tasks	Ad hoc reviews of specific aspects of carbon/energy policies/strategies, targets and action plans
<b>Poor</b>	No climate change policy or strategy and no mention of climate change in policy/strategy documents	No individual with responsibility for climate change issues	No CO <sub>2</sub> emissions data compiled for any sources and energy data not compiled on a regular basis	No communication or training to staff on carbon or energy related matters	No internal financing or funding for carbon and/or energy efficiency related projects	No monitoring of carbon/energy policies/strategies, targets and action plans

 2007 Level: Fair/Good

 2008 Level: Good/Very Good (columns with no blue shaded box represent no progress)

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