



PRCC.26 13/14
Committee Prosperous Communities Committee
15th October 2013

Subject: Report title Green Strategy Update Report

Report by:

Councillor Howitt-Cowan

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Purpose / Summary:

This report provides an update on the Green Strategy programme and delivery arrangements. It asks Members to continue to endorse key strategic objectives, as well as note the progress in establishing the programme management approach and integrated programme, overall progress since 2012, improved communications approach and the update on the recent progress

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Members endorse the Green Programme's key strategic objectives to support the realisation of our Green vision, set out in paragraph 5.1

IMPLICATIONS

Legal: There are no specific legal implications arising from this report. As the Delivery Plan for the Green Strategy is developed, officers will need to seek advice from legal Services on the individual projects concerned, as has been the case with the civic solar project.

Staffing: Activity on this project was being led by the Director of Communities and Localism but on her departure from the authority the Chief Executive has taken overall strategic sponsorship . The project team involves staff from across the Council and is supported by 'specialist external' assistance through APSE.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights :N/A

Risk Assessment: There are no specific risks arising from this report. Individual projects within the green programme will have their own risk registers and mitigation measures in place. There may a risk to the delivery of the programme if recommendations in section 3 are not approved and appropriate structures are not put in place.

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:

The successful delivery of the action plan would support the delivery of the Council's green strategy and allow the Council to offset carbon emissions from its energy consumption.

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Civic Renewables paper P & R 25 July 2013, Green strategy October 2012 and renewable energy statement March 2012 to be inserted.

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

X

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

x

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides Members with an update on the Green Strategy Programme and delivery arrangements. It asks Members to continue to endorse key strategic objectives, as well as note the progress in establishing the programme management approach and integrated programme, overall progress since 2012, improved communications approach and the update on the recent progress

2 Introduction

- 2.1 This report provides Member's with an update on the development of the Green Strategy Programme. It's important to reflect on the significant successes we have secured in the last year as we to start build the foundations for delivering the long-term vision (see 5.1)

Progress includes:

- 12/13 emission figures show that we are continuing to make measureable CO2 reductions in line with the Carbon Management Plan – saving the Council money.
 - Solar panels installed on viable Council buildings. More than £15k FITS income achieved in 12/13 – plus money saving using green energy.
 - Review of Council assets completed and energy saving initiatives being implemented (e.g. Trinity Arts centre)
 - Civic Solar proposal being investigated after approval by Committee
 - Projects being steered by knowledgeable and enthusiastic Green PDP member group
 - WLDC are working with Anglian Water on developing a Water Strategy for West Lindsey in partnership with the Lincolnshire districts and Lincolnshire County Council.
 - Warm front and fuel poverty strategy being updated. Targets refocused. New HELP scheme in draft format.
- 2.2 We have moved this year from planning, to beginning to put in place the machinery needed to deliver large and complex projects. An example of this civic solar project which has developed the necessary structural support, including legal and procurement, to give Members the confidence that it can deliver quickly and to a commercial standard once a site agreement is in place.

The Green Team has been disrupted and reduced following the departure of the director with sponsorship responsibility for the programme. It is as yet unclear as to how the programme will fit into the new corporate structure. Once this is in place, formal representation will be sought at a directorate / CMT level to ensure accountability and drive things forwards in areas of the plan where progress has been more staccato. This is largely a function of lack of resources and competing priorities, but that said, encouraging results are being displayed in areas that

have been identified as the highest corporate priority. A new board structure is in place with the Communities Board and a clear action plan has received peer approval and is reported on at each meeting. That area is on track.

Encouragement also comes from an expanded cross party Green PDP. Members of the group are enthusiastic and bring knowledge, expertise and a real passion to this agenda. This is an area that is close to the heart of many of our Members and it was always intended that it should be they who lead it. New governance arrangements are being put in place to ensure that happens, with Member Green Champion, Cllr Howitt-Cowan having now taken over from this report's author as Chair of the PDP.

This paper gives an update on some of the work being undertaken to ensure that we have the arrangements in place to deliver the green programme at the quality and scale that will be required as we move into a number of significant projects which have the potential to make fundamental and lasting improvements to the area.

3. Recommendations

3.1 Members are asked to:

- i. Note and continue to support the Green Programme's key strategic objectives to support the realisation of our Green vision, set out in paragraph 5.1
- ii. Note the programme management approach and progress in establishing the Green project group, its integration into the Communities Board, and development of the Green PDP set out in section 6.
- iii. Note the improved approach to green communications in West Lindsey, set out in section 7.
- iv. Note the overall progress since the Green Strategy report was presented to Committee in November 2012, set out in Appendix 1

4. Alternative options considered

4.1 The alternative approach would not be to progress with the actions in West Lindsey's Green Strategy. This, however, would not deliver the vision set out in the document nor the strategic aims and objectives of the green programme for West Lindsey.

5. Background information

5.1 Green Strategy

In November 2012 the Council adopted its first Green Strategy which contained its commitment to a clear vision for the district, its residents, business and communities for the next 15 years.

THE VISION

West Lindsey strives to be the greenest district with a thriving green economy that results in improved wellbeing for residents and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and threats to biodiversity. West Lindsey's operations are nationally recognised as being low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive.

Within West Lindsey's green economy, growth in income and employment should be driven by public and private investments that reduce carbon emissions and pollution, enhance energy and resource efficiency, and prevent the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. These investments will be catalysed and supported by targeted expenditure from the Council, supportive policies and information support on regulations and funding.

We recognise the importance of our natural environment, and celebrate and promote it to residents, businesses and visitors. Development should maintain, enhance and, where necessary, rebuild our environment as a critical economic asset and as a source of public benefits, especially for our agricultural sector whose livelihoods and security depend on nature.

Our green vision means that our economic and development goals are balanced with a focus on social equity and maintaining environmental systems for present and future generations.

- 5.2 In order to deliver on this ambitious vision for the district the Council agreed a Green Strategy programme aimed at providing coordinated leadership of West Lindsey's drive to reduce its carbon footprint, its role in facilitating community initiatives and providing the foundations for a thriving low carbon economy.
- 5.3 Before that time, and following consultation with Members, West Lindsey's green agenda had become a key priority of the Council and been incorporated into the Corporate Plan. Revenue was set aside to fund projects to press ahead on a number of emerging objectives including:
- Reducing WLDC's carbon footprint
 - Reducing WLDC's energy bills
 - Renewables on WLDC buildings and assets
- 5.3.1 The Council, as part of the above programme, has now gained a proven track record in utilising the opportunity of renewable energy on its own buildings, witnessed by the installation of Solar PV panels on the Festival Hall in Market Rasen and the Leisure Centre in Gainsborough. This complements those panels already in place at the Guildhall. These measures along with those around improving energy efficiency have considerably decreased the cost of energy to these civic buildings and helped keep the Council on track in meeting its Carbon Management Plan targets. As well as reducing energy bills, this brought in more than £15,000 Feed in Tariff income last year.

This Programme, having now delivered a number of the intended outputs reached the point which was opportune to review and consider the next phase of the programme and a Green Strategy action Plan was presented to committee in November 2012.

The summary of progress since then Green Strategy is set out in Appendix 1.

6. Programme Delivery Arrangements

- 6.1.1 The efforts of the programme so far has been primarily focussed on the 'Green Council' element with a strong drive to save money on energy bills and bring in income. Over the last six months, officers have been exploring the potential of utilising renewable solar PV technology, moving from our success at buildings based schemes to looking at land based opportunities. The Council prides itself on its 'entrepreneurial' credentials and Members have thus approved a report and continued exploration of a land based Civic Solar facility for the benefit of the communities of West Lindsey. Money generated is intended to be returned to local communities or used to offset Government cuts to council funding and safeguard the future of public services
- 6.1.2 However, it has long been recognised that real change in West Lindsey must benefit local people first and foremost, bringing jobs, opportunities and improved living conditions. The green strategy recognises this and states in order to deliver change through the 15 year vision, it will be essential to work with stakeholders to improve quality of life for everyone – encourage green investment, jobs,

economic growth, quality housing and strong neighbourhoods. This is being monitored through the 'Green Communities' and 'Green Economy' elements of the programme but more work now needs to be done in these areas

- 6.1.3 The next phase of the programme will bring forward projects and programmes for social and economic change, which can be co-ordinated through the PDP and the Communities Board. This will include the setting up of a green economy task force and accelerated work in the area termed 'fair energy'. WLDC is committed to supporting communities to become more resilient against rising fuel price rises and helping them out of fuel poverty. We are already undertaking a programme to promote demand reduction and energy efficiency and are working to increase renewable energy production in the residential sector where appropriate. All of this is aimed at helping residents reduce their fuel bills. WLDC officers have paid particular attention to those residents that are most in need of help, and contributed to a LCC task and finish group which has recently published a report on [Tackling Fuel Poverty in Lincolnshire](#). An action plan is in draft form. This can form part of a comprehensive and integrated physical, social and economic regeneration of West Lindsey, to create the opportunity for a wider and deeper focus on being "a green district, where people want to work, live and visit"
- 6.1.4 We have recognised that the Green Strategy Programme is a corporate programme, which requires whole council attention, working collaboratively together. This programme remains high in Councillor's priorities is a key change initiative and as such will need to be regularly reported to, and progress monitored by the Corporate Plan Board – as well as the Communities Board and the Green PDP.
- 6.1.5 However, the Programme is, necessarily, wider than just WLDC council activities and our interventions. It also requires wider partnership input and investment, across the public, private and 3rd sectors, to ensure delivery of the change needed for West Lindsey, with focussed attention on social and economic change.
- 6.1.6 If we are to acknowledging the scale of this challenge and to co-ordinate this in an integrated way and provide momentum and pace, we must review the delivery plan and adopt a robust programme management framework. This is beginning to happen through the Communities Board which was launched in earlier this year. Terms of reference for that board have now been drafted and this will drive the delivery of the programme against the top green priorities agreed for coming year as a result of the member and management workshops and other member engagement. These are not new in that they are part of the existing priorities in the Corporate Plan and the Green Strategy. However, members have given directions on the priority areas to enable focus.

Below is the list of 'green' priorities and the key members of the council who are leading on this. These members are also involved in the Green PDP and it is anticipated the specific outcomes and objectives will be drawn up through that group.

- Premiere energy solutions that are green – lead Cllr Paul Howitt-Cowan
- Drive down waste and Rural Affairs– lead Cllr Lewis-Strange

- 6.1.7 Where there are other projects and programmes that address the strategic objectives of the Green Programme but have their own programming arrangements (e.g. the waste strategy,) good communication and planning links will be established so that synergies can be recognised and exploited.
- 6.1.8 Progress in programme is now being reported to Prosperous Communities, together with the proposed delivery structure and future arrangements – with a recommendation that the Green PDP review and oversee progress in the future.
- 6.1.9 This programme has been shared with external key partners at LCC and beyond. Any changes will be communicated with them for comment and augmentation with their own projects and programmes and to help establish effective planning links to secure programme synergies.
- 6.1.10 To support the delivery of the Green Strategy Programme, it is recommended that it is given visibility in the corporate restructure along with directorate responsibility. This will provide greater ownership and focus of the green programme. The key features of a new structure might be:
- Increased resources and capacity
 - Dedicated manager – this person would also have their own strategic objectives related to the strategic programme
 - Dedicated communications support available
 - Dedicated programme support from business improvement
- Greater co-ordination of the staff in the Communities Programme

7 Communications and Engagement

- 7.1.1 One of the things that the Green PDP have stressed is a desire to ensure that local people play an active role in shaping their environment. They are also keen to inform West Lindsey's communities and businesses of the opportunities to live work and invest in a green district. A number of initiatives are already underway to help improve how the council communicates and engages with residents and businesses.
- 7.1.2 The council is also making full use of key communications channels to ensure that news and opportunities about West Lindsey are being proactively promoted. These are detailed in the [Green Communications Strategy Plan](#) green communications plan. Specific communications action plans with supporting resources and a timetable are in place for major projects such as [Civic Solar Farm Communications Plan](#)

8 Financial implications

- 8.1 As part of the Carbon Management Plan it was agreed that a pot of £200k be set aside from our Invest to save reserves; £170,727.68 has been spent on carbon projects to date and the remaining £29,272 is earmarked for carbon projects at Trinity Arts centre. FITs income totalling £15,333 in year 1 is to be recycled back into the carbon pot. See Appendix 2 for more detail.
Aside from the Civic solar project, all aspects report have been delivered within the existing revenue budget combined with associated external grant funding received.
- 8.2 Initial consultation work from APSE on the civic solar project has totally approximately £10,600. Members have approved a spend of £30,000 from reserves for project development and continuing specialist advice and services in this area.
- 8.3 Although the future activities outlined within this report will involve use of budgets and resources from both across the Council and with partner organisations, there is a risk that not all activity necessary for successful delivery of the programme can be contained within existing budgets. Work is on-going to identify costs for all

work to be undertaken and where there is an additional cost impact of this work, it will be included within the a future Committee report for agreement as appropriate. .

9 Conclusion

The Green Strategy Programme aims to deliver better outcomes for residents across a range of policy areas e.g. employment, health, prosperity, housing and transport.

To help facilitate this, the programme was identified as one of the key corporate programmes in the most recent Corporate Plan. Continued support from Members means that it remains in priority in 2013/14, but the changing corporate structure and departure of the sponsoring Director means that renewed CMT support and programme resources are necessary to ensure continued delivery. Clear integration of the green programme in the new structure will help ensure that the Council's activities are fully integrated with the work of its partners across the public, private and third sectors.

This is a timely opportunity for Members to be updated on the development of the emerging green strategy programme.

APPENDIX 1: GREEN STRATEGY ACTIONS AND PROGRESS

1. Moving to Action

- 1.1 The vision laid out in the Green Strategy is ambitious and long term and it was important that clear and achievable actions were identified in order to marshal the Council's resources to make positive progress, accepting that everything will not be achieved overnight.

Whilst the council is already making good progress in some areas, the vision is not something that can be achieved by the council working alone. It will require local partners and communities to work together with public agencies, business, the voluntary and community sector and others.

The Green Strategy has set out what the aspiration is and what West Lindsey will look like in 15 years time if we succeed in delivering the strategy. Outcomes include:

- There is a better quality environment which has made people healthier;
- People are more aware of how important the environment is to our prosperity and where there are more 'low carbon' and environmental jobs;
- We are more self-sufficient and use energy and resources better;
- We are an important agricultural area that feeds the nation in the most carbon efficient environmentally friendly way possible;
- The landscape and built and historic environment retains its unique character and has been protected and enhanced so that it and benefits all – visitors, businesses and residents;
- Areas of high nature conservation quality have been conserved and the loss of plant and animal species has been reversed;
- We are firmly on track to becoming a 'low carbon' county and are more adaptive to climate change;
- People have become 'greener' in the way they live their lives;
- Local businesses are seen to have the most environmentally friendly practices and are world leaders in green technologies;
- The environment lies at the heart of other strategies and plans for the district and the county and where we have worked together better to implement them.

2 Key actions

- 2.1 The action plan below details some of the key first steps that have been taken support the delivery of the Strategy. In summary these are:
- 2.2 Under the '*Green Council*' part of the strategy, a review has been carried out as part of the authority's asset utilisation strategy to assess the viability for renewable energy solutions and energy efficient technology to be used within council buildings and land. The opportunity for initiatives which promote renewable energy and energy efficient technology have been comprehensively investigated. Energy saving projects have been identified and quick wins such as draft proofing have been carried out at the Trinity Arts Centre which has the third highest carbon footprint of all Council buildings. More projects are due to be delivered shortly, and a proposal to deliver a land based civic solar facility is

being investigated after approval by the Policy and Resources and Prosperous Communities Committees.

- 2.3 A new Waste Strategy has been developed to ensure the Council's resources within this service are maximised to promote local recycling and positive end use of the waste collected within our district. The Strategy will include how the Council can promote local community involvement and solutions to reducing waste and present an increased focus on re-use and waste minimisation.
- 2.4 Under the '*Green Community*' banner, the Council has launched a communications campaign to highlight the issues and opportunities for local people. The Strategy has been produced as a leaflet and will now be used to raise the profile of the Council's ambition. The Localism Team are starting to promote the ideas within communities and seek out champions in local areas to initiate local community action to promote a 'green' district.

Over and above our existing work to promote access to subsidised home insulation the Council is looking to establish a Fair Energy campaign to support local people with the rising costs for energy. It is particularly important that we continue to work in partnership in this area and the Lincolnshire Affordable Warmth Strategy is currently being updated with NEA (National Energy Action);

It is anticipated that a Lincolnshire Collective Switching campaign to allow residents access to cheaper energy deals will be launched in the autumn together with an accompanying marketing campaign. Tenders to run the scheme have now been received and are being assessed

- 2.5 Under the banner of '*Green Economy*' the Council is looking to set up a green economy task force. This will enable local business to share ideas and good practice around 'green issues' and for any barriers within the local authority to supporting employers will be addressed.
- 2.6 As detailed in section 6 of the main report, to ensure action is driven the Green Project Group and Communities Board have met regularly and a set of effective targets has been developed to enable monitoring of the Strategy. Members on the Policy Development Panel have continued to support the development of the Green programme and reports on specific projects such as Civic Solar have been brought back to Prosperous Committee for consideration by Members.

GREEN STRATEGY- Moving to Action

High Level Action Plan

Objectives	Actions	Who	Date	Progress
<p>West Lindsey District Council to be an exemplar 'Green' authority.</p>	<p>Deliver West Lindsey's Carbon Management Plan; monitor and review.</p> <p>Identify and develop new carbon /energy saving projects.</p> <p>Business cases developed for after prioritisation</p> <p>Decisions taken on potential investment</p>	<p>Karen Lond</p> <p>Karen Lond / Gary Reeve</p> <p>Karen Lond / Gary Reeve</p> <p>Green Project group</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Feb 2013</p> <p>May 2013</p> <p>June 2013</p>	<p>On track overall, but 2012/13 emissions up due to prolonged heating season & fleet emissions. See appendix 2</p> <p>WLDC assets examined and areas of greatest energy use targeted.</p> <p>Completed in highest priority areas</p> <p>Projects proceeding at Trinity arts centre (3rd largest CO2 emitter). Data awaited for other projects</p>
<p>Promotion and exploitation of Renewable Energy Opportunities</p>	<p>Prioritise actions in Renewable Energy Action Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business cases developed for all council assets after prioritisation - Decisions taken on potential investment - Communication Plan to be linked to Green Communication Strategy 	<p>Steve Leary</p> <p>Steve Leary</p> <p>Rachel North</p> <p>Steve Leary</p>	<p>April 2013</p>	<p>List of WLDC assets and the current valuation schedule produced and reviewed for renewables potential.</p> <p>Findings examined in the light of revised government subsidies & new WLDC commercial strategy</p> <p>Land based Civic Solar scheme being investigated and taken to Committees</p>

Drive Progress	<p>Targets and outcomes developed. Success Measures scorecard to be reviewed to align with Programme</p> <p>Member Policy Development Panel meetings set regularly to maintain focus Green Project group and Communities Board established to drive action Reports on progress brought back to Committees</p>	Rachel North / Steve Leary	<p>Nov 2012</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Score card review undertaken</p> <p>Members meetings taking place. Group expanded to become cross-party</p> <p>Established and meeting regularly with enthusiastic and knowledgeable members</p>
<p>A Green Community</p> <p>Promote understanding of 'green' agenda in the wider community</p>	<p>Communication Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop strategy for different stakeholders ▪ Produce leaflet to detail vision ▪ Arrange consultation with the Citizen's Panel to help understand local issues 	<p>Steve Leary / Julie Heath</p> <p>Steve Leary</p>	<p>March 2013</p> <p>Nov 2012</p>	<p>Strategy produced, examples of best practice or case studies identified and incorporated</p> <p>Strategy and leaflet has been produced in conjunction with the communications team and presented to Green PDP before launch. Articles in West Lindsey News. Website updated etc</p> <p>Communication acknowledged as being vital to the overall green strategy</p>
Reduce Fuel Poverty	<p>Deliver Affordable Warmth Strategy</p> <p>Promote bulk oil buy scheme</p> <p>Explore 'Fair Energy' campaign</p>	<p>Karen Lond</p> <p>Localism Team</p> <p>Karen Lond</p>		<p>Lincolnshire Strategy now being finalised</p> <p>Localism team working with Community Lincs to promote the bulk oil buying to parishes and community groups</p> <p>Collective energy switching programme to launch Autumn 2013</p>

Appendix 2: Green Strategy Project Collaboration Data Sept 2013



CONTACT DETAILS

Local Authority name:	West Lindsey District Council		
Estimated annual energy spend:	£103,938 (2012/13)	Category <i>V. Large:</i> Annual energy spend >£5m <i>Large:</i> Annual energy spend >£500k or over CRC threshold, but below £5m <i>Medium:</i> Annual energy spend £50k to £500k <i>Small:</i> Annual energy spend below £50k	
Category:	medium		
Contact:	Steve Leary	Position:	Recycling Team Leader
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ORGANISATIONAL CONTROL

Description of organisational control, i.e. details of the energy use you have in-house management control over (e.g. council owned property, fleet, council housing stock):

West Lindsey District Council transferred its housing stock through LSVT (Local Stock Voluntary Transfer) in 1999. We have just a couple of domestic properties that we hold for commercial or historical reasons. We own the Leisure Centre building but the delivery of the service is contracted out to SLM. The contract is due for renewal in 2014 and future options are being explored.

A complete list of buildings is available, but by far the largest consumers are the Leisure Centre, the Guildhall, Trinity Arts Centre and a Beaumont Street multi story car park all in Gainsborough. We also pay for some Parish street lighting.

Fuel usage from fleet vehicles is not included in the energy spend figures, but the refuse and recycling service, bulky waste collections and street cleansing are all in house.

Specific details of energy use you have control over (e.g. 150 buildings, 10 fleet vehicles, 7000 units of council housing):

3 residential houses, 5 commercial shop units, trinity arts centre, 4 offices (1 currently used by council, 1 leased 2 vacant), 2 toilet blocks, 1 multi-storey car park (lease ending in 2015), 2 council depots with small offices.
Parish street lighting (details to follow).

14 frontline refuse and recycling vehicles, 5 caged vehicles (3.5 t -7.5t), 1 bulky waste lorry 7.5t, 5 small vans, 2 mechanical sweepers.)

Emission source (e.g. electricity, gas etc)	Estimated % of total footprint. (Based on scope 1 and 2 emissions only and 11/12 data. For more info and latest 2012/13 data (published October 2013) please follow hyperlink, Greenhouse Gas Emissions West Lindsey
1. Electricity	48.47%
2. Diesel (consumed by fleet)	42.08%
3. Gas	9.45%
4.	

Carbon Footprint:

	Baseline (<i>please state year</i>)2008/09	Current Year (2011/12)	% reduction
Absolute footprint (tCO ₂ e)	2,111	1,474	30%

STRATEGIC POSITION

- **For each of the questions below please provide a brief self-explanatory description in the box provided, referencing any relevant documents**
- **The key documents (e.g. carbon policy) should be referenced and attached.**

1. Policy: Does your organisation have a low-carbon/energy policy?

Please give details of objectives and targets. Please clarify who has signed it off (e.g. management, Board, union representatives, etc.) Please give detail as to vision, targets and aspirations around energy and low carbon economy; what is the scope of the strategy – LA only or whole city/district/county?

Reducing our carbon footprint is a corporate priority and has been given prominence in the Green Strategy that was signed off by Council in October 2012. One of the aims of our chief executive is that we should strive to become a leading green council that is carbon neutral in its activities. To realise the vision we have identified a number of priority areas where we think we all need to do things differently in the future. They are areas where we have identified key short/medium term actions, showing how we will start to make the strategy happen and who will be responsible for that. For example:

“Carbon Management/Climate Change

Aim: Reducing the council’s carbon emissions to both meet and exceed its carbon reduction commitment in line with WLDC’s carbon management plan. Become more adaptive to climate change and help individuals and communities to do the same.”

Members also signed off a renewable energy statement and action plan in March 2012 (see attached).

Low carbon is likely to remain a priority in our new corporate plan. The current WLDC Corporate Plan 2011-2014, within the Green district theme cites explicitly states our aim to reduce our carbon footprint; see excerpt in box below.

Theme 2: A Green district where people want to work, live and visit.

This theme concentrates on our ambitions to be the greenest district. It considers the way we do business, our services, policies and how we help businesses and communities to reduce their carbon footprint. We are looking to preserve our natural environment, reduce our carbon footprint and invest in opportunities that the green economy brings for our district and businesses.

Arguably though, it is our Carbon Management Plan is the main driver. This was approved by the carbon trust and approved and signed off by council in February 2010. [See Greenhouse Gas Emissions | West Lindsey](#)

WLDC Officers and Councillors have also been consulted by the Lincolnshire’s Joint planning Unit regarding the Central Lincolnshire Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Study which will inform the Draft Core Strategy; see box below.

Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee has approved the Central Lincolnshire Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Study as part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) evidence base and the study is now available online at www.central-lincs.org.uk/energystudy. As well as directly informing the Draft Core Strategy that is being produced for Central Lincolnshire, it is intended that the study is used by a range of stakeholders to help enable the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy in Central Lincolnshire. The Action Plan (chapter 9) sets out actions that will influence the public sector, private sector, communities and individuals and energy developers in the delivery of some of the opportunities identified by the study.

2. Strategy: Does your organisation have a climate change strategy?

Please give detail as to vision, targets and aspirations around climate change energy and low carbon economy; what is the scope of the strategy – LA only or whole city/district/county? Has your organisation signed the Nottingham declaration or/and Climate Local?

From Green Strategy: Green Economy

Aim: Promote the economic value of the environment and opportunities for growth in jobs and prosperity that it presents. Providing the infrastructure, investment, and requisite skills to create the conditions for a measurable transformation towards a low carbon economy.

No climate change strategy as a countywide strategy is being developed which the districts will sign up to. Lincolnshire County Council have signed Climate Local and are drafting an Action Plan. LCC will consult with key stakeholders (including Districts) shortly. WLDC is considering the Climate Local commitment and feel that our green strategy could act as the action plan required as part of that commitment.

3. Responsibility: Which Board Committee or other executive body has overall responsibility for climate change matters? Who has day-to-day responsibility for carbon/energy management?

How often is the carbon/energy performance reviewed by senior management? What is the day-to-day management structure?

Our Prosperous Communities committee has responsibility for climate change matters. Policy decisions involving significant financial expenditure would go to our Policy and Resources committee. An example would be a proposed project to build a civic solar farm which went to Policy and Resources on 25 July, then Prosperous Communities 3 September.

Performance in carbon/energy is reported and reviewed every 3 months in our progress and delivery reports to full council (see page 7 of attachment). (Our carbon emissions are measured annually).

Day to day responsibility for climate change and energy management is with our Energy & Climate Change Officer Karen Lond.

4. Targets: Does your organisation have a carbon/energy reduction target(s)?

Include, where relevant, targets set for organisation as well as for particular divisions / sites / function; do you have targets for community/locality as well as LA as a business? If so what are they? Have you specific targets for decentralised energy and renewable energy generation?

Targets were originally set through the Local Area Agreement for Lincolnshire (2008/09 to 2010/11) and the Carbon Management Plan (2008/09 to 2013/14) using NI 185 CO₂ emissions statistics. These figures have subsequently been converted to CO₂e in line with Green House Gas (GHG) reporting. As the Carbon Management Plan is still relevant and continues to deliver reductions in emissions, no additional targets relating to CO₂e have been set at this time.

The table below shows the 17% target, by 2012 set in West Lindsey District Councils Carbon Management Plan towards the overall 25% target, by 2014.

Table 6: WLDC targeted and actual CO₂e savings

<i>Year</i>	<i>Target CO₂ cumulative amounts in tonnes</i>	<i>Targeted annual CO₂ saving in tonnes</i>	<i>Target annual CO₂ % saving</i>	<i>Cumulative % target</i>	<i>Achieved CO₂e reduction</i>	<i>Total Achieved % CO₂e reduction</i>
2008/2009	2098	-	-	-	-	-
2009/2010	1993.1	104.9t	5%	5%	365t	17%
2010/2011	1835.75	157.35t	7.5%	12.5%	453t	21.5%
2011/2012	1741.34	94.41t	4.5%	17%	629t	30%
2012/2013	1657.45	83.92t	4%	21%		
2013/2014	1573.5	83.92t	4%	25%		
Total targeted CO₂ saving after 5years		524.5t				

The end two columns show the actual reduction in CO₂e in tonnes and what percentage reduction has been achieved to date; so far the council has reduced its CO₂e emissions by a total of **629t** which is **30%** and have surpassed our target of a 25% reduction by 2014 and achieved our target 2 years earlier than we forecast.

Please note that the 2012/2013 emissions figures will now be available (October 2013.) Following the hyperlink provides the full Greenhouse Gas Emissions report [Greenhouse Gas Emissions | West Lindsey](#) Our emissions have been recalculated as per DEFRA guidelines and this has altered our baseline and altered the percentage reductions. New targets will be set in the coming weeks. This year's Greenhouse Emissions report showed a rise in our emissions; some of this was down to the prolonged heating season which meant gas consumption was up in most of our buildings. Fleet mileage and litres of diesel used also increased. The good news is employee and Councillor mileage is reduced and electricity is down in buildings that we own and manage.

5. Planning: Is Climate Change readily considered in planning?

What's your Local Development Framework Climate Adaptation position? Have you produced Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)? Has public land been identified suitable for energy generation? Has SPD allocated sites for decentralized energy?

The Joint Planning Unit (JPU) is in the process of bringing forward a core strategy which includes appropriate energy policies.

There are no SDPs currently as we haven't got a core strategy in place.

No specific sites have been identified for energy generation. However Aecon produced an energy report as part of the evidence base for the core strategy which identified Lincolnshire's potential for energy generation.

6. Leadership and Collaboration: Does your organisation play a strong community leadership role or/and are involved in other partnerships or collaborations?

Please provide details of current governance structures, partnerships, leadership arrangements. Are there existing Community Interest Companies or community share vehicles in your locality? Is your organisation involved in other energy collaborations?

Lincolnshire - Corporate Sustainability Action Network - CSAN

CSAN includes the seven district Lincolnshire councils and the county council and consists of officers who work on climate change and energy management agendas. Projects have included a joint procurement and tendering exercise on solar PV and Voltage Optimisation. Officers have agreed a joint protocol for their Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) reporting and have benchmarked their GHG emissions. Each district council publishes their GHG emissions reports on their website; to access West Lindsey's report click on this link <http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/Download/39200>



Home Energy Lincs Partnership - HELP

The Home Energy Lincs Partnership includes the seven district councils and the County Council and consists of officers who are involved with the domestic energy efficiency and/or the wider climate change agenda. Working together, the partnership allows us to offer a more consistent approach to delivering affordable warmth and domestic energy efficiency to Lincolnshire residents.

HELP focuses its attentions on schemes and projects that promote and improve domestic energy efficiency and co-ordinates its actions with the wider climate change agenda.

PROJECTS

- **For each of the questions below please provide a brief self-explanatory description in the box provided, referencing any relevant documents**
- **The key documents (e.g. project list) should be referenced and attached.**

7. Investments: What capital investments to reduce the carbon impact have been made over the last 4 years? What plans are there for further investment?

Include a list of key investments including the year, site, capital cost; description of project carbon saving/money making success; Have you energy generation projects claiming FITs, RHI and/or ROCs. Include details on forward investment plan or budget for investments in energy efficiency and/or renewables projects.

2010 - Voltage Optimisation – Guildhall - £11,106.00

2010 – Voltage Optimisation – Leisure Centre – £13,597.00

2011 – Lighting/insulation – Bowls Hall at Leisure Centre - £7528

2011/12 - Pool Pump Efficiency 3x Variable Speed Drives – Leisure Centre - £9,380 -

2012 - Solar PV 49kWp - Leisure Centre – cost £104,820 – in year 1 generated 40,948kWh and realised an income from FITs of £14,043.

2012 - Solar PV 4kWp - Festival Hall – cost £12,431 – in year 1 generated 2758.4kWh and realised an income from FITs of £1,290

Of the ring fenced £200k carbon pot £29,272 remains which is earmarked to deliver carbon saving projects at Trinity Arts Centre see 8 below.

8. Projects: What energy efficiency or renewables projects have you considered, planned or committed to?

Please list projects by type (e.g. energy efficiency, renewables). Please include details on current status (e.g. idea; outline business case; full business case; approved; funded; in delivery; timescales; stalled) Who are the key actors/individuals? Please include any local ESCO projects, community energy activity, Energy Performance Contract approaches to date or planned e.g. Re-Fit or other.

TYPE	PROJECT OUTLINE	CURRENT STATUS	KEY ACTORS
Energy Efficiency	Draghtproofing x 6 external doors and chiller door @ Trinity Arts Centre(TAC)	In delivery	Karen Lond
Energy Efficiency	Voltage Optimisation @ TAC	Approved	Karen Lond
Energy efficiency	Lighting review – to include installing lighting sensors @ TAC	Approved	Karen Lond Gary Reevevell
Roof/loft insulation	To insulate standard loft voids and install insulation between roof beams @TAC To be done at same time as roof is re-slated.	On hold - Awaiting approval to renew slate roof.	Karen Lond Gary Reevevell
Renewables	Re-roof TAC and include Solar slates	Outline business case	Gary Reevevell Karen Lond
Renewables	Solar PV farm/floor mounted	Stage 1 committee approval	Steve Leary

9. Feasibility: Have you undertaken any specific feasibility studies?

Please identify any specific feasibility studies undertaken and provide details; Have you undertaken heat mapping, renewable energy feasibility, evidence base development?

AECOM under took an independent Energy Study, **the Central Lincolnshire Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Study, November 2011**, (Central Lincolnshire covers West Lindsey, Lincoln City and North Kesteven) commissioned by the JPU (Joint Planning Unit) as part of the background information to inform the draft Core Strategy – the report highlights the potential for renewables in Central Lincolnshire.

All our buildings and land have been scoped for suitability for renewables – twice.

10. Barriers: Are there any projects that are not being progressed or developed and what are the reasons why?

Please provide details of the barriers and obstacles currently being faced in trying to develop and deliver more/bigger/greater impact projects. What, if any, are your current means of addressing these barriers?

FINANCE

- **For each of the questions below please provide a brief self-explanatory description in the box provided, referencing any relevant documents**

11. Funding: What are the key funding opportunities to take forward these projects?

Please give details of existing and potential finance. Please identify specific financial arrangements already made for local authority.

As part of the Carbon Management Plan it was agreed that a pot of £200k be set aside from our Invest to save reserves; £170,727.68 has been spent on carbon projects to date and the remaining £29,272 is earmarked for carbon projects at Trinity Arts centre. FITs income totalling £15,333 in year 1 is to be recycled back into the carbon pot.

12. Borrowing: How would you describe your organisations willingness to borrow and through what mechanisms?

Does your organisation have a track record of proactive approach to borrowing? Has your organisation borrowed through mechanisms such as PWLB, bond etc in financing energy/renewable projects? Is there any mechanism of borrowing which is not allowed in your organisation?

West Lindsey District Council did not use Salix funding to fund carbon projects as the council was and is a debt free council and at the time it was more appropriate to use are own funds. May consider borrowing for future renewable projects if there was a strong business case for this.

EXPERTISE/SKILLS

- **For each of the questions below please provide a brief self-explanatory description in the box provided, referencing any relevant documents**

13. Internal knowledge/expertise/skills: What resources does your organisation have available and in what areas support the delivery of energy efficiency, renewables, green infrastructure policy/projects??

Please give details of availability and level of resource/expertise in areas of legal, finance and technical expertise.

Area	Availability and level of resource/expertise
Policy	Energy & Climate Change Officer – detailed strategic and technical knowledge
Finance	
Project Management	
Energy efficiency/renewable energy advise	Energy & Climate Change Officer – detailed strategic and technical knowledge
Legal	Shared Service – have access to Legal Lincs - experts
Procurement/commissioning	Shared service – have access to Procurement Lincs - experts
Planning	
Other:	

14. Good Practice: Do you have any specific areas of good practice?

Please identify any areas of good practice which you think would be useful to share or replicate elsewhere or on a bigger scale

GREEN DEAL

- **For each of the questions below please provide a brief self-explanatory description in the box provided, referencing any relevant documents**

15. Current Plans: Does your organisation have any current Green Deal plans?

Please give details of scope and scale of plans, key actors involved, your approach and any tender documents/top tips you are willing to share.

Through the Home Energy Lincs Partnership (HELP) we are investigating good practice and liaising with other councils within the region and country (through Carbon Action Network - CAN) to ensure we achieve maximum ECO funding for our householders. We have already been in discussion with Suppliers, Managing Agents and contractors regarding ECO works in Lincolnshire.

16. Interest in joint Green Deal activity: Would your organisation be interested in joint Green Deal activity?

If yes please provide details on works your organisation would want Green Deal to deliver, scope and scale of Green Deal opportunity in your locality

Currently exploring the best way to engage with Green Deal and ECO activity through HELP.