

Minutes

Corporate Services and Partnerships Policy

Overview Committee

Tuesday 17 September 2013

Meeting held at Committee Room 6 - Civic Centre,
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW



HILLINGDON
LONDON

	<p>Members Present: Councillors Richard Mills (Vice-Chairman – In the Chair), Lindsay Bliss, Wayne Bridges, Beulah East, Raymond Graham and Carol Melvin.</p> <p>Apologies: Councillor Richard Lewis.</p> <p>Officers: David Haygarth (Council's Energy Manager) and Khalid Ahmed (Democratic Services Manager).</p>
15.	<p>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 JULY 2013</p> <p>Agreed as an accurate record.</p>
16.	<p>EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <p>It was agreed that all items of business would be considered in public.</p>
17.	<p>MAJOR REVIEW – REDUCTION OF THE COUNCIL'S CARBON FOOTPRINT</p> <p>The Council's Energy Manager attended the meeting and provided Members with a presentation on the background to the work which had been carried out by this Council in relation to reducing its Carbon Footprint.</p> <p>The Committee was provided with details of the tonnes of carbon (gas and electric) emitted from Council buildings and street lighting for 2013/13:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Academies – 10,941• General Fund – 9,023 (Civic Centre accounts for 50% of General Fund emissions)• Housing Revenue Account – 237• Street Lighting – 5,387• LA Schools – 8,949 <p>The total from the above came to 34,536 tonnes of carbon.</p> <p>Reference was made to the levels of energy costs for this Council. The Committee was informed that energy contracts were approximately £21m over 4 years with the Council's Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) allowances cost being</p> <p>Action:</p>

	<p>£357,000 per annum.</p> <p>The Council's Climate Change Levy was estimated at £280,000 per annum. The Levy was an environmental tax on energy supplies and was levied to encourage greater energy efficiency and lower energy use.</p> <p>Reference was made to the total annual budget resource for the Council which was £2,047,324 for gas, £3,218,196 for electricity (total £5,265,520).</p> <p>Members were informed of the legal, policy and economic factors around carbon footprints and the Energy Hierarchy which was used to reduce carbon.</p> <p>Reference was made to improved environmental performance which had saved the authority money. Because of energy related works, electrical energy reduction comparisons between March 2008 and March 2013, indicated the daily energy costs for the Civic Centre would still be approximately £2,546 per day, as opposed to the current day comparison of £1,819, This energy saving work had also resulted in a reduction in carbon usage from approximately 14.34 tonnes to 10.43 tonnes.</p> <p>Energy efficiency measures which were being taken involved improving the building fabric and insulation, an extensive lighting programme which included the installation of LED tubes. Reference was made to the energy efficiency improvements made through a Chiller replacement which had taken place with the air conditioning system in the Civic Centre. A water chiller was a device. used to circulate cold water around the Civic Centre to cool it down when the outside temperature and other factors made the building uncomfortably hot.</p> <p>Upgrading the boilers and pipe work for direct hot water services meant the main boilers at the civic were not needed all year round. This also led to a saving on the annual gas costs at the Civic Centre.</p> <p>ICT upgrades had taken place which reduced energy costs and usage. PCs in the Civic Centre automatically shut down in the evenings</p> <p>Reference was made to the greener approach which the Council had taken to energy in the form of renewable power. These included:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Photovoltaic which had been installed at Sibley Court and the Civic Centre. • Solar Thermal power which had been installed at Botwell Leisure Centre. 	<p>Action:</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combined Heat and Power systems which had been installed at Hillingdon Sports Centre and Triscott House and which had been considered for the Civic Centre. • Anaerobic digestion which could be considered as an energy source at New Years Green Lane. <p>The Committee was informed that future developments involved the removal of Academies and Schools from the reporting requirements of the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) from 2014/15, with Street Lighting coming in. This would impact on the level of CRC allowances.</p> <p>Discussion took place on Carbon Offsetting work which the Council could and did do. These included:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displacing energy from power stations. • Would there be a scope for sharing the district's heat and power through a district system, i.e. with other public authorities? • On-site and off-site generation – Looking at investing facilities elsewhere? • The use of rural Hillingdon to offset carbon emissions? Increased planting of trees and anaerobic digestion as a renewable energy source. • Receiving credits for fuel poverty initiatives – This could include the improvements which have (and would) be made to the Council's housing stock. <p>The Energy Manager reported that work around offsets would have to be evaluated and this, together with looking at the means at which the Council could achieve further carbon saving, could be useful areas for the Committee to investigate as part of their review.</p> <p>Discussion took place on the scope of the Committee's review and it was agreed that the review should concentrate primarily on the Civic Centre and the Council's corporate estate. However, to evaluate the possible carbon offset work, the Committee asked to hear from witnesses on Street Lighting and Open Spaces who could provide information on the positive work which was being carried out.</p> <p>Members also referred to the important role which Procurement had in relation to procuring services which were energy and carbon efficient and more information was required on this.</p> <p>Comparisons could also be made with other London Boroughs to look at the work they were carrying out in respect of carbon reduction.</p>	<p>Action:</p>
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	<p>Officers were asked to produce a scoping report for the next meeting of the Committee with the theme of how this Council could further reduce its Carbon Footprint. In addition witnesses be invited to help the Committee with its review.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>1. That the information provided as part of the presentation be noted and officers be asked to produce a scoping report and to invite appropriate witnesses for the next meeting of the Committee.</p>	<p>Khalid Ahmed / David Haygrath</p>
18.	<p>WORK PROGRAMME</p> <p>Noted. The Committee asked that an update be provided on the implementation of recommendations of past reviews undertaken by this Committee. This would be provided at a meeting to be agreed at a later date.</p>	
19.	<p>CABINET FORWARD PLAN</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
	<p>Meeting commenced at 7.30pm and closed at 8.20pm Next meeting: 15 October 2013 at 7.30pm</p>	

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Khalid Ahmed on 01895 250833. These minutes are circulated to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.