

**CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE
(Report by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being))**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 At its meeting held on 11th December 2012, the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) considered a report by the Head of Environmental Management providing an update on the Council's progress towards the implementation of the Council's Carbon Management Plan. The following paragraphs contain a summary of the Panel's discussions on the report.

2. THE PANEL'S DISCUSSIONS

- 2.1 The Executive Councillor for Environment has acquainted the Panel with the background to the Plan, which is currently in its third year of operation. Members are encouraged to note that the Council is on target to achieve a 30% reduction in CO2 emissions from the Council's estate by 2013/14. To date, a 20% reduction has been achieved. A saving of £300,000 has been realised and a further saving of £700,000 is expected to be made by 2013/14.
- 2.2 Matters discussed by the Panel include whether the target of 30% was regarded as being stretching at the time of developing the Plan, the role of the Council's Environmental Resource Efficiency Group in cross departmental working; particularly within the Operations Division and across the One Leisure sites and the receipt of an interest free Salix loan to assist with energy efficiency improvements at One Leisure St Ives. Other matters discussed include the impact of the solar photovoltaic PV panels at Eastfield House and the emergence of environmental initiatives which might generate a financial return to the Council. The Head of Environmental Management has undertaken to clarify the figures reported within Annex A relating to the cost and savings identified for pool covers across the One Leisure sites and to establish whether the savings figures take account of inflation.
- 2.3 Having congratulated the Head of Environmental Management and his staff for the valuable contributions they have made in achieving the carbon reduction the Panel recommends the Cabinet to note the excellent progress that has been made towards the implementation of the Council's Carbon Management Plan and the positive impact this has had to reduce energy use and energy spending. The Cabinet is further recommended to support ongoing cross-departmental working to maximise cost savings and the continued use of the Salix ring-fenced funding and Environment Strategy Capital funding to implement further energy saving projects.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The Cabinet is requested to take into consideration the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) as set out above when considering this item.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Reports and Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) held on 11th December 2012.