

Report on Sustainability Plan

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Summary: Significant progress has been made in implementing the Sustainability Plan in 2006-07. Notable actions include reducing electricity use, improving the loft insulation and planting trees as an offset measure. It is proposed that the Board aims to achieve carbon neutrality by 2010/11.

Purpose of Paper: To advise members on progress and to seek endorsement of proposed actions for 2007-08. To adopt the aim of achieving carbon neutrality by 2010/11.

Background

1. The Board has prepared its first Sustainability Plan for 2006/07. Kevin Mayne was appointed the Board member responsible for this area of work and is being supported by two members of staff. Monitoring progress was complicated by the difficulty of identifying a baseline for electricity and gas use. However, in general significant progress has been made. (Appendix 1)
2. In 2007-08 it is posed that the same measures are advanced further to be complemented by installation of PV solar cells (subject to securing the grant) and extending the carbon offset scheme.
3. It is further proposed that the Board adopts an aim of achieving carbon neutrality by 2010/11 providing the carbon offset scheme is supported. If this is not possible neutrality will be hard to achieve as the existing building is not energy efficient and the costs and logistics of retro fitting all the measures necessary would be prohibitive.

Recommendations

1. **The Board notes the good progress made in implementing the Sustainability Plan fro 2006/07.**
2. **The Board approves the proposed actions for 2007/08.**
3. **The Board develops the carbon offset scheme with an initial budget of up to £250.**
4. **The Board adopts the aim of achieving carbon neutrality by 2010/11, subject to developing the carbon offset scheme.**