

## COUNCIL MEETING – 24 JUNE 2010

### Recommendations to Council from the Executive meeting held on 4 May 2010

#### 1. Minute No E/10/8 - Climate Change Strategy

The Executive considered a report from Councillor Tom Nicols, Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Development proposing a Climate Change Strategy that would provide the framework on which the Council could take action to cut carbon, be more energy and fuel efficient, cut costs and be prepared for the impacts of a changing climate

**(NOTE: A copy of the report had been circulated with the Executive agenda to all Councillors.)**

The Executive was advised that the Portfolio Holder had withdrawn his recommendation proposing the Carbon Management Plan (CMP) at this stage, pending further clarification of some of the cost information. It was confirmed that the CMP would be brought back to a future meeting of the Executive for approval.

Introducing the report in the Portfolio Holder's absence, Councillor Richard Stay, Portfolio Holder for Policy and Performance explained that the proposed Strategy was a high level framework that would enable the Council to embrace the climate change agenda. The Strategy acknowledged that action needed to be taken now to avoid substantial costs later, both in inefficiencies, increased fuel and energy costs and in fines.

The Strategy proposed that the Council:

- Aim for a 35% reduction in its' own carbon footprint by 2015 and work towards an overall 60% reduction by 2020 (from the 2008/09 baseline).
- Work towards achieving level 4 (top level) of NI188 in relation to preparing for the impacts of a changing climate by 2012/13.
- Continue to work towards the current LAA area emissions target of a 10.7% by 2011 and future targets.

Members were advised that the Strategy would be delivered through the implementation of three supporting plans: the Carbon Management Plan (to be considered at a future meeting of the Executive); the Central Bedfordshire Area CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Reduction Plan; and the Climate Change Adaptation Plan (both to be developed by the end of 2010/11).

Reason for decision: To enable the Council to fulfil legislative requirements; realise potential efficiency savings from taking action to reduce its carbon footprint and to prepare and protect the Council and its area from the impacts of a changing climate.

**RECOMMENDED**

***that the Climate Change Strategy, attached at Appendix A to the submitted report, be adopted.***

**Please note that a copy of the original report can be found on the Central Bedfordshire Council web site at the following link:**

**[http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/modgov/Published/C00000577/M00003030/AI00017714/\\$100504ClimateChangeStrategyExecutivereportv10.docA.ps.pdf](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/modgov/Published/C00000577/M00003030/AI00017714/$100504ClimateChangeStrategyExecutivereportv10.docA.ps.pdf)**