

# COMMUNITIES, HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

15 September  
2015

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

N/A

## Carbon Management Plan Outcomes

<b>Final Decision-Maker</b>	Communities, Housing & Environment Committee
<b>Lead Director or Head of Service</b>	John Littlemore Head of Housing & Community Services
<b>Lead Officer and Report Author</b>	Dr Stuart Maxwell
<b>Classification</b>	Non-exempt
<b>Wards affected</b>	All

**This report makes the following recommendations to the final decision-maker:**

1. That the Committee is aware of the outcomes of the Carbon Management Plan

**This report relates to the following corporate priorities:**

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Keeping Maidstone an attractive place for all

### Timetable

<b><i>Meeting</i></b>	<b><i>Date</i></b>
Corporate Leadership Team	1 September 2015
Policy and Resources Committee	
Council	
Other Committee	15 <sup>th</sup> September 2015

# Carbon Management Plan Outcomes

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Maidstone Borough Council introduced a Carbon Management plan in 2009, covering the period from 2009 to 2015.
- 1.2 This period has now finished, and therefore the purpose of this report is to inform the committee about the outcomes of the Carbon Management Plan and what has been achieved.

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## 2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In 2009, Maidstone Borough Council, in partnership with the Carbon Trust, introduced a Carbon Management Plan, setting out how the Council would reduce the carbon emissions associated with its estate and operations.
- 2.2 The Plan defines the scope of the Council's baseline carbon emissions, which include:-
  - Energy used in council owned buildings
  - Building energy use for outsourced council functions, eg Maidstone Leisure Centre
  - Council owned fleet use
  - Council owned business travel
  - Fleet fuel use for outsourced council functions, eg, the waste collection service.
  - Business Travel for outsourced council functions
  - Water used in Council buildings and operations.

These items were previously included in the Council's NI185 return, and now form part of the Greenhouse Gas returns submitted to the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC)

- 2.3 The Plan contains 43 actions and projects aimed at reducing carbon emissions. These fall into four categories, namely:-
  - **Existing projects**, which were already underway in 2008/09
  - **Planned and funded projects**, which were due to be implemented and for which funding was in place.
  - **Near and medium term projects**, which are due to be implemented during the timeframe of the Plan but require more work before they can be finalised.
  - **Long term projects**, which were in the early stages of consideration, and were deemed to be aspirational.

- 2.4 The Plan committed the Council to a target of reducing its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 20% from the 2008/09 level, by the end of the 2014/15 financial year.
- 2.5 The 20% reduction would result in a decrease of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the 2008/09 baseline level of 5840 tonnes per annum to 4672 tonnes per annum in 2014/15. The Plan also set a target for the cumulative total of the reduction in carbon emissions over the life of the Plan of 5295 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>. This was based on the assumption that there would have been a cumulative increase of 1075 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> increase over the period of the plan, based on the 'business as usual' scenario. This assumption is based on a 0.7% annual increase in demand.
- 2.6 The Table given as Appendix 1 shows which of the projects have been completed, and which have not. A summary is presented below. Of the 43 projects in the plan, 19 have been completed and a further 4 mostly or partially completed. 6 more projects have been investigated but found not to be cost effective, or otherwise not viable. A further 8 have not been done, but are still planned or under consideration, or may be revisited in the future. Owing to various staff changes, there are 6 projects for which no up to date information could be found at the time of writing.

<b>Outcome</b>	
Complete	19
Partially complete	4
No longer considered viable	6
Not complete but still under consideration	8
No up-to-date information could be found	6

- 2.7 Broadly speaking, the planned, funded and short term projects have been completed, whilst the projects which have not been completed are the more long term or aspirational ones.
- 2.8 In 2013/14 MBC's carbon emissions were reduced from the baseline of 5840 CO<sub>2</sub> tonnes to 4791 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> which was an 18.4% reduction from baseline. The cumulative reduction since 2008/09 was 3239 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e.
- 2.9 In 2014/15 MBC's carbon emissions increased from 4791 tonnes to 4998 tonnes, which was a 4.3% increase on the 2013/14 year, and represented a reduction from the baseline year of 14.9%. The primary cause of this unexpected increase is thought to be a break down of the Combined Heat and Power (CHP) plant at Mote Park Leisure Centre which resulted in a large increase in electricity consumption
- 2.10 This means that CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have been reduced by a cumulative total of 4081 tonnes since the 2008/09 baseline year. The Plan's target of 5295 tonnes cumulative reduction is based on the assumption that, there would be a cumulative increase of 1075 if nothing were done. When this assumption is factored in, the total cumulative saving from over the life of the plan is 5056 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>. Compared with the 5295 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> target, this cumulative saving represents 95.5% of the target.

### 3. AVAILABLE OPTIONS

3.1 This report is for information only and no decision is required.

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### 4. PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

N/A

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### 5. CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

5.1 No consultation has been undertaken, and no consultation is required. The report is factual in nature and does not form part of any policy change.

5.2 The report has not previously been submitted to the committee.

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### 6. NEXT STEPS: COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

No next step

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### 7. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
<b>Impact on Corporate Priorities</b>	Great Place. Demonstrates that MBC is taking practical steps to reduce its own carbon emissions.	John Littlemore
<b>Risk Management</b>	None	John Littlemore
<b>Financial</b>	Reducing carbon emissions results in lower expenditure on energy.	Paul Riley
<b>Staffing</b>	<u>None</u>	John Littlemore
<b>Legal</b>	<u>None</u>	Legal Team
<b>Equality Impact Needs Assessment</b>	<u>None identified.</u>	Clare Wood, Policy & Information Officer
<b>Environmental/Sustainable Development</b>	Demonstrates the council's commitment to taking practical steps to reduce its own carbon emissions. Also highlights that more work could be done in this area	John Littlemore

	although most factors contributing to missing the target are beyond MBC direct control.	
<b>Community Safety</b>	None	John Littlemore
<b>Human Rights Act</b>	None	John Littlemore
<b>Procurement</b>	Potential to highlight need to give greater emphasis to carbon emissions in procurement of services and equipment.	John Littlemore
<b>Asset Management</b>	Main cause of missed target was broken CHP unit in leisure centre. Highlights that prompt action in such cases is important in meeting carbon emission targets.	John Littlemore

## 8. REPORT APPENDICES

The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report:

- Appendix A Carbon Management Plan Project Update Table

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## 9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Maidstone Borough Council Carbon Management Plan

<http://dynamic.maidstone.gov.uk/pdf/MBC%20Carbon%20Management%20Plan.pdf>