

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 5 AUG 2008

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF ENERGY SAVING PROJECTS

BY: HEAD OF ESTATE SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The Policy Committee at its meeting of 13 June 2007 (para. 4.1 of the Minute refers) agreed to allocate £507,000 to a range of measures to reduce energy costs. This report summarises the progress of these measures.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Committee in terms of Section A (42) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to ensuring that the organisation, administrative and management processes of the Council are designed to make the most effective contribution to achieving the Council's objectives.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee notes the progress achieved in developing and implementing a programme of energy saving measures to Council buildings in support of the Local Authority Carbon Management Programme and Climate Change Agenda.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Carbon Trust carried out an Assessment of Initial Energy Saving Opportunities Survey of Secondary Schools for the Council in April 2007. The report from this survey was produced to assist the Council to identify energy saving measures. Further surveys have been carried out to identify potential energy saving measures, not just specific to schools.

- 3.2 The current list of energy saving measures include:

- The replacement of inefficient pool covers.
- The installation of lighting controls.
- The installation of voltage reduction equipment.
- The replacement, and in some cases the fitting, of insulation on heating pipes.
- The installation of improved heating controls for both individual areas and sites that operate a Building Energy Management System, and in many cases the installation of a Building Energy Management System.
- An assessment of the current state of loft/roof insulation and if required the improvement/installation of insulation.
- The upgrade of boilers, controls and air handling units as required.

APPENDIX 1 provides a detailed breakdown of completed projects, current and proposed projects to date.

- 3.3 Many of these projects will involve major work to the schools and the times available to implement them are limited to holiday periods to avoid disruption to staff and pupils. To make best use of the money and to produce the quickest reductions in energy use and carbon dioxide emissions, some of the larger projects will be carried out in conjunction with other planned major works.
- 3.4 Further detailed feasibility studies may be required on some of the projects identified to provide detailed background information and the results from these studies will provide the reference point for future possible projects.
- 3.5 The Moray Council is also a participant in the Scottish Government's smart metering pilot scheme that recommends the installation of 'smart meters' to automatically record the electricity consumption at sites throughout Moray. The project has recently been suspended while councils awaited information on Automatic Meter Reading provision within the recent electricity procurement tenders, National Procurement etc. It is hoped to progress this project very soon.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Development Plan/Community Plan/Service Improvement Plan

The implementation of these projects will help to achieve the energy efficiency objectives of the Community Plan, the Corporate Plan and Service Plans.

(b) Policy and Legal

The implementation of these projects is consistent with a number of Scottish Government initiatives including Scotland's Climate Change Programme, the Local Authority Carbon Management Programme, achieving sustainable development through Best Value and the Local Government Act 2003.

(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)

Financial

All identified projects will be funded from the budget of £507,000 allocated for energy efficiency measures. It is highly unlikely that this budget will be fully spent by September 2008 due to time and resources constraints and a carry forward will be sought to finance the outstanding and subsequent projects over the next year. Very tight timescales and a lack of specialist local contractors have caused delays and the cancellation of some projects but it is expected to have many of these projects completed during the school summer holidays. Future projects will be assessed for funding from the Central Energy Efficiency Fund if required. Projects will result in a reduction of energy consumption, costs and carbon dioxide emissions. Future reports will be presented detailing project costs and expected carbon dioxide emission reductions.

Risks

All projects will be co-ordinated with the Property Services Section to identify areas of efficiency and to ensure that the energy works are integrated with the planned works to the buildings.

Staffing

There are no staffing implications on these projects.

Property

The implications for Council property would be the aim of achieving energy efficient buildings and reduction in energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions.

(d) Consultations

This report has been considered by the Chief Financial Officer and Aileen Scott, Principal Solicitor (Commercial and Conveyancing) and any comments incorporated.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The implementation of these projects will assist in reducing the energy consumption and the energy bill of the Council and reduce carbon dioxide emissions in support of the Council's commitment to the Climate Change Agenda and Local Authority Carbon Management Programme.**

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Background Papers: Assessment of Initial Energy Saving Opportunities For The Moray Council – April 2007

Ref: WA/JP/GEN/116/Summary of Energy Projects Aug 08