

**ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL
ENERGY REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS OF LOCAL BODIES – ACTION PLAN**

DATE: 23rd May 2013

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	BY WHOM	BUDGET COST	TIMESCALE
<p>1. That Middlesbrough Council leads on establishing a Joint Energy Reduction Partnership. This should initially involve the organisations that have contributed to the scrutiny exercise, although the possibility of including neighbouring local authorities in due course should also be examined. The partnership should meet once or twice a year to share information and examples of best practice on energy reduction. It should also explore the possibility of collective purchasing of energy in order to determine whether this approach could be used to reduce costs. Middlesbrough Environment City should also be invited to contribute to the process.</p>	<p>Middlesbrough Climate Change Community Partnership will meet twice a year to discuss and share best practice on issues related to both climate change mitigation and adaptation. This includes how organisations across Middlesbrough reduce energy consumption and invest in renewables. Partners include Middlesbrough Environment City, Middlesbrough Council, Fabrick Housing, Teesside University, James Cook University Hospital plus voluntary organisations and SME representation. The Deputy Mayor Cllr David Budd chairs the meetings.</p>	<p>Gamini Wijesinghe</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>April 2013 to April 2014</p>
<p>2. That, through electronic bulletins, staff inductions, team meetings and any other appropriate methods, the Council regularly highlights and publicises to all staff the cost of energy used, targets for reduction and the part that all employees can play in delivering such reductions. The necessary change of culture in the</p>	<p>The Council has set up an Energy /Water Efficiency Group which reports directly into CMT via Sandra Cartlidge. The Group will look at energy / water efficiency schemes over the short/medium//long term, including street lighting. In addition the Group will consider the behaviour and culture of the organisation and advise on</p>	<p>Sandra Cartlidge /CMT</p>	<p>Minimal / Low Cost.</p>	<p>April 2013 to April 2014.</p>

authority should be progressed via strong leadership.	raising awareness through the wider use of "Energy Champions". Steer and leadership will come from CMT in respect of raising awareness and changing the culture of the organisation.			
3. That, in order to highlight the issue further, and where appropriate, all Council decision making reports should include 'Energy and carbon reduction implications.'	The Council has in place the requirement to complete an impact assessment for Executive Reports. Within the impact assessment consideration has to be given to both the One Planet Living Agenda and Sustainability.	Exec Office/ Performance & Policy.	N/A	Already in place.
4. The feasibility of the Council adopting an invest to save approach in the use of renewable energy, in particular photovoltaic systems (solar panels), should be examined, including whether grant funding can be obtained for such schemes. The authority should also explore all methods of energy reduction as demonstrated/evidenced by the organisations involved in the scrutiny exercise.	The Energy /Water Efficiency Group will also consider opportunities for the use of renewable energy generation based on a sound business / technical appraisal. The Council has invested in 3 pv solar schemes and 2 wind turbines in order to evaluate the technologies and the actual payback projections. Currently no grant funding is in place to support such schemes as support is via either the Feed In Tariff (FITS) for solar/wind and Heat Payment Initiative (HPI) for biomass. Any investment horizon is typically 25 years therefore the Council needs to carefully consider its investment strategy and align these with its long term accommodation / property requirements.	Sandra Cartlidge/CMT	Funding dependant on size /viability of scheme.	April 2013 to April 2014.