CABINET

Agenda Item 111

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: 10:10 Campaign

Date of Meeting: 12 November 2009

Report of: Director of Strategy & Governance

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Key Decision: No Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 Full Council agreed a Notice of Motion on 8 October 2009 requesting Cabinet sign up to the 10:10 Campaign. This means aiming to reduce emissions from the council's buildings, street lighting and fleet use by 10% in 2010/11.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Cabinet agrees to sign up to the 10:10 Campaign.
- 2.2 That Cabinet recognises the importance of this in terms of city leadership and notes the Leader's challenge to the members of Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership recently to sign up to 10:10 as well.
- 2.3 That Cabinet calls for a report to be taken to the Sustainability Cabinet Committee in January 2010 outlining the measures necessary to help achieve 10:10 campaign goals.
- 2.4 That Cabinet requests that the Director of Children's Services works with the officer Carbon Trading Group to examine the possibility of schools being included in the scope of our 10:10 footprint and measured emissions.
- 2.5 That 10:10 is used as an internal communications tool to actively engage staff in saving energy and fuel and hence carbon emissions and taxpayers' money.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 The leadership recently agreed that the top new sustainability priority for the council is a Low Carbon Brighton & Hove. Signing up to 10:10 is part of the action stemming from this priority and on October 1, 2009 the Leader called on all Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership members to follow suit – a challenge welcomed by the partnership's chairman. The Primary Care Trust has committed to this and others are expected to soon: the City Sustainability Partnership, supported by the council, is following this challenge up.

- 3.2 The 10:10 campaign has grown out of the acclaimed Age of Stupid climate change documentary film and has become a high profile campaign in some parts of the media.
- 3.3 The aim is to cut CO2 emissions by 10% in 2010 country-wide, in homes, workplaces, schools, hospitals, football clubs, universities, and councils as the first real steps on the road to becoming a low-carbon society.
- 3.4 The context is that the UK needs a "step change" in policies to reduce carbon emissions if it is to meet its own climate targets, government advisers said recently. The Committee on Climate Change says emissions are falling at 0.5% per year, whereas 2-3% is needed to meet targets. If a large enough number of organisations and individuals sign up to 10:10 then in theory this figure should be achieved or passed.
- 3.5 The idea of 10:10 has also been to put pressure on the UK Government in the run up to December's global climate change talks in Copenhagen.
- 3.6 10:10 for councils means aiming to reduce emissions from our buildings, street lighting and fleet use by 10% in 2010/11. The 10:10 requirements for councils (see Appendix 1) show that we do not have to submit our baseline (our actual emissions for 2009/10) until June 30, 2010. This is an acknowledgement of the time it takes to work with and check all the data. An on-line tool is used.
- 3.7 The 10:10 framework for councils does not require the inclusion of schools, but this should be considered as schools include some of the less well performing buildings (as revealed through the Display Energy Certificates process).
- 3.8 While technical improvements and projects will help, staff behaviour (turning equipment off, cutting business mileage etc.) will have a big impact too. Concerted staff action across directorates and divisions will be required to deliver 10% and a possible internal carbon trading system would provide a further financial incentive. With this in mind, the 10:10 campaign could be used to brand all the council's internal work on energy efficiency / carbon management in a big communications campaign, as it will be highly recognisable and help achieve strong staff buy-in.
- 3.9 Teething problems with the council's new energy management system, Sigma, mean that while we have a council carbon footprint for 2008/9, we do not yet have one for 2007/8 and this prevents us from making an accurate comparison between years or calculating the final annual reduction figures. These are imminent, however, and are expected to show about 5% CO2 reductions per year. We achieved a 4% reduction in 2006/7, so 10% will take a considerable effort. The existing council target is a 20% reduction over five years, from a 2005/6 baseline, so this will need to be revised.
- 3.10 The council has an existing Carbon Management Fund which was financed through £200,000 from the Carbon Trust and £200,000 council match funding. This reserve is able to invest in energy reduction measures in both council buildings and schools and the savings generated repay the original investment over time and are reinvested back into the reserve to fund future initiatives. The Carbon Management Fund is now in Year 3 and has committed £249,000 worth of projects to date. Total energy savings to date are projected to be in the region

of £145,000 with a total of 400 tonnes of CO2 saved since the initiative came into effect.

- 3.11 Technical problems with the upgrade of council's energy database have been resolved, producing the footprint for 2008-09. Our early action and performance to date means that we are ready to meet the requirements of the Carbon Reduction Commitment; we will be in a position to apply for the Carbon Trust Standard to enable us to benefit from Early Action Metrics. We have completed the Programme of Display Energy Certificates across the council's portfolio and have used this to identify key sites for projects to fund in Year 3, installing mainly burner controls in the lower-scoring schools.
- 3.12 The Carbon Management Group and Director-led Board will now focus on working up a revised Implementation Plan with a revised CO2 reduction target and how the 10% reduction can be achieved in 2010/11. A report on this will be brought to the Sustainability Cabinet Committee in January, as agreed at the recent full council meeting.
- 3.13 Because 2010 is the baseline year for the new carbon trading scheme we have to participate in the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) the council will be setting itself a high bar to continue to achieve against. This may well have financial implications from 2011/12 onwards.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 The Energy Team, Assistant Director Property Services, Staff Travel officer, ICT, Fleet Manager, Housing, Schools Division in CYPT, Street Lighting and Head of Communications have been consulted.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 The Carbon Management Fund currently has commitments of £249,000 out of a total original fund of £400,000, however, savings are reinvested back into this fund over time and the balance may fluctuate. This fund may be used to invest in schemes that contribute toward the 10:10 initiative as well as meeting the criteria required under the terms of the Carbon Trust. Additional funding may be required through the capital programme to meet any capital investment associated with the 10:10 initiatives that can not be met from the Carbon Management Fund and this will need to be addressed through the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC), due to be implemented from April 2011, may also require significant capital investment as well as identifying funds to purchase carbon trading credits from that date.

Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen Date: 22/10/09

Legal Implications:

5.2 There is no legal requirement on the council to sign up to the 10:10 campaign; the decision on whether to do so rests with Cabinet.

5.3 By contrast, the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRCES) does require the council's participation, and paragraph 3.12 above rightly points out the implications of taking part in the 10:10 campaign on our subsequent trading in the CRCEES

Lawyer consulted: Oliver Dixon Date: 20/10/09

Equalities Implications:

5.4 None anticipated

Sustainability Implications:

5.5 10:10 is all about a commitment to cut carbon emissions further and sooner than before. This will have a positive environmental impact.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.6 None anticipated

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.7 There is a reputational risk to the council if a 10% reduction is not achieved and officers believe it will be challenging. This may well be outweighed by the opportunities of signing up, not least for staff engagement and city leadership reputation. The Leader has challenged the LSP partners to sign up and this has been welcomed by its chair. The City Sustainability Partnership will pursue this.
- 5.8 There is a financial risk relating to the carbon trading (CRC) baseline for the council, which will be taken as 2010/11. If the council achieves a very high level of CO2 savings, it will have a high bar to achieve against, and risks financial penalties (having to purchase carbon credits) if it does not continue to perform well.
- 5.9 But this is also an opportunity to develop and embed culture change, cement year-on-year improvement in energy efficiency and management, explore more renewable energy options, and reduce the council's far greater exposure to the financial risks of a volatile energy market.
- 5.10 Ofgem has drawn up four energy scenarios of the next 10-15 years to assess the risks for energy security. In the four scenarios there are reductions in carbon emissions of between 12% and 43% (from 2005 levels) and increases in energy infrastructure investment of between £95 billion and £200 billion. However the four scenarios would result in increases in domestic energy bills of between 14% and 25% by 2020 (from 2009 levels) with the possibility that wholesale price spikes could lead to an increase in domestic energy bills of up to 60% in the interim.

<u>Corporate / Citywide Implications:</u>

5.11 Strong leadership from the council, alongside the PCT's sign up, could help drive a city-wide 10:10 sign up campaign and make a difference to the city's below-target carbon reduction achievement.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

6.1 The City Council could decide not to sign up to 10:10 and stick to a lower target for 2010/11 which might be more achievable. This would not show ambition and leadership.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Full Council agreed a Notice of Motion on 8 October 2009 committing Cabinet to sign up to the 10:10 Campaign.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. 10:10 for Councils: Full Details

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

- Council NOM agreed on October 8, 2009: http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1213375
- 2. Ofgem Press Release on Comprehensive Review of Britain's Energy Supplies http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Media/PressRel/Documents1/Ofgem%20-%20Discovery%20-%20PR8%20(2).pdf
- 3. The 10:10 Campaign website: http://www.1010uk.org/