



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods)

Date: 13 May 2008

Subject: The Council's CO₂ Emissions – Draft Statement

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 At its meeting in June 2007, the Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods) agreed to undertake an inquiry into the role of the Council in tackling climate change.
- 1.2 However, following subsequent discussions regarding the wide ranging nature of climate change as an inquiry topic, it was suggested that the main focus of such an inquiry be centered on the work being done by the Council to limit its own CO₂ emissions arising from its day to day operations and the associated reduction targets.
- 1.3 A draft terms of reference was presented and agreed at the Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods) meeting in September 2007, followed by meetings of the Working Group to undertake the majority of the evidence gathering.
- 1.4 Details of the initial findings and preliminary recommendations identified by the Working Group were presented and endorsed by the Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods) on 21 November 2007.
- 1.5 Since this time, further evidence gathering undertaken by the Working Group has been limited. However, to ensure that the preliminary recommendations identified are taken forward, these have been incorporated into a draft statement, which is attached at Appendix 1.

2.0 REPORT ISSUES

- 2.1 The draft statement is attached at Appendix 1 and is now presented the Board's consideration.
- 2.2 To date, the Board's inquiry has been undertaken in accordance with the Council's Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules and with specific reference to 14.3, advice on the draft statement and recommendations must be sought from the appropriate Director(s) prior to the Board agreeing the final version. At the time of writing this report, such advice was not available but will be supplied at the meeting. It is important that the Board considers any Director advice prior to adopting an agreed statement.
- 2.3 It should be noted that in the event of any Member(s) disagreeing with the content of the Board's agreed statement, there is provision for them to produce a Minority Report that sets out their findings and recommendations.
- 2.4 In line with the Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules Guidance Notes, the intention to submit a minority report should be declared at the meeting (i.e. at the time when the statement is agreed) and subsequently submitted to the Scrutiny Support Unit within 5 working days after the Board meeting.
- 2.5 In the event of a minority report being submitted, this will be reflected in the statement and appended thereto.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That, taking into account any Director advice received, the Board considers, amends and/or agrees the draft statement attached at Annex 1.
- 3.2 That, subject to any agreed amendments, the report attached at Annex 1 be referred to the Director of City Development for consideration at the earliest opportunity.
- 3.3 That, the Board considers the response to its statement and recommendations at an appropriate time.