

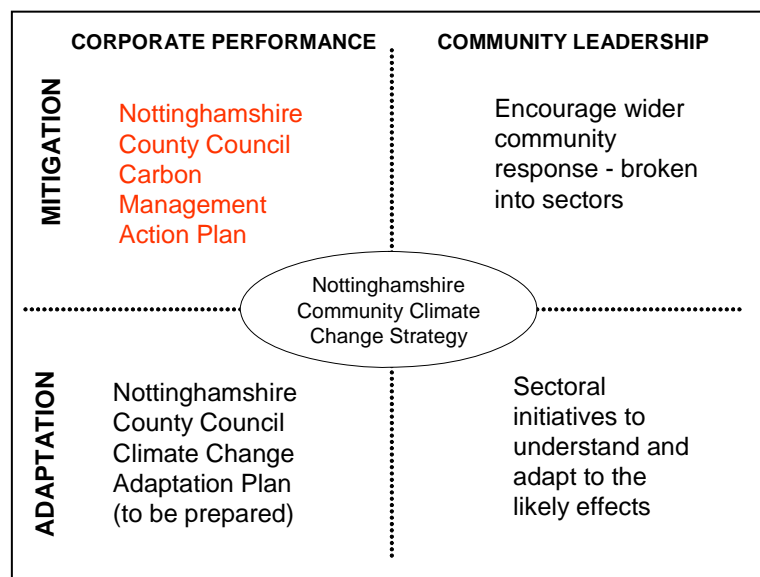
Appendix A

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN 2007

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The four action areas

Nottinghamshire County Council is taking action on four fronts in its response to the challenge of climate change. Greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere cause climate change and so mitigation of GHGs is required to minimise or reverse their impact. However, some climate change is inevitable due to the inertia in the climate system and therefore adaptation to the effects will also be necessary. Additionally, Nottinghamshire County Council has an effect through both its own corporate performance and its influence on the community, giving the four strands to our climate change strategy shown below.



2. Carbon Management Plan

The "Carbon Management Plan" (CMP) focuses on one action area - mitigation of carbon through the corporate performance of Nottinghamshire County Council. The CMP is the culmination of a number of years' work, bringing together work in the areas of energy from buildings, street lighting, travel and transport, waste and procurement.

Chapter 1: Introduction

This chapter describes the causes of climate change and the targets set at international and national level to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It sets out the current County Council strategy for reducing CO₂ emissions and the progress made in meeting its local targets. Finally it explains the purpose of the draft Carbon Management Plan and how it relates to other Council commitments and strategies.

Chapter 2: The County Council's Carbon Footprint

This chapter sets out the latest available information about the Council's CO₂ emissions arising from its own buildings, street lighting, transport, waste and procurement. The current level of County Council emissions is estimated at around 110,000 tonnes. This excludes savings arising from the purchase of green electricity of around 33,000 tonnes. It explains the importance of the purchase of green electricity in achieving our current reduction in emissions and outlines areas where there needs to be development of carbon accounting measures such as with procurement. It is noted that at present there are no nationally recognised standards for carbon accounting. An important objective of the CMP (included in Chapter 3) is to further develop accounting methods. This work is being led nationally by the County Council as part of its Beacon Peer support work for Government. Section 2.7 summarises the results of the baseline assessment.

Chapter 3: Objectives and Strategy

The overall target for reducing the County Council's carbon emissions is to deliver a minimum of 1% reduction per year in overall emissions based on our 1998 baseline. This would put the County Council broadly in line with national targets for 2050, and with the county-wide targets set in the Nottinghamshire Agenda 21 climate change strategy. This chapter sets out the seven objectives of the CMP and explains the background to the stretch target of 2% per annum reductions in emissions for the next five years, equivalent to approximately 1400 tonnes CO₂ annually. Chapters 4 to 8 describe the proposals to achieve the target, with details of financial costs and levels of CO₂ savings for each measure. It should be noted that some of the actions identified may only have a small impact on CO₂ emissions but are important in the context of the policy objectives.

Chapter 4: Reducing Emissions from Buildings

This chapter sets out a series of actions under seven headings as follows:

- Improve energy efficiency in existing buildings
- Fuel switching (from coal and oil)
- Procurement of green electricity
- Improved design of new and refurbished buildings
- Introducing on-site renewables
- Other actions

The bulk of the CO₂ savings in the first five years would accrue from the programme of energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings with a potential reduction of around 8,500 tonnes of CO₂. However it is important to develop and fund programmes for longer term improvements based on fuel switching and more sustainable design of new build, so that CO₂ reductions can be sustained.

Chapter 5: Street Lighting

This chapter states that energy use in street lighting has increased over recent years but that emissions are currently relatively low due to the purchase of a mix of CHP and green electricity in the contract. The strategy should therefore be to reduce energy use, maintain and increase supplies of green electricity. There may be potential to save up to 1500 tonnes of CO₂ through the use of dimming and lighting switch off.

Chapter 6: Transport (STEPS Travel Plan)

This chapter, which represents a revised STEPS Travel Plan, sets out a series of actions under seven headings as follows:

- Consultation and securing commitment
- Commute journeys
- Business journeys
- Fleet issues
- Alternative working practices
- Site specific plans
- Other actions.

The broad thrust of the revised Travel Plan is to recognise that the past reliance on small scale incentives to change travel behaviour has only had limited impact and that consideration needs to be given to more affirmative measures, particularly regarding car parking. It should also be noted that there is a close synergy between actions in this area and emerging corporate policies on flexible working. There may be potential to save up to 2,000 tonnes of CO₂ in a five year period from a reduction in business and commuter mileage and more efficient fleet management.

Chapter 7: Waste

The County Council is responsible for a considerable tonnage of waste from its offices, from construction and other activities. Where this waste is bio-degradable, it produces either methane if it goes to landfill or carbon dioxide if it is incinerated. There is potential for relatively small but significant reductions in CO₂ through measures to minimise our waste generation and improve recycling, particularly in our offices and schools.

Chapter 8

There is no firm information on carbon emissions relating to the Council's procurement activities but these are likely to be very significant. The main proposal is therefore to develop an accounting methodology to establish a baseline for future review.

Chapter 9

This chapter summarises the potential CO₂ savings from each group of activities for the first five years and for the longer term. In each case an estimate is given of the capital and revenue cost implications. Finally, consideration is given to delivery, monitoring and reporting frameworks with the following proposed:-

- Overall Cabinet responsibility for delivery of the Carbon Management Plan to rest with the Cabinet Member for People and Performance.
- Executive responsibility for delivery of the Carbon Management Plan to be the responsibility of the Service Director for Planning and Sustainability within the Communities Department though practical project management and co-ordination will be with the Sustainability Team. Specific delivery of projects will involve staff from across the organisation.
- All specific targets in the CMP to be placed on the PRIDE performance management system.
- Progress with delivering these targets monitored on a quarterly basis, and reported formally to the Sustainability Board.
- Progress reported annually to Cabinet and Strategic Management Board, and published in the County Council's Annual Performance Report.

3. Summary of key proposed actions

The draft CMP covers a wide range of County Council activity. It proposes measures which require varying levels of further development and which have wide ranging cost implications. Some further work is required on clarifying what expenditure is already committed and to linking the cost of actions (both capital and revenue) to CO₂ reductions. Key actions covering the short, medium and longer term include:

- A programme of energy efficiency measures for our existing buildings.
- A programme of fuel switching, including on-site renewables.
- Sustainable design for all new/refurbished buildings.
- Examine office car park charges and public transport incentives.
- Review car allowances.
- Investment programme for pool cars.
- Produce a Council waste management plan for our own offices.
- Assess procurement practices and procedures.
- Development of effective and comprehensive carbon accounting procedures to improve monitoring of the Plan and to assist Government to produce national guidance.

4. **Other actions outside the remit of the CMP**

Whilst the CMP focuses on direct carbon emissions from the Council's work, there are other areas where the County Council is already tackling the wider issues raised by climate change. Examples of current activities are set out below.

(a) **Energy Use**

- As a lead partner in the Local Authorities Energy Partnership which covers both Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, the authority will be promoting a Climate Change awareness campaign, Climate Heroes. This is being funded by a successful bid to DEFRA
- Working with the private sector, the authority has set up a company ReNu, whose role is to promote the introduction of renewable technologies. The promotion of the County Council work on Woodheat is being successfully handled through this company.
- In 2005 the County Council was awarded Beacon status for Sustainable Energy. Through this scheme the council has promoted sustainable energy principals to a number of other authorities through mentoring and seminars.
- In conjunction with the IDeA, Nottinghamshire County Council is a lead partner in a Peer Support programme. This programme has led to the production of a benchmark and tool kit which will enable other local authorities to assess their carbon management progress and improve performance.

(b) **Travel and Transport**

- The Council has two highly acclaimed Local Transport Plans (Greater Nottingham and North Nottinghamshire) which promote sustainable transport and reductions in the growth of car traffic.
- Measures range from small-scale local projects such as School Travel Plans, TransACT (a Nottinghamshire business travel plan initiative), Wheels 2 work promoting rural accessibility, the Rural Transport Partnership, Village Connection, to larger-scale projects such as the Robin Hood Line service improvements and the extension of NET, Nottinghamshire's tram system.
- The Sherwood Living Legend BIG Lottery Bid includes a proposal to develop an integrated network of cycle routes approaching the Sherwood area and linking facilities within it.

(c) Waste

- As the Waste and Minerals planning authority, the County Council is taking a lead role in ensuring that waste minimisation and recycling are addressed in the county.
- Through the waste disposal contract, the authority has sought to minimise CO₂ production arising from the disposal of municipal waste and to secure the building of a new waste to energy plant.
- Waste reduction and recycling techniques have been adopted in highways design and maintenance, with waste materials being reused and recycled products being specified.

(d) Other activities

- Officers have worked in partnership with the Nottinghamshire Districts and the Environment Agency to produce the Sustainable Developer Guide, which supports improved developer standards across the County.
- This same partnership is now working on requirements for some new developments to meet parts of their energy needs from renewable sources.
- The Authority actively supports education in schools through providing information about waste reduction, energy efficiency and other sustainability matters.
- The recently renegotiated contract for food in schools included a large proportion of local supply. This local content is helping to cut emissions through food miles.
- In partnership with Greenwood Community Forest and others, the authority has an impressive track record on tree planting.
- The authority is working very closely with Nottinghamshire Agenda 21 to address the causes and effects of climate change through information and the production of the magazine Living for Tomorrow.
- The authority is considering the adaptations which will be necessary to take account of a changing climate through its emergency planning function and intends to carry out a full assessment with the help of the UK Climate Impact Programme.

The full Carbon Management Plan can be accessed at <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/environment/greenissues/carbonmanagementplan.htm>