

# report



meeting	COUNTY COUNCIL		
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## **REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY**

### **REPORT FOR PERIOD JUNE - JULY 2010**

#### **Local Improvement Schemes**

##### **The Local Improvement Scheme Awards**

1. I was very pleased to attend the Local Improvement Scheme event on the 15<sup>th</sup> June at the Cedric Ford Pavilion in Newark. The event was a 'sell out' with over 270 people attending.
2. The highly successful event honoured people from across the county who had championed projects in their communities. Award winners ranged from an 82-year-old curator at Duke's Wood Oil Museum at Eakring to a Mansfield woman who almost single-handedly turned around the fortunes of the Oak Tree Estate in Mansfield.
3. The event aimed to inspire and inform local communities about the Local Improvement Scheme as well as hear about their experiences of working with us. This was a real success and the team have been inundated with requests for application forms and advice. The event also received excellent media coverage with all the main newspapers and radio stations running follow up articles.
4. I am pleased to report on the following Local Improvement Scheme projects that have been progressed during the last month:

### **Scheme updates:**

- I was very pleased to hear that the public consultation for the new Bingham Market Place clock has now finished. Local people voted on five clock designs by pupils at Toothill School - the winning design is being manufactured as we speak.
  - Phase 2 of the Bramley Apple Heritage Trails has also been completed with the installation of an interpretation board featuring the route map, a reprint of the trail booklet and way-markers throughout the route.
  - A sensory garden funded by LIS and a number of other local groups including Rotary and English Heritage will be officially opened at Caudwell House Hospice in Southwell in July.
  - 12 wooden carved sculptures have been unveiled at the entrance to Oak Tree Heath nature reserve in Mansfield. Award winner Barbara Belford, who is behind the community groups Oak Tree SAFE and Oak Tree Bellamy Adventure Club, said the LIS funding for the area had restored a sense of community pride and had given children on the estate a brighter future
5. I was delighted to be invited by two radio stations, Boundary Sound which covers Southwell, Newark and the surrounding villages, and Mansfield 103 to feature in a regular slot about LIS and the projects being funded by the scheme in their areas. Trax FM which covers the north of the county have also indicated that they are also keen to feature LIS as a regular item.
6. Torworth & Ranskill Allotment Association have been receiving lots of publicity from local media following the receipt of LIS funding to get the allotment up and running. Within a few months of being established a waiting list had sprung up.

### **Nottinghamshire Climate Change Partnership**

7. The Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement (LAA) includes a National Indicator on reducing per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The responsibility for overseeing the effective delivery of targets against this indicator rests with the Nottinghamshire Climate Change Partnership (NCCP) which is led by the County Council and comprises public, private and voluntary organisations.
8. In 2009 the partnership secured £180,000 from the East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership to deliver a range of activities

aimed at reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, saving both energy and money. There are two strands to this work: one aimed at the public and voluntary sector and one engaging with the business sector. Following a tendering process, contracts for delivering the substantive activities of the programme were awarded to RCAN, £69,600 (public and voluntary sector) and Aquila-Green, £76,578 (business sector).

9. The partnership then invited bids for projects under each of these strands and a number have now been received from local businesses, voluntary organisations and public sector bodies. Each application for funding has been carefully assessed and I have agreed that all of the 7 projects recommended for approval should receive funding amounting to £33,822. The allocation of the £180,000 secured by the NCCP is detailed in the following tables.

**Public and Voluntary sector support for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Amount bid for</b>
RCAN	Substantive programme of activities to include training, capacity building, measuring, commitments and sharing of good practice.	£69,600
RCAN	Partner organisations and service provider staff engagement events.	£1,700
RCAN	Networking, capacity building and sharing of good practice	£3,000
Mansfield and Ashfield District Councils	Mansfield and Ashfield partner engagement	£1,200
Nottinghamshire County Council	Community Climate Action Conference	£6,600
Sport Nottinghamshire	Workplace physical activity challenge	£7,900
		£90,000

**Business sector support**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Amount bid for</b>
Aquila-Green	Substantive programme of activities to include CRC briefings, Carbon Club re-launch, one to one	£76,578

	engagement with larger businesses and an employee engagement programme.	
Mansfield District Council	Business engagement in carbon reduction	£850
Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce	Green Business Fayres	£12,572
		£90,000

10. There will be quarterly monitoring checks on these projects and the overall operation and success of the CO<sub>2</sub> reduction project will be evaluated during 2011 to determine the scope of any future work. I will bring a further report at that stage.

#### **Bassetlaw District Council Local Development Framework**

10. Bassetlaw District Council has been consulting on their Local Development Framework Preferred Options Core Strategy which set out the Council's preferred options for its development strategy and development management policies. The County Council is a statutory consultee and has made a number of comments. In particular, it believes greater consideration should be given to climate change and sustainable design, renewable energy, safeguarding Landscape Character and transport-related objectives for sustainable growth. I have agreed the response on behalf of the County Council.

#### **Derbyshire Minerals Development Framework**

11. Derbyshire County Council is preparing new documents under the Local Development Framework arrangements to replace its existing Minerals Local Plan. Currently they are consulting on the informal 'Issues and Options' document which sets out their overall aims, future mineral extraction and joint working with other planning authorities.
12. The County Council has a number of comments to make, in particular, whether Derbyshire can provide sufficient sand and gravel resources to meet its local apportionment. This is important because it could put pressure on resources in Nottinghamshire. A second issue is the production of industrial limestone where it will be important for Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire to work together to identify the most suitable locations for future workings. I have approved the response on behalf of the County Council.

### **Eco Schools Green Flag Award**

13. I was very pleased to present a £500 cheque to the staff and pupils at Robert Miles Junior School in Bingham in recognition of their second Green Flag Award. The Green Flags are awarded by the environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy and to achieve the award schools have to cover environmental issues in at least three subjects, be working on at least three environmental projects, have little or no litter and have good communications about environmental matters. A pupil committee measures the school's environmental performance and encourages the whole school to make changes. To keep their Green Flag, schools have to be reassessed every two years. Every school that achieves the award receives £500 from the County Council to spend on further environmental improvements.

### **Candleby Lane School's big green adventure**

14. Cotrave Candleby Lane School recently held a production called "The Great Big Green Adventure". As a governor and supporter of the school, I was very proud of the work that the children, staff and parents had done to make the show successful.
15. I was especially interested to see how well the children understood the different ways that items can be re-used or recycled, and I hope to be able to help arrange a visit for the children to a waste transfer station so that they can see for real where items such as paper and plastic bottles go after being collected from peoples' homes.

**COUNCILLOR RICHARD BUTLER**  
CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY