



COUNCIL ASSEMBLY
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 30 2008
SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA No. 2

List of Contents	Page
Item No.	No.
8B. MOTIONS REPORT	1
Officer Comments for Motion No. 4	

Circulated: Friday January 25 2008

For further information please contact Lesley John 020 7525 7228

Item No. 8B.	Classification: Open	Date: January 30 2008	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Motions – Officer Comments for No. 4	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Legal and Democratic Services	

4. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ANDREW PAKES (seconded by Councillor Veronica Ward)

Climate Change

Comments of the Strategic Director of Environment and Housing

1. The council has made progress in promoting energy conservation in the domestic sector. The Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) target is to achieve a 30% improvement in energy efficiency by 2011 (above 1996 levels). The council's progress to date is a 22.9% improvement.
2. The council also promotes two major grant schemes for insulation, boiler upgrades and improved heating controls, targeted at those households that are in receipt of benefits.
3. Warmfront is a national scheme funded by central government and Coldbusters funded by the Government Office for London. So far this year, 107 Warmfront grants for households totalling £103,908, and £158,794 grants from the Coldbusters scheme have been secured. In September 2007 the council secured £105,000 from the government's community energy efficiency fund to establish an outreach scheme to increase the uptake of these grants.
4. The council (via a European funding programme) established Southwark Energy Action (SEA) a decade ago to provide the local community with advice and guidance on energy efficiency and renewables. Since then, SEA has become an independent not-for-profit company working across London (and hence changed their name to Sustainable Energy Action). The Energy Saving Trust (EST) previously funded a number of local energy advice centres across London. In January 2008, they have replaced these with a single Energy Saving Trust Advice Service (ESTAS) for London. The ESTAS provides a single point of contact for all Londoners for advice on energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable transport.
5. The council will work closely with the new ESTAS to ensure that the free telephone advice and outreach services are widely publicised and will provide improved signposting to these schemes on its external website once further details of the ESTAS services are available.

Dedicated budget

6. A dedicated budget for council building energy management was agreed by the executive in the sustainability action plan and is already being pursued by officers. The energy team within the environment and housing department is working with the property team to deliver this funding mechanism and a programme for council building energy management.

Planning policy

7. The council's planning policy supports the development of renewable energy. Policy 3.5 of the Southwark Plan requires new development (both domestic and non-domestic) to incorporate renewable energy technology and design where this would not make the development unviable. For major development outside conservation areas, renewable energy sources should provide at least 10% of the development's energy needs.
8. In addition, the further alterations to the London Plan (due to come into force in 2008) have proposed that development referable to the Mayor should be able to generate 20% of the anticipated site's energy demand by on-site renewable energy technologies, which Southwark Council is supporting. This would affect large-scale development in Southwark.
9. The council's planning policies reinforce the London-wide energy hierarchy: use less energy, supply energy cleanly, and use renewable sources of energy. Southwark Plan policy 3.4 requires development to use appropriate design measures to maximise energy efficiency. The council's draft sustainable design and construction supplementary planning document (due to be adopted in September 2008) requires as a minimum that all development reduces carbon emissions by 25% beyond the level required by the building regulations (this is required to meet Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3). With regard to the supply of energy, the SPD requires all development to assess the feasibility of providing combined heat and power (CHP) and to connect to existing CHP networks, such as those planned at the Elephant and Castle (the MUSCo) and the Aylesbury Estate, where this is practical.
10. The council has adopted standards that are above the current building regulations. Council procured domestic stock should, as a minimum requirement, meet the Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4. This is a 44% improvement on current building regulations and one level higher than that required for Housing Corporation funded new social housing. New schools procured as part of the Southwark Schools for the Future (SSF) programme should comply with the BREEAM very good standard (this is one level below the highest standard achievable – that of BREEAM excellent), and the new council offices in Tooley Street meet the highest BREEAM standard - excellent.
11. The council has self imposed targets to achieve a 5% reduction in energy consumption within its main office buildings and is also working to achieve associated reduction targets for reducing its waste stream, water consumption and purchasing whilst maximising recycling through the new corporate greening the council scheme.
12. Further the council's corporate contract for IT equipment ensures that all computer hardware meets the council's minimum specification requirements, and the rollout of the Citrix programme (which is replacing most desktops with new thin client terminals) is helping to further reduce council emissions by around 300kg of CO2 per PC per year.

Council climate change strategy

13. The actions set out above are all part of the council's overall strategy for tackling climate change (agreed by executive in December 2006). The strategy sets out actions for tackling carbon emissions from all sectors across the borough. The council is taking a highly innovative approach to reducing carbon emissions in its major regeneration schemes. The multi-utility services company being established by the council for the Elephant & Castle will secure private sector investment in low carbon energy services for the development. Despite this, the lower than expected grant settlement from government will mean that it will be difficult for the council to invest in further schemes to cut carbon emissions.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Member Motions	Town Hall Peckham Road London SE5 8UB	Constitutional Team 020 7525 7228

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Team Manager
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer
Version	Final
Dated	January 25 2008

**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN) (SUPPLEMENTAL)
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2007/08**

NOTE: Original held by Constitutional Team; all amendments/queries to
Lesley John Tel: 020 7525 7228/7236

ONE COPY TO ALL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED	Copies	To	Copies
All Councillors	63	<u>External</u>	4
Political Assistants			
Jim Fitzgerald, Liberal Democrat Political Assistant	1	Mr. Mark Roelofsen	
John Bibby, Labour Group Political Assistant	1	Mr. Bola Ogun	
		Ms Jean Sackur	
		Mr. Geoffrey Banister	
Libraries (1 each)	6		
Albion / Camberwell / Dulwich / Newington / Peckham / Local Studies Library			
Press	2		
Southwark News			
South London Press			
Corporate Management Team	6		
Gill Davies			
Paul Evans			
Romi Bowen			
Duncan Whitfield			
Stephen McDonald			
Susanna White			
Other			
Ian Millichap	1		
Sonia Sutton	1		
Constitutional Officer	20		
		Last Updated: January 2008	
		Total:	109