

## OSP Climate Change Action Plan – draft for discussion

### Introduction

Following the adoption of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) it was agreed that action plans would be drafted for each of the five flagship issues.

This is the draft action plan for climate change.

Under “Oxford – vision for the City” in SCS, the statement is made: *“We shall develop a city that becomes carbon neutral with high eco-standards that.... will be a model of good practice, locally, nationally and internationally”*.

Additionally, the SCS states that Oxford will deliver this part of the vision by:

*“developing high level partnerships between the public and private sectors and the voluntary and community sector and the City Council; to research and test high quality eco solutions to current climate change and other problems caused by high costs of energy and to implement them in a way that is replicable internationally”*.

### Detailed Action Plan

The key objective of the SCS, under Climate Change, is:

*“To work towards Oxford City becoming a carbon neutral city and a centre of excellence for climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives.*

*We will:*

- *Work to reduce the City’s carbon footprint*
- *Adapt to climate change*
- *Reduce waste and encourage recycling*

- *Encourage use of public transport, walking cycling.”*

The OSP has identified five actions that the partner organisations should be taking at present, and which they should be using to demonstrate the value of the approach to other City employers and organisations:

- Carry out a robust assessment of your CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Set CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction targets and monitor reductions
- Draw up a climate change action plan and appoint a senior manager to lead implementation
- Food, Water and Waste – Source food locally as far as possible to reduce ‘food miles’, reduce and manage water consumption and reduce waste generation (reduce, reuse, recycle).
- Adaptation - consider adaptation issues and plan ahead for consequences: flood; drought; heatwave; more extreme weather events; infrastructure issues.

The OSP also identified five actions that partner organisations should promote to their staff, customers, members, patients, students and other contacts:

- Measure personal/household CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and set reduction targets for energy consumption; transport use etc
- Raise awareness of simple measures – don’t use standby, switch off at the mains; switch off lights; get loft and cavity wall insulation if possible; purchase low energy appliances (A++) and efficient heating systems; signpost people to and distribute relevant information (e.g. Oxford is my World – Your Guide to Saving the Planet).
- Reduce, reuse and recycle – printing 2 sided, recycling; water savers in cisterns
- Car sharing schemes/Work travel plans – promote and encourage
- Adaptation – how is it going to impact on individuals and how can we plan ahead – flood (homes, travel to work); drought (water conservation, water recycling); heat wave (e.g. skin care advice)

This action plan is divided into two parts. The first reflects Oxford City Council’s response to climate change as set out in its stated priorities in its Corporate Plan. The second reflects the objectives of the OSP as detailed in the SCS (outlined above).

## **Monitoring and Performance Management**

The first part of the action plan, based on climate change priorities in Oxford City Council's Corporate Plan, is being monitored by Oxford City Council's performance management team. Monitoring reports will be made available and presented to the OSP at future OSP meetings.

The second part of the action plan should be monitored by the OSP.

### **Recommendation to OSP**

The following recommendations are made to the OSP:

- That the action plan be adopted
- That dates for six monthly monitoring presentations are agreed
- That the OSP review progress annually.

## OSP Climate Change Action Plan

### Section 1 – From Oxford City Council’s Corporate Plan

Corporate Plan Statement: **Tackle climate change and promote environmental resource management:** *We are committed to playing a leading role in tackling climate change. We are working alongside local businesses and organisations, schools and colleges, communities and individuals to reduce the overall carbon footprint of the city. We have set ambitious targets to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the council’s own buildings and operations. We want to work together on city-wide carbon reduction initiatives. We want to ensure that we are prepared to combat the adverse effects of climate change, in particular flooding.*

Objective	Action	Target Dates	Suggested Responsibility	Success Measures
1. Reduce carbon emissions from Oxford city council own estate and operations by 25% (and 3% year on year thereafter), compared to the 05/06	1.1 Continue to implement and develop our Carbon Management Programme, <i>Getting Our House in Order (GOHIO)</i>	Mar 2011	Oxford City Council	-Meet interim targets of 8% reduction by Mar 09, 17% reduction by Mar 10, and overarching target of 25% reduction by Mar 2011, and 3% year on year thereafter. -Report annually on National Indicator NI185: <i>Percentage CO2 Reduction from LA Operations</i>
2. Reduce carbon emissions in Oxford City by 15% compared to 2005 levels.	2.1 Continue with existing and develop new work programmes to encourage carbon reduction across the city (Oxford is My World activities aimed at householders, community groups, businesses; Affordable Warmth Action Plan for low income households; Council Tax incentive/discounts for home insulation and solar hot water systems; Planning process. 2.2 Enabling role in sustainable energy generation to support carbon reduction across city/OSP ambition for carbon neutral city eg. via Partnership for Renewables and Planning system	Mar 2011	Oxford City Council and OSP partners	This objective is covered by National Indicator NI186: Per Capita CO2 Emissions in the LA Area (data compiled for and issued by central government), and also links to NI 187 Tackling Fuel poverty –percentage of people claiming income based benefit living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating

<p>3. Implement a climate change adaptation plan to be better prepared for more frequent extreme weather events and resource scarcity.</p>	<p>3.1 develop climate change Adaptation work plan for Oxford City Council. Substantial piece of work - same order of magnitude as GOHIO mitigation plan.</p> <p>3.2 Report annually on achieved level against NI 188 <i>Planning to Adapt to Climate Change</i>: target is level 3 by Mar 2011</p> <p>3.3 Specific attention to OCC response to flooding</p>	<p>Mar 2011</p>	<p>Oxford City Council, County</p>	<p>NI188 measures LA progress on assessing and managing climate risks and opportunities, and incorporating appropriate action into local authority and partners' strategic planning. Target: achieve NI188 Level 3 by Mar 2011, in line with LAA2 adopted target by all Oxon LAs</p>
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## Section 2 – OSP climate change action plan

### Strategic Actions:

The key SCS objective is “ To work towards Oxford City becoming a carbon neutral city and a centre of excellence for climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives.”

Objective	Suggested Strategic Action	Suggested Target Dates	Suggested Responsibility	Suggested Success Measures
1. Carbon Neutral Oxford	Enable sustainable energy generation in and around Oxford: wind, small hydro, biomass, solar PV and solar thermal, anaerobic digestion of food waste all have potential for Oxford, and could be considered across the OSP, or by groupings within the OSP. Investigate options for letting land for renewable energy production eg Partnership for Renewables.	Mar 2011	Oxford City Council and OSP Partners	Action plan drawn up and implementation stage entered  Number of sustainable energy projects  Installed sustainable energy capacity
2. Leadership on local, national and international good practice: mitigation	Flagship projects delivered by the OSP eg. urban use of renewable energy technologies, low carbon transport, recycling; good and best practice case studies on local outstanding examples	Mar 2010	Oxford City Council and OSP Partners	Action plan drawn up and implementation stage entered  Number appropriate local flagship projects identified  Number flagship projects published
3. Leadership: adaptation	OSP joint activity as issues faced are same/similar, though responses will be different? Work with UK Climate Impacts Programme, based at Oxford University?	Mar 2010	Oxford City Council and OSP Partners	Action plan drawn up and implementation stage entered  Number appropriate local flagship projects identified  Number flagship projects published

4. Centre of excellence in Oxford	Engage with expertise within Oxford in a meaningful way - link with leading thinkers who work and live in Oxford: expert resources exist in the Universities and research institutes eg Environmental Change Institute, at Oxford University and Oxford Institute for Sustainable Development and Environmental Information Exchange at Oxford Brookes University, Oxfam, BMW, NHS, etc. Harness this international expertise to develop a climate change response, in the city they know best?	Oct 2009	Oxford City Council and OSP Partners	Action plan drawn up and implementation stage entered  Identify key players and get initial response
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**Specific Actions:**

“We will:

- *Work to reduce the City’s carbon footprint*
- *Adapt to climate change*
- *Reduce waste and encourage recycling*
- *Encourage use of public transport, walking cycling.”*

Objective	Suggested Specific Action	Suggested Target Dates	Suggested Responsibility	Suggested Success Measures
1. Work to reduce the City’s carbon footprint: own organisation	1.1 Carry out a robust assessment of organisations CO <sub>2</sub> emissions 1.2 Set CO <sub>2</sub> emissions reduction targets and monitor reductions 1.3 Draw up a climate change mitigation action plan and appoint a senior officer to lead implementation	Mar 2009	Oxford City Council and larger OSP Partners	Actions carried out  Carbon reduction quantified
2. Work to reduce the City’s carbon footprint: influence behaviour of stakeholders	Actions that partner organisations should promote to their staff, customers, members, patients, students and other contacts: 2.1 Measure personal/household CO <sub>2</sub> emissions and set reduction targets for	Mar 2009	Oxford City Council and all OSP Partners	Actions carried out  Household Carbon reduction quantified

	<p>energy consumption; transport use etc</p> <p>2.2 Raise awareness of simple measures – don't use standby, switch off at the mains; switch off lights; get loft and cavity wall insulation if possible; purchase low energy appliances (A++) and efficient heating systems;</p> <p>2.3 signpost people to and distribute relevant information (e.g. Oxford is My World – Your Guide to Saving the Planet, Council Tax incentives for home insulation and solar hot water systems.)</p>			Pledges signed?
3. Adaptation - consider adaptation issues and plan ahead for consequences: flood; drought; heatwave; more extreme weather events; infrastructure issues.	<p>3.1 own organisation: draw up a climate change adaptation action plan and appoint a senior officer to lead implementation</p> <p>3.2 Stakeholders: – how is it going to impact on individuals and how can we plan ahead – flood (homes, travel to work); drought (water conservation, water recycling); heat wave (e.g. skin care advice)</p>	Mar 2010	Oxford City Council and OSP Partners	<p>3.1 Action plan drawn up and implementation stage entered</p> <p>3.2 Advise provided to stakeholders, pledges?</p>
4. Reduce waste and encourage recycling	<p>4.1 Own organisation: waste/recycling plan</p> <p>4.2 Stakeholders: Reduce, reuse and recycle – printing 2 sided, recycling; water savers in cisterns etc.</p>	June 2009	Oxford City Council and OSP Partners	<p>4.1 Action plan drawn up and implementation stage entered</p> <p>4.2 Advise provided to stakeholders, pledges?</p>
5. Encourage use of public transport, walking, cycling.	<p>5.1 Own organisation: green transport plan</p> <p>5.2 Stakeholders: Car sharing schemes/Work travel plans – promote and encourage</p> <p>Specific initiatives:  <b>Oxford bike hire scheme</b> – being looked at by County for Oxford, with partners - could be branded with OSP?  <b>Walk-it:</b> journey planner for pedestrians, walkers, tourists in Oxford – under discussion</p>	June 2009	Oxford City Council and OSP Partners	<p>5.1 Action plan drawn up and implementation stage entered</p> <p>5.2 Advice provided to stakeholders, pledges?</p>

	<p>by the 2 councils and 2 universities. Could be branded with OSP?</p> <p><b>Cyclescheme</b> – salary sacrifice for staff to purchase cycle for commuting to work for up to 50% discount. Some partners already providing.</p> <p><b>Low emission vehicles (lev) (120gCO2/km or less)</b> - incentives: cheaper/free residential parking/car parks. Staff only allowed to use staff car parks if lev?</p> <p><b>Electric vehicles</b> - infrastructure for charging</p> <p><b>Car share</b> - facilitate area based car-share schemes (embryonic schemes in West and East Oxford)</p>			
<p>6. Support for local SMEs + voluntary +community groups in Oxford on climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Knowledge transfer</li> <li>- Advice and signposting</li> <li>- Mentoring</li> <li>- Sustainable procurement</li> <li>- Carbon emission base-lining and reduction targeting</li> </ul>	<p>Oct 2009</p>		<p>Action plan drawn up and implementation stage entered</p> <p>- Number of businesses/group impacted</p>