

SCHOOLS FORUM 26/09/13

Title of paper:	Schools' Collaboration on Resource Efficiency (SCoRE)	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Andy Vaughn/ Gail Scholes	Wards affected: All
Report author(s) and contact details:	Ruth Zoumides and Penny Marshall	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Alex Moczarski	
Summary		
<p>Following a successful East Midlands initiative pilot, in March 2012, the School's Forum agreed to fund two officers at £67,000 per annum (totalling £134,000) for 2012/13 and 2013/14 to deliver a bespoke energy efficiency focused programme entitled Schools' Collaboration on Resource Efficiency (SCoRE).</p> <p>Since November 2012, 2 full time officers have been working in post as Schools' Energy Officers with the aim to make financial and carbon savings in schools by reducing energy consumption and associated emissions through technical and behavioural changes.</p> <p>Using available funding and implementing technical and behavioural change measures, coupled with teaching from foundation aged children upwards and advice sessions for adults, using available data, over a six month period the project has reported the following savings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £42,000 energy savings pro rata inclusive of CRC • 132 tonnes of CO₂ savings pro rata <p>Based on surveys carried out by officers and conditions studied, predicted savings calculated for interventions as and where needed over the schools' estate stand at just over £157k annually.</p>		
Recommendation(s):		
1	Note the achievements of the bespoke programme delivered by the current Schools' Energy Officers since November 2012, as described in the Nottingham City Council Project Report (attached)	
2	Approve the underwrite of £134k up to September 2016	

1. BACKGROUND

In summer 2009, Nottingham City Council set an ambitious target to reduce its own carbon emissions by 31% by 2016 and identified ways of reaching this target through its' Carbon Management Plan. The Council is also a participant in the national CRC (Carbon Reduction Commitment) Energy Efficiency scheme which levies a cost per tonne of carbon dioxide emitted proportional to electricity and gas usage. Therefore a failure to achieve our carbon target will bring substantial additional costs for the Council. The Council's Carbon Management Plan, produced in 2009, highlighted that 72% of all council CO₂ emissions are produced from buildings and that in 2007/2008 31% of those emissions come from schools. Since then, further analysis shows that schools are accountable for 34% of

emissions (last financial year 2012/13). This data is obtained from the Carbon Management Plan and includes all schools. Schools therefore have an extensive role to play in helping to reduce emissions.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

Based on surveys carried out by officers and conditions studied, predicted savings calculated for interventions as and where needed over the schools' estate stand at just over **£157k** annually.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

None

4. OUTCOMES/DELIVERABLES

SCoRE will develop a capital programme, put out a tender and gain a preferred supplier, deliver and make savings which are maintained by schools.

The City Council's Energy Services Team has a Project Management Office in place and waiting to work on the continuation of SCoRE, utilising the contacts and relationships with City Councillors, Schools, Major Programmes, Education, Marketing and Communications, Catering and Facilities and external providers.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

The approval for this funding was originally for 2 posts for 2 years. Due to delays in recruitment the current approved funding is sufficient to fund the posts up to September 2013. The additional two years funding being requested will enable the officers to continue and develop their program until September 2016.

Whilst the risk of not meeting the carbon target, and incurring additional costs associated with the CRC, is currently with the LA, it is recharged to DSG, with forums approval. £200k per year is held centrally for this purpose. The current phase of the CRC legislation ceases at end March 2016. The government have not announced plans for how schools will be treated beyond that date. It is sensible to put in place the program of work the officers will be able to deliver in order to:-

- a) ensure current targets are met and savings are delivered
- b) prepare for new legislation

As the proposal is time limited the funding would be allocated from the Statutory School Reserve, and the officers will work with **ALL** schools. Schools are responsible for their own energy bills so any savings as a result of the program will benefit the school directly.

The funding profile is as follows:-
£33.5k - Sept 2014-March 2015
£67k - April 2015-March 2016
£33.5k - April 2016-Sept 2016.

During this period the service will be developed into a fully self funded traded service. The underwrite is appropriate and consistent with the approach that has been taken in other areas where DSG funded services have been moved onto a traded basis.

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6. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

There are no specific legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

7. OBSERVATIONS OF THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS AND LEARNING

"Developing an awareness of our responsibilities to the environment is a crucial part of the broader education that this authority seeks to encourage.

Besides the short term costs to the Council that will be saved through effective education measures in this area, the longer term gains are likely to be more significant. We would look forward to a significant shift across all our schools and academies in both their take up of the training offered in this programme and their carbon consumption."

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8. HR ISSUES

HR - In the event that Schools Forum DO NOT support/agree the continuation of funding arrangements as outlined in this report, there would be significant workforce implications that would need to be detailed in separate Chief Officer and DDM reports which would include potential employment / contractual obligations, costs and risks to the authority, taking into account appropriate timelines. Management need to consider potential exit payments of any affected post holders.

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9. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has the equality impact been assessed?

Yes, see Equality Impact Assessment attached.

10. **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION**

See Nottingham City Council Project Report attached.

11. **PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

Carbon Management Plan.