

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 18 AUGUST 2015**

**CORPORATE CARBON DIOXIDE AND ENERGY CONSUMPTION REDUCTION TARGETS**

**REPORT BY HEAD OF TECHNICAL AND PROPERTY SERVICES**

**ABSTRACT**

This report seeks committee approval to adopt the revised carbon dioxide and energy consumption reduction targets and to apply these reduction targets to the Corporate Energy budgets commencing 2016/17.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Approves the recommended carbon dioxide and energy consumption reduction targets.
- (ii) Approves the recommendation to apply the reduction targets to the corporate energy management budgets from 2016/17 subject to these targets being realistically based on the level of investment which can be afforded as determined by the Council's budget setting process.

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/COPORATE PLAN**

This report contributes to the following local outcome contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

- Our carbon footprint is reduced.

**3. BACKGROUND**

The UK Government set a 34% reduction target for greenhouse gases emissions by 2020 and an 80% reduction by 2050. In response to this legislation the Scottish Government has, through the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, adopted national greenhouse gases emissions reduction targets of 42% by 2020 and 80% by 2050. Through the "Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Scotland" the Scottish Government has introduced a target of reducing the final energy consumption in Scotland in 2020 by 12%.

**4. CURRENT POSITION**

In response to the Scottish Governments legislation and their "Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Scotland" the Council adopted its own set of targets which were approved by the Strategic Policy Committee on the 6 September 2011 Report No 611/11. They were for an annual corporate carbon dioxide emissions reduction target of 2.5%, which had the potential to achieve a 22.5% reduction by 2020 and an annual corporate energy consumption reduction target of 1.5%, which had the potential to achieve a 13.5% reduction by 2020, both when compared to the 2010/2011 base.

Since the introduction of the reduction targets in 2010/11 some progress has been made in meeting these annual reduction targets. However it is apparent that the reductions targets will have to be increased in order meet the 2020 targets.

## **5. PROPOSALS**

For the Council to achieve its 2020 targets it is recommended that:-

- the carbon dioxide reduction target be increased from 2.5% to 3.0% per annum and that the energy consumption reduction target be increased from 1.5% to 2.0% per annum,
- the new reduction targets are applied to the corporate energy management budgets from 2016/17

The new targets were discussed and agreed at the recent Carbon Reduction Member Officer Group on the 1 May 2015.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report. Implementation of the recommended carbon dioxide and energy consumption reduction targets will however require investment by the Council. All such matters will be given due consideration through the Council's budget setting process in future years.

**NOTE:** No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

Report 611/11 – Strategic Policy Committee – 6 September 2011 “Corporate Energy Consumption and Carbon Dioxide Emissions Reduction Targets”.

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