

LEWISHAM COUNCIL ENERGY POLICY 2014-2018

March 2014

Lewisham Council is committed to creating a borough that is clean, green and liveable. The use of energy is fundamental to the way the council works, and a proactive and efficient approach to energy management one of the most important ways the Council can cut its costs and lead the way in promoting a sustainable environment.

The Council needs to improve its budget position by £95m in the next 4 years. With a growing population and services already under pressure achieving this is going to be very challenging, particularly in relation to energy where costs have been rising significantly over a long period. Ensuring we understand and manage our energy use is an essential part of minimising our exposure to energy markets. The generation and supply of energy also offer potential opportunities for generating income.

This Energy Policy sets a new target of a 20% reduction in carbon emissions over 5 years across the Council's operational sites and identifies how the Council's management of energy will contribute to the council's corporate priorities through:

- Reducing exposure to rising energy costs and achieving value for money energy contracts
- Cutting waste and driving efficiency across operational buildings
- Enabling schools to meet increased pupil numbers while controlling energy costs
- Reducing the Council's carbon footprint and contributing to wider environmental objectives
- Minimising the risk of energy supply disruption and maintaining acceptable temperatures in buildings delivering services to service users and staff
- Ensuring the Council complies with legislation and statutory functions relating to energy supply and use in corporate buildings

The Council will also seek to take a strategic approach in the use of its assets across the borough, being ambitious in using our estate as a tool to unlock new opportunities for the generation and supply of energy. This includes work in partnership with others to promote district heating; the use of photovoltaics and other renewables to cut carbon emissions as well as create opportunities for further investment; and exploring the scope for energy supply as a means to deliver against wider social and environmental objectives and generate economic benefits.

Delivering on our commitment

Lewisham Council commits to delivering a 20% reduction in annual carbon emissions from energy use in buildings across the Council's operational estate by March 2018 from a baseline of 2012/13.

The baseline for 2012/13 is 8,548 tonnes per year. Achieving the reduction will result in annual carbon emissions of 6,838 tonnes in 2017/18. Based on 2012/13 energy prices this would be expected to translate into an annual financial saving of approximately £360,000 in 2017/18 compared to the energy spend in 2012/13.

The Council also commits to achieving a 20% reduction in carbon emissions per pupil averaged across our school's estate with a target of 260 kg CO₂ per pupil per year for primary schools and 540 kg CO₂ per pupil for secondary schools by March 2018.

We will achieve our commitments through improvements in

1) Monitoring and targeting

- Establishing an evidenced based approach to improving energy efficiency
- Benchmarking against best practice
- Identifying and responding to high consuming buildings

2) Staff engagement and better use of buildings and equipment

- Roles and responsibilities
- Updated protocols for heating standards

3) Investment in more energy efficient buildings

- Design for new build
- Standardised specifications for equipment across buildings
- Targeted maintenance programmes ensuring equipment runs efficiently
- Upgrading heating systems and plant where there is an economically viable case to do so

4) Delivery of a fit for purpose operational estate

- Taking a strategic approach to operational

Data and target setting explained

The council's operational estate covers 115 buildings that provide council services and are covered by corporate energy and maintenance contracts

Lewisham Council reports annually against the Government's Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) scheme and, separately, on greenhouse gas emissions using the Department of Energy and Climate Change methodology. The targets and baseline data used within Lewisham's Energy Policy draws on this data, with the following adjustments

- Energy use in schools is likely to be under greater pressure due to increased pupil places and achieving a 20% reduction in total emissions would be impractical so a per pupil target has been substituted
- The operational estate does not include hostels although these are covered by the council's greenhouse gas reporting
- There are a small number of other buildings not included in the operational estate which are very small and significant reductions in energy use are likely to be difficult to achieve

The data used for the baseline is based on data submitted for the council's Carbon Reduction Commitment report for the financial year 2012-13, which is the most accurate data available.

The council's current energy spend is approximately £1.8m per year on the operational sites

<p>sites; getting more out of the buildings we use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enabling schools to meet the demands of today and the future while managing energy consumption	<p>covered by the target.</p> <p>Details of Lewisham Council's reporting on Greenhouse Gas Emissions can be found in our annual use of resources statement</p> <p>http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/get-involved/environment/energyefficiency/taking-the-lead/Pages/default.aspx</p>
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Roles and responsibility

- All Council services are responsible for ensuring the effective use of resources in the delivery of their functions
- Corporate Asset Services has overall responsibility for delivering the Energy Policy and achieving the target of a 20% reduction in energy consumption
- The Corporate Asset Services Energy Forum will lead on development and delivery of the action plan underpinning the Energy Policy
- Building managers and staff in posts that involves management of sites are responsible for conforming with corporate policies and procedures in relation to energy use and the maintenance of plant and equipment
- All staff should take responsibility for the energy they use including switching off unnecessary equipment

Energy Policy monitoring and reporting

- Lewisham Council's Energy Policy was agreed on [date] and forms part of the Council's Strategic Asset Management Plan
- The Energy Policy will be monitored and delivered through Corporate Asset Services Energy Forum working closely with a range of Council services.
- An annual report on progress will be provided to the Cabinet Member for Resources and Regeneration and published on the Council's website.

This Energy Policy is part of the Council's wider commitment to delivering services as efficiently as possible and targeting our resources where they are needed most.

Through this Energy Policy the Council is setting itself a new target of a 20% reduction in carbon emissions across our operational estate over 5 years. This will protect the Council against the continuing rise in costs of gas and electricity and ensure we get value for money from the services we run.

Improving efficiency in Council buildings and schools will be an important priority, but this Energy Policy will also be used to drive energy efficiency across the Council's vehicle fleet, street-lighting and the services we deliver with and through other organisations including leisure centres, the management of parks and open spaces and community centres.

With local authorities continuing to face rising financial pressures there is no time to lose or energy to waste in getting this Energy Policy implemented and I look forward to seeing the results.

Cllr Maslin
Cabinet Member for Resources and Regeneration