

**ENVIRONMENT & WASTE PARTNERSHIP/
OXFORDSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE**

15 JANUARY 2010

OXFORDSHIRE 2030 – REVIEW OF STRATEGY MEASURES

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To report on a current refresh of measures used to monitor the implementation of the Oxfordshire 2030 Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS).

2 Background

- 2.1 The Oxfordshire 2030 strategy took effect in April 2008. It contains four themes, of which Environment and Climate Change is one. The Environment & Waste Partnership also has indirect relationships with the other themes. These are: a World Class Economy, Healthy & Thriving Communities and Reducing Inequalities and Breaking the Cycle of Deprivation.
- 2.2 Each theme contains a number of pledges. The pledges within the Environment & Climate Change theme are:
- Reduce carbon emissions and improve energy and water efficiency by public sector organisations, and encourage residents and businesses to do the same.
 - Reduce waste and increase re-use and recycling by households and businesses.
 - Minimise the effects and risk of flooding.
 - Ensure new development is built to high environmental standards.
 - Support individuals, communities and businesses, to respond to climate change and to improve efficiency in their use of energy and water.
 - Keep Oxfordshire clean & green.
 - Protect and enhance the biodiversity of the county.
 - Reduce the gap between the best and the worst off by targeting our work appropriately.
- 2.3 The themes and pledges are backed by a number of measures (or metrics), whereby progress can be measured. Across the Oxfordshire Partnership some weaknesses have been noticed with the measures used. Some lack baseline data, annual or in-year targets and clear ownership. For this reason a “refresh” of the measures is currently being undertaken and thematic partnerships, such as the Environment & Waste Partnership are being given the opportunity to review the measures supporting the themes and pledges for which they are responsible.
- 2.4 The Oxfordshire Partnership Governance Framework Handbook agreed by the Public Service Board in September 2009 confirmed that thematic partnerships are responsible for “*the delivery of Oxfordshire 2030 priorities; and shall be responsible for managing performance on those targets and reporting to the Public Service Board on progress*”.
- 2.5 Two of the pledges are currently monitored by the OWP Joint Committee. These are the pledges to reduce waste and increase reuse and recycling, and to keep Oxfordshire clean & green. They are monitored using the following National Indicators:
NI 191 Residual household waste per household
NI 192 Household waste recycled and composted
NI 195 Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting)
NI 196 Improved street and environmental cleanliness – fly tipping

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These measures are also used to measure Local Area Agreement 2 targets and to measure progress under the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy. It is proposed that these measures remain unchanged, as they are fairly well understood and serve a number of purposes. No new measures for these pledges are considered necessary at this time.

- 2.6 The pledges to reduce carbon emissions and improve energy and water efficiency, to minimise the effects and risks of flooding, and to protect biodiversity, are the responsibility of the Environment Partnership. The delivery plan allocates responsibility to the Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Partnership for the pledge to ensure that new development is built to high environmental standards.

There are three national indicators for climate change:

NI 185: CO₂ reduction from local authority operations

NI 186: CO₂ reduction in a local authority area

NI 188: Adapting to climate change

Other relevant indicators are:

NI 189 for flooding

NI 197 for Biodiversity

NI 185 and NI 188 are targets in Local Area Agreement 2. (NI 188 work is currently under the flooding pledge). Currently progress on the climate change pledges is monitored within the LAA2 monitoring process; data for NI 185 and NI 188 is collected by local authorities. Data for NI 186 is collected and reported by Defra.

- 2.7 Annex 1 summarises the Environment and Climate Change Pledges and notes where clarification is needed. These include:
- Pledge 16 (NI 185): longer term (post LAA2) objectives are needed to report against NI 185 (CO₂ reduction by local authorities/public sector);
 - Pledge 20 (NI 186): the CO₂ reduction target for the area needs to be revised in line with latest government target, and reporting against NI 186 clarified. NI 188 climate change adaptation could also be a measure for this pledge.
 - Pledge 22 (NI 197); Protect and Enhance Biodiversity

3 Financial, Risk and Staff Implications

- 3.1 There are no direct financial, risk and staff implications arising from the report.

4 Areas Affected

- 4.1 All Partners are affected.

5 Effect on Strategic Policies

- 5.1 The effectiveness of our measures will impact upon the pledges within the Environment & Climate change theme of the Oxfordshire 2030 SCS.

6 Options or Alternatives

- 6.1 Alternative measures may be proposed. No changes to the themes or pledges are permissible under

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the terms of the current review.

7 Recommendations

- 7.1 That the waste and clean & green measures remain unchanged and that the climate change and biodiversity measures are reviewed for the refresh.

8 Reasons for Recommendations

- 8.1 To have a comprehensive and robust set of measures in place to monitor pledges within the Oxfordshire 2030 strategy.

9 Contact Officer

- 9.1 Author: Wayne Lewis & Susie Ohlenschlager Tel: 01295 221903 / 01865 810148

Email: Wayne.lewis@cherwell-dc.gov.uk
Susie.ohlenschlager@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Background Papers: Oxfordshire Partnership "Oxfordshire 2030: A partnership plan for improving quality of life in Oxfordshire". Available at:
<http://www.oxfordshirepartnership.org.uk/wps/wcm/connect/OxfordshirePartnership/Oxfordshire+2030/>