

Herefordshire Council Carbon Management Plan (2010 – 2015)

A contribution to
Herefordshire Public Services'
Corporate Plan 2011-14 commitment
to a low carbon county

Date: 1st April 2011

Management Summary

Version	Date	Brief Summary	Document Owner
1.0	15/12/2010	First draft	Sustainability Manager
2.0	21/12/2010	First full draft to Carbon Trust	Sustainability Manager
3.0	11/01/2011	Full Draft to Carbon Board	Sustainability Manager
4.0	31/01/2011	Final draft to the Carbon Trust	Sustainability Manager
5.0	22/02/2011	Full Draft to JMT	Sustainability Manager
6.0	01/04/2011	Final Copy	Sustainability Manager

Foreword

Herefordshire Council and the Herefordshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) form a deep partnership known as Herefordshire Public Service (HPS). One of the key objectives of the HPS Corporate Plan 2011-14 is creating a resilient county, including reducing carbon emissions. To achieve this commitment a unified joint Carbon Board has been constituted with responsibility for coordinating the implementation of this 5 year carbon management plan (CMP).

This CMP has been developed as a major outcome of the Council's participation in the Carbon Trust's 2010 Local Authority Carbon Management Programme (LACM-8). In parallel, Herefordshire PCT and the Wye Valley NHS Trust are playing their part in achieving the NHS target of a 10% absolute carbon reduction by 2015 against its 2008 carbon emissions. The Council and the Wye Valley NHS Trust are making concerted efforts to reduce their respective carbon footprints because reducing carbon emissions makes great financial sense, as well as helping to mitigate the impacts of adverse climate change.

Herefordshire Council currently spends over £5 Million on energy and fuel bills annually. The twin challenges of rising energy and fuel prices and reduction in government funding over the next five years makes it imperative for the HPS to implement an effective CMP. In response the Council have adopted a 30% carbon reduction target over 6 years, which should give rise to a cost saving or cost avoidance in the region of £8 million. This CMP will to serve as the framework for delivering the HPS commitment to reduce carbon emissions. Achieving the target by March 2015 will help us streamline the business by reducing energy wastage and keep overheads low, thus helping protect spend on front-line services.

We are pleased to have been selected by the Carbon Trust to participate in LACM-8 and intend to use this plan to consolidate our current carbon reduction and energy efficiency initiatives. This CMP is meant as the framework on which we deliver our commitment to become a "Low Carbon County".

Geoff Hughes (Chairman HPS Carbon Board)



Foreword from the Carbon Trust

Cutting carbon emissions as part of the fight against climate change should be a key priority for all public sector organisations. Carbon management is about realising efficiency savings, transparency, accountability and leading by example. The UK government has identified the public sector as key to delivering carbon reduction across the UK in line with its Climate Change Act commitments and the Local Authority Carbon Management Programme is designed in response to this. It helps organisations to save money on wasted energy and put it to better use in other areas, while making a positive contribution to the environment by lowering carbon emissions.

Herefordshire Council partnered with the Carbon Trust on this programme in 2010 to realise the substantial carbon and cost savings. This Carbon Management Plan commits Herefordshire Council to a target of reducing CO₂ by 30% by 2015 and underpins potential financial savings and cost avoidance to Herefordshire Council of around £8 million by 2015.

Public sector organisations can contribute significantly to reducing CO₂ emissions and improving efficiency. The Carbon Trust is therefore very proud to support Herefordshire Council in their on-going implementation of carbon management.



Richard Rugg

Head of Public Sector, Carbon Trust



Management Summary

Herefordshire Council is one of the signatories of the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change and has historically been committed to reducing carbon (CO₂) emissions from its operations, as well as mitigate and adapt to the impacts of adverse climate change. The Council was selected in 2010 by the Carbon Trust to participate in the Phase 8 of the Local Authority Carbon Management Programme (LACM-8) and used this opportunity to develop its carbon management plan (CMP). This CMP has been developed for the purpose of consolidating existing carbon reduction and energy efficiency projects across the Council and serve as the framework on which future carbon reduction initiatives will be developed and delivered. Creating a resilient county is one of the long term corporate objectives of Herefordshire Council and the main drivers for developing this CMP in line with its corporate objectives are:

- **Achieve cost savings** through asset rationalisation, good procurement and commissioning and promotion of sustainable travel options;
- **Increase resilience** to rising energy prices and energy security risks by implementing energy efficiency measures and exploring local renewable energy generation sources;
- **Show community leadership** by actively reducing its carbon footprint, and encourage its partners and contractors to embed a “Low Carbon” approach in their operations;

Herefordshire Council is committed to reducing CO₂ emissions across the County and the Council one of the major players in the Herefordshire Partnership. The Council have continue to support the 2008 local area agreement (LAA) target of achieving a 13.1% per capita CO₂ reduction by 2011 against the County's 2005 emissions. The Council is currently supporting the Herefordshire Environmental Partnership (HEP) to deliver the above target and establishing Herefordshire New Leaf¹ is one of the Council's initiatives to supporting county level CO₂ reductions.

Herefordshire Council in 2010 set a six year 30% CO₂ reduction target against its 2008/09 emissions of 25,136 tonnesCO₂²; the cost of the fuel and energy that gave rise to these emissions is approximately £5 Million. The Council appointed a Project and Deputy project Lead from the Sustainability Unit³, constituted a top level Carbon Board and inaugurated a Carbon Management Team (CMT) for the purpose of supporting the delivery of the Council's 30% CO₂ reduction target. The Carbon Board is currently responsible for providing leadership and supports the embedding of carbon management and energy efficiency across Herefordshire Public Services (HPS) operations; while the CMT is responsible for developing and managing energy efficiency initiatives; exploring the potentials of local renewable

¹ A local not for profit organisation

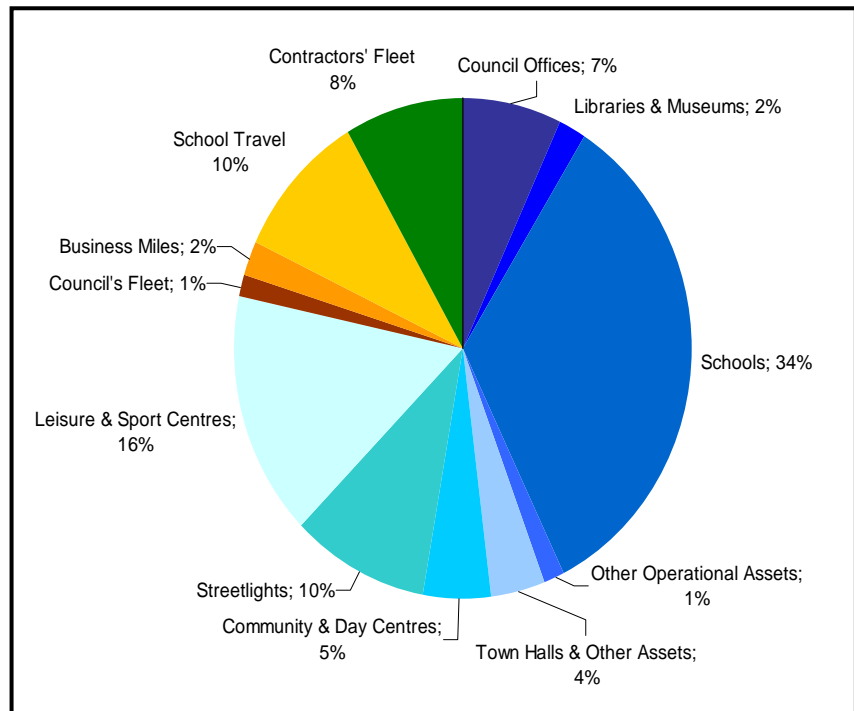
² From Street Lighting, the Council (buildings and operations), Schools and Contractors.

³ Now Waste and Sustainability Unit

energy generation; and supporting carbon reduction projects across the Council’s operations. The carbon management programme’s Project and Deputy Project Leads are responsible for coordinating the delivery of the Council’s carbon reduction target and for regularly providing programme updates to the Carbon Board.

Figure 1: Herefordshire Council’s Carbon Emissions (2008/09)

Figure 1 shows the scope and distribution of Herefordshire Council’s CO₂ emissions from all areas of the Council’s direct and indirect operations. Approximately 32%⁴ of the 2008/09 emissions are from its direct operations. The above shows that a significant proportion of the Council’s CO₂ emissions are outside its immediate control. Thus, it is imperative that as an organisation, the Council explore opportunities to collaborate with schools and



its major contractors to achieving its 30% CO₂ reduction target by 2015.

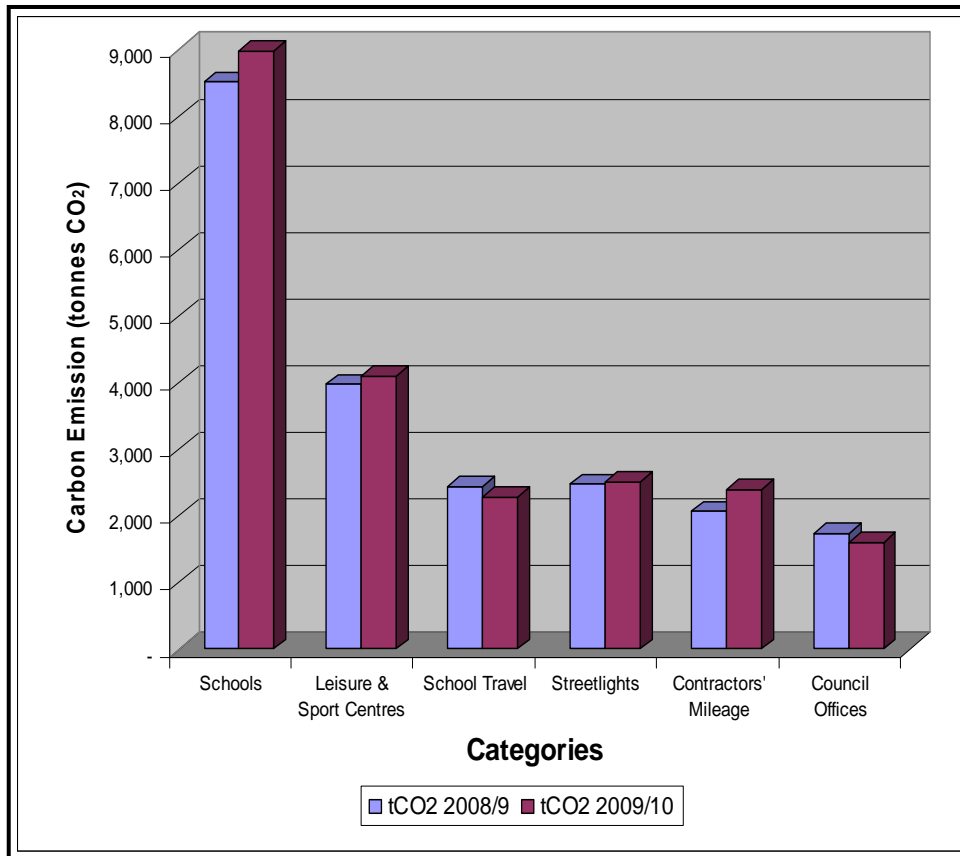
The proportion of the Council’s CO₂ emissions outside its direct control will progressively increase as commissioning becomes an integral part of the way HPS and the Council delivers goods and services to the people in Herefordshire. The imminent establishment of the Integrated Care Organisation (ICO) and Joint Venture Company (JVCo) to take over some of the Council’s functions are examples of the current trend towards commissioning. Therefore, partnership working, good procurement and contract management will become key aspects during the implementation of the Council’s CMP.

Herefordshire Council’s CO₂ emissions and energy spend in 2009/10 was 1.5% and 3% respectively higher than its baseline year (2008/09). The above increase was recorded despite carbon reduction and efficiency projects that were implemented between 2008/09 and 2009/10 financial years. Such a trend and the fact that energy and fuel prices have been rising well above inflation rate justifies the need for implementing an effective carbon management programme. Figure 2 contains the Council’s top six

⁴ Council Offices, Community and Day Centres, Town Halls and Other Assets, Libraries and Museums, School Travel, Fleet and Business Mileage

carbon emitters by category (2008/09 and 2009/10). These categories are: Schools’ energy use; Leisure and Sport Centres; School Travel; Street Lighting; Contractors’ Fleet; and Council Offices. Generally, these top six emitters contribute about 85% of Herefordshire Council’s baseline.

Figure 2: Herefordshire Council’s Top Six Carbon Emitters



The Council’s 2008/09 CO₂ emissions and energy spend has been used as the basis for calculating the Council’s financial and carbon value at stake (VAS) for developing this CMP. The VAS is the difference between the ‘do nothing’ or ‘business as usual’ (BAU) scenario and the benefits that could accrue to the Council if it achieves its 30% carbon reduction target. The VAS is underpinned by the assumption that energy and fuel demands will continue to rise in line with national trends at 0.7% annually⁵. Figures 3 and 4 outline the carbon and financial savings or cost avoidance that could be attained if the Council achieves its 30% carbon reduction target.

The VAS for achieving Herefordshire Council’s 30% carbon reduction target is estimated to be cumulatively 31,436 tonnesCO₂ with an associated potential financial savings or cost avoidance of £7.92 Million over six years.

⁵ Source: Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) now Department for Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (DBERR).

Figure 3 Herefordshire Council Carbon VAS

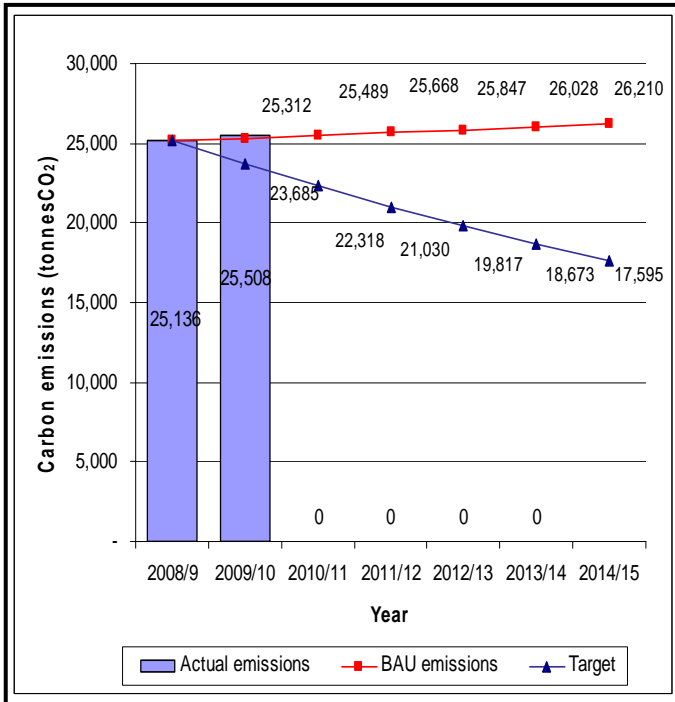
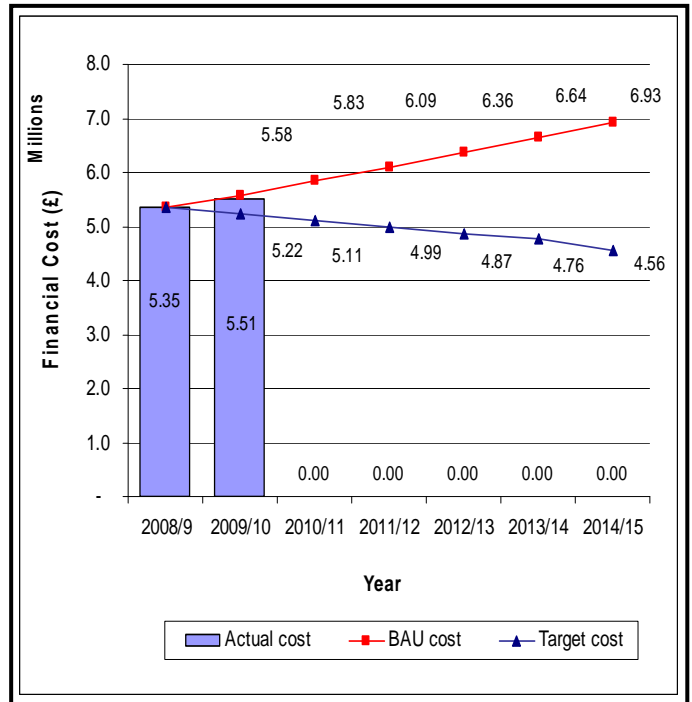


Figure 4 Herefordshire Council Financial VAS



Herefordshire Council have identified and quantified 81% and 24% of its target carbon reduction and baseline respectively as part identified of the its corporate commitment to achieving a “Low Carbon County” status. The carbon reduction projects that have been implemented contributes 1,187 tonnesCO₂ (15.7%) towards its target and 68.2% of the projects planned for 2011 have already been funded. The total projected investment required to achieve the Council’s 30% target over six years is £9.6 Million⁶ and £5.3 Million of this amount have already been invested or approved. The process of identifying, quantifying, exploring funding opportunities, implementing and monitoring carbon reduction projects will continue to ensure that the benefits of achieving the Council’s 30% carbon reduction by 2015 is optimised. Table 1 summarises Herefordshire Council’s progress towards achieving its 30% carbon reduction target.

Table 1: Carbon Reduction Progress against Target

<i>Target: 30% (7, 541 tCO₂)</i>		
<i>81%</i>		<i>19%</i>
<i>Existing Projects: 15.7% (1, 187 tCO₂)</i>	<i>Quantified Projects: 65.3% (4, 921 tCO₂)</i>	<i>Gap/Risk Carbon: 19% (1, 433 tCO₂)</i>

⁶ This is the estimated cost that does not take into consideration other non-carbon savings benefits that will or have accrued from the investment.



The Back page was designed by Sophie Griffiths-Rose a 9 year old from Marden Primary School, Hereford.

