

Body: Scrutiny Committee

Date: 6 April 2009

Subject: Audit of Eastbourne Borough Council's Environmental Practices

Report Of: Environment Scrutiny Task Group

Ward (s): All

Purpose: To assess how the Council follows 'best' Environmental practice

Decision Type: Not applicable

Recommendation: To note:

1. The progress that has been made; and
- 1) That a scrutiny seminar took place on 23 March 2009 to review Corporate Plan Priority 5 "Environment"

Contact: Nick Adlam, Energy Initiatives Officer x5963 or Sue Oliver, Environmental Health Manager x5360

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This paper is a progress report on the issues that were raised in previous reports and give updates on:
- The new community environment partnership work;
 - Environment performance indicators; and
 - Improving the efficiency of our own estate and operations.

2. Progress

2.1. Community Environment Partnership

- 2.1.1. It was agreed at the September 2008 Cabinet meeting that we set up a community partnership for the environment.

The partnership's main task would be to develop an environment strategy which would deal with the following key areas:

- Climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- Air quality;
- Water supply and use;
- Waste
- Land use; and
- Biodiversity.

2.1.2. The environment partnership would also develop a network of community champions.

2.1.3. At their January 2009 meeting the ESP agreed to set up this community environment partnership so that it could develop an environmental strategy for Eastbourne and help develop a network of community champions. The environment partnership would be a sub-group of the ESP.

2.1.4. The ESP was presented with a draft set of terms of reference for the Community Environment Partnership at their March meeting (19/03/09). Subject to minor alterations these should be agreed (by correspondence) in time for the first community environment partnership meeting in April. The draft set of TOR being developed by the ESP is attached in **Appendix 1**.

2.1.5. The TOR outlines what groups could be represented on the community environment partnership, and work has already started in identifying and inviting appropriate partners to the first meeting. Membership of the partnership reflects the main areas of work that it will be engaged with, in particular having to change people's behaviour and attitudes to the environment.

2.1.6. It is envisaged that the two representatives for the Council will be a Councillor each from the Liberal Democrats and Conservatives. We have also been working with EAVS to develop the criteria for the three community representatives.

2.2. Performance indicators

2.2.1. There are nine performance indicators that have an influence over our environmental work:

- NI185 – How much carbon is emitted by our own operations;
- NI186 - How much carbon is emitted per capita in the town;
- NI187 – Tackling fuel poverty and energy inefficient homes;
- NI188 - What measures are being taken to adapt against the impacts of climate change;
- NI189 – Flood and risk management;
- NI191 – Residual household waste per household;
- NI192 - Household waste recycled and composted;
- NI194 – Monitoring Air Quality;
- NI197 – Improved local bio-diversity.

2.2.2. A short description of each indicator is given in **Appendix 2** together with an explanation of how we are going to monitor them.

2.3. Making our own estate and operations more efficient

2.3.1. One of the objectives of the new community partnership is to reduce carbon emissions by 80% by 2050. This is the same target set out in the Climate Change Act 2008 and will mean a 3.5% year on year reduction for the next 40 years, which **everyone** will have to contribute towards.

2.3.2. In view of this and that we want to be seen as a leader in environment we would like to aim for 3.5% year on year reductions in our own emissions. This would be a step up from our previously planned work to improve the energy efficiency of our operations.

2.3.3. To put this work on a firm footing we are setting up a project board which will map out how we can achieve a 3.5% year on year reduction in emissions. The project board will investigate:

- What low carbon measures should be introduced;
- How will the investments be financed; and
- How will the programme of work be managed and delivered?

2.3.4. With regards to finance, there is a possibility that some of the cheaper low carbon measures, like replacing light fittings, could be paid for by the installer company who would recover the capital costs through the energy savings that are made. If this model proves to be a viable one then it would allow a greater number of measures to be installed at no capital cost to the Council.

2.4. Smart meters

2.4.1. Following discussions with Southern Electric (the electricity supplier for all but seven of our sites) we have been chosen to be part of their trial for commercial smart meters, due to start at the end of March (subject to contract). They have agreed to replace all electricity meters with smart meters at no capital cost. 84 meters should be changed in total and will allow building managers to see daily energy profiles so that they can identify where energy is being wasted.

2.4.2. This will put the Council in a strong position to manage its energy better and to start to save on energy consumption. We are still investigating how we can install gas smart meters.

2.5. Staff energy awareness training event

2.5.1. We are planning to host a one day training event for all Council staff to raise their awareness of energy and what they can do to start saving it. This will be delivered by a theatre company which should hopefully allow the messages to be conveyed in a fun and interactive way.

2.5.2. This is a new type of initiative and if successful will have positive spins offs not just for the theatre company but also for the Council.

2.5.3. We are aiming to host the workshop this May, subject to contract.

2.6. Greening Transport

2.6.1. The Energy Saving Trust (EST) has now completed a Green Fleet Review of our vehicles and has made a number of recommendations which we need to consider before taking forward. The review did highlight that the average CO2 emissions from our lease car fleet stands at 146 g/km which is considerably less than the 2008 UK average of 158 g/km. It is also lower than many other comparable organisations with similar fleets.

2.6.2. We have also renewed our licence with liftshare - a web based system to encourage staff to share their cars when commuting to/from work. Our objective this year to is improve the promotion of this facility so that we can increase its take up; 21 staff are currently signed up to the scheme and 6 of these were as a result of a competition we ran last summer.

2.7. Invest To Save Capital

2.7.1. The project board mentioned in 2.3.3 will review the opportunities for initiatives to be funded from the invest to save budget. Although it can be used to fund small incremental changes we are keen to ensure a holistic approach with an emphasis on value for money and investigating financing/match funding from other sources.

2.7.2. In light of the accommodation review we have put on hold the energy saving work that was highlighted in the detailed survey of 1 Grove Road. Until we know what the accommodation requirements are for 1 Grove Road, large investments should not yet be made into that building, or indeed for the Town Hall.

2.8. Display Energy Certificates

2.9. Display energy certificates (DEC) have now been completed and have produced some mixed results as highlighted by the attached table:

Building	Energy Rating
Lawn Tennis Centre	A
Winter Garden	B
Devonshire Park Theatre	B
Congress Theatre	C
1 Grove Road	C
Town Hall	D
68 Grove Road	E
Royal Hippodrome	G

2.10. The lowest possible energy rating is G which was obtained by the Hippodrome. An expected rating for our buildings is D so the majority are all 'conforming'.

2.11. It should be noted though that the Lawn Tennis Centre, Winter Garden and Devonshire Park are only receiving good ratings because they are not in constant use; the ratings are calculated by dividing the total energy used (kwh) by the floor space (m2) so a lower energy consumption would lead to a better rating.

2.12. All of the DEC's come with an advisory report on how energy efficient improvements might be made. We will be taking on board the findings of the reports in the new project board (paragraph 2.3).

2.13. Seafront lighting

2.13.1. It was asked at the previous meeting what investments had been made in the seafront lighting and what the savings were.

2.13.2. The replacement of the decorative lighting cost approximately £108,000.

2.13.3. The new decorative bulbs only consume 5W and as a result there was a drop in electricity costs of nearly 75%. Maintenance costs have also fallen as the need to replace the bulbs has also been reduced. With the reduced costs it is expected that the replacement scheme will pay for itself in three or four years.

2.14. University work

2.14.1. This work is now going to be taken in phases. The first piece of work will be to assess the renewable pilot projects and for this we are currently in the process putting together the tender documents.

3. Resource Implications

3.1. Work is being carried out within existing resources of a 0.5 post but will be kept under review as it is anticipated that the workload will increase, especially with the community environment partnership.

4. Conclusion

4.1. Some good progress has been made, particularly with the community environment partnership, and we are starting to establish our environmental credentials. But there is still plenty more to do.

Nick Adlam, Energy Initiatives Officer
Sue Oliver, Environmental Health Manager

Background Papers

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None

APPENDIX 1 – DRAFT TOR FOR COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP FOR EASTBOURNE

Terms of Reference

1. Aim

- 1.1. The Community Environment Partnership for Eastbourne (CEPE) will operate within the context of the Eastbourne Strategic Partnership and take actions to maintain and improve the environment of Eastbourne; the environment is defined as the physical surroundings that are common to all the residents of Eastbourne including its air, water, land, plants and wildlife.

2. Objectives of CEPE

- 2.1. The CEPE's primary objective is to develop, implement and monitor an Environment Strategy that will inform and help deliver the environmental priorities identified in the Eastbourne Sustainable Community Strategy, and thereby contribute to delivering other local priorities such as health, regeneration and economy. Key areas to deal with are:

- Climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- Air quality;
- Water supply and use;
- Waste;
- Green spaces;
- Marine environment;
- Land use; and
- Biodiversity.

- 2.2. To develop and sustain links between the Eastbourne Environment Strategy, the Sustainable Community Strategy for East Sussex, other relevant strategies and partnerships in the county in order to benefit from, and contribute to countywide environment and climate actions,

- 2.3. To provide strategic leadership in managing the town's greenhouse gas emissions by following the requirements of the Climate Change Act 2008 and ensuring carbon emissions in the town:

- Peak by no later than 2015;
- Are reduced by 26% by 2020; and
- Are reduced by 80% by 2050.

2.4. The environment strategy will adopt a project management approach to its delivery, establishing common targets, agreed actions and milestones that lead to demonstrable, positive and sustainable change in the community.

2.5. Establish a network of Environment Community Champions to promote the work of the environment strategy and to help deliver its actions. In doing so it will explore the possible development of neighbourhood management areas.

2.6. Actively engage and involve the people and organisations of Eastbourne. This will be public, voluntary and private, including the business and employment community.

2.7. To work with external organisations (local and national) that can offer impartial advice and training to the CEPE and its Environmental Community Champions including the Energy Saving Trust's Community Action for Energy.

3. Planned Outcomes

3.1. CEPE will be tasked to produce an Environment Strategy and develop a network of trained community champions.

4. Code of Conduct

4.1. The CEPE will follow the same policies as the Eastbourne Strategic Partnership.

5. Operations

5.1. The CEPE will meet up to six times every year. Additional meetings may be required in order to meet agreed milestones and actions. The meeting timetable will be agreed collectively by CEPE.

5.2. CEPE meetings will be reported in formal minutes a draft of which will be circulated to members (by the Secretariat) within five working days of the date of the meeting. The minutes of the meeting will become public documents once they have been agreed by the CEPE.

5.3. CEPE meetings will be open to the public, media, and colleagues of the members of the CEPE. These observers are

allowed to attend the meeting and participate in the discussions. However observers are not allowed to vote as this right is exclusively reserved for members or their named deputies. In addition the chairperson may for the sake of expediency (if there is a busy agenda) wish to limit the time given to observers; this will be at the chairperson's discretion.

- 5.4. Decisions are made by the CEPE on the basis of majority voting. If votes are tied then the Chair will make the final decision.
- 5.5. The agenda for the CEPE meetings will be guided by the work that is required to deliver the group's objectives. The Secretariat will circulate an agenda, in addition to any other supporting papers at least 10 days in advance of the meeting.
- 5.6. Membership of the CEPE will be reviewed annually in line with the municipal year and can only be agreed by the ESP. A list of the current members should be held by the Secretariat as a record of which members are allowed to sit on the CEPE. These members are allowed to send deputies in their place but advance warning should be given to the Secretariat.
- 5.7. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson's role for the group will be decided by the members of the group on a majority basis. The chairperson will keep their role for one year after which time the group will have an opportunity to revisit it. There is no limit on how long the same person can hold the chairperson's role.
- 5.8. The same process will apply for the secretariat's role.
- 5.9. For the decisions of the CEPE to be valid at least eight members, including at least either the Chairperson or vice-chairperson, must be present.
- 5.10. Representatives of the CEPE are required to declare any conflict of interest and abstain from any related decisions that need to be made. If this results in the number of voting members going below eight this will not invalidate a decision.
- 5.11. Sub-groups or working groups of the CEPE may be set up to take forward a particular stream of work and can meet as many times as is required. These working groups can contain non-CEPE members but at least one member of the sub-group should be a current member of the CEPE.

5.12. Minutes of the sub-groups must be sent to the secretariat of the CEPE within 3 weeks of their occurrence. No work should be taken forward by a sub-group without the sanction of the CEPE.

5.13. One member of the CEPE will need to represent the group at the ESP. This representative will be decided by the members of the group on a majority basis and will keep their role for one year after which time the group will have an opportunity to revisit it. There is no limit on how long the same person can hold the chairperson's role.

5.14. The CEPE may call upon other sub-groups of the ESP where there are areas of common interest. In these cases the membership of the CEPE can be increased to accommodate the other group's members.

6. Membership of the Group

6.1. Membership of the CEPE reflects the main areas of work that it is going to be engaged with, in particular having to change people's behaviour and attitudes to the environment. The CEPE is made up of the following organisations:

Organisation	Places
Eastbourne Community Network	3
Eastbourne Chamber of Commerce	2
Eastbourne Borough Council	2
East Sussex County Council	1
Eastbourne Homes Ltd	1
Eastbourne Association of Voluntary Services	1
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	1
Sussex Police	1
Eastbourne Downs Primary Care Trust	1
Representative of learning establishments	1
Environment Agency	1
TOTAL	15

7. Roles of CEPEs Core Group Members

7.1. The roles of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretariat and members is summarised in the attached Annex A.

8. Sources of Funding

8.1. Base line funding to support CEPES meetings will be provided by members of the group. Additional funding to deliver the work of the group will need to be identified as part of the work of the group and may come from a variety of sources both local and national.

9. Communications & Press Protocols

9.1. The following communication protocols are in place for the CEPE:

- Using email as the standard means of communication, with hard copies provided by post for those who wish it
- Press releases and media briefings should be agreed by the Chairperson and at least one other CEPES Core Partner who is from a different organisation. They should be sent out in the name of the CEPE.
- The Chairperson on behalf of the CEPE will make all statements to the press as required
- In the event that individual partners are asked by the press or other organisations, to make a comment on behalf of the CEPE, all enquiries should be referred to the Secretariat who will ensure a response is given in accordance with the relevant CEPE protocol. All partners retain the right to comment on their own behalf to the press or other organisations about any matter
- Press and public relations for the CEPE will be dealt with through Eastbourne Borough Council

Annex A – Roles of the CEPE members

ROLES OF CEPE MEMBERS	RESPONSIBILITIES
CHAIRPERSON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair CEPE meetings, ensuring that: all partners are able to contribute, the agenda is managed within the allotted time guidelines and the Code of Conduct is kept • To represent the CEPE at meetings as required • Sign letters and documents on behalf of the CEPE and provide a scanned signature for efficiency • To keep well briefed and up to date with all matters relating to the CEPE • To inform the Vice Chairperson if unable to attend meetings and to brief the Vice Chairperson accordingly • To inform the Secretariat in the event that neither the Chairperson nor Vice Chairperson can attend meetings
VICE CHAIRPERSON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To deputise for the Chairperson in his/her absence as outlined above • To keep well briefed and up to date with all matters relating to the CEPE
ALL CORE GROUP PARTNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To attend all CEPE meetings as scheduled having read the agenda and background papers • To attend and support the CEPE • To arrange for a suitably briefed deputy to attend meetings if necessary • To pass information through individual networks within their organisation and any other organisations they represent • To comment on draft CEPE minutes within the allotted time schedule • To host CEPE meetings periodically if possible
SECRETARIAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To arrange a schedule of meetings, venues, equipment and documentation for the CEPE Core Group • To take minutes of the CEPE Core Group meetings • To distribute papers for meetings as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Call for agenda items – 15 days before ○ Distribute agenda & papers – 10 days before ○ Circulate draft minutes – 5 days after ○ Post final minutes - 10 days after • To maintain the contact list and ensure regular circulation of information • To maintain contact with the CEPE Chairperson and ensure that all corresponded is dealt with • Liaise with the nominated press office to deal with all press enquiries and ensure that the public are well informed of the activities of the CEPE

APPENDIX 2 - UPDATE ON NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

There are a total of nine national indicators that have some influence on the environment work we do. Three of these are part of our LAA; 186, 188 and 192. A full list is given in the following table.

NI185	How much carbon is emitted by our own operations
NI186	How much carbon is emitted per capita in the town;
NI187	Tackling fuel poverty and energy inefficient homes
NI188	What measures are being taken to adapt against the impacts of climate change;
NI189	Flood and risk management
NI191	Residual household waste per household
NI192	Household waste recycled and composted
NI194	Monitoring Air Quality
NI197	Improved local bio-diversity

Details of each indicator are given below:

NI 185 - This relates to the CO2 reduction from local authority operations.

We need to calculate our CO2 emissions as a result of the energy and fuel we have used in our buildings and transport, including where services have been outsourced. This will form a baseline of our emissions after which we will need to make year on year reductions. The amount of annual reductions has not been set however we are expecting approximately 100 tonnes per annum as part of our contribution to reduce carbon emissions for the whole town (See N186 below)

We are working with colleagues across East Sussex to develop our approach to this indicator and recently held a workshop was for our contractors to raise their awareness.

How is it monitored?

We have to populate a spreadsheet supplied by DEFRA which records the energy and fuel we have used in our buildings and transport, including where services have been outsourced. East Sussex County Council will be collating all of the data from East Sussex Councils so that a single submission is given to DEFRA. We will be looking at consumption data every financial year, to monitor year on year improvements and our baseline will be for the 08/09 FY.

NI 186 – This relates to the per capita CO2 emissions in the local authority area and is an LAA target.

This indicator is one measurement of the amount of carbon dioxide each person is responsible for emitting and allows year on year comparisons to see how much these emissions have been reduced.

This indicator only measures carbon emissions that come from energy used in homes, businesses, and vehicles travelling on main roads. It is monitored by the Government using electricity and gas consumption data and transport census data but does not measure carbon emissions that come from peoples use of trains, planes and local transport (the traffic census data does not pick up all local road traffic use) or peoples emissions from food consumption, and general purchase habits.

The Government believes annual reductions for this indicator will not be achieved solely by Local Authority actions (e.g. our energy efficiency grant programme for private homes) rather other reductions will be achieved through the delivery of national policies e.g. making sure people do not exceed 70 mph on trunk roads.

The baseline year for all Local Authorities is 2005. Government data for 2005 stated that within the confines of this indicator (excluding transport on planes etc) emissions per capita were 5.6 tonnes. This is approximately a total of 500k tonnes of carbon dioxide for the whole town (actually 498k). It is worth noting that the average emissions per person in the UK are nearer to 9.5 tonnes which takes into account all of their carbon producing activities. In which case, the N186 indicator only looks at about 60% of the total carbon emission per person in this town which in total could be nearer to 845k tonnes (498k x 9.5/5.6).

Our LAA commitment for this indicator is up to April 2011. As this was a new indicator to us and one we wanted to have a real chance of achieving in the first stages we set our targets based on the achievements made through our energy efficiency programme. We are therefore committed to making annual reductions up to 2011 of 4600 tonnes per annum which using the 2005 baseline emissions (498k) is approximately a 1% year on year reduction.

However this is only part of the story as any reductions of the N186 measured carbon emissions are only likely to be 60% of the actual total emission per person. A 4600 tonne reduction could therefore be nearer to just a 0.5% reduction in overall carbon emissions (845k)

The Climate Change Act (CCA) sets an 80% reduction by 2050 which equates to a 3.5% year on year reduction from 2009. We therefore need to make up 3.0% year on year reduction in carbon emissions in order to keep on track with the CCA targets. National policies will have a role to play in carbon reductions but we are not convinced they will be able to account for this entire shortfall. This is why the work with ESP and engaging the community is so important so that we can ensure we the best chance of influencing people's behaviour and make the necessary reduction in CO2.

We are again working with colleagues across East Sussex to develop a uniform approach to monitoring our activity for this indicator and to develop best practice methods that can make real behavioural change.

How is it monitored?

The Government produce national statistics which allow all Local Authorities to be compared with each other. The website for this data is <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/globalatmos/globalghg.htm>

Within East Sussex we will also be carrying out our own monitoring to make sure that the Government statistics take into account the work we are doing, or at the very least demonstrate to the Government that effort is being made to bring down our carbon emissions.

NI 187 – This relates to tackling fuel poverty, identifying people receiving income based benefits and living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating.

The purpose of this indicator is to measure the number of people that are claiming income based benefits and that are living in energy inefficient houses. Year on year improvements are expected.

The energy efficiency of a house can be measured by how good its 'SAP' rating isⁱ. SAP is based on the energy costs associated with space heating, water heating, ventilation and lighting, less cost savings from energy generation technologies and is expressed on a scale of 1 to 100 - the higher the number the lower the running costs. If the dwelling happens to produce and export energy (e.g. from solar panels) then the SAP rating will be expressed higher than 100 – between the range 100 and 120ⁱⁱ. The SAP calculation also takes into account the size of the property.

Properties with very low SAP ratings are more likely to have occupants in fuel poverty than those with very high SAP ratings. An ideal baseline SAP rating is 65 as the energy efficiency and heating costs are at a level that minimises the risk of someone entering into fuel poverty. This is the same level that Warm Front, the Government's flagship programme to combat fuel poverty, aims to get to. For single occupant householders, the National Energy Action recommends that this is extended to 75 because a single occupant household will generally have less available income than multiple occupancy houses.

This indicator does not measure the Government's own definition of fuel poverty – which is where people spend more than 10% of their income on energy – but it does give an indication of people on low incomes in homes that would require a lot of energy to heat (as they are inefficient) so are likely to fit the proper definition of fuel poverty.

How is it monitored?

This will be monitored by an annual postal survey and will ascertain how many people are living in properties with a SAP rating less than 35, SAP rating greater than 65 and those that are in between. A survey is in progress for 2008/09 and has been sent out to residents claiming council tax benefit. Data from completed forms will be completed and validated and needs to be entered on a data interchange hub by the end of March. This will form a baseline and enable us to measure progress in subsequent years.

NI 188 – This relates to measures being taken to adapt against the impacts of climate change and is an LAA target.

Four levels have been defined and our target is to reach Level 0 baseline at the end of 2008/09, level 1 by the end of 2009/10 and level 3 by March 2011. Reaching level 3 indicates we are as prepared as we can be for the affects of climate change.

How is it monitored?

This will be measured by self assessment via a Government approved checklist, and achieved by rigorous internal risk monitoring. Again we are working with our counterparts in East Sussex and the Environment Agency, and we have defined the steps we need to take to reach each level. Key steps for 2008/09 are to undertake a local climate impact profile process, identify which council plans and strategies consider climate risks, and assess them for climate change adaptation.

NI 189 – Flood risk management

This indicator records the progress of local authorities in delivering agreed actions to implement long term flood and coastal erosion risk management (FCERM) plans. Reporting responsibility rests with the Environment Agency.

How is it monitored?

Reporting data will be provided by the Environment Agency in accordance with their supervisory duty relating to flooding and/or 'strategic overview' for FCERM at the coast. Long term flood and coastal erosion risk management plans include: Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) and Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMPs).

In providing the reporting data the Environment Agency will calculate a simple percentage of how many of the local authority's agreed actions to implement long term flood and coastal erosion risk management plans are being undertaken satisfactorily and those that are not.

Reports will be made annually.

NI 191 - Residual household waste per household

The Government wish to see a reduction in the amount of residual waste being produced and this indicator allows a simple comparison to be made on how much waste is produced by different local authorities (measured in kilograms); waste is defined as any material where the final destination is landfill, incineration or energy from waste (EfW).

Reductions in waste can be achieved through a combination of less overall waste being produced in the first place, an increase in reuse materials, recycling, and composting and anaerobic digestion.

How is it monitored?

All household residual waste is disposed of by East Sussex County Council. However, as Eastbourne Borough Council is the Waste Collection Authority they still have a duty to report the residual waste arising from the town. Due to this ESCC report monthly tonnages of residual waste delivered from Eastbourne to any of their contracted landfill sites or incineration and EfW plants. The tonnage is recorded using a weighbridge system at the entrances and exits of the sites. This is reported jointly by EBC and ESCC through WasteDataFlow to be audited by Enviros and The Environment Agency before finally being reported to Defra.

NI 192 - Household waste recycled and composted

The indicator measures percentage of household waste which has been sent for reuse, recycling, composting or anaerobic digestion. This is a key measure of local authorities' progress in moving management of household waste up the waste hierarchy (Reduce (1), Reuse (2) and Recycle (3)), consistent with the Government's national strategy for waste management. The Government expects local authorities to maximise the percentage of waste reused, recycled and composted.

How is it monitored?

All household waste collections in Eastbourne are contracted out to external organisations. Part of their contract obliges them to report the tonnage and the destination of any waste they collect on the Council's behalf. This is collated by EBC and audited by ESCC before being reported through WasteDataFlow to again be audited by Enviros and The Environment Agency before finally being reported to Defra.

NI 194 – This relates to the level of air quality, and percentage reduction in NOx and primary PM10 emissions, through local authority's estate and operations.

Data being collected for NI 185 can also be used to report on this indicator as it uses the same base data.

How is it monitored?

In the same way as N185.

NI 197 - Improved local bio-diversity

This indicator measures the performance of Local Authorities (LA) on biodiversity by assessing the implementation of active conservation management for Local Sites. The term Local Site is used as a standard generic term to describe non-statutory sites of local importance, including Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs), Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCIs), County Wildlife Sites (CWSs) and Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS).

How is it monitored?

The Council, like most LAs in England and Wales, has set up a system of locally valued non-statutory sites that are recorded in "Sites of Nature Conservation SPG" (2003). This supplementary planning guidance describes the nature conservation value of each of the Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCIs) in Eastbourne, which were reviewed in 2007 as part of the Council's Borough-wide Biodiversity Audit.

The statutory sites and non-statutory Local Sites are reviewed in the Council's "Biodiversity Audit Report" (2007) which reports on their condition and recommends a number of additional new sites suitable for designation.

ⁱ Standard Assessment Procedure

ⁱⁱ <http://projects.bre.co.uk/sap2005/>