

Leicester  
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED  
ALL**

**CABINET**

**11<sup>th</sup> February**

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**EMAS Public Statement 2000-2001**

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**Report of the Director of Environment, Development and Commercial Services**

**1. Purpose of Report**

This report presents, for information and comment, the Council's fourth Environmental Statement.

**2. Summary**

The fourth EMAS Public Statement reports on the Council's environmental performance from April 2000 until March 2001. The information within the Statement will be subject to an audit by the EMAS verifier during his visit in March.

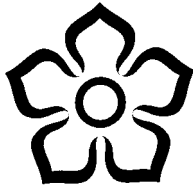
**3. Recommendations (or OPTIONS)**

It is recommended that Members endorse the proposed contents and format of the Council's Fourth Environmental Statement.

**4. Headline Financial and legal Implications**

The text of the fourth EMAS Environmental Statement describes how the Council fulfilled its obligations under environmental legislation during the 2000/2001 financial year.

**5. Report Author/Officer to contact: Kathy Cooper, Environment Team, x6462.**



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## **FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:**

**CABINET**

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### **EMAS Public Statement 2000-2001**

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## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1. Report**

One of the key features of EMAS is the requirement to keep the public regularly informed of the City Council's environmental progress, both in meeting its targets and in terms of day-to-day environmental management. This is achieved through the publication of an annual Public or Environmental Statement. The text is checked for authenticity by the external EMAS Verifier before being made available to the public. The proposed text for the fourth EMAS Public Statement is attached as Appendix 1.

The first two Environmental Statements were produced in poster-format and displayed in council buildings and public libraries. Last year the format was changed to an A4 landscape document to reflect the style of the Council's second Best Value Performance Plan, presenting a more co-ordinated approach between the two corporate performance documents. It is intended that the same approach will be followed this year.

The Internal auditor's report into the previous Public Statement concludes that it could be more "user friendly". This finding is supported by the EMAS verifier who recommends that the Statement should more clearly communicate the year to year "storyline" of significant environmental issues. It is therefore proposed that this year's Statement should for the first time include trend information, through the use of graphics, where this will help to communicate movement towards or away from EMAS objectives and targets.

The document also has to take account of recent changes to the European EMAS Regulation. Many of the key changes have, however, been incorporated into previous Statements prepared by the Council as a matter of good practice.

An internal audit will soon be completed on the information contained within the document.

## **FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **1. Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications.

### **2. Legal Implications**

The text of the fourth EMAS Environmental Statement describes how the Council fulfilled its obligations under environmental legislation during the 2000/2001 financial year.

### **3. Other Implications**

| OTHER IMPLICATIONS            | YES/NO     | Paragraph Within Supporting information  | References |
|-------------------------------|------------|--|------------|
| Equal Opportunities           | <b>No</b>  |  |            |
| Policy                        | <b>No</b>  |  |            |
| Sustainable and Environmental | <b>Yes</b> | The Statement informs the public and staff of the Council's environmental progress |            |
| Crime and Disorder            | <b>No</b>  |  |            |
| Human Rights Act              | <b>No</b>  |  |            |
| Elderly/People on Low Income  | <b>No</b>  |  |            |

### **4. Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972**

### **5. Consultations**

The public statement has been produced in consultation with a wide variety of staff within the Environment, Development and Commercial Services Department, Housing Department, Arts and Leisure Department, and Town Clerks and Corporate Resources.

### **6. Report Author: Kathy Cooper, Environment Team, extn. 6462.**