

Leicester  
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED: All**

**Cabinet**

**30 October 2006**

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**ECO-MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT SCHEME (EMAS)  
Review of 2005/06, Proposed Action for 2006/07**

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**Report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Cultural Services**

**1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 This annual report provides Cabinet with information on the Council's environmental progress through the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS). The report is before Cabinet today because EMAS registration requires you to see and endorse the Council's compliance with its EMAS targets. The information in this report is useful in driving improvements in the Council's overall environmental performance. This report also presents Members with the draft text of the ninth EMAS public statement covering the financial year 2005/06, and the actions officers propose including in the 2006/07 action programme.

**2 Summary**

- 2.1 EMAS is used to manage and improve the environmental performance of the Council. Maintaining EMAS registration and meeting EMAS improvement targets is measure B2 of our corporate plan. EMAS provides a mechanism for delivering the council's environmental responsibilities in the Local Area Agreement. Further work on climate change with the Leicester Partnership will be included in a review of EMAS, the results of which we will report to Cabinet in November 2007.
- 2.2 Leicester City Council pioneered the adoption of EMAS by local authorities and was the largest local authority in Europe to register when it did so in 1999. Leicester is still considered at the forefront of European municipalities and this is proving influential in attracting EU funding to Leicester. For example, the Council is currently receiving £157,000 for leading the LIFE-funded European Eco-procurement project and EMAS was the key reason for our selection as lead authority.
- 2.3 The City Council continues to take a national lead by including schools within the scope of its EMAS registration. This is a partnership project with Groundwork Leicester & Leicestershire, and was successfully mainstreamed this summer. 50 Schools are financially committed to work with Groundwork on EMAS during 2006/7. This report responds to those issues raised by the EMAS Verifier about the lack of profile given to the schools in the system. Officers propose a new set of targets specific to schools in appendix 4, together with a higher profile for the schools' work in the 9<sup>th</sup> Public Statement text (appendix 2).

- 2.4 EMAS can drive improvements in environmental performance, reduce the risk of breaching environmental legislation and demonstrate a level of performance management that has been viewed favourably in several inspections and awards (e.g., Comprehensive Performance Assessment, Beacon Status for a Quality Environment). Appendix 5 provides a summary review of the management of EMAS during 2005/6 and the corrective action required from audits.
- 2.5 EMAS has 14 corporate environmental improvement objectives with associated targets and monitoring systems (2 are new). Officers are currently developing targets and/or monitoring systems for 7 others. This paper proposes 8 new targets for schools, with a further 4 under development (see appendix 4).
- 2.6 However, more work needs to be done across the Council if we want to continue successful EMAS registration. LRQA raised the following issue in their May report:

*“Repeated failure to achieve targets or that the data is inconclusive would ultimately affect LCC’s ability to participate in EMAS if continual improvement in environmental performance cannot be sustained. This is not an immediate problem, but has become more evident in 2005/6.” (LRQA May 2006)*

- 2.7 The Council is able to demonstrate that 3 targets are successfully on track and will be met. Positive progress was made towards two other targets, but not sufficient to meet the target. 2 new targets have been successfully developed. Progress towards 4 targets is inconclusive, or not yet known. Performance against 3 targets has declined since the last reporting period. These are described in more detail in the supporting information in sections 3 - 5. Appendix 1 provides a detailed review of our overall progress towards all the objectives and any changes since last year. Table 1 shows a summary of progress.
- 2.8 A paper about the council’s use of energy will be presented to Cabinet in December. That paper will propose actions to address progress towards the two targets. The apparent increase in water consumption requires more investigation.
- 2.9 The monitoring exercise has informed the ninth annual EMAS public statement (appendix 2). The statement is a requirement of the EMAS regulation. This time, the Statement gives a greater profile to schools environmental work. This was raised as a concern by the EMAS Verifier in May 2006.
- 2.10 Elected members should note that the main EMAS Verification has moved forward from May to November each year. This is in response to a finding from Internal Audit, which criticized the long time delay in presenting data in the EMAS Public Statement. The 9<sup>th</sup> Public Statement now contains data from 2005/06 financial year (in line with the Performance Plan).

### **3. Recommendations**

Cabinet members are recommended to:

1. Note progress towards the EMAS targets during 2005/06 (see sections 2 - 5 in the main report and appendix 1)

2. Agree a new set of environmental targets for schools and amendments to existing corporate targets (see appendix 4)
3. Agree the implementation of the proposed 2006/07 action programme (see appendix 3)
4. Agree the draft text for the 9<sup>th</sup> EMAS Public Statement (see section 10 in the main report and appendix 2)
5. Agree the management review of EMAS (appendix 5)

#### **4. Financial & Legal Implications**

##### *4.1 Financial Implications*

- 4.1.1 EMAS is managed by the staff in the Environment Team and is financed through the Team's budget. The verification and printing costs for 2005/6 verification are £13, 100. Members of the Sustainable City Officers Group (SCOG) and several other individual officers from across the authority are involved in the implementation of EMAS. The implementation of the proposed 2006/07 action programme will be met from resources that are already committed (e.g., through the Local Transport Plan).

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##### *4.2 Legal Implications*

- 4.2.1 The corporate environmental policy commits the organisation to "fulfil our statutory environmental responsibilities". A prosecution for breaching the relevant legislation would result in automatic removal from the EMAS register. The Council does take effective measures to ensure that its contractors comply with the EMAS obligations by ensuring it is an evaluation criteria in the procurement process and including clauses requiring compliance within all standard and bespoke contract terms.

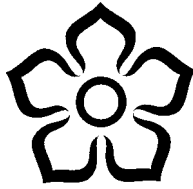
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#### **DECISION STATUS**

<b>Key Decision</b>	No
<b>Reason</b>	N/A
<b>Appeared in Forward Plan</b>	N/A
<b>Executive or Council Decision</b>	Executive (Cabinet)



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**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**Report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Cultural Services**

**1. Background**

- 1.1 The Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) is the European Union's own environmental management system, similar to the international standard ISO 14001. It is currently a voluntary scheme, which organisations can adopt to manage and improve their environmental performance. Leicester City Council pioneered the adoption of EMAS by local authorities and was one of the largest organisations in Europe to register in 1999.
- 1.2 EMAS is used to manage and improve the environmental performance of the Council. Maintaining EMAS registration and meeting EMAS improvement targets is measure B2 of our corporate plan. EMAS provides a mechanism for delivering the council's environmental responsibilities in the Local Area Agreement. Further work on climate change with the Leicester Partnership will be included in a review of EMAS, the results of which we will report to Cabinet in November 2007.
- 1.3 The European Commission's recent communication "Towards a thematic Strategy for the Urban Environment" makes it a requirement for all municipalities in Europe, over 100,000 inhabitants, to adopt an environmental management plan and recommends the use of an EMS such as Leicester's for implementation. Leicester is quoted in the Communication as an example of best practice for others to follow.
- 1.4 Leicester City Council continues to pioneer the way with EMAS by inviting Leicester schools to participate in EMAS and join our registered system. The project is key to Leicester City Council's Corporate Plan, as it seeks to deliver a joined-up approach to both of the council's strategic objectives:
- "To raise educational standards and skills irreversibly so that all schools are good schools and individuals are committed to learning throughout life"*
- "To improve our environment to make local neighbourhoods and the city centre places for people to be proud of."*
- 1.5 This is a partnership project with Groundwork Leicester & Leicestershire, which was successfully mainstreamed this summer. 50 Schools are financially

committed to work with Groundwork on EMAS during 2006/7. The report addresses issues raised by the EMAS Verifier concerning the lack of profile given to the schools within the system. Officers propose a new set of targets for schools in appendix 4, together with a higher profile for schools work in the 9<sup>th</sup> Public Statement text (appendix 2).

- 1.6 EMAS can drive improvements in environmental performance, reduce the risk of breaching environmental legislation and demonstrate a level of performance management that has been viewed favourably in several inspections and awards (e.g. Comprehensive Performance Assessment, Beacon Status for a Quality Environment). Appendix 5 provides a summary review of the management of EMAS during 2005/6 and the corrective action required from audits.
- 1.7 This is an annual report to Cabinet to tell members about the Council's progress towards our corporate environmental improvement targets. These targets are a key element of the EMAS system. The EMAS action programme for 2006/07 shows those actions intended to deliver the EMAS targets (appendix 3). A monitoring exercise informed the ninth annual EMAS public statement (appendix 2).

**2. Progress towards existing targets**

- 2.1 On March 24<sup>th</sup> 2003 Cabinet agreed 21 environmental improvement objectives covering both city-wide environmental issues and the direct environmental impacts of Leicester City Council (LCC) operations. 14 of those objectives now have associated targets and monitoring systems in place (2 are new from last year). Work to develop further targets and monitoring systems is ongoing (see section 6).
- 2.2 However, more work needs to be done across the Council if we want to continue successful EMAS registration. LRQA raised the following issue in their May report:

*“Repeated failure to achieve targets or that the data is inconclusive would ultimately affect LCC’s ability to participate in EMAS if continual improvement in environmental performance cannot be sustained. This is not an immediate problem, but has become more evident in 2005/6.” (LRQA May 2006)*

- 2.3 The Council is able to demonstrate that 3 targets are successfully on track and will be met. Positive progress was made towards two other targets, but not sufficient to meet the target. 2 new targets have been successfully developed. Progress towards 4 targets is inconclusive, or not yet known. Performance against 3 targets has declined since the last reporting period. These are described in more detail in sections 3-5 . Appendix 1 provides a detailed review of our overall progress towards all the objectives and any changes since last year. A summary of progress is given in table 1 .

**Table1 Summary of progress towards corporate environmental improvement objectives (excluding schools)**

Target	Environmental Improvement	Change	Overall	Additional Explanation
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No.	Objective (with associated target in brackets)	Since Last Year	Progress Towards Target	
12.1	To improve the cleanliness of the city centre (reflects BVP1199 <i>less than 15% of relevant land and highways in the city centre to have combined deposits of litter and detritus that fall below an acceptable level by 2006/7</i> )	<b>+ve</b>	<b>Already achieved</b>	During 2005/6 only 11% of streets in the city centre failed the inspection. The new target has already been achieved. The previous EMAS target was also achieved two years ahead of schedule
10.1	Ensure that the council continues to provide Leicester people with publicly accessible green space ( <i>publicly accessible green space owned by the council covers at least as much land in 2020/21 as it did in 1994 = 863 hectares</i> )	<b>+ve</b>	<b>On track</b>	3.48 hectares of land was acquired at Victoria Road East that will be used for publicly accessible green space, taking the total to 906.9 ha.
4.3	Reduce car travel at schools with travel plans ( <i>25% reduction in car travel by 2011</i> )	<b>-ve</b>	<b>On track</b>	Between 2004/5, and 2005/6 car travel reduced by 4%. Whilst this is slightly less than last year (which was 5.6%), we are still on track to meet the target. This indicator is likely to be redefined by Dft during the LTP2 period, and this will form the basis for an amended EMAS target.
9.1	Ensure key aspects of natural environment on council-owned land are sustainably managed ( <i>develop management plans for parks, open spaces, riverside trees and woodland by 2005/6</i> ) <i>A new target is to be developed to implement and monitor the management plans (see appendix 4)</i>	<b>+ve</b>	<b>Not quite achieved Further target to be set</b>	Good progress was made with management plans for parks and trees and woodland during 2005/06 . With the exception of eight management plans, which relate to newly adopted or developing sites, the target of having management plans to cover all of the City Council's managed open space has been met. The overall management plan for the Riverside was put on hold pending changes to the way the Riverside is being managed. However, implementation of wetland and woodland management plans including volunteer involvement has continued as part of the programme.
6.1	Increase recycling of household waste ( <i>40% of household waste collected in 2005/06 to be recycled or composted</i> ) <i>Proposed to extend this target period by a further year.</i>	<b>+ve</b>	<b>Not achieved this year Proposed extension</b>	In 2005/06 the recycling rate doubled from 13.59% in 2004/5 to 27.14%. Whilst this met the Government's recycling rate for local authorities, it fell short of the EMAS target. This is attributed to the Bursom facility remaining at 50% capacity during the reporting period. It is recommended to extend the target period by a further year to allow the facility to operate at full capacity.
11.1 <b>new</b>	To create a sustainable built environment within the city <i>All planning applications for major developments, to apply the City of Leicester Local Plan Policy BE16 with respect to the generation of on- site renewable energy. (100% compliance in 2007/8)"</i>	<b>New</b>	<b>New</b>	The base year for this target would be 2006/7, which is the first complete financial year after the policy was adopted in December 2005. This is an interim target, as it relates only to renewable energy. Cabinet will receive a further paper on sustainable construction, by March 2007, which identifies a broader target for

				sustainable construction
13.1 <b>new</b>	Improve awareness of environmental issues amongst Leicester residents ( <i>increase residents taking 5 or more environmental actions from the 10 listed in the 2005 Leicester Residents Survey, from 25% in 2005, to 30% in 2007</i> )	<b>Data unavailable until 2007</b>	<b>New</b>	The baseline for this target is the 2005 Leicester Residents Survey which established that 25% of respondents were taking 5 or more environmental actions from the 10 listed. The aim is to increase this to 30% by the next Survey in 2007.
4.1	Improve air quality within the city ( <i>To achieve national air quality objectives for nitrogen dioxide by 2005</i> ) Proposed amended target: <i>To achieve the 4 key point targets set in the Local Transport Plan for air quality</i>	<b>Not conclusive</b>	<b>Not conclusive</b>	It is not possible to establish a clear trend from the data collected from the 10 air quality monitoring stations so we can't conclude whether this target was met. Road traffic is one of the major contributors to poor air quality in Leicester. For this reason, it is proposed to adopt air quality targets, which are integrated into the Central Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 2006-11. However, it should be noted that the proposed amended target is less rigorous than that suggested to cabinet in April 2006. Based on modelling projections of the air quality impacts of the measures in the Local Transport Plan, the proposed new targets fall short of the air quality Limit Value for 2010 (the target proposed previously, in April 2006). In addition, a major non conformance was raised by Internal audit in 2005/6 for "little commitment to reducing absolute Nox emissions from transport in the city.
9.2	Ensure prime ecological sites are retained ( <i>The area of land covered by council-owned Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation to be maintained at 1999 levels and managed according to their schedules</i> ).	<b>Data unavailable</b>	<b>Not known</b>	There was no loss of or severe damage to SINCs in 2005/6. However, because of other priorities, the information collected on the condition of SINCs in 2005/6 has not been collected.
1.3	Reduce the fuel used by staff vehicles at work (not commuting) ( <b>1.3a</b> : <i>Reduce the fuel used by fleet vehicles (5% reduction of the fuel used in 2000/01 by 2005/06)</i> . <b>1.3b</b> : <i>15% reduction in the number of miles travelled by staff in private vehicles by 2005/06 (baseline 1999/2000)</i> ).	<b>1.3b -ve</b>  <b>1.3a not yet known</b>	<b>1.3b not achieved</b>  <b>1.3a Not yet known</b>	In April 2006, it was proposed to cabinet to improve the target by reporting in future on a) liters of fuel used by the fleet and b) miles claimed by staff. In 2005/6 private staff mileage increased by 7.8%, although there is still an overall reduction of 7.9% since 1999/00. This is insufficient to meet the 15% reduction target. Data is not yet complete for the fleet, but early indications are that there is an increase in consumption recorded for 2005/6. Over the previous 3 years there is no overall trend.
4.2	Reduce morning rush hour car trips to the city centre ( <i>return to 2000/01 levels by 2006/07 and a 1% decrease by 2010/11</i> )	<b>-ve</b>	<b>Not conclusive</b>	Data for 2005/06 records an increase in trips of 1.8% above the 2000/01 levels. There is no overall trend over the period. This indicator is no longer included in the next Local Transport Plan (LTP2). Once this adopted, an amended EMAS target will be proposed, which falls within LTP2

1.1	Reduce the council's total building energy consumption ( <i>to 50% of the 1990 level by 2025/26</i> )	-ve	Not on track	Energy consumption in council buildings in 2005/06 continued to rise slightly from the previous reporting period, which now represents an increase of 2.6% from the base year 1990. The reasons for the increase are as reported in April: the inclusion of new buildings such as Braunstone Leisure Centre and the Depot on Rutland Street, which highlights the need for a more rigorous council process for delivering low carbon buildings in future. In addition the CHP boiler at St Matthews remained out of action in 2005/6.  A full report on actions to address this target will be received by Cabinet in December.
1.2	Increase the council's use of renewable energy ( <i>from 0% in 1997 (Mar) to 20% of energy requirement in 2020/21</i> )	-ve	Not on track	In 05/06 22.3% of electricity used in council buildings was renewable, which represents only 3.7% of total energy consumption. A full report on actions to address this target will be received by Cabinet in December.
7.1	Reduce potable water used in council buildings ( <i>5% reduction of 2000 levels by 2005/06</i> )	-ve	Not achieved	Data for 2005/06 is showing an increase of 31.8%. This is unexpected and requires further investigation. For the previous two years we have recorded a decrease in consumption of 22.6% and this was attributed to the Intelligent metering programme, which was rolled out further in 2005/6.

2.4 The council's use of energy in its own buildings and water consumption, are the main concerns identified from the review of progress and they are discussed below in greater detail.

### 3. Energy used in council buildings

3.1 Energy consumption in council buildings in 2005/06 continued to rise slightly from the previous reporting period, and this now represents an increase of 2.6% from the base year 1990. The increase is attributed to the same reasons reported to Members in April 2006.

3.2 Some of this increase is attributed to an expansion of some services and the inclusion of new buildings such as Braunstone Leisure Centre, Leycroft Road and the Depot on Rutland Street. Consequently, a further exercise now needs to be carried out to "normalise" the data to take into account of changes in total floor area. Discussions have already taken place with Property Services. On completion of the rolling programme of building surveys being undertaken by Property Services, accurate data on floor areas will enable the energy consumption figure to be normalised. A partnership with De Montfort University is being explored which could provide additional funding and expertise.

3.3 The second reason for the increase is attributed to the combined heat and power plant at St Matthews continuing to be out of action for most of the year. This meant that the council had to buy in electricity to compensate for the lost renewable electricity, which would have been generated by the plant. A further



paper will be presented to Cabinet which explores a way forward with the Combined Heat and Power Installations (CHP).

- 3.4 Finally, the timing of receipt of major bills (upon which the figures are based) for facilities such as St Marks and St Mathews District Heating Schemes have "skewed" the results. Further work will continue to improve the quality of the billing information included in the target figure (For example, St Marks received a bill during 2004/05 that included 7 months of energy use from 2003/04).
- 3.5 We will investigate the availability of comparator data from other local authorities to look at how our energy compares with other similar local authorities.
- 3.6 Actions proposed to bring this target back on track are given in appendix 3. Council sites linked to the Intelligent metering service have more than doubled during the current financial year and this will be our key mechanism for identifying and driving down energy use. In addition the Local Authority Energy Finance Programme (LAEF) is financing a programme of detailed energy surveys of council buildings.

#### **4. Council's use of renewable energy**

- 4.1 In 05/06 22.3% of electricity used in council buildings was renewable, but this represents only 3.7% of total energy consumption. (This is similar to the previous reporting period.)
- 4.2 The amount of renewable energy consumed by the Council has not changed but the amount of renewable energy as a proportion of the total energy consumption has fallen. This is due to the above increase in overall energy consumption of the Council during 2004/5.
- 4.3 If this target is to get back on track the proportion of 'renewable energy' purchased by the Council will have to increase and/or an increase in on-site renewable energy generation will have to be achieved. The renewal of the energy supply contract in 2007 presents an opportunity to increase the procurement of renewably generated electricity.
- 4.4 However, achieving the target will also require a greater commitment to generating our own electricity from renewable resources. Members should note that the current target figure does not include the contribution from our existing generation schemes (previously deemed insignificant). Steps are being taken to address this by providing a full inventory of these schemes and their contribution, by the end of the financial year.
- 4.5 A further paper will be presented Cabinet, which explores options for expanding the generation of on-site renewable electricity.

#### **5. Council's use of water**

- 5.1 Data for 2005/06 is showing an apparent dramatic increase in consumption of 31.8% from the previous year. This is unexpected and requires further investigation.
- 5.2 For the previous two years we have recorded a decrease in consumption of 22.6% and this was attributed to the Intelligent metering programme, which was rolled out even further in 2005/6.

5.3 Actions proposed to bring this target back on track are given in appendix 3. These include benchmarking with other local authorities and normalising the data on a per head basis.

## 6. Further Development of Targets and Monitoring Systems

6.1 6 corporate EMAS targets remain under development, with one proposed for deletion. This is less than the previous reporting period as 2 new targets have been developed and are included in table 1 of the supporting information.

**Table 6 Summary of progress with the development of targets and/or monitoring systems for corporate environmental improvement objectives**

Target no.	Environmental Improvement Objective (with associated target in brackets where developed)	Progress with development of data collection monitoring system and/or target
2.1	Reduce the energy consumption of homes within the city i.e. increase SAP rating of houses	Target development is ongoing. Records have increased by about 1,000, but this is still not a representative picture of the city as a whole.
3.1	Reduce vehicle emissions from fleet and lease cars	Target development is ongoing. Investigations are underway, in partnership with the vehicle fleet manager, to establish the best technology available to reduce vehicle emissions
5.1	Reduce the amount of council waste going to landfill ( <i>40% of City Council waste to be recycled by 2005</i> ) <i>Appendix 4 proposes amendment to target wording to restrict the target scope to council office waste.</i>	This target has expired without being able to find a viable data collection method. The costs involved in operating a separate vehicle specifically for council buildings was not commercially viable and therefore council waste is collected alongside trade waste in the same vehicle. However, it may be possible to collect a figure around paper collected for recycling (currently the scheme is only in place in New Walk Centre).
6.2	Reduce the amount of construction waste going to landfill	A planning application is being developed for a different site at Sunningdale Road .The new site will avoid the concerns of local residents to the previous site and reduce haulage distances. The target will be developed once the facility is operational.
8.1	Reduce consumption of paper ( <i>5% reduction in the quantity of paper purchased in 2000, by 2003</i> )	Monitoring paper consumption requires all paper to be purchased through Creativity Works or, if purchased elsewhere, the quantity of paper reported to Creativity Works. Unfortunately, a lot of paper is purchased from external organisations and not reported to Creativity Works making it impossible to obtain reliable data on paper use.
8.2	Increase the use of recycled paper ( <i>98% of the paper purchased in 2003 to be 100% recycled post consumer waste</i> )	Monitoring the use of recycled paper requires all paper to be purchased through Creativity Works or, if purchased elsewhere, the recycled content of the paper reported to Creativity Works. Unfortunately, a lot of paper is purchased from external organisations and not reported to Creativity Works making it impossible to obtain reliable data on recycled paper use.

9.3 delete	Develop measurable indicators of ecological quality and complete the first monitoring programme by 2010/11	Proposed for deletion. Due to restrictions in resources, this target has never progressed. There is some duplication with target 9.2
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6.2 Amended wording or deletion for 5 targets is proposed in appendix 4.

## 7. Progress with the issues raised in the EMAS Cabinet Report, April 2006

7.1 The previous EMAS progress report identified the two energy targets as areas of concern. Progress with addressing these concerns is given in sections 3 and 4 of this report.

## 8. New targets for schools

8.1 The City Council is taking a national lead by including 49 schools within the scope of its EMAS registration. This is a partnership project with Groundwork Leicester & Leicestershire, which was successfully mainstreamed this summer. 50 Schools are financially committed to work with Groundwork on EMAS in 2006/7. Now that the number of schools is so large, the EMAS Verifier that insufficient profile is given to the schools within the corporate system has raised concerns.

8.2 To address these concerns, a new set of targets specific to schools is proposed in appendix 4, together with more profile within the 9<sup>th</sup> Public Statement text (appendix 2 in draft)

8.3 8 new active targets are proposed for schools, with a further 4 under development. The new active targets are given in table 8 (see appendix 4, for the full set of 12)

### New Targets for schools which are fully developed (see appendix 4 for all proposed targets)

Target No.	Environmental Improvement Objective (with associated target in brackets)	Scope (Emas schools or all schools)	Officer for data collection	Notes
New 1.4	Reduce school total building energy consumption ( <b>by an average of 1.43% per annum between 2006/7 and 2025/6</b> )	EMAS schools	Energy Team	This target aligns with the council's own target 1.1. Data will be supplied from intelligent metering.
New 1.5	Increase school use of renewable energy ( <b>to 20% of energy requirements in 2020/2021</b> )	EMAS Schools	Energy Team	This target aligns with the council's own target 1.2. which is ambitious . Groundwork will work with schools to set up renewable energy supply contracts. However, this action would achieve 16% on average, requiring further actions (solar thermal or biomass fuel) for space and water heating. BSF schools and EMAS schools would be expected to achieve higher standards initially / make faster progress than the other schools.
New	Reduce the amount of school	<b>All</b>		We would plan to include primary

6.3	construction waste going to landfill. <b>Secondary schools within the BSF programme to exceed target 4 from the Continuous Improvement Plan</b>	<b>schools</b>		schools within this target in future.
New 7.2	Reduce potable water used in schools (for non-drinking purposes) <b>(By 5% of the 2006/7 level by 2011/12)</b>	EMAS Schools	Energy Team	Data will be supplied from intelligent metering. (Groundwork will help schools to assess their individual performances against Dfes bench-marking data for typical schools.)
New 8.3	Increase the use of recycled paper in schools <b>(by 10% per year from 2006/7 level)</b>	EMAS Schools	Ground Work (From School Procurement Officers)	
New 9.3	To improve wildlife habitats in school grounds <b>(Develop 3 new areas of functioning habitat by 2007/08)</b>	EMAS Schools	Ground Work (From School EMAS club)	The first action will be to agree the definition of "functioning habitat", possibly using the BREEAM standard. Groundwork propose a specific action towards this overall target will be to encourage schools to undertake tree planting
New 11.2	To create sustainable school buildings <b>(from 2007/8, all new or refurbished schools to exceed* "very good" standards, as defined by BREEAM (*to achieve an overall score of 65%))</b>	<b>All schools</b>	<b>BSF team</b>	This target will ultimately relate to the bsf and primary school rebuilding programme Government requirements to meet "very good" standards of BREEAM. Initially data will only relate to the BSF programme.
New 13.2	To raise levels of environmental awareness and action, within schools <b>Annual increase in numbers of Leicester schools participating in EMAS – from 2003/4 – 2010/11</b>	EMAS Schools	Ground Work (From School EMAS club)	It is recommended to adopt the baseline year of <b>2003/4</b> which is the start of the first NRF funding period (when the school programme started to grow significantly)

Table 8

## 9. Proposed EMAS Action Programme for 2006/07

9.1 Appendix 3 (draft) reports on progress towards actions in the EMAS programme and recommends their continued inclusion in the 2006/07 action programme. In addition new actions have been suggested where appropriate.

## 10. The text for the ninth EMAS Environmental Statement

10.1 EMAS requires us to keep the public informed of the City Council's environmental progress. We do this by publishing an annual EMAS public statement. The text is checked for its accuracy by the external EMAS Verifier before being made available to the public.

10.2 The proposed draft text for the ninth annual statement is attached in appendix 2 (in draft). The statement reports progress towards the EMAS targets during 2005/06 The statement also provides a commentary on the key issues influencing our progress and presents some of the important future actions.

- 10.3 Moving to an autumn verification will allow statement data to be verified, and published more promptly than previously. This is in response to a finding from Internal Audit which criticized the long time delay in presenting data in the EMAS Public Statement. The 9<sup>th</sup> Public Statement now contains data from 2005/06 financial year (in line with the Performance Plan).
- 10.4 The EMAS schools have a greater profile in the 9<sup>th</sup> Statement and this will increase further in subsequent years once the new school EMAS targets are being actively monitored. This is in response to concerns raised by the EMAS Verifiers in May 2006.

## 11. Next Steps

The next steps are as follows:

1. The proposed action programme will be implemented from October 2006.
2. External re-verification of EMAS will take place during November 2006, including the validation of the public statement.
3. The ninth EMAS public statement will be published following validation.
4. Members will receive the next annual report on progress towards the targets in November 2007.

## 12. Conclusion and Recommendations

- 12.1 Progress towards the EMAS targets was mixed during 05/06. Current concerns relate to the apparent increase in energy consumption and water in council buildings.
- 12.2 Actions proposed in the 2006/07 action programme should promote further progress towards the targets.
- 12.3 The draft text for the 9<sup>th</sup> EMAS Public Statement should be agreed so that publication can take place following the next EMAS verification (November 2006).

## FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

### 1 Financial Implications

- 1.1 See cover report

### 2 Legal Implications

- 2.1 See cover report

### 3. Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	PARAGRAPH REFERENCES WITHIN SUPPORTING PAPERS
Equal Opportunities	No	
Policy	Yes	EMAS is the management system

		we use to implement the corporate environmental policy
Sustainable and Environmental	Yes	EMAS is the management system we use to implement the corporate environmental policy
Crime and Disorder	No	
Human Rights Act	No	
Older People on Low Income	No	

### 3.2 Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk	Likelihood L/M/H	Severity Impact L/M/H	Control Actions (if necessary/or appropriate)
<b>1 – Failure to take corrective action necessary to meet our EMAS targets</b> Meeting the EMAS targets is not a requirement of the EMAS regulation, but progress needs to be reviewed regularly and corrective action taken as necessary to improve performance.	L	L	Progress is reviewed annually by members at Cabinet and corrective action agreed through the review of the EMAS Action Plan. The process of closing out non-compliances raised by internal EMAS audits provides another mechanism for taking corrective action.
<b>2 – Failure to maintain an EMAS Action programme</b> The EMAS action programme is a requirement of the EMAS regulation. Without this EMAS registration could not continue.	L	H	Env Team have work instructions in place to review the action programme every 6 months and to report annually to members.
<b>3 – Failure to produce a verifiable public statement</b> The EMAS public statement is a requirement of the EMAS regulation. Without this EMAS registration could not continue.	L	L	The text of the Public Statement is presented to members at Cabinet for agreement and subjected to checking by internal audit prior to verification taking place.

L - Low  
Low - M -  
M - Medium  
Medium - H - High  
H - High

## 4 Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972

- LRQA EMAS Verification report May 2006
- EMAS Progress for 2004/5, proposed action for 2006/7. Cabinet, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

- The Leicester Environment Strategy. Cabinet, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2004.
- The Leicester Energy Strategy.
- The Transport Efficiency Review. Cabinet, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2004

## **5 Consultations**

### **Consultee**

Individual officers named in the action programme  
(appendix 2)

### **Date Consulted**

September 2006

### **Appendices (available in the Members Library)**

- Appendix 1 – Progress Towards EMAS Targets 2005/06
- Appendix 2 – Environmental Statement April 2005–March 2006
- Appendix 3 – Updated EMAS Action Programme 2006/07
- Appendix 4 – New targets for schools and Proposed Amendments to EMAS Targets 2005/06