

Appendix 4 – Revised EMAS Significant Effects, Improvement Objectives and Targets (November 2008)

During 2008 a review of the Significant Effects, Improvement Objectives and Targets for EMAS has been undertaken. The review has been informed by:

- Proposed changes to the Council's Environmental Policy (see Appendix 6) driven by the new One Leicester vision and priorities;
- The increasing importance of climate change as a key issue requiring action by the authority, both to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) and to adapt to the expected effects of climate change on the City;
- Government introduction of a new set of 198 National Indicators to monitor the performance of local authorities, including several new environmental indicators;
- The need to resolve some previous difficulties with monitoring certain targets.

The tables below present the revised set of Significant Effects, Objectives and Targets for which Cabinet approval is sought. Where amendments or additions are proposed, the reasons for these are summarised in column 4.

The final table at the end of this Appendix presents those Objectives being recommended for removal from EMAS and summarises the reasons.

Reducing Our Carbon Footprint

Significant Effect	Objective	Targets	Reasons for Changes
1. The Council's carbon dioxide emissions	1.1 Reduce the Council's carbon dioxide emissions.	1.1 To 50% of the 1990 level by 2025/26.	No changes.
	1.2 Reduce schools' carbon dioxide emissions. (All Schools) NEW OBJECTIVE	<i>To be developed in 2009/10.</i>	New objective added so that efforts to reduce schools' carbon footprints are reflected.
2. Leicester's carbon dioxide emissions	2.1 Reduce city-wide carbon dioxide emissions.	2.1 To 50% of the 1990 level by 2025/26.	No changes.

Creating a Quality Local Environment

Significant Effect	Objective	Targets	Reasons for Changes
3. The Council's contribution to air pollution	3.1 Reduce the Council's emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO _x) and primary particulates (PM ₁₀). AMENDED OBJECTIVE	<i>New target to be developed by April 2009.</i>	The objective has been amended to reflect the scope of the new national indicator for air pollution: NI 194. This covers emissions from buildings and lighting energy use as well as transport.
4. Air quality in Leicester	4.1 Improve air quality in the city.	4.1a By achieving the 4 key point targets set in the Local Transport Plan for air quality (target date 2010).	Three previous objectives for air quality have been simplified down to a single Objective 4.1 covering the three targets.
		4.1b Change in the number of vehicles crossing the Central Transport Zone cordon from 42,683 vehicles in 2004/05 to 43,963 vehicles in 2010/11.	See 4.1a.
		4.1c Reduce the share of journeys to school by car (including vans and taxis but excluding car share journeys) from 24% in 2006/07 to 22% in 2010/11. (All schools)	See 4.1a
5. Street cleanliness	5.1 Improve street cleanliness in Leicester.	NEW TARGET Relevant land and highways that is assessed as having deposits of the following that fall below the acceptable level: - Litter 10% by 08/09 - Detritus 10% by 08/09 - Graffiti 5% by 08/09 - Fly posting 0% by 08/09	This objective remains unchanged, but the target is a new one based on the new national performance indicator NI 195.
6. The quality of the natural environment on Council owned land	6.1 Protect and improve the network of Local Sites. AMENDED OBJECTIVE	6.1 Maintain the area of Local Sites at or above the 2008/09 baseline and increase the percentage (by area) that are assessed as being in a favourable or recovering condition. <i>Target to be set by April 2009. NEW TARGET</i>	This objective has been amended to take account of a change in terminology: the Government now uses the term 'Local Site' for its new National Indicator NI197 in place of 'Site of Importance for Nature Conservation' (SINC).

	6.2 Improve the City's tree cover and condition. NEW OBJECTIVE	6.2a Plant 10,000 trees by 2011. NEW TARGET	Objective 6.2 has been introduced to reflect the priority given to trees in One Leicester. Target 6.2a brings a key One Leicester project into EMAS.
		<i>Feasibility of setting a target for improving tree condition to be investigated during 2009/10.</i>	-
	6.3 Improve the quality of Council-owned public open space. NEW OBJECTIVE	6.3a <i>During the coming year, we will investigate an appropriate target for increasing the quality of City and District Parks as defined in the Greenspaces Strategy.</i> 6.3b Achieve a 2% increase in the overall quality of provision by 2010/11 from a baseline average of 50% in 2008/09, as measured against the Green Flag Award Criteria. NEW TARGET 6.3c Increase park user satisfaction levels from 74% (2005) to 79% (2013). NEW TARGET	This objective has been introduced to reflect the importance of providing high quality public open spaces serving diverse needs. The new targets are based on the nationally recognised 'Green Flag' methodology for assessing open space quality and on regular monitoring of parks user satisfaction.
	6.4 Enhance the quality of the natural environment in school grounds (EMAS schools) AMENDED OBJECTIVE	6.4 90% of EMAS schools to have a wildlife or food growing area by April 2012. NEW TARGET	The objective has been broadened from the previous focus just on wildlife – reflecting the importance also of food growing by schools in their grounds. The new target covers both aspects.
7. Council provision of public open space	7.1 Provide Leicester people with enough accessible public open space. AMENDED OBJECTIVE	<i>Target to be developed during 2009/10, in line with the standards of provision and access in the Local Development Framework.</i>	The objective has been slightly amended to reflect the expected inclusion in the Local Development Framework of minimum standards for the quantity and accessibility of public open space to be provided. A target will be developed to reflect achievement of those standards.
	7.2 To retain a net area of open space in school grounds. (All schools).	<i>Feasibility of setting a target to be investigated in 2009/10.</i>	No change.

8. The quality of the built environment on Council owned land NEW SIGNIFICANT EFFECT	8.1 Create a sustainable built environment on Council owned land. NEW OBJECTIVE	<i>A sustainable construction standard to be adopted for Council developments. Target to be set before the end of 2008/09 for the introduction and application of the standard.</i>	This new significant effect and objective have been added to reflect the importance of Council developments in delivering a sustainable built environment.
	8.2 Create sustainable school buildings	8.2 By ensuring that from 2007/08 all new or refurbished schools exceed* “very good” standards as defined by BREEAM (* to achieve an overall score of 65%) <i>NB Target to be revised following cabinet agreement on the sustainable construction standard for Council new build.</i>	No change.
9. The quality of Leicester’s built environment	9.1 Create a sustainable built environment within the City.	9.1 Increase the percentage of Planning Applications for Major Developments applying Policy BE16: 75% in 2007/08 85% in 2008/09 90% in 2009/10 AMENDED TARGET	An amended target was agreed by Cabinet in 2007 to reach 80% policy application in 2008/09 and 85% in 2009/10. It is proposed to raise this to 85% and 90% respectively as officers are confident that this higher performance can be achieved.
10. The Council’s vulnerability to the impact of climate change NEW SIGNIFICANT EFFECT	10.1 Reduce the impact of flooding on Council services and infrastructure.	<i>To be developed in 2009/10.</i>	New significant effect and objective, reflecting the need for the Council to act on this fast emerging issue.
	10.2 Reduce the impact of summer heat waves and increased average temperatures on Council services and infrastructure.	<i>To be developed in 2009/10.</i>	As above.
	10.3 Reduce the impact of lower summer water availability on Council infrastructure and services	<i>To be developed in 2009/10.</i>	As above.
11. Leicester’s vulnerability to the impact of climate change NEW SIGNIFICANT EFFECT	<i>Objective and targets to be set once city wide adaptation plan complete.</i>	<i>To be developed in 2009/10.</i>	As above.

The Wise Use of Natural Resources

Environmental Effect	Objective	Targets	Reasons for Changes
12. The Council's Energy and Fuel Use	12.1 Reduce the Council's total energy consumption. AMENDED OBJECTIVE	<p><u>Overall target:</u> 12.1a To 50% of the 1990 level by 2025. NEW TARGET</p>	A new, overarching, objective and target has been introduced covering all energy use. It will be achieved through sub-targets for each aspect of energy use.
		<p><u>Sub targets:</u> 12.1b Buildings: To 50% of the 1990 level by 2025. <i>Sub-targets to be set for Council travel, street lighting and signage/traffic signals during 2009/10.</i></p>	The target for buildings will become a sub-target of 12.1a and will be supplemented with further sub-targets for Council travel, street lighting and signage/traffic signals – all of which are significant contributors to the Council's total energy use. Over the coming year, target 12.1b will be reviewed and the additional sub-targets will be developed.
	12.2 Increase the Council's generation and use of renewable energy. AMENDED OBJECTIVE	<p>12.2 From 0% of the energy requirement of all Council buildings in 1997 to 20% of the energy requirement of all buildings in 2020. <i>This target will be reviewed during 2009/10, as it is now uncertain whether it is either achievable or measurable.</i></p>	The objective has been amended to include Council generation of renewable energy.
	12.3 Reduce schools total energy consumption. (All schools) AMENDED OBJECTIVE	<p>12.3 By an average of 1.43 % per annum between 2008/09 and 2025/26.</p>	Objective amended to reflect total energy use – not just buildings.
	12.4 Increase schools generation and use of renewable energy. (All schools) AMENDED OBJECTIVE	<p>12.4 To 20% of energy requirements in 2020/2021. <i>This target will be reviewed during 2009/10, alongside target 12.2.</i></p>	Objective amended to reflect change to 12.2.
13. Leicester's use of energy and fuel	13.1 Reduce Leicester's total energy consumption. AMENDED OBJECTIVE	<p><i>New target to be developed during 2009/10.</i></p>	Objective broadened to cover total energy rather than just buildings – reflecting the need to work on all aspects of energy use.

14. The Council's waste	14.1 Reduce Council waste and the percentage landfilled. AMENDED OBJECTIVE	<i>The previous target has expired without being met. A new target will be developed.</i>	Objective broadened to cover all Council waste – not just office waste, and to address waste reduction.
	14.2 Reduce schools' waste and the percentage landfilled. (EMAS Schools) AMENDED OBJECTIVE	<i>Target to be developed.</i>	Objective broadened on the same basis as 14.1.
	14.3 Reduce the amount of school construction waste going to landfill. (All schools)	14.3 By ensuring the secondary schools within the BSF programme exceed target 4 from the Continuous Improvement Plan (All schools)	No change.
15. Waste from Leicester	15.1 Reduce household waste and the percentage landfilled. AMENDED OBJECTIVE	15.1 To recycle 40% of household waste collected in 2009/10. AMENDED TARGET	Objective broadened to cover waste reduction and other measures to reduce landfill, as well as recycling. Target rolled forward to 2009/10 as it was not achieved by the original deadline of 2006/07.
16. The Council's use of water	16.1 Reduce the Council's total mains water consumption.* AMENDED OBJECTIVE	16.1 By 5% of 2006/07 level by 2011/12.	Objective reworded in plainer english.
	16.2 Reduce schools' total mains water consumption (All schools) AMENDED OBJECTIVE	16.2 To 5% of the 2006/7 level by 2011/12.	Objective reworded in line with 16.1.
17. Council use of paper	Reduce the quantity of paper used.	<i>To be developed during 2009/10.</i>	No change.

* Objectives 16.1 and 16.2 to be achieved without affecting staff and pupils' access to drinking water.

	17.2 Increase the use of recycled paper as a percentage of overall paper use. AMENDED OBJECTIVE	17.2 To meet the following standards for recycled paper use from 2009/10: All publications, leaflets, flyers and posters to use at least 75% recycled paper. All site and volume photocopying to use 100% post consumer waste paper. All Council stationery to use 100% post consumer waste. All printing of web products (e.g. Link) to be 100% recycled paper. All basic digital colour low volume printing to be on 100% post consumer waste paper. NEW TARGET	Objective amended to clarify that the increase sought is as a percentage of the (reducing) total quantity of paper used. The new target is based on different standards for different paper uses, reflecting both varying availability of post consumer waste recycled papers and differing technical requirements for the different uses.
	17.3 Increase the use of recycled paper in schools (EMAS schools).	17.3 All EMAS schools to use recycled paper by 2012. AMENDED TARGET	The target has been amended as a result of difficulties monitoring the previous one.

A Caring Community – Making Leicester a Great Place

Environmental Effect	Objective	Targets	Reasons for Changes
18. Education, awareness and action	18.1 Increase action by the public and partner organisations to improve Leicester's environmental sustainability. AMENDED OBJECTIVE	<i>To be developed during 2009/10.</i>	The objective has been broadened to include increasing action as well as awareness, and to cover work with partner organisations as well as the public.
	18.2 Raise levels of environmental awareness and action within schools. (EMAS schools)	18.2 By annually increasing the number of Leicester schools participating in EMAS from 13 schools in 2003/4 to 90 schools in 2010/11.	No change.

Objectives to be Removed

No. (under previous numbering)	Objective	Reason for Removal
1.1	Reduce the Council's total building energy consumption.	Replaced with broader objective covering all Council energy consumption.
1.3	Reduce the fuel used by fleet vehicles and the miles travelled by private staff vehicles at work (not commuting).	Replaced with broader objective covering all Council energy consumption.
4.2	To reduce car trips to the city centre.	Simplification of objectives. A single objective for City air quality now covers all the targets.
4.3	Reduce the proportion of car journeys to schools. (All schools)	Simplification of objectives. A single objective for City air quality now covers all the targets.
6.2	Reduce the amount of construction waste going to landfill.	Not possible to monitor the amount of Leicester's construction waste going to landfill. Council has only limited influence on construction waste for non-Council developments.
9.1	To ensure that key aspects of the natural environment on Council-owned land are sustainably managed.	Sustainable management to be covered by new objectives 6.1 (for wildlife sites) and 6.3 (for public open spaces overall).
13.3	To increase environmental education within schools (EMAS schools).	It hasn't been possible to find a practical and meaningful way of monitoring environmental education by means of a quantitative target. It is therefore proposed to remove this objective and focus on increasing the number of schools involved in the EMAS in Schools programme (objective / target 18.2), through which schools gain support for their environmental education from Groundwork.