

Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED: All

Strategic Management Board	26th October 2010
Cabinet Briefing	22nd November 2010
OSMB Agenda	29 November 2010
Overview and Scrutiny Management Board	9th December 2010
Cabinet	13th December 2010

ECO-MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT SCHEME (EMAS) ANNUAL REPORT
Review of audit findings, progress towards targets and proposed action

Report of the Strategic Director, Development, Culture and Regeneration

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 The report provides Cabinet with information on the Council's annual environmental progress through the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS). New targets are proposed for open space, Council waste and levels of environmental action in the city. 4 targets are recommended to be rolled forward and 6 to be discontinued. The report includes the draft text of the EMAS public statement covering the financial year 2009/10, and the proposed actions to be included in the next action programme (both documents available in the Members Area).

2 Summary

2.1 EMAS is being used to manage and improve the environmental performance of the Council, under the priorities of One Leicester. In particular the system is managing the commitment to reduce our carbon footprint and the delivery of the carbon dioxide reduction targets for the council (through Priority Board for Reducing Our Carbon Footprint) and city (through Environment Partnership Board of Leicester Partnership).

2.2 EMAS is managing the City Council's commitment to greening the city – another of our "One Leicester" priorities. 6072 trees have been planted to date and the overall quality of parks and open spaces has improved by more than 16%. We have exceeded our target for nature conservation which has benefited two-thirds of Leicester's Local Wildlife sites. A new Greenspace Strategy will include plans to add 4 more parks to the list of those with Green Flag status.

2.3 Other progress to note during the year includes a substantial increase in recycling and composting of household waste – very nearly achieving the 40% target.

2.4 EMAS drives improvements in environmental performance, reduces the risk of breaching environmental legislation and demonstrates a level of performance management which has been viewed favourably in the Managing Resources section of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (scored at Level 3). Appendix 5 provides a summary review of the management of EMAS during 2009/10 and the corrective action required from audits.

- 2.5 Members are asked to consider the progress towards targets in 2009/10 as given in full in Appendix 1. 28 targets were measured during 2009/10. Of these, 13 targets are on track to be met (see paragraphs 4.4 - 4.10 of the report). There are 4 areas of concern identified in paragraphs 4.11 – 4.19. Of the remainder, progress is inconclusive, or not yet known.
- 2.6 The monitoring exercise has informed the annual EMAS public statement (appendix 2 in Members Area). The statement is a requirement of the EMAS regulation and will be made available on the internet. In addition, we will publish regular bulletins of headline issues throughout the year, in Link magazine.
- 2.7 Elected members should note that the next EMAS Verification will take place from 22nd- 29th November, with schools included in this programme.

3. Recommendations

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board are recommended to:

1. Note progress towards the EMAS targets during 2009/10 (see appendix 1)
2. Note the adequacy of proposed action towards targets 2010/11 (see appendix 3, in the Members Area)
3. Note the management response to matters outstanding from audits (appendix 5)

Cabinet members are recommended to:

1. Note progress towards the EMAS targets during 2009/10 (see appendix 1).
2. Agree new targets and amendments to existing corporate targets (see appendix 4).
3. Agree the adequacy and appropriateness of the 2010/11 action programme (see appendix 3, Members Area) to achieving the EMAS targets.
4. Agree the draft text for the 2009/10 EMAS Public Statement (see appendix 2, Members Area).
5. Agree the management review of EMAS (appendix 5).

4. Report

Summary of EMAS news during 2009/10

New EMAS regulation

- 4.1 In November 2009 an updated EMAS standard (Regulation EC No 1221/2009) was agreed by the European Parliament. Whilst the basis of the standard remains the same, there are some new and changed requirements which the Council will be audited against at the November Verification. One such change is that all EMAS registered organisations must now report on a common set of 'Core Indicators' of their environmental performance. These must be expressed per 'unit of activity' to allow comparison between organisations. Table 4.1 presents the Core Indicators, explains how they are being applied to the Council and shows the Council's performance in 2009/10. In most cases the 'unit of activity' is 'per employee', although it should be noted that comparisons with other organisations on this basis must be treated with caution. The activities carried out by a Unitary Council such as Leicester will be different to those of a private sector company or even a non-Unitary Council – and may have very different impacts. For example, a "BREEAM Excellent" office building would have a water consumption of 1.5 m³ per person, whilst Leicester City Council's is calculated as 32 m³ per person because, in addition to offices, we run swimming pools, the indoor market and water golf courses.

Table 4.1– The Council’s Performance Against EMAS III ‘Core Indicators’

Indicator	Application to Leicester City Council	Council Performance in 2009/10		
		A Input or Impact	B Measure of Activity*	R Ratio or % of A to B
Energy Efficiency	Energy use data is already collected to manage usage and estimate carbon dioxide emissions for Target 1.1 (refer to Chapters 1 and 12).	183,564	7576 employees	24.23 mWh per person
Material Efficiency	The Council has identified paper usage as the only practicable measure of its material efficiency. This is already reported for Target 17.1.	67,890,222 A4 sheets equivalent	7576 employees	8,961 A4 sheets equivalent per person
Water Consumption	Water consumption is already reported for Target 16.1. The figure is for corporate buildings only and excludes schools.	239,846 m ³	7576 employees	32 m ³ per person
Waste	The percentage of municipal waste landfilled is the most appropriate practicable measure and is reported here. Municipal waste includes waste from households and from Council services – both of which can be influenced by the Council.	69,527 tonnes	126,743 tonnes	54.9%
Biodiversity	The Council will report on the percentage of Local Wildlife Sites receiving ‘positive conservation management’ as the most appropriate measure of its performance in protecting and enhancing local biodiversity.	23 sites	35 sites	66%
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Of the greenhouse gases covered by this indicator, only carbon dioxide (CO ₂) is a significant emission by the Council, so this is reported.	66,878	7576 employees	8.8 tonnes CO ₂ per person
Air Emissions	Of the basket of pollutant gases covered by this indicator, only nitrogen oxides (NO _x) and particulates (PM) are emitted in significant quantities by the Council, so these are reported.	33,064 Kg	7576 employees	4.36 Kg per person

* Figure B is a measure of the Council’s activity relating to the impact being reported. For energy efficiency, material efficiency, water consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and air emissions, the best practicable measure is the number of employees. For waste, it is the total municipal waste generated in tonnes and for biodiversity it is the number of Local Wildlife Sites.

10:10 Campaign

- 4.2 The Council signed up to the national campaign 10:10 earlier on this year. A baseline of 33,639 tonnes CO₂ for 2009/10 has been submitted to the campaign office meaning a target for reduction to be a minimum of 2,354 tonnes CO₂ in the year 2010/11. (The figures differ from NI 185 in that 1010 excludes schools and outsourced contracts). A report was brought to Reducing Our Carbon Footprint Priority Board in January 2010 outlining how this could be achieved. Some of the projects identified in the original action plan are on target to achieve their carbon savings but others have fallen short either due to delays in start times or cut backs in delivery. Projects recently developed to attempt to fill this gap include the removal of fan heaters from New Walk Centre.

Policy on BREEAM

- 4.3 Cabinet adopted the following BREEAM* environmental construction standard in March 2010. The first corporate project being considered for the standard is the refurbishment of Gilroes Cemetery. A new EMAS target 8.1 will manage it

“All new Council buildings and major refurbishments that fall within the Council definition of a major project achieve the BREEAM Design rating of “excellent” on new buildings and “very good” on refurbishments where BREEAM is appropriate to the nature of the refurbishment.”

*BREEAM (the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology) is a widely used suite of environmental construction standards that cover many of the Council's environmental objectives. BREEAM standards can be applied to most common building types including offices and schools. The BREEAM Design assessment rates a building design from 'pass' through to 'outstanding'. The rating is based on an overall score that is calculated by awarding credit scores based on achievement across a wide range of environmental issues. The assessment is undertaken by an independent, qualified assessor and the BREEAM certificate is issued by the Building Research Establishment (BRE) on project completion.

Managing environmental progress through objectives and targets

Positive Progress towards existing targets

- 4.4 Appendix 1 summarises progress towards all EMAS targets. Performance is on track to meet 13 targets. Members' attention is drawn to the following particular achievements

Natural Environment (Targets 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3)

- 4.5 Planting 6072 trees puts the council on course to achieve the target of planting 10,000 trees by 2011. At the same time, the overall quality of parks and open spaces has increased by more than 16% which has exceeded the target for nature conservation – benefiting two-thirds of Leicester's local wildlife sites. Cabinet's endorsement of a new Greenspace Strategy will guide further improvements, including plans to take four more parks to “Green Flag” status by 2013 – bringing the total to 10.

Recycling and composting (Target 15.1)

- 4.6 Household recycling and composting rates have increased from 30.6% in 2008/09 to 39.8% in 2009/10. This is largely attributed to the technology at the Ball Mill working efficiently in 2009/10 and greater participation in the kerbside recycling scheme. Members are recommended to roll forward the same target for another year.

BSF Phase 1 Schools (Leicester Built Env Target 8.2)

- 4.7 Target 8.2 requires schools within the BSF programme to achieve BREEAM standards of “Excellent” for new build schools and “Very Good” for refurbishments (see explanation of BREEAM in paragraph 4.3). All four of the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) phase 1 secondary schools have met this target with Beaumont Leys Specialist Science School, Soar Valley Community College and Judgemoor Community College achieving “excellent” and Fullhurst Community College achieving “very good”.

Leicester Adaptation to Climate Change (Target 11.1)

- 4.8 Through its role as a community leader and its working relationships with partner organisations including: the Environment Agency, Severn Trent Water, the NHS and the Police, the Council can help develop a city-wide approach to reducing Leicester's

vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. In 2009/10 Leicester City Council achieved Level Three of National Indicator 188 (Planning to Adapt to Climate Change) which measures progress in developing this city-wide partnership approach.

- 4.9 Major achievements that contributed to this included mapping the city's drainage system and carrying out structural improvements to it, improving the process for dealing with flooding events and new guidance developed in a Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for reducing storm water runoff through sustainable urban drainage.
- 4.10 To ensure that Level 4 is reached by the end of 2010/11 a number of projects have been planned including:
- *“Communicating Climate Change”*: A training event delivered by COIN (Climate Outreach Information Network) will be free to attend to all of the LSP members. The aim is to educate and improve confidence when discussing climate change issues. This will help key players within the LSP engage with their staff to bring climate change up their organisation's agenda.
 - *Making Contact with the LSP*: A series of interviews with the Local strategic Partners will be arranged between September and December 2010. The aim of these meetings will be to education the LSP about the effects of climate change and how these will affect their service delivery.
 - *Engaging with the NHS*: A Climate Adaptation Workshop is due to be held on the 27th October 2010 for NHS employees. This will build on their current knowledge and outline how to develop and adaptation action plan.
 - *“Adapting to Climate Change – Future Search”*: All Local Strategic Partners (LSPs) have been invited to this event due to be held in January 2011. The aim of the event is to expose the possible outcomes of climate change in a city-wide context and to get the partners thinking about ways in which they could adapt. Experiences will be brought from the Council to encourage partners to devote resources to delivering adaptation actions.

Areas of concern

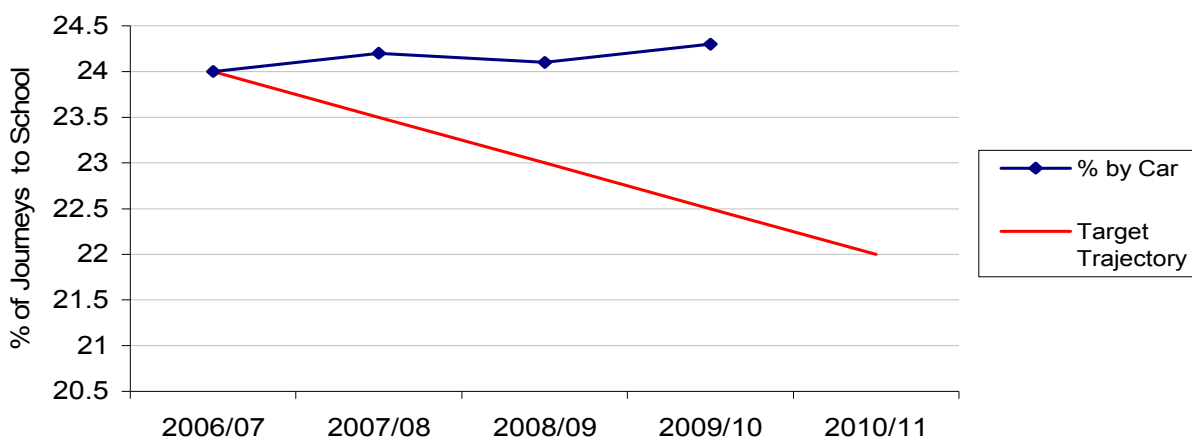
Air Quality (Targets 4.1a and 4.1c)

- 4.11 The UK is required to meet European Air Quality Limits for long term exposure to Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) of no more than 40 µg/m³ annual mean levels. Leicester, in common with a number of other urban areas, experiences levels above this in certain locations and there is no downward trend apparent across the four sites monitored under the EMAS target. This is despite a downward trend in the numbers of cars entering the city centre. Aside from weather variations the underlying factors that could be influencing the figures include the proportion of diesel-fuelled vehicles on the roads. This has been increasing and is currently 27% compared to 13% in 2000. Diesel fuel emits greater levels of NO_x and particulates than the equivalent petrol engine – so this factor could be contributing to the lack of progress.
- 4.12 Plans to address concerns about poor air quality for 2010/11 include:
- *Third Local Transport Plan* – to be completed and approved; with implementation to begin April 2011;
 - *Air Quality Assessment and Review* – to be completed by April 2011 and used to help inform the new Air Quality Action Plan;
 - *Air Quality Action Plan* – new plan to be developed during 2010/11, for inclusion in the third Local Transport Plan;

- A new project led by the Planning Policy section will investigate the impact of city centre parking policy on air quality and aim to develop policy proposals which could allow the Council to meet the potentially conflicting needs of improving air quality whilst supporting the city centre economy;
- *Air Quality Scrutiny Task Force* – has been set up by the Council’s Scrutiny Commission. Will examine how air quality is being managed and may make recommendations.

4.13 Disappointingly, no reduction has been seen in the proportion of journeys to school by car (target 4.1c). The figure for 2009/10 is 24.3%. Of particular concern, is the lack of any evidence of an increase in cycling to school – despite the delivery of cycle training and the promotion of cycling? The data for measuring progress towards this target is provided through the Government’s annual schools census. It’s based on a sample including all schools with a school travel plan plus 50% of those without.

Chart 4.1c – Changes in the Percentage of Journeys to School Made by Car

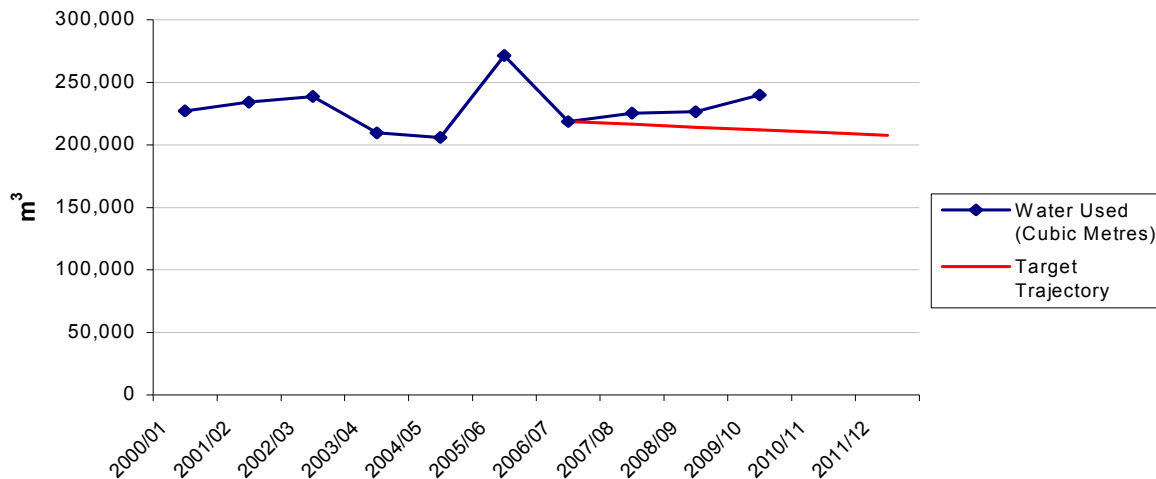


4.14 Whilst the worsening situation is disappointing, Leicester schools’ performance remains better than the average for England of 26.5%. This is largely due to Leicester’s relatively high levels of walking to school (59.9% compared to 50.3% for England as a whole). The direction this work will take under the new Government is not yet clear although they have given some assurance that some funding will continue to support cycle training in schools.

Council Water (Target 16.1)

4.15 The water usage figures since 2000/01 are shown graphically in Chart 16.1 alongside the trajectory for achieving the target. Whilst the 2009/10 usage shows an increase on the previous three years, variations in the timing of the billing mean that it is not possible to conclude with certainty whether there is an overall upward trend.

Chart 16.1 – Council Water Use



4.16 The installation of Intelligent Metering equipment in many Council buildings over recent years – enabling significant leaks to be more easily detected and dealt with, might be expected to show an impact on usage levels, which is not apparent from the graph. One example was at Parkfield Nursery, where the base load of water gradually increased. This was successfully identified and repairs to the leak produced savings of 4,380m³ per year - equivalent to £9,373 of water.

4.17 Data from the Intelligent Metering system (including gas and electricity use as well as water) was made available on-line to Council staff – encouraging them to introduce ‘good housekeeping’ measures in their buildings by giving them the chance to see the impact of their actions on screen the next day. The building survey and investment programme will continue to identify a programme of measures to reduce water consumption.

Leicester’s Built Environment (Target 9.1)

4.18 Local Plan Policy BE16 requires planning conditions to be applied to consents for Major Developments, specifying a percentage of the energy demand of the development to be provided by on-site renewable sources. Target 9.1 is to increase the percentage of applications where these planning conditions are applied to the consent. Following implementation in April 2007 performance exceeded the target figure for the first full year, as indicated in Table 9.1. However, since then there has been a notable decrease in the percentage of planning applications with renewable condition BE16 attached, declining to 79.2%. The reason for the downturn is complex but some of the principle reasons are considered to be as follows:

- Projects have gone through the planning system quickly to encourage development and counteract budgetary cut considerations, recessionary pressures and/or where environmental considerations may not have been a major priority.
- Applications that are not suitable for renewable conditions to be applied, such as a historic building on a restricted site, a warehouse or parking scheme.
- Where Better Buildings Officers have not been consulted on major projects.

Table 9.1 – Percentage of Planning Applications for Major Developments Applying Policy BE16

Year	Actual Performance	Target
2007/08	84.3%	75%
2008/09	79.5%	85%
2009/10	79.2%	90%

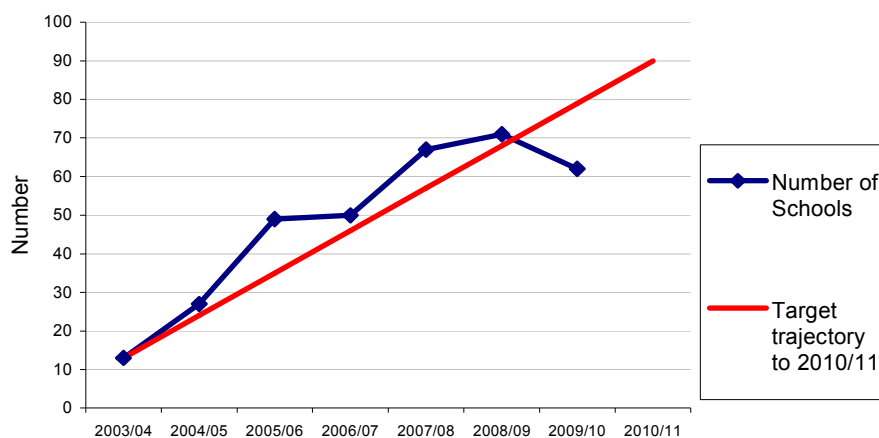
4.19 Action taken to improve target performance includes the following:-

- A Model Text has been written and is about to be instituted as planning guidance to support the Supplementary Planning Guidance on Local Plan policies UD04, BE16 and BE17 already in operation.
- The preparation of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Climate Change is now at an advanced stage. This is intended to form part of the new Local Development Framework (LDF), which will be adopted in 2011.
- Meetings have been held with senior planners to review how the process of providing renewable energy from on site generation is being implemented at planning level and to assess and seek to make improvements in the efficiency of the system. Document control has been made more effective and will now enable estimates of carbon dioxide savings to be generated for proposed developments.

EMAS in Schools (Awareness Target 18.2)

4.20 EMAS in schools aims to raise the environmental awareness of youngsters across the City and reduce the environmental impacts of schools. The City is nationally recognised for its work to incorporate schools within the scope of the EMAS environmental management system and has a target of including 90 schools by 2010/11. At the start of 2008/09 71 schools had signed up for EMAS through the support programme provided by the local environmental charity Groundwork Leicester and Leicestershire. However, in 2009 only 62 schools signed up and the 2010 figure has dropped further. See Chart 18.2 below. It is possible that this decline reflects the worsening economic climate, with many schools being unable to budget for the fee charged for the EMAS management system.

Chart 18.2 – Changes in the number of Leicester schools participating in EMAS



4.21 In the coming year, the Environment Team intend to review the EMAS in schools scheme with a view to re-launching the scheme in spring 2011.

Amendments and proposed targets

4.22 Appendix 4 proposes amendments to certain EMAS targets. Highlights of these amendments are as follows:

3 new targets are proposed.

New Target for objective 7.1:

Provide Leicester People With Enough Accessible Public Open Space

4.23 A new target is proposed which is drawn from the Greenspace Strategy and Local Development Framework. This supersedes an earlier target which drew from Property Services' database.

Target 7.1: To work towards meeting the following quantity and accessibility standards for open space:

Type of Open Space	Quantity Standard (Min. Ha per 1000 popn)	Accessibility Standard (Max. Distance)
Parks and Gardens	0.50	1000m (District and Local Parks) 300m (Pocket Parks)
Natural Green Space	0.50	300m
Informal Green Space	0.50	100m
Equipped Children and Young People's Space	0.08	300m (Pre-teen) 1000m (Teen)
Allotments	0.30	1000m
Outdoor Sports Space	1.00	3000m
Overall city-wide standard	2.88	N/A

New target for objective 14.1

Reduce Council Waste and the Percentage Landfilled

4.24 We have a long standing commitment to set a Council target for office waste recycling which mirrors our commitment to household waste recycling. With the roll-out of paper recycling to all Council offices expected to be complete by the end of 2010, we are now ready to start such a target. It is being proposed in conjunction with the Waste Management section, who consider it to be both measurable and achievable.

Target 14.1: To recycle 40% of Council office waste before 2011/12.

New Target for objective 18.1:

Increase action by the public and partner organisations to improve Leicester's environmental sustainability.

4.25 Previously this objective has been measured by a periodic question in the MORI residents' questionnaire. However, it was a rather tenuous method of measuring this commitment, and suffered from lack of continuity in the questions asked each time. It is now proposed to use a basket of indicators. The areas of action covered in the proposed basket of indicators are all ones where the Council is actively working and has significant influence. 2009/10 performance would be used as the baseline year (with each indicator indexed to begin at 100) and reporting from 2010/11 onwards would be of changes in performance compared to the baseline. The desirability and feasibility of setting an improvement target relating to this set of indicators will be considered during the coming year.

Index of environmental action in Leicester

Subject	Indicator	Data source
Improving Parks And Open Spaces	The number of active user groups and 'friends of' groups for Council owned or managed parks and open spaces	Parks Development
Wildlife Conservation	The number of practical nature conservation events which were open to the public and run, funded or otherwise enabled to take place by the Council	Parks Development
Travel By Non-Car Modes	The percentage of journeys to the city centre not by car (7.00am – 10.00am).	Transport Strategy
Employer Travel Plans	The number of travel plans discharged during the year	Travel Planning and Development Co-ordination
Cutting Carbon At Home	The number of energy saving and renewables measures installed in owner-occupied and private rented housing	Home Energy Team
Cutting Carbon At Work	The number of employers supported by the Council during the year to take action on climate change mitigation. (Includes schemes funded, but not delivered, by the Council.	Energy Agency
Household Waste Recycling	The percentage of household waste segregated by the public for recycling. Covers kerbside recycling and the 'bring sites'	Waste Management

4.26 4 targets are recommended to be rolled forward, with new dates.

Update existing target	
5.1 – Litter, detritus, graffiti, fly posting (NI195)	The current targets have expired. The proposed performance level remains the same for 2010/11. It is proposed to roll forward the existing targets 5.1a-d into 2010/11
6.1 – Management of Local Wildlife Sites (NI197)	It is proposed to roll forward the existing target 6.1 into 2010/11 by maintaining the same level of commitment for a further year, as set out below: Target 6.1: Maintain the percentage of Local Wildlife Sites that have received, or are receiving, positive conservation management at or above 65% in 2010/11. (NI197)
9.1 – Renewable energy for Major Developments	This target has expired and we did not achieve the target level of "90% of Planning Applications for Major Developments applying Policy BE16 in 2009/10." The proposed target levels are considered to be an achievable level of improvement from 79.2% achieved in 2009/10. Target 9.1: Increase the percentage of Planning Applications for Major Developments applying Policy BE16 to: 82% in 2010/11

	84% in 2011/12 86% in 2012/13
15.1 – Household waste	It is proposed to maintain the same level of commitment, by rolling forward the existing target for another year Target 15.1: To recycle 40% of household waste collected in 2010/11

4.27 6 targets are recommended for removal.

Remove target	Comments
12.1a – Council energy use	This target now considered unnecessary, as reporting of progress towards Target 1.1 (reduction of the Council's carbon dioxide emissions) will give a good indication of progress in reducing energy consumption. This is because the Council's 'roadmap' for reducing its carbon dioxide emissions is based primarily on energy saving
12.1b – Council buildings energy use	As 12.1a
12.2 – Council use of renewable energy	It is proposed to remove Target 12.2 and report instead on the total renewable energy generating capacity installed in corporate Council buildings and schools.
12.3 – Schools energy use	As 12.1a
12.4 – Schools use of renewable energy	As 12.1a
7.2 – Open space in school grounds	The open space standards set out in the proposed new Target 7.1 provide an overarching goal for all public open space, making a separate target for schools unnecessary.

Management review of EMAS and progress with the issues raised in the EMAS Cabinet Report, November 2009

4.28 Appendix 5 provides an overview of the EMAS management system in accordance with the EMAS regulation. It provides an update of the key changes to legislation affecting the system and draws attention to the major outstanding non conformity issues, from internal and external audits. The following issues are identified:

Environmental Aspects of Council activities – both Internal Audit and Verification findings have highlighted the need for a better approach to identifying and recording significant environmental aspects of Council activities and for greater understanding of local environmental aspects at a site-based level. Following a pilot exercise, a methodology, has been approved by Ops Board in September 2010 for rolling out site-based awareness sessions to all sites, prioritised in order of risk.

Waste duty of care

Members should note that the Verifier has asked to check officers' compliance with the "Duty of Care" aspects of managing their waste, at the November Verification visit.

Issues of concern raised in previous cabinet report

4.29 Members attention was drawn to the previous areas of concern in last year's Cabinet report:

Contractor Control – the Verifier raised a non-conformity on this issue at his June 2009 visit and subsequent visits have successfully closed this finding.

Environmental Aspects of Council activities – both Internal Audit and Verification findings have highlighted the need for a better approach to identifying and recording significant environmental aspects of Council activities. (See above response)

Progress with reducing city-wide CO2 emissions

Since the last cabinet report, latest figures from NI 186 have shown a fall in city-wide emissions although not yet at the rate needed to meet the long term EMAS and One Leicester target. Funding has been found to continue the Hot Lofts programme and Climate Change What's Your Plan programme to support SME's in reducing carbon, until March 2011. The outcome of the CHP tendering exercise is not yet known.

Council's building energy consumption

Highlights of the work to reduce building energy consumption since the last cabinet report include:

- *Energy in Buildings Survey and Investment Programme* – Survey work previous completed for Leisure Centres had identified changes that would save energy. This work is now nearing completion and has included installation of pool covers, lighting controls and variable speed drives. The work completed in 2009/10 is expected to show a 1,000 tonne per year carbon dioxide (CO₂) saving from 2010/11 onwards. The programme is being rolled out to all CLABs now with a survey report expected in this next quarter. This programme will run until all major building have received upgrades and will save a significant level of carbon over the lifetime.
- *Carbon Action Planning* – During the last quarter CAPs have been created for nearly all divisions – all divisions have been asked to provide a 10% cut in carbon emissions from their energy and fuel use.
- *Behavioural Change* - The Energy Management Team began the process of delivering behavioural change workshops to all Council teams. The aim is to give staff a better understanding of how energy is used in their workplace and how to use it efficiently. Over 30 teams had been visited so far.
- *10:10 Campaign* - The Council has signed up to the national 10:10 campaign. As part of this process an action plan was drawn up outlining major actions in the next financial year.

Council use of renewables

The *Energy in Buildings Survey and Investment Programme* is the key process being used to identify and fund opportunities for installing renewables in council buildings. Consideration is currently being given to maximising the opportunities offered by the Government's recent Feed In Tariff scheme and removal of restrictions in Local Authorities selling electricity. Appendix 4 proposes that the EMAS target be discontinued in favour of reporting on new installations.

Travel to school

The Government's target for schools to complete travel plans was nearly met with some 90% of travel plans submitted by the Government's deadline of March 2009. Early indications suggest that the new Government will not be placing as much emphasis on this requirement.

Household waste

This is reported under paragraph 4.6

Water

This continues to be a target of concern and is reported in paragraph 4.15

Proposed EMAS Action Programme for 2010/2011

- 4.30 Appendix 3 (draft) reports on progress towards actions in the EMAS programme and recommends their continued inclusion in the 2010/2011 action programme. Following the non conformity raised by the EMAS Verifier in November 2008, actions in the programme are monitored more closely by the Environment Team using a traffic light system.

The text for the EMAS Environmental Statement 2009/10

- 4.31 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.
- 4.32 The proposed draft text for the annual statement is attached in appendix 2. The statement reports progress towards the EMAS targets during 2009/10. The statement also provides a commentary on the key issues influencing our progress and presents some of the important future actions.
- 4.33 The full statement will be available on the internet, with the option of obtaining a printed version from the Environment Team. This is in response to a desire to minimise paper consumption and also a reflection of the increased length of the statement now that schools information is included. Regular summaries of headline environmental information will be provided using existing publications such as Link and Face, and electronic media including the Council website and Insite will be used to avoid creating additional paper use.

Next Steps

- 4.34 The next steps are as follows:
1. The proposed action programme will be implemented from December 2010
 2. External re-verification of EMAS will take place during November 2010, including the validation of the public statement.
 3. The next EMAS public statement will be published following validation.
 4. Members will receive the next annual report on progress towards the targets in November 2011.

5. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1. Financial Implications

- 5.1.1 EMAS is managed by the staff in the Environment Team and is financed through this team's main revenue budget. The 2009/10 cost of EMAS verification and registration (including schools) is £10,300. The costs of implementing the current 'live' actions in the action programme are already budgeted for by the relevant service area. The costs of implementing proposed new actions in the programme will be subject to separate consideration as those projects are brought forward for approval on a case-by-case basis in the future.

5.2 Legal Implications

5.2.1 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 criterion in the procurement process and including clauses requiring compliance within all standard and bespoke contract terms. This enables officers to monitor and ensure compliance.

Dina Nathwani, Solicitor, Legal Services (ext. 296345)

6. Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph/References Within Supporting information
Equal Opportunities	No	
Policy	Yes	EMAS is the management system we use to implement 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	
Elderly/People on Low Income	No	
Corporate Parenting	No	
Health Inequalities Impact	No	

7. Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk	Likelihood L/M/H	Severity Impact L/M/H	Control Actions (if necessary/or appropriate)
1 – Failure to take corrective action necessary to meet our EMAS targets 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.
2 – Failure to maintain an EMAS Action programme 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.
3 – Failure to produce a verifiable public statement	L	L	The text of the Public Statement is presented to members at

The EMAS public statement is a requirement of the EMAS regulation. Without this EMAS registration could not continue.			Cabinet for agreement and subjected to checking by internal audit prior to verification taking place.
---	--	--	---

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

8. Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972

- LRQA EMAS Verification reports November 2007, , May 2008, November 2009, June 2010
- EMAS Progress for 2006/7, proposed action for 2008/9. Cabinet, November 2007, Cabinet Nov 2008. Cabinet 2009

9. Consultations

Consultee

Nick Morris, Energy Team
Mukund Kumar, Internal Audit
David Poxon, Road Safety
Rob Pocock/Alan Gledhill, Better Buildings
Steve Weston, Waste Management
Bob Mullins, Parks Development
Evan Davis, Pollution Control

Date Consulted

October 2010

10. Report Author

Carol Brass/Anna Dodd
Team Leaders, Environment Team
Ext. 29 6732
Email carol.brass@leicester.gov.uk

anna.dodd@leicester.gov.uk

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Progress Towards EMAS Targets 2009/10
Appendix 2 – Environmental Statement April 2009 – March 2010 (available in the Members' resource area)
Appendix 3 – EMAS Action Programme 2010 (available in Members' resource area)
Appendix 4 – Proposed Amendments to EMAS Targets 2010/11
Appendix 5 – Management Review 2009/10