
REPORT TO:	Environmental and Development Services	AGENDA ITEM: 15
DATE OF MEETING:	18th November	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	Mark Alflat, Director of Community Services	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	Peter McEvoy, Head of Environmental Services	DOC:
SUBJECT:	Renewal of Certification of the Council to ISO14001 and the Eco Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS)	REF: EDS/PMc/8
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All District	TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS01

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That members adopt the 2009/2010 Environmental Statement that has now been verified by external auditors as the final part of our re-verification to the Eco Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) and ISO14001 attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.2 That members note the full external verification and re-accreditation to the ISO14001 and EMAS standards for the council as whole and;
- 1.3 That members publish the Environmental Statement along with the fact that South Derbyshire District Council remains one of only 5% of Councils in the UK that operates according to an accredited environmental management standard that assures legal compliance and year on year improvement on environmental performance.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 This report has been compiled to announce that SDDC has been scrutinised and its accreditation to both of these international standards for environmental management has been renewed.

The certification confirms that SDDC is performing well to these standards with regards to their environmental management and that we have no legal breaches or non-conformances.

Members are also asked to formally adopt the Environmental Statement that is the basis of the Councils accreditation as the main document to communicate the Councils environmental performance to interested parties.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The authority was first accredited to both ISO14001 and EMAS in August 2009, putting it in the top 5% of authorities in the UK for environmental management.
- 3.2 The purpose of such a management system is to ensure complete legal compliance with environmental protection law and to assure the organisation takes a rational and progressive approach to year on year improvement in its environmental performance.

Generally speaking the council's performance in reducing its impact on the environment has been good over the past twelve months. Anomalies identified in the report have already been addressed and should lead to further improvements over the course of the year.

The information in the Environmental Statement must comply with and be validated by an external environmental verifier as being;

- (a) accurate and non deceptive;
- (b) substantiated and verifiable;
- (c) relevant and used in an appropriate context or setting;
- (d) representative of the overall environmental performance of the organisation;
- (e) unlikely to result in misinterpretation;
- (f) significant in relation to the overall environmental impact, and makes reference to the organisation's latest environmental statement from which it was drawn.

The challenge of becoming re-accredited to the scheme was complicated due to a new version of the EMAS standard being released. This led to increased reporting requirements and the need for additional information over and above the previous years statement. However it is hoped that these changes make the environmental statement easier to read and understand.

- 3.3 The Council's Environmental Statement has been verified by the auditors SGS as meeting this new version of the EMAS standard.
- 3.4 In achieving this standard the Council is also eligible to receive the ISO14001 award.

Some of the improvements prompted by the EMAS process and leading to the improved results include;

- 1) Better boiler controls at the depot
- 2) Improved Jet washing facility
- 3) Waterless urinals at Civic Offices
- 4) PIR sensors in public/shared areas at the Civic Offices
- 5) The internal recycling system
- 6) Improved disposal of oily waste at the depot (whilst saving money)
- 7) Improved boiler control system at Greenbank Leisure Centre
- 8) Voltage optimisation at Greenbank Leisure Centre

- 3.5 Further improvements made and scheduled will register in next years statement including ;

- 1) More efficient lighting in the offices of the Civic Offices
- 2) Flange and valve insulation at Green Bank and Civic Offices
- 3) Voltage optimization at the Civic Offices
- 4) Replacement of boilers at the Civic Offices.
- 5) LED Lighting for Christmas period.

4.0 Financial and Resource Implications

4.1 Through the activities of EMAS including training and promotion of awareness, between the period 01/04/2009 – 31/03/2010 we have made substantial progress which offers a beneficial consequence of a saving amounting to £39,236 on reduced utility bills alone

Table 4.1a (figures provided by Property Services)

Year	Electricity (kWh)				Gas (kWh)			Water (m ³)			
	Civic Offices	Darklands Depot	Greenbank Leisure	Rosliston Visitors Centre	Civic Offices	Darklands Depot	Greenbank Leisure	Civic Offices	Darklands Depot	Greenbank Leisure	Rosliston Visitors Centre
2007/2008	423,831	94,751	661,835		358,705	405,484	1,910,640	1,177	1,910	7,362	17,453
Total	1,180,417				2,674,829			27,902			
2008/2009	402,603	69,769	613,343	117,583	292,166.0	533,110	1,700,397	1,644	2,282	6,516	6,298
Total	1,085,715				2,525,673			16,740			
2009/2010	397,290	99,668	576,829	131,933	349,616	352,861	1,598,151	1,009	1462	7452	4904
Total	1,205,719				2,300,628			14,827			

Table 4.1b

Year	Electricity (kWh)				Gas (kWh)			Water (m ³)			
	Civic Offices	Darklands Depot	Greenbank Leisure	Rosliston Visitors Centre	Civic Offices	Darklands Depot	Greenbank Leisure	Civic Offices	Darklands Depot	Greenbank Leisure	Rosliston Visitors Centre
2007/2008	£37,045	£9,156	£52,408		£10,744	£12,063	£55,338	£3,959	£8,265	£12,133	£12,646
Total	£98,609				£78,145			£37,003			
2008/2009	£43,177	£6,744	£61,850	£13,521	£13,657	£24,769	£68,570	£8,383	£14,712	£11,984	£3,968
Total	£111,771				£106,996			£39,047			
2009/2010	£41,877	£9,135	£57,991	£15,335	£12,482	£13,283	£46,269	£3,324	£5,201	£9,691	£3,990
Total	£124,338				£72,034			£22,206			

4.2 Many improvements have also been funded from mainstream budgets once the business case had been identified by the EMAS officer e.g. from Corporate buildings improvements planned from Property Services Repairs programme Capital, Leisure and Housing. More of this type of investment may be required and members may be approached if investment opportunities are identified that exceed such resources.

4.3 Further improvements have been invested in this financial year, which should further improve performance over the coming financial year.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 The Corporate Plan has a major focus on sustainable growth and also high standards of corporate governance. The establishment of this Environmental Management System contributes to both. It provides the management mechanism to deliver the year on year improvements required if the Council's own activities are to become more sustainable over time. It also ensures that the Council itself can be confident about its own compliance with all legal requirements pertaining to the environment including new impositions as they arrive, which is both a hallmark of

good governance and a pre-requisite of community leadership on environmental matters.

- 5.2 At a time when substantial budget reduction will be required, EMAS and ISO14001 continues to provide the twin benefits of creating a driver towards cutting resource costs and re-assurance that legal compliance and environmental custody are not being sacrificed.
- 5.3 The re-accreditation to the EMAS and ISO14001 standards are a considerable achievement demonstrating both good progress environmentally and the establishment of the mechanisms to deliver further improvement. The external auditors have confirmed, once again, the Council's high level of performance.
- 5.4 The Environmental Statement should be published and the positive message, about what the Council has achieved, be communicated to our stakeholders.

6.0 Community Implications

- 6.1 The Community Strategy has a strong focus on creating a more sustainable District. Re-accreditation to these standard shows both a good degree of progress and the establishment of the mechanisms to deliver further improvement. It also shows a strong lead to others in the community.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 The adoption of this year's Environmental Statement is a key instrument in the development and accreditation of our EMAS system. The information within the document relates to the Council's major environmental impacts and delivers concise, clear and verifiable data. It is a requirement that this document is publicly available and to achieve this it will be placed on the Internet and be issued in hard copy by request.
- 7.2 Progress over the past twelve months has been positive and has provided significant savings which combined with last years savings show the value of the scheme. Even given this performance room for improvement remains and with the investment this year further financial savings should be realised over and above those detailed here and in last years report.
- 7.3 It should also be noted that the system will require the continued allocation of priority and existing resources if it is to successfully deliver the challenging sustainability targets that face the community, such as the statutory commitment of reducing Carbon emissions by 80% by 2050.

8.0 Background Papers

- 8.1 None