

THE MORAY COUNCIL

ENERGY POLICY AND STRATEGY – NON DOMESTIC OPERATIONAL PROPERTIES

Energy Policy – Statement of Commitment

The use of energy is vital in our operation and the provision of services to our community. The importance of controlling our energy consumption and associated carbon dioxide emissions has never been so high.

The Scottish Government updated the 2018 Climate Change Plan in December 2020. This set out a new ambitious target to end Scotland's contribution to climate change by 2045. Making a commitment to reduce emissions by 75% by 2030 (compared with 1990) and to net zero by 2045. On 10 March 2021 (paragraph 13 of minute refers) the Council adopted a Climate Change Strategy for 2020-2030. The strategy set a goal of the Council being carbon neutral by 2030 and that the Council, its officers and members will work with others across Moray to deliver that goal.

As a signatory to the Scottish Climate Change Declaration the Council has demonstrated its commitment to playing its part in mitigating the effects of climate change. To achieve this the Council will ensure that:-

- Energy management is fully integrated across all relevant decision making to reduce energy consumption, costs and carbon emissions in all buildings it occupies or operates.
- Sufficient resources are in place to meet the objectives of the policy.
- Energy awareness of all staff is raised and maintained within the Council.
- A Heating Policy document is used to provide guidance on the use of heating systems.
- This policy and strategy document is made public and that progress against its objectives is reported to Policy and Resources Committee on an annual basis.

Aims

- Reduce the Council's energy consumption by 2% per annum on a year to year basis.
- Ensure that the Council's position in respect of the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme is optimised.

Energy Strategy

Key to achieving our policy aims is to develop an Energy Strategy setting out how the policy objectives will be met.

This strategy applies to all energy use within buildings occupied or operated by the Council. The specific aims of the strategy are:-

1. To record energy and carbon consumption by using monitoring and targeting processes.
 - Energy consumption in Council buildings is monitored and the information recorded on a suitable database and reported back to the Site Responsible Person.
 - Consumption in buildings is analysed against benchmarks to identify those buildings with the best opportunities for savings.
 - Energy audits will be targeted at inefficient buildings to determine what improvements can be made.
 - Energy invoices will be checked and approved by the Energy Officer for accuracy.
 - Review procedures for processing and checking energy invoices.
 - Ensure that high quality energy consumption data is collated to comply with Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme requirements.
2. To increase awareness of energy efficiency measures.
 - Improve Site Responsible Persons' and Council staffs' awareness of energy issues.
 - Provide training via internal and external advisers/experts to staff directly involved in energy saving activities.
3. Promote and develop new and innovative ways of saving energy/water.
 - Include energy efficiency requirements in design briefs, planning permissions and building warrants.
 - Share information about projects with other organisations in order to spread best practice.
 - Consult an energy specialist when developing new build/refurbishment projects.
 - Implement energy efficiency projects/measures identified from site surveys and data analysis.
 - Improve use of Building Energy Management Systems.
 - Monitor compliance with corporate Heating Policy.
4. To reduce water consumption and costs and use water efficiently.
 - Carry out site surveys to identify projects that will improve water efficiency and produce cost savings.
 - Implement water efficiency projects identified from site surveys.

Monitoring and Review

This policy and strategy will be reviewed annually by the Energy Officer and revisions reported to Committee for approval.