



# Energy Policy

This Energy Policy is based on the following objectives:

- **To improve our energy efficiency (to use less energy) and increase our use of energy from renewable sources**
- **To help residents to meet their energy needs**
- **To support the move to energy supplies that do not adversely effect the quality of life through pollution, global warming, affecting climate change or aesthetic considerations**
- **To share our knowledge and give assistance to residents and organisations in the district**
- **To lead by example and be accountable for what we achieve**



We will link this Energy Policy to our policies and strategies on sustainability, home energy conservation, the environment (including EMAS and ecoBUDGET), climate change, transport, planning, housing and the community strategy.

We already have some notable successes in the district, such as the **PhotoVoltaic Panels** at Ringmer Community College and the Heat and Sun Scheme. We know that we can achieve much more and we value our partnerships, especially with local schools and colleges, to promote sustainable energy usage.

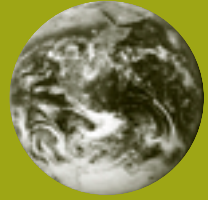
### Global

The World Energy Supply is currently dominated by carbon fossil fuels: oil, gas and coal. Their continued use is not sustainable because the sources are finite and the pollutants produced including carbon dioxide – (CO<sub>2</sub>) contribute to global warming and climate change.

The Kyoto Agreement set as a base the greenhouse gas emissions in 1990 and called for a **12.5% reduction** world-wide between 2008-2012.

The EU proposed Directive COM/2001/226 on the Energy Performance of buildings, aims to deliver reductions of 35-45 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year in the EU by 2010.





## National

The UK Government's present target is to reduce **CO<sub>2</sub> emission by 20%** by 2010 and to ensure that 5% of the nation's electricity requirements are from renewable sources by 2003 and 10% by 2010.

The Energy White Paper entitled 'Our Energy Future – creating a low carbon economy' has suggested even more ambitious targets. These include

- **reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 60% by 2050 with real progress by 2020**
- **ensuring every home is adequately and affordably heated**
- **by 2020 to double renewable sources share of electricity from 2010 target (i.e. an 'aspiration' of 20% by 2020)**

The Sustainable Energy Act 2003 puts the White Paper targets as aims. One of the implications of the Act for local authorities is that they will have a leading role in developing these targets at a local level.



## Regional

The South East Regional Plan sets a target for renewable energy sources in electricity generation to achieve a contribution of 6.6% of current electricity generation capacity by 2010 and 10% by 2015.

## Local

The Council's current targets are set out in the Key Targets Action Plan. We will achieve the targets by:

- **Improving Energy Efficiency in our buildings**

Our programme for improving energy efficiency in council housing has seen a 1% SAP rating rise per annum. The current average SAP rating is 57.

Energy audits will be carried out in Council offices, leisure centres and other buildings and proposals for improvements will be reported to the Cabinet.

- **Obtaining Energy from Renewable Sources**

We have a wide choice of options: Photovoltaics (PV) or Solar Heating for individual buildings, large-scale production through Wind Turbines purchasing energy from renewable source suppliers. We are now switching street equipment such as parking meters and street lighting to PV. Solar panels to light public conveniences will follow. Where we move to renewable energy sources, we will seek to offset the cost by improved energy efficiency.

- **Finding external Funding**

We have already obtained advice and funding from The Energy Savings Trust and the National Energy Foundation.

- **Planning and Building Control**

Our Planning and Building Control policies will encourage the use of renewable energy sources in new developments. Our staff will be trained in best practice in Energy Efficiency and use of renewable sources so they can advise applicants.



**10% of the District's electricity requirement to be met by renewable sources by 2010; and 20% by 2020**

We will produce Supplementary Planning Guidance promoting Energy Efficiency and the use of Renewable Energy by June 2005. By January 2008 the policies in our Local Development Framework will ensure energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy in appropriate new development.

This will be met from existing budgets

We will offer grants to provide Renewable Energy installations in domestic homes.

£25,000 pa has been allocated from the Housing Capital Budget to finance these grants.

We will work with Ringmer Community College and Tideway School, Newhaven in 2004/05 to develop Renewable Energy Projects.

We will seek external funding opportunities for this.

**100% of electricity requirement for Council Buildings to be met by renewable sources by April 2007**

We will purchase electricity from green Energy sources at the earliest opportunity and in any event, no later than April 2007.

This is estimated to cost £4,475 (based on June 2004 figures).

NB Market prices for electricity changes frequently.

We will carry out audits of our buildings by December 2005 looking for options to provide renewable energy on site.

Costs are unknown at present and will be the subject of future cabinet reports.

**We aim for a 10% reduction in Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions in the District (based on 2004 figures) by 2010.**

We will reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from our own vehicles (including leased vehicles) by setting output limits for all new vehicles.

This will be met from existing budgets.



**10% improvement in Energy Efficiency in operational Council buildings on 2003 figures by 2010.**

We will implement an energy management system by December 2005 to monitor, review and report on energy usage.

We will implement a series of energy audits in operational Council buildings and facilities and implement an action plan to improve Energy Efficiency across the Council. The audits will be completed by December 2005

This will be met from existing budgets.

All measures arising from 'good housekeeping' and which can be met from within existing budgets will be implemented by December 2005. Those requiring capital expenditure will be reported to Cabinet for decision.

**We aim to establish partnerships with local communities, organisations and business to promote and develop energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.**

We will set up a District-wide energy forum by March 2005.

We will display a renewable energy exhibition at least four times per annum throughout the District commencing June 2004.

We will provide information and advice on Renewable Energy on our website from October 2004.

We will work with East Sussex County Council on the 'Removing Barriers for Renewable Energy' planning project in the year 2004/05.

This will be met from existing budgets.



**We aim to improve energy efficiency in domestic homes in the District by 31.2% (based on 1996 figures) by 2007. This is a Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) target.**

We will provide grants to provide Energy Efficiency Improvements in domestic homes

£65,000 pa has been allocated up to March 2007 from the Housing Capital Budget to finance these grants.

**We aim to ensure that the Council's housing has an average SAP rating of 70 by 2015.**

We will continue with our planned programme of Energy Efficiency improvements to our Housing Stock.

The Housing Capital Budget Programme allocated £775,000 for this programme in 2004/05.

# Your Ideas

## This is the most important part of this policy!

We need your comments and ideas on what we have said so far so that we can work towards getting it right. This is about your quality of life, your local environment and about your children's future. Please let us know what you feel by filling in the form below. Alternatively, feel free to phone **01273 484365** to have a chat.

**Name**

**Address**

**Tel No**

**Email**

**Please tick  
the box**

The following comments are from me   
are from the group, organisation

Please return your comments to  
Lee Money, Principal Environmental Health Officer  
(Environment), Planning & Environmental Health,  
Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes BN7 1BW  
Tel **01273 484365** or email [lee.money@lewes.gov.uk](mailto:lee.money@lewes.gov.uk)



COVER energy bike challenge / ringmer  
community college's solar electric panels  
INSIDE COVER tony bishop of bishopstone has  
installed solar water heating  
PAGE 6/7 recognising the importance of  
climate change by signing the nottingham  
declaration / school's solar car challenge  
DESIGN helen white PAPER 75% recycled