

# The Carbon Trust Local Authority Carbon Management Programme Case Study: Leeds City Council

June 2007

## **Background:**

The Carbon Trust works with UK business and the public sector to cut carbon emissions and develop commercial low carbon technologies. It launched its Local Authority Carbon Management (LACM) Programme in 2003, to help councils reduce their carbon emissions and take the lead in demonstrating to local businesses and communities the importance of tackling climate change, whilst benefiting from reduced energy use and spend. To date, the scheme has worked with 143 local authorities – just under one third of all UK authorities. During the first four phases of the programme, annual savings of more than £33 million and 500,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> were identified for the councils involved.

## **Leeds City Council:**

Leeds City Council joined phase two of the Carbon Trust's LACM Programme. Working in collaboration with the Carbon Trust, it was able to identify priority actions that would have a drastic impact on its carbon footprint, bringing annual carbon emissions down from 170,000 tonnes by 15 per cent by 2008, and reducing energy consumption by a minimum of ten per cent by the same date. This equates to total cost savings of £3.5million.

## **Priority Actions:**

Through the LACM Programme, the Carbon Trust advised Leeds City Council on several key action areas:

- Incorporating energy efficiency standards into the PFI street lighting contract. The expected savings here are £100,000 per annum;
- Ensuring that the PFI contract for new-build sports centres stipulates the installation of Combined Heat and Power. It is expected that this will reduce carbon emissions by 250 tonnes per year;
- Joining the European municipal building climate change 'Display<sup>TM</sup>' campaign. The 'Display<sup>TM</sup>' campaign is a voluntary scheme that enables users to generate a certificate, which displays the energy and water efficiency of the building on a scale from A to G, giving simple actions for improvement;
- Piloting biomass use in buildings with existing coal-fired boilers;
- Introducing a smart energy metering scheme to provide information on patterns of usage and demand levels;
- Reviewing the use of private hire vehicles to reduce the cost of essential journeys and the number of journeys made. This currently costs the council £3million per year.

An initial capital investment of £1.5million has been allocated to fund these and other initiatives. In 2007/8 expected savings are £1.25million and 22,000 tonnes of carbon.

## **Further information:**

For more information, visit [www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk). For media enquiries, please contact: the Carbon Trust press line on 020 7544 3100.