

By: Paul Wickenden, Overview, Scrutiny and Localism Manager
To: Environment, Highways and Waste Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 4 November 2010
Subject: **SELECT COMMITTEE - UPDATE**
Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report advises Members on the progress of the Select Committee on Renewable Energy and invites further suggestions for future Select Committee Topic Reviews.

Select Committee: Renewable Energy

(1) The Select Committee on Renewable Energy, under the Chairmanship of Mr Keith Ferrin, engaged with Cabinet Members and Directorates on 7th October and has subsequently finalised its report.

(2) The report contains 22 recommendations, key themes of which are: increasing energy efficiency in the KCC estate in order to avoid wasted energy, reducing both costs and carbon emissions; capitalising, within the estate on government incentives which have been put in place to encourage the take up of renewable energy systems; and enabling Kent schools, businesses and householders to do the same by various means including through financial mechanisms such as the new Green Investment Bank; and finally ensuring that the county of Kent is more resilient to energy price rises and benefits in the future from the development and supply of sustainable energy while contributing to national renewable energy targets.

(3) The report will now be submitted to the Corporate Management Team before being considered by Cabinet on 29 November 2010 and, if time permits, County Council on 16 December 2010.

Suggestions for Select Committee Topic Reviews

(4) If Members have any suggestions for Select Committee topic reviews could they please contact Karen Mannering, Democratic Services Officer for this POSC.

Recommendation

(5) Members are asked to note the progress of the Renewable Energy Select Committee and to advise the Democratic Services Officer of any further items that they would like to suggest for inclusion in the topic review programme.

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Background Information: *Nil*