

Appendix 1

Relevant SCC activity to date:

Low Carbon City Strategy – This strategy was approved by Southampton City Council in July 2011 and commits the Council to deliver a 34% city-wide reduction in CO2 emissions by 2020. The strategy sets out a requirement for the Council to reduce energy demand, encourage greater use of renewable and low carbon energy and explore further opportunities for local energy production and distribution to enable the city to achieve deep cuts in its CO2 emissions whilst still meeting the energy needs for electricity, heating and transport. The Sustainable Energy Action Plan will perform this function, identifying opportunities for new sustainable energy networks in the city and providing a clear route-map to achieve the targets set out in the Low Carbon City Strategy.

LEAP – The Leadership in Energy Action and Planning project is a partnership of ten organisations from six European Union (EU) countries and one applicant country. The project has been set up to help its partner local authorities meet the EU's energy and climate change targets for 2020 by embedding sustainable energy policy within their operations and practices. Learning and best practice from the project is already being used to support the implementation of the Low Carbon City Strategy and will be incorporated into the Sustainable Energy Action Plan.

The following table summarises the main commitments within the Covenant and Southampton's current and planned activity in each of those areas:

Covenant commitments	Southampton's performance
Reduce the city's carbon emissions by at least 20% by 2020 through the implementation of a Sustainable Energy Action Plan. The commitment and the action plan will be ratified through SCC's relevant procedures	The 2008 Climate Change Act commits the UK to a 34% reduction in emissions from a 1990 baseline by 2020. This target has subsequently been applied in Southampton through the adoption of the Low Carbon City Strategy. Southampton has therefore already committed to emissions reductions in excess of EU objectives.
Prepare a baseline emissions inventory as a basis for the Sustainable Energy Action Plan	Since 2009 Southampton City Council has been working in partnership with the University of Southampton to develop a Carbon Emissions Inventory for the city. The outcome of this has been the production of accurate local data on carbon emissions, a database on which energy efficiency and sustainable energy investment can be modelled and based allowing modelling of future actions to identify the best

	<p>strategic solutions to be followed. The methodology has led to the development of the world's most detailed software model of a city's carbon footprint. As a result of the research it is estimated that Southampton produced 1,240,520 tonnes of carbon dioxide and equivalent gases (CO_{2e}) in 2008.</p>
<p>Submit a Sustainable Energy Action Plan* (SEAP), approved by the council within the year following the official sign-up to the Covenant of Mayors initiative, and outlining the measures and policies that will be implemented to achieve the targets in the plan.</p>	<p>Work is already underway to produce a Sustainable Energy Action Plan building on a commitment to do so in the Low Carbon City Strategy and as part of the LEAP project.</p>
<p>Publish implementation reports* every two years after the submission of the SEAP detailing progress being made towards achieving the objectives of the SEAP.</p>	<p>A reporting regime was established when the Low Carbon City Strategy was adopted in July 2011 for evaluation, monitoring and verification purposes. This committed the Council to provide an annual progress report for the delivery plan. Progress in delivering the SEAP will be subject to the same process. Performance in relation to the climate change National Indicator NI186 is still reported on an annual basis despite the abolition of the National Indicators.</p>
<p>Organise Energy Days or City Covenant Days, in co-operation with the European Commission and with other stakeholders, allowing citizens to benefit directly from the opportunities and advantages offered by a more intelligent use of energy, and to regularly inform the local media on developments concerning the SEAP.</p>	<p>Community engagement is a vital aspect of the Low Carbon City Strategy and the Council has already committed to deliver a programme of community engagement activities over the lifetime of the strategy to drive energy efficiency in the domestic sector and seek to tackle issues of fuel poverty. Successful campaigns have already been delivered in partnership with Age Concern and the Environment Centre in the past year (Stop the Cold and Keep Warm campaigns).</p>
<p>Spread the message of the Covenant of Mayors, in particular by encouraging other local authorities to join and by</p>	<p>Southampton City Council will seek to highlight its commitment to the Covenant of Mayors and encourage other leaders to join, where appropriate.</p>

contributing to the major events (i.e. annual Covenant of Mayors ceremonies and thematic workshops).	
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*Signatories will terminate membership to the Covenant of Mayors if the necessary technical documentation (SEAP and implementation reports) is not submitted on time.