

**Devon and Cornwall Police Authority**  
**7 December 2007**

Open for the Purposes of the Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Report of the Chief Executive

---

**Police Authority Environmental Mission Statement and Strategy**

**Recommended**

- (i) That the Authority approve the draft Environmental Mission Statement**
- (ii) That the Authority approve the draft Environmental Strategy**
- (iii) That the Authority gives approval to seek accreditation for the ISO14001 Environmental Management System (EMS) standard**

**Introduction**

1. The Authority's draft Environmental Mission Statement and Strategy is presented at *Appendix A* for Members consideration. Development of the strategy has been dependent on a "twin-track" approach by the Authority and the Force. The Force's Environmental Group chaired by the Director of Finance have drawn up a comprehensive document; "Principles of Environmental Management" which underpins the elements in the Authority's strategy.

**Background Information**

2. The draft environmental mission statement for the Authority, if adopted, will provide the basis on which the Force can be held to account to demonstrate year-on-year reduction of carbon emissions starting with the 2007/08 baseline measurement. For the remainder of the year to March 2008, efforts will be concentrated on establishing a reliable baseline. In liaison with the Carbon Trust, the Force is commissioning expert consultancy to assist with the calculation of the baseline. This is a complex process requiring data from a variety of sources. Initially, the calculation will be confined to the carbon impact of utility usage in the Force estate and fuel for the vehicle fleet, and business miles in employee owned vehicles. Over time, the measurement will be extended to the impact of home to workplace travel and products and services procured.
3. At the end of October, The British Standards Institute (BSi), one of the leading British standards accreditation organisations, visited Endeavour House to give a presentation to Members and officers of the Authority and Force, on the requirements for achieving the ISO14001 Environmental Management System (EMS) standard. Accreditation under the standard would seek to establish guiding principles for the Force to follow and is likely to enhance the reputation of the Authority as an environmentally responsible organisation.
4. There would be cost and resource implications for the Authority should it choose to seek accreditation. The set-up, training and consultancy costs are modest (approximately £3-4k) and, once an environmental manual has been established, it is estimated that one to two days per month would be required to administer the EMS. Once accreditation is achieved, the likely annual cost of maintenance and administration of the system, including inspection fees by the accrediting body, would be in the region of £1k. It is recommended that the Authority consider the costs and reputational benefits of proceeding with a long-term commitment to the environment and the Authority's societal role in

## Agenda No 13

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) specifically in environmental stewardship. Once achieved, the BS14001 logo for the standard can be added to the Authority's website and other publications.

5. It is noted that, for the first time, one of the key lines of enquiry (KLOE's) in the 2007/08 Police Use of Resources (PURE) assessment, includes a review of the linkages between environmental management and the Authority and Force's financial strategy. Given the rapid progress made by the Force and Authority in this area, it is expected that the work done so far will provide substantial evidence of pro-active engagement with the underlying objectives of this element of PURE.
6. There will be a requirement, commencing in 2008/09 to develop environmental audit expertise through further specialist training. Provision will be made in the draft audit plan to identify training and resourcing needs in this rapidly developing field of internal audit. The Internal Audit Manager attended the first Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA-UK) seminar in London dedicated to the role of internal audit in Corporate Social Responsibility, with particular emphasis on the need to bring environmental risks and opportunities into mainstream risk management.
7. Greater clarity has emerged from further development of environmental strategy and policy documents in forming the terms of reference for future audit work. This phase is nearing completion. A reasonable allocation of time in the draft internal audit plan for 2008/09 will be set aside for environmental issues. The draft plan will be presented for approval to the March 2008 meeting of the Corporate Governance Committee of the Authority.

For further information contact:-

Ed Wardle

Internal Audit Manager

Tel. 01392 268312

[ed.wardle@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ed.wardle@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)