

## **Report to Cabinet Member for Housing 18/07/08 Appendix 6**

### **“Greener Offices”**

#### **Abstract**

A pilot project has been underway, led by the Corporate Initiatives Team in Community Housing with the support of Local Authority Housing Management, to work with staff in Area Housing Offices around the city to improve the environmental performance of those offices.

A programme of measures has been drawn up and is being implemented for some offices. Actions are now being put in hand for continuing the work with all offices. It concentrates on the main areas of 1) reducing energy and water consumption 2) making more efficient use of materials and 3) improving the sustainability of staff transport. These require both physical changes to the building and behavioural changes by staff. Staff have generally been very enthusiastic about the work.

Where it has been relatively straightforward to implement measures, they have been done straightaway e.g. all Area Housing Offices now have mains drinking water supplies rather than bottled water, building management systems have been regulated correctly to allow for seasonal and daily variations. Other measures which involve investment and changes in behaviour are being appraised for inclusion in a longer term implementation plan.

Taking the example of the Paulsgrove Housing Office, when all the measures proposed are implemented, there could be a 19% reduction in energy use alone (approx £2300 per annum).

A project has run in parallel trialling renewable energy possibilities and the findings of this are due later in the summer.

The detailed programme of improvement measures for Area Housing Offices is available from the Corporate Initiatives team.

HH 08/07/08