

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

22 JANUARY 2004

NOTICE OF MOTION

INCORPORATING RENEWABLE ENERGY MEASURES INTO NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND/OR LARGER CONVERSIONS.

This Council notes there is a wide recognition of the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as expressed by the following policy initiatives;

- The 1997 Kyoto Protocol set internationally agreed and binding targets on reduction of greenhouse gases. The UK's target is 12.5% of 1990 levels by 2012. The UK Government then increased this to 20%.
- The UK Energy White Paper sets a national target to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050.

Provision to help achieve these targets is laid down in national, regional and local policies

- National Planning Policy Guidance Note 22 *"Planning Authorities should also bear in mind that investment in renewable energy development can make an important contribution to the national economy, and can help to meet our international commitments on limiting greenhouse gas emissions."*
- Regional policy RPG 9 INF 4 (Energy) states *"Using their development control and building regulation processes, local authorities should seek to influence the design of new development to incorporate the use of appropriate renewable energy heating or power systems"*.
- Brighton & Hove Local Plan policy SU2 requires developers to demonstrate *"the incorporation / use or the facilitation of the use of renewable energy resources"*.
- Further, our Sustainability Strategy energy objective 2 details the desirability of renewable energy.

Some English Council's have already adopted policies encouraging renewable energy use, or are in the process of doing so - these include Merton, Croydon, Ealing, Waltham Forest, Bromley, Barking & Dagenham, North Devon, Sefton, Oldham and Westminster, Leicester City Council, Belfast, Newcastle, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Waveney, Sedgefield, Derby and Charnwood BC.

The choice design and incorporation of renewable energy in new buildings and conversions presents an important opportunity in helping to meet greenhouse gas reduction targets. Technology exists to assist renewable energy generation and includes solar panel hot water heating, heat pumps, photovoltaic cells and fuel cells.

This Council welcomes the emerging Brighton & Hove City Council Special Planning Guidance (16) on Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency in New Developments Efficiency and to enhance this guidance now resolves:

- To change the title and remit of the SPG to also include conversions to existing buildings
- To note that energy generated from domestic or commercial incineration will not be classified as renewable energy
- to insert the following text into the re-named SPG

"In order to contribute to achieving the CO2 reductions targeted by national and local policies new developments/conversions over 500 square metres or if residential, 5 units will be expected to incorporate the maximum possible use of renewable energy, with a minimum permissible level of 15% met by on-site generation. Developer's facing difficulty in achieving this objective will need to present compelling reasons why they cannot do so."

Proposed by Councillor Sue Paskins

Seconded by Councillor Keith Taylor

Signed by All other Green Councillors