

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**PLANNING and TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**3 June 2008**

**Report of the Director of Planning Transport and Leisure**

**Part 1- Public**

**Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)**

**1 GUIDES ON RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES**

**Summary**

**At the meeting of this Board on 22 October 2007 a decision was taken to prepare a series of non-statutory guides for householders and developers on the available renewable energy technologies that can be incorporated within new developments and existing buildings. This report outlines the guides that have been drafted.**

**1.1 Introduction**

1.1.1 In my report on the review of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) at the meeting of this Board on 22 October 2007, a recommendation was made to produce a series of guides on the available renewable energy technologies. These non-statutory technical guides will complement climate change advice in Kent Design, which is an adopted Supplementary Planning Document. They will also help to deliver the Council's Key Priority on 'making a positive local contribution to tackling the causes and effects of climate change' and achieve one of the action points in the Implementation Plan for the Council's Climate Change Strategy 2008-11.

**1.2 Guides on Renewable Energy Technologies**

1.2.1 **Annex 1** to this report sets out the series of guides. They focus on the following renewable energy technologies:

- Wind Power
- Solar Electricity (photovoltaic cells)
- Solar Water Heating
- Biomass Fuel
- Ground Source Heat Pumps

- 1.2.2 Each guide outlines how the technology works, what the benefits are and when and where it is suitable. Importantly, the guides direct people to organisations, eg the Energy Saving Trust, who can offer expertise and detailed practical advice, including information on available grants.
- 1.2.3 The guides will be kept under review and will subsequently be updated as the technologies themselves evolve and develop and new information becomes available. In this way the Council can best provide a service in drawing attention to methods and options for addressing sustainable development and energy use.
- 1.2.4 It is the intention to make these guides freely available to householders and developers. The final guides will be published to a good quality production standard.

### **1.3 Legal Implications**

- 1.3.1 There are no legal implications because the guides are technical non-statutory documents.

### **1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations**

- 1.4.1 It is the intention to provide the guides to planning applicants free of charge.

### **1.5 Risk Assessment**

- 1.5.1 There are no risks involved in preparing and distributing the guides.

### **1.6 Recommendations**

- 1.6.1 The guides on renewable energy technologies in Annex 1 **BE APPROVED** and be made available free of charge to householders and planning applicants.

The Director of Planning, Transport and Leisure confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Background papers:

contact: Nigel De Wit

Tonbridge and Malling Corporate Performance Plan 2008/09  
 Tonbridge and Malling Climate Change Strategy 2008-11  
 Report on the Local Development Scheme Review – 2007  
 (Planning and Transportation Advisory Board Meeting of 22  
 October 2007)

Steve Humphrey  
 Director of Planning Transport and Leisure