

**Meeting:** Planning Committee  
Cabinet

**Date of Meeting:** 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011  
27<sup>th</sup> January 2011

**Title of Report:** Core Strategy: Liverpool City Region Renewable Energy  
Capacity Study

**Report of:** Andy Wallis,  
Director of Planning  
and Economic  
Development

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This report contains	Yes	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b> Information/		√
<b>EXEMPT</b> information by virtue of paragraph(s).....of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (If information <u>is</u> marked exempt, the Public Interest Test must be applied and favour the exclusion of the information from the press and public).		√
Is the decision on this report <b>DELEGATED?</b>	√	

### **Purpose of Report**

To seek members' approval of the Liverpool City Region Renewable Energy Capacity Study, which forms part of the evidence for the Core Strategy and other Local Development Framework documents.

### **Recommendations**

**A. That Planning Committee:**

- i) Note this report;
- ii) Recommend that Cabinet approve the Liverpool City Region Renewable Energy Capacity Study.

**B. That Cabinet** approve the Liverpool City Region Renewable Energy Capacity Study.

## **Corporate Objective Monitoring**

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1.	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2.	Creating Safe Communities		√	
3.	Jobs and Prosperity	√		
4.	Improving Health and Well-Being		√	
5.	Environmental Sustainability	√		
6.	Creating Inclusive Communities		√	
7.	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		√	
8.	Children and Young People		√	

## **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

<b><u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b>2009/ 2010 £</b>	<b>2010/ 2011 £</b>	<b>2011/ 2012 £</b>	<b>2012/ 2013 £</b>
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<b><u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u></b>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure	-	-	-	-
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

## **Departments consulted in the preparation of this Report**

Director of Neighbourhoods, Investment Programmes Department, who suggested clarification set out in para 1.1 and Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service, who have no substantive comments.

## **List of background papers relied upon in the preparation of this Report**

Liverpool City Region Renewable Energy Capacity Study Stage 1 Report and Stage 2

Report - <http://www.sefton.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=10850>

Regional Spatial Strategy: The North-West Plan (2008)

Planning Policy Statement 22 (PPS22): 'Renewable Energy' (2004): see

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicystatements/pps22/>

Supplement to PPS1 'Planning and Climate Change' (2007): see

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicystatements/pps1/>

## 1. Liverpool City Region Renewable Energy Capacity Study - overview

- 1.1 This is a joint study between the greater Merseyside Districts (Liverpool City Region), West Lancashire and Warrington. It forms part of the Core Strategy evidence for each authority. The joint approach has saved costs, and added value. This Study is distinct from the forthcoming Sefton Renewables Study, which is being carried out by Capita (commissioned by the Neighbourhoods, Investment and Programmes department).
- 1.2 The Study consists of two reports. The Stage 1 Report (2009) demonstrates that the City Region's sub-regional renewable energy targets set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy (2008) can be met.
- 1.3 The Stage 2 Report (2010) sets out a common policy framework for development plans in the City Region, for:
  - Low carbon energy and technology innovation for renewable energy (infrastructure & micro-generation);
  - Large scale energy proposals connected to the grid and off shore energy;
  - District heating; *and*
  - Sustainable development and prudent use of resources.
- 1.4 The Stage 2 Report also identifies priority zones for combined heat and power and areas of search for wind energy development across the sub-region, although other locations are not automatically ruled out. The Study also includes information on electricity grid capacity, and is linked to a process to help each local planning authority consider the potential and viability for low and zero carbon energy generation as part of new development proposals.
- 1.5 For Sefton, a priority zone for combined heat and power is identified at Kew, close to Southport Hospital and proposed housing and employment development.
- 1.6 An area of search for wind energy development is identified next to the River Alt, south of Great Altcar. This is based on comparison of wind speed evidence and major constraints such as national and international nature sites. However the Study notes that a fuller and more detailed assessment would be needed for all such wind sites, as other potential constraints, such as landscape character, flood risk and cumulative impacts of development have not been taken into account.
- 1.7 The Study helps us to meet the challenge of climate change as well as providing specialist, technical evidence for Sefton's Core Strategy. It is recommended that Planning Committee note this report and recommend that Cabinet approve the Liverpool City Region Renewable Energy Capacity Study.