

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 19 JULY 2011
title: SUMMARY REPORT ON PROPERTY DISPLAY ENERGY CERTIFICATES
submitted by: JOHN C HEAP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
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1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To make members aware of the latest energy efficiency assessment of the Council Properties, and, in particular, an across-the-board improvement in the rating of the Council's Building Display Energy Certificates (DECs).
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
 - **Council Ambitions**
To help make people's lives Safer and Healthier.
 - **Community Objectives**
Social, economic and cultural well-being.
 - **Corporate Priorities**
To protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area.
 - **Other Considerations**
Ribble Valley Borough Council is committed to carbon reduction.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 DECs were introduced in 2008 to raise public awareness of energy use, and to inform visitors to public buildings about the energy use of a building. The current qualification criteria for this is any property with a total useful floor area greater than 1000m².
- 2.2 DECs provide an energy rating of the building from A to G, where A is very efficient, and G is the least efficient. This is based on the actual amount of metered energy used by the building over a period of twelve months.
- 2.3 Each year, the surveying section undertakes an energy efficiency review and prioritises potential work to reduce carbon emissions which, in turn, has the knock-on effect of reducing the Council's fuel costs.
- 2.4 In the past year, we have made improvements to all our qualifying properties. However, the most substantial improvement was seen at Ribblesdale Swimming Pool, where high efficiency 'dimming' light fittings were installed. We also acquired funding from North West Improvement and Efficiency Partnership, which led us to install a soft start to the air-handling units and installing lighting level sensors to the main pool hall light fittings.

2.5 Below shows the DEC ratings from 2010 and 2011:

Property	2011 DEC Rating	2010 DEC Rating
Council Offices	C59	C64
Castle Museum	C72	D86
Platform Gallery	E104	E106
Ribblesdale Pool	D79	E115

2.6 Whilst it is our target that ratings should continue to improve over the coming years, it should also be noted that the Council is tackling an increasingly small 'area of inefficiency'.

2.7 It is our understanding that, in the future, the government proposes to re-define the qualifying criteria to 'any commercial building'. The details of this proposal have not yet been outlined and, in particular, this will need to include a detailed definition of 'commercial building' and the associated timescales.

3 **RISK ASSESSMENT**

The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources - none
- Technical, Environmental and Legal - none
- Political - none
- Reputation - none

4 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

Notes the contents of this report

JOHN C HEAP
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

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