

# Towards a programme of action on climate change for the East Midlands

A consultation on the regional priorities for action  
16th October — 21st December 2007



# How to get involved in this consultation

We welcome your views on the questions and issues raised throughout this consultation document, which are summarised on page 14. Comments and views on issues not directly addressed in the questions will also be welcome. You/your organisation can contribute views and comments in a number of ways:

- By using the online consultation form at [www.emra.gov.uk/climatechange](http://www.emra.gov.uk/climatechange)
- By writing down your comments and returning them to this FREEPOST address:  
  
FREEPOST RRRB-XCAX-GCUB  
East Midlands Regional Assembly  
Council Offices  
Nottingham Road  
Melton Mowbray  
LE13 0UL
- By attending one of the East Midlands Climate Change Programme of Action consultation events (more details at [www.emra.gov.uk/climatechange](http://www.emra.gov.uk/climatechange))

**The formal consultation period opens on Tuesday 16 October 2007 and closes at noon on Friday 21 December 2007.**

Responses to this consultation will inform the development of the East Midlands Climate Change Programme of Action, which will be finalised and published by spring 2008.

## ACCESSIBILITY

This document is available in Braille, large print format and tape format on request. East Midlands Regional Assembly publications are also available in a range of languages if required.

**For more information please call 01664 502555  
or e-mail: [info@emra.gov.uk](mailto:info@emra.gov.uk)**



# Foreword



On behalf of East Midlands Regional Assembly and our partners (East Midlands Development Agency, Government Office for the East Midlands and the Environment Agency) I am pleased to present this consultation document and to launch a discussion on how the region should respond to the challenge of climate change.

Recognised by the Government as the '*greatest environmental challenge*' facing the world today, climate change will have significant direct effects on the East Midlands. Although this is already one of the driest English regions (in terms of rainfall) it looks set to get significantly warmer and drier over the coming years.

The rainfall that we do get however may well be more intense and overwhelm the drainage systems in certain areas, as it did in many places this summer. Much of the region is also at risk from river and coastal flooding, so the forecast is most certainly mixed. The impacts of such extreme weather events will cause enormous disruption to the functioning of our economy and society.

We are already responding in some ways to the climate change challenge through our existing and evolving regional strategies and by mobilising others. As a result, this is the first region to have all its local authorities and NHS Trusts publicly committed to action by signing the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change. We also recognise the key economic opportunities presented by climate change and welcome the new UK Energy Technologies Institute which will be based at Loughborough University.

We recognise the urgent need to do more, but want to build on those encouraging steps in developing an **East Midlands Climate Change Programme of Action**. This summer, we began a dialogue with stakeholders in order to establish what the emerging priorities might be for tackling climate change in the East Midlands. The views and comments expressed during this period have helped us engage with a hugely complex issue and shape this document, which is designed to present some of the findings and stimulate further discussion and engagement.

The formal consultation period will run from **16 October till 21 December 2007**, during which time the regional partners will actively engage with stakeholders from the public, private and Third Sectors in order to **agree priorities, link these to actions, and identify potential 'owners'** recognising that climate change is a challenge which will affect and involve us all.

It is essential that we develop a Programme of Action which has wide support across the region, and which all key partners can work towards and champion. Please let us know your views, and those of your organisation or community on the emerging priorities set out in this document. We welcome comments on the questions posed and on any other issues or omissions. We look forward to hearing from you.

John Freeman  
Chair, Regional and Communities Policy Board  
**East Midlands Regional Assembly**



## CONTEXT

### What is climate change?

**Climate change** is caused by a rise in global temperature. This rise in temperature is attributable to increasing amounts of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The rising temperature leads to both abrupt (extreme events such as flooding and high winds) and longer term changes to weather patterns and changes to sea-levels. *Please see right for definitions of greenhouse gases*

Globally, the evidence that climate change is already happening is clear and compelling. The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently concluded that it is now 'very likely' (greater than 90% probability) that human activity is causing global warming. According to DEFRA, at present just over 7 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> is emitted globally each year through fossil fuel use, and an additional 1.6 billion tonnes are emitted by land use change, largely by deforestation. The concentrations of these gases in the atmosphere have now reached levels unprecedented for tens of thousands of years. *Greenhouse gas emissions attributable to the East Midlands are set out on page 4*

Taken together, the consequences of climate change have been described by Government as the 'greatest environmental challenge' facing the world today. Globally, there will be more intense heat waves, droughts and more flooding. There may be severe problems for regions where people are particularly vulnerable to changes in the weather. Food shortages and the spread of disease are commonly predicted. The social, environmental and economic costs of climate change could be huge, as indicated in the 2006 report by Sir Nicholas Stern on the economics of climate change.

Within the UK, anticipated climate change impacts will include hotter, drier summers (more heat waves), milder wetter winters, higher sea levels and an increased flood risk to coastal areas. *Anticipated climate change impacts in the East Midlands are discussed on page 5*

#### TERMS EXPLAINED

##### **Adaptation and mitigation**

There is often confusion between the terms 'adapting to climate change' and 'mitigating climate change'. The distinction is important because the two sets of actions are very different. Adaptation is defined by the UK Climate Impact Programme (UKCIP, 2003) as: *The process or outcome of a process that leads to a reduction in harm or risk of harm, or realisation of benefits associated with climate variability and climate change.*

**Mitigation** means reducing greenhouse gas emissions by addressing the cause. This is achieved by reducing greenhouse gas emissions or by capturing and storing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere in gaseous or solid form.

**Adaptation** means addressing the impact and effects of climate change, such as increased flood or drought risk and health impacts. It is a response to actual or potential impacts induced by climate change. These impacts may affect human actions directly or they may affect the environment in which we live.

##### **Greenhouse gases**

Under the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework on Climate Change, 'greenhouse gases' or GHGs include carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>). The principal sources of greenhouse gases include energy generation and use, industry and manufacturing, resource extraction and processing and agricultural processes.

## CONTEXT

### National and regional policy

In response to the challenge of climate change, the UK has adopted an ambitious raft of climate change policies and targets. In 1997, the UK set a domestic carbon dioxide reduction target of 20% below 1990 levels by 2010. Subsequently, the **2003 Energy White Paper** committed the UK to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050, with real progress by 2020, and in March 2007, a draft **Climate Change Bill** was published for consultation, which set out proposals for enshrining the UK's 60% carbon dioxide reduction targets into legislation and developing five-year carbon budgets, designed to allow flexibility across sectors in achieving the required emissions cuts.

The **2006 UK Climate Change Programme** sets out UK Government policies and priorities for action on climate change, both domestically and internationally and provides the policy context for the development of a regional response to the national and international challenge of climate change.

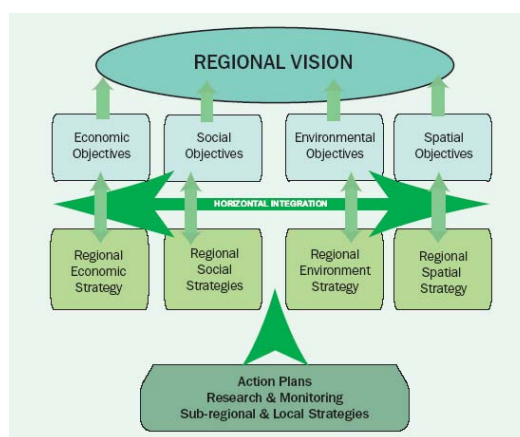
The **2005 UK Sustainable Development Strategy** *Securing the Future* sets out four priorities for immediate action at national, regional and local level. These are:

- Sustainable consumption and production
- **Climate change and energy**
- Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement
- Sustainable communities.

#### The Regional Response

When complete, the East Midlands Climate Change Programme of Action will address the climate change challenges of achieving a more sustainable region, whilst making strong linkages to the mitigation measures detailed within the Regional Energy Strategy. Taken together, the adaptation and mitigation actions will represent a comprehensive regional contribution to the **climate change and energy** priority of the UK SD Strategy.

The East Midlands **Integrated Regional Strategy Framework** (The IRS, illustrated below) provides a framework for a more sustainable future for the region, within which a series of regional strategies are developed and implemented. The Regional Economic Strategy, Regional Spatial Strategy and Regional Environment Strategy all have clear links with climate change, as do many of the thematic strategies on waste, transport, housing, biodiversity, etc.



Climate change is hence a 'cross cutting issue' and whilst all existing regional strategies do refer to climate change, few of them comprehensively address the climate change implications of their topic area. In addition, the framework focuses more attention on mitigation (tackling the cause) than adaptation (responding to the effects of climate change).

#### The Next Steps

This situation presents a clear rationale for developing a coherent, coordinated regional approach to climate change, addressing mitigation and adaptation issues by building on (rather than duplicating) existing policy actions and initiating new activities where there are either gaps or a need for additional measures.

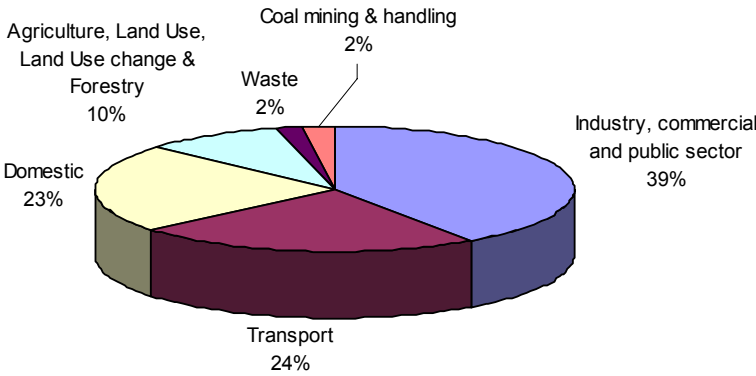
# THE REGIONAL CHALLENGE

## The East Midlands contribution to Climate Change

The East Midlands produces around 47 million tonnes of Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHGs) per year, of which some 41mt are carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). The other 6 million tonnes is made up of a combination of methane, nitrous oxide, hydro fluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulphur hexafluoride.

There are a number of methodologies used in calculating regional GHGs, all of which incorporate assumptions and employ the use of modelling. The example used below is based on a 2004 DEFRA dataset for regions and local authorities. This is being reported each year and the methodology improved, so at present it cannot be used for analysing emission trends over time.

This approach to calculating regional GHG emissions takes into account emission sources within regional boundaries except for the electricity generation sector where CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from electricity generation are re-allocated to end-users.



This approach acknowledges that the East Midlands is a net electricity exporter to other regions, and recognises that regional climate change initiatives have a greater opportunity to influence energy users (*demand*), rather than energy producers (*supply*).

As well as energy generation sources, urban areas are also significant sources of emissions due to the concentration of housing, industrial and commercial activities and transport use. Another large contribution to the region's CO<sub>2</sub> comes from vehicles on roads, a source of 'mobile' emissions particularly arising from major transport routes like the M1 which runs through the region.

Underlying the regional picture are a number of historical, economic and spatial factors, which influence both emissions and risks/opportunities from a changing climate. The former Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire coalfield areas provided much of the fuel for energy and industrial activity and a number of large coal fired power stations are still in operation. Other large scale extractive industries, like sand and gravel in the Trent Valley and the production of lime and cement are also big energy users, although the region has fewer heavy industries than its neighbours to the west and north.

Sector	GHG emissions in kt CO <sub>2</sub> equiv. (2004)	% of total regional GHG emissions
Industry, commercial and public	19,010	39%
Road transport	10,800	23%
Other transport (rail, domestic aviation)	289	1%
Domestic	10,715	23%
Agriculture	3,896	9%
Land use, land use change & forestry	632	1%
Waste	748	2%
Coal mining & handling	1,057	2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47,147</b>	



The East Midlands was the first English region to conduct a Climate Change Impact Study in 2000. This was based upon the low, medium and high emission scenarios for 2020, 2050 and 2080 prepared for the UK Climate Impacts Programme by the Tyndall and Hadley Centres. The report was updated in 2004 based upon the UKCIP2002 scenarios (illustrated below). New UKCIP scenarios are expected in 2008, which will provide much more regional detail.

During the last century, temperatures across the region increased by over 0.5°C and it is anticipated that this will continue to rise according to the level of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

The scenarios indicate that **the region will experience some of the most substantial climate changes in England** (in terms of temperature and precipitation), with daily average temperatures increasing by up to 5°C by the 2080s (under a high emissions scenario) and summer rainfall decreasing by up to 60% in the southern parts of the region.

The impacts resulting from such changes are likely to include a range of risks, but also some opportunities. The possibilities include:

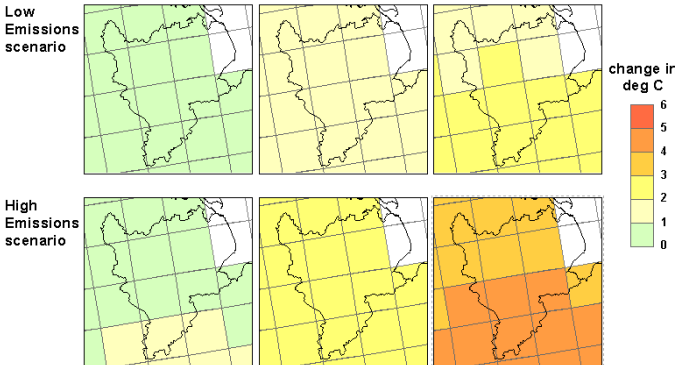
- Higher temperatures, leading to **deterioration in working conditions**
- Increased risk of **coastal flooding, erosion and landslips**
- Increased risk of **flooding from rivers** and also **surface water** drainage systems
- **Greater damage to buildings** through subsidence, and consequent increases in insurance claims and premiums
- **Fewer cold-related deaths** in winter, but a possible **increase in heat related deaths**
- A mixture of **effects on crop production**
- Periods of dry or very wet weather could lead to **significant soil erosion**
- **Increased demand for irrigation**, in particular for horticultural produce, but - **less water availability** from reservoirs due to reduced rainfall
- Damage to important habitats, including **Derbyshire's raised peat bogs** and **Lincolnshire's coastal mudflats**
- Warmer temperatures could encourage **more walking and cycling**
- Changing energy demand, with **reduced demand for heating** in winter, but **more demand for air conditioning** in summer

Early action to address these risks through anticipating potential damages, capitalising on opportunities and minimizing threats to the environment, public health, economy, property and infrastructure will all help to avoid reactive, expensive adaptation at a later date.

**East Midlands**

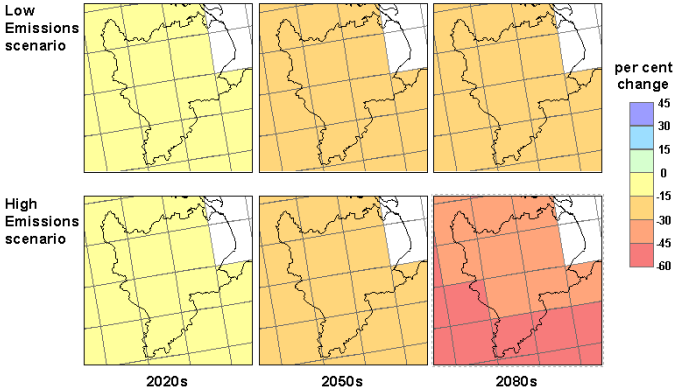
Source: UKCIP02 Climate Change Scenarios (funded by Defra, produced by Tyndall and Hadley Centres for UKCIP)

**Change in annual average daily temperature**



**East Midlands**

**Percentage change in summer precipitation**



# TOWARDS A PROGRAMME OF ACTION

## The Principles

During July-October 2007, we initiated dialogue with stakeholders in order to establish some of the emerging climate change priorities facing the region. The views and comments expressed during this period have helped us engage with this hugely complex issue and shape this document - **Towards a Climate Change Programme of Action for the East Midlands**.

The following principles were used to help shape the dialogue and frame the emerging priorities:

1. Each of the emerging priority areas is supported by an **evidence base** (quantitative and qualitative sources)
2. Each emerging priority is within the **scope and/or mandate** of one or more of the regional bodies/local authorities to influence
3. Each emerging priority area is concerned with **achieving cuts in emissions, undertaking adaptation measures** where they are most needed, or a **combination** of the two
4. Wherever possible, the emerging priority areas help to **reinforce** existing commitments within the other regional plans and strategies that make up the Integrated Regional Strategy (IRS), helping contribute to **multiple public benefits**
5. The emerging priority areas will be dependent on **partnership approaches to delivering activity** – recognising the need for collaborative approaches in addressing the challenges of climate change
6. The priority areas **complement and avoid replicating** measures which will be delivered in other ways, e.g. through forthcoming national legislation, existing regional policy or where action would have happened as a matter of course

At this stage, we have not identified all the issues and challenges facing the region, nor have we attempted to prioritise one issue/priority above another. **Rather, the purpose of this document is to present some of the emerging priorities and stimulate further discussion and engagement.**

**Four emerging priorities** have been identified at this stage that will be critical in shaping a robust response to climate change and supporting the transition towards a low-carbon, well adapted region:

**Emerging Priority 1. Built Environment, Planning and Design**

*Enabling a low carbon future, resilient to the impacts of climate change, through planning, design and sustainable construction*

**Emerging Priority 2. Business performance and economic exploitation**

*Improving business performance through resource efficiency, new market opportunities and management of climate risks*

**Emerging Priority 3. Protecting and Enhancing Environmental Capacity**

*Targeting investment to ensure resilient and well-functioning environmental and green infrastructure*

**Emerging Priority 4. Informing, supporting and driving action**

*Engaging and building capacity amongst all regional stakeholders to adapt to climate impacts and promote behavioural change*

In addition, **three cross-cutting themes** have been identified: **Energy, Transport and Inter-regional/International Partnerships**



## TOWARDS A PROGRAMME OF ACTION

### The Process

As described in the previous box, these cross cutting areas emerged during early dialogue with stakeholders on the basis that **energy** (generation and use), **transport** and **regional consumption and production** all contribute massively to regional greenhouse gas emissions yet are pervasive and cut across each of the *four emerging priorities*.

Between **October 16 and December 21**, the regional partners (EMRA, *emda*, GOEM and EA) are committed to a process of active engagement and dialogue with stakeholders. This process will involve seminars, workshops and structured discussion to develop **specific, evidence-based, credible and ambitious actions** within the East Midlands Climate Change Programme of Action.

The emerging priorities and cross-cutting themes set out in more detail over the page are presented as a precursor to this process and intended to reflect some of the issues identified to date.

Recognising that actions to address climate change will be dependent on partnership approaches to delivering activity, please consider the following questions:

1. Do you agree with our proposition that there is a need for an East Midlands Programme of Action on Climate Change?
2. Do you agree with the issues identified under *Emerging Priorities 1-4* and the approach to *cross-cutting themes*?
3. Are there additional issues and/or priorities that need to be captured?
4. What regional actions will be required to deliver against the *Emerging Priorities 1-4* and *cross-cutting themes*?
5. Are there particular early actions that you would like to see taken?
6. What role might you or your organisation be willing to play in addressing the *Emerging Priorities 1-4* and *cross-cutting themes*?
7. What kind of targets would you like to see adopted for the East Midlands in tackling climate change?



## EMERGING PRIORITIES

### **1. Built Environment, Planning and Design** *Enabling a low carbon future, resilient to the impacts of climate change, through planning, design and sustainable construction*

The incorporation of low energy features into our developments and integration of adaptation measures into land selection, location, infrastructure, drainage and building design is increasingly important to improve our resilience to climate impacts, including extreme weather events. Planning also has a role to support the availability and uptake of micro-generation, and deliver sustainable developments that contribute to reducing traffic demand and traffic growth.

Whilst these issues will be partly addressed in the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), the high levels of growth being focused on locations in Northamptonshire (*as part of the Milton Keynes and South Midlands growth area*) and in other parts of the region identified as suitable for urban expansion (*Growth Points*) present clear opportunities for early and sustained action, and support for the regional implementation of the **Planning White Paper (2007)** and **Code for Sustainable Homes** recommendations relating to (new) low carbon developments.

Public sector opportunities include robust application of *existing* policy levers, such as the Office for Government Commerce (OGC) **Common Minimum Standards for the Built Environment (Public Sector)**, which require BREEAM '*Excellent*' for all new and '*Very Good*' ratings for refurbishment projects<sup>1</sup>.

In terms of mitigation *and* adaptation, a key regional challenge involves improving the energy efficiency and climate resilience of the *existing* built environment in order to prevent continuing contributions to GHG emissions and to cope with new extremes of climate.

### **2. Business performance and economic exploitation** *Improving business performance through resource efficiency, new market opportunities & management of climate risks*

By reducing the amount of waste generated, as well as the use of energy and natural resources such as water, businesses can help the region tackle climate change. Existing processes such as environmental management systems can be utilised or new approaches such as climate risk assessments can be undertaken, to help businesses of all sizes plan and prepare for climate change impacts and opportunities. As well as positively impacting upon the environment, greater resource efficiency can have significant productivity gains for businesses.

Regulatory and weather-related changes will drive new energy markets and provide important development and diversification opportunities for the region's businesses. Whilst the threat to business of climate change is serious, there are significant opportunities for the private sector. The **Stern Review** and other research in 2006 highlighted a £30 billion opportunity for British business over the next ten years. Within the East Midlands are business sectors such as Manufacturing, Services, Retail, Agriculture, Tourism and Construction for whom climate change poses a range of potential threats and opportunities

Whilst mitigation issues are readily translated into resource efficiency and improving profitability messages, there are clear market failure issues regarding businesses adapting to a changing climate. These include the use of risk analysis in business planning and the undertaking of physical measures to improve resilience and business continuity.

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<sup>1</sup> Or an equivalent environment assessment methodology



### **3. Protect and Enhance Environmental Capacity** *Targeting investment to ensure a resilient and well-functioning Environmental & Green infrastructure;*

Climate change directly threatens the natural systems upon which our society and economy rely upon to function. Our water resources, coastal regions and the biodiversity of the region are all vulnerable to climate change; whilst our woodlands, soils and peat lands play an important role in carbon sequestration. Ensuring no damage or loss of habitats from climate change and improved flood management have been identified by stakeholders as key climate change adaptation priorities.

The Regional Environment and Regional Biodiversity Strategies both specifically identify the impact of climate change on the regional environment, but further quantification of impacts and more detailed actions are needed in order to influence regional activity.

A Regional Flood Risk Assessment was undertaken to inform the evolving Regional Spatial Strategy and improved flood management practices across the region will be needed, such as increasing river floodplain capacity, working with natural tidal processes to conserve coastal assets and avoiding inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding.

The clear benefits of supporting biodiversity, integrated coastal management practices and better management of the region's water and soils resources provides a strong rationale for investment in the social and economic services natural systems can provide, and which are threatened by the onset of climate change.

Agricultural and land management practices pose a mix of opportunities and challenges for climate change. A greater adoption of precision agriculture techniques will help to preserve soil integrity and 'lock in' carbon. However agriculture as a sector is a key consumer of carbon-intensive energy and resources, and accounts nationally for 46% of methane and 66% of nitrous oxide emissions<sup>2</sup>.

The adaptation challenges are equally significant as the East Midlands has some of the highest quality agricultural land in the country, a large proportion of which is low lying and will be increasingly susceptible to flooding from the rivers or the sea.

### **4. Informing, supporting and driving action** *Engaging and building capacity amongst all regional stakeholders to adapt to climate impacts and promote behavioural change*

Climate change will affect and involve us all and we will all require the necessary knowledge, skills and motivation to take action on climate change. Activities such as targeted communication, mentoring, showcasing good practice and providing the tools and opportunities for stakeholders to take an active role can add value and boost local action on climate change across the region.

Improving regional leadership on both climate change mitigation and adaptation has been identified as an emerging priority - building on existing achievements such as the 100% East Midlands local authority and NHS sign up to the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change can help to demonstrate leadership and set high standards of commitment and subsequent delivery.

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<sup>2</sup> UK Climate Change Programme 2006



## EMERGING PRIORITIES

The existing regional strategic framework (*IRS and component strategies*) clearly identifies the importance of early and sustained action, but climate change has yet to be integrated into all regional policies and processes. In order to inform, support and drive action, there is a clear regional need for transparent, clearly communicated and accessible public information on the risks and opportunities posed by climate change, coupled with credible, effective regional delivery mechanisms.

### **Offsetting carbon emissions**

During initial discussions with stakeholders, the issue of carbon offsetting was raised for inclusion within the **East Midlands Climate Change Programme of Action**.

**Carbon Offsetting** is the process of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by purchasing credits from others through emissions reductions projects. The term often refers to voluntary acts, arranged by a commercial carbon offset provider. Carbon offsetting does not require an individual or organisation to reduce their own (direct) emissions and so can be used when there is an inability or unwillingness to tackle these direct emissions. The Carbon Trust<sup>3</sup> however recommends that offsetting is used only once all reasonable efforts to reduce emissions have been taken.

**Carbon Trading** is a similar process, but tends to operate more as a statutory mechanism, as in the EU Emissions Trading Scheme, which includes all energy intensive businesses. A new UK carbon trading scheme, the Carbon Reduction Commitment is anticipated to start after 2010 for all non energy-intensive businesses over a certain size.

It is widely recognised that whilst reducing regional greenhouse emissions (mitigation) will be a key priority of the Programme of Action, not all mitigation approaches, targets and technologies will be available to either the policy maker or individual immediately, and carbon offsetting may have a role to play.

Offsetting provides a way of addressing some of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with regional activities, and provides a useful source of investment for financing low-carbon technology projects, investment in green infrastructure and community transport initiatives, for example. In support of *Emerging Priority 3: Informing, supporting and driving action*, offsetting schemes may also help to maintain momentum and engagement around addressing climate change amongst individuals and businesses, whilst utilising consumer spending power and market mechanisms (*rather than Government legislation*) to deliver greenhouse gas emission reduction.

<sup>3</sup> The Carbon Trust three stage approach to developing a robust offsetting strategy, 2006



Energy (*use and generation*), transport and regional production and consumption underpin and cut across each of the *Emerging Priorities*. Because of this, it is proposed to address these issues within each of the *Emerging Priorities* as cross-cutting themes.

In addition, the **mitigation** elements of energy and transport are also directly addressed through two existing regional strategies (Regional Transport Strategy and the Regional Energy Strategy), as described below:

**Energy**

The Regional Energy Strategy is focused on energy use in buildings, businesses and processes and on small and large scale energy generation and distribution. The links with the Regional Waste Strategy are recognised and joint work will occur in areas such as energy from waste. Similarly the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), which incorporates regional transport, is also linked.

The Regional Energy Strategy: A Framework for Action (2007) sets out seven priority areas within three work strands, each with a regional lead agency. Each lead organisation is responsible for engaging stakeholders and taking forward activities within priorities.

EMRA	EMDA	GOEM
Energy in Homes	Business Performance	Awareness Raising
Planning and Design	Economic Exploitation	Capacity Building
	Energy Capacity	

**Transport**

In transport terms, the region is relatively well connected by road and rail between north and south, but much less so east to west (*particularly for rail*). Combined with the polycentric layout of towns, cities and large rural areas, this has resulted in relatively high private car use and lower public transport use overall, despite some notable local variations *e.g. in the Greater Nottingham area*.

The current Regional Transport Strategy contains policies to:

- reduce the need to travel in order to limit traffic growth
- promote a ‘step change’ in the level of public transport
- only deliver highway capacity when all other measures have been exhausted

Whilst these measures (in combination with the Regional Energy Strategy) will help to mitigate the greenhouse gas emissions associated with transport, there would appear to be an opportunity to strengthen policy objectives around adaptation and resilience of the transport network to extreme weather events, and to strengthen public transport links between the region’s main urban centres, rural communities and neighbouring regions in order to make a substantial contribution to managing energy demand in the region.

**Inter-regional and International Partnerships**

The physical and economic consequences of climate change (*both positive and negative*) will not be contained within the East Midlands region. In an increasingly globalised and interconnected world, the region’s economic activity has impacts that are cross-regional, national and international in scale. All of these contribute to global greenhouse gas emissions, even though they may not be counted in the regional GHG inventory on page 4.



## EMERGING PRIORITIES

### Cross-cutting Themes

This flow of goods and services reveals the increasing dependence of our economy on consumption and production processes elsewhere, which transfers our regional greenhouse gas liabilities to neighbouring regions, nations and developing economies worldwide.

Recognising that climate change is in part a consequence of *unsustainable* consumption and production, stakeholders have suggested that the **East Midlands Climate Change Programme of Action** should seek to identify and maximise collaborative cross-regional, national and internal partnerships where appropriate to support activity in:

- Enhancing trade in sustainable technologies, goods and services;
- Encouraging knowledge exchange partnerships amongst both exemplar and developing regions;
- Building on areas of regional expertise and offering technical assistance to developing economies (*low carbon transport, renewable energy*)
- Developing a better understanding of the social and environmental impacts associated with the goods and services we consume (*sustainable consumption and production*)



## Sources Reviewed

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Regional Environment Strategy (2003), East Midlands Regional Assembly <http://www.emra.gov.uk/publications/regional-communities-policy/environment>

Smarter Choices brochure (2006), East Midlands Regional Assembly <http://www.emra.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing-planning-transport/smarter-choices2>

Tackling Climate Change in the Regions (2007), Regional Development Agencies <http://www.englishrdas.com/filestore/pdf/107639%20RDA%20Leaflet.pdf>

The East Midlands Energy Challenge. Part 1: The Regional Energy Strategy (2004) <http://www.emra.gov.uk/files/energy-strategy-part1.pdf>

The East Midlands Energy Challenge. Part 2: Framework for Action (2007) <http://www.emra.gov.uk/files/energy-strategy-part2.pdf>

Waste Strategy for England (2007), Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/strategy/>



## Consultation Questions

The consultation questions are reprinted here to help you think about what points you would like to make. Please send in any contributions on paper or via the internet by 21<sup>st</sup> December using the contact details shown on the inside front cover of this document. If you have further questions, please use the contact details for the Regional Coordinator or the regional bodies on the next page.

It would help us if you could identify whether you are responding as an individual, or whether your views represent an organisation. We may wish to quote some of the responses in subsequent work, so please indicate if you would prefer your response to be anonymous (ie. not to be attributed to you)

The next steps will be to agree the priorities, link these to actions, and identify potential 'owners' who are prepared to lead these in the subsequent Programme of Action.

1. Do you agree with our proposition that there is a need for an East Midlands Programme of Action on Climate Change?
2. Do you agree with the issues identified under *Emerging Priorities 1-4* and the approach to *cross-cutting themes*?
3. Are there additional issues and/or priorities that need to be captured?
4. What regional actions will be required to deliver against the *Emerging Priorities 1-4* and *cross-cutting themes*?
5. Are there particular early actions that you would like to see taken?
6. What role might you or your organisation be willing to play in addressing the *Emerging Priorities 1-4* and *cross-cutting themes*?
7. What kind of targets would you like to see adopted for the East Midlands in tackling climate change?

*Thank you for your time.*



# Contact details of partner organisations for more information

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