



24. 5. 2001

**REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

PART A - MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION

1. SPECIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONSERVATION STRATEGY

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Corporate Plan Output: Policy Advice	

The purpose of this report is to seek comment and approval of a proposed submission to the Ministry for the Environment on the draft National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy.

The draft submission (attached) has been compiled by an officer team of staff from several different units and was presented to the Environment Committee's 22 May 2001 seminar for comment. The closing date for submissions is 1 June 2001.

The strategy document targets two main areas of:

- Energy Efficiency
- Renewable Energy

The five programmes of the strategy are:

- Central and local government
- Buildings
- Industry (including agriculture)
- Transport
- Energy supply (production, transmission and distribution)

The goals the strategy seeks to achieve are:

1. Reduce CO₂ emissions.
2. Reduce local environmental impacts.
3. Improve economic productivity.
4. Promote industry development.
5. Improve economic resilience.
6. Reduce energy deprivation.

The proposed submission is in support of both the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority and the Ministry for the Environment's approach to the strategy.

There are, however, issues that the staff have raised for consideration:

1. Voluntary responses/initiatives or market forces.
2. Strengthening regulatory reforms.
3. The level of funding and support to the EECA and local government.
4. Local and regional energy issue assessment.
5. Financial benefits should no longer be an indicator for success.
6. Hydro spill, coal, electricity production.
7. Renewable energy supply and energy sources.
8. Subsidising research and investigation.
9. The priority order of goals and proposed measures of the strategy.

These matters are detailed in the attached report.

Due to the time limits imposed by the release and closing date of the strategy document, the report was not available to members of the Committee prior to the seminar date and therefore there has been no opportunity for the Committee to fully address the important issues.

1 Cont'd

Chairman's

Recommendation:

1. That the Council delegate the power to finalise submissions on the strategy document to a subcommittee comprising two members of the Legislation Subcommittee and two members of the Environment Committee.
2. That Councillors Robin Booth and Sally Buck be the Environment Committee representatives.

CONSIDERED THIS 24TH DAY OF MAY 2001

MAYOR