

East Midlands Carbon Management Programme – phase 2

Many of you will be aware that in collaboration with the Carbon Trust, EM IEP has devised a bespoke 'lite' carbon management programme, based on the Carbon Trust Local Authority Carbon Management Programme (LACM), but more suitable for district councils.

Eight of the district councils and Leicestershire Fire Authority went through the pilot of the programme. An average of 21% of potential carbon savings were identified, equating to a total of £1.2m year-on-year savings.

The programme was deemed a success, and on that basis EM IEP have asked the Carbon Trust to deliver a second phase of the programme. All the remaining districts and fire authorities in the region are invited to participate. The National Park have also indicated that they may wish to take the opportunity to refresh their carbon management plan. Authorities who have completed the LACM or the first phase of EMCMP are welcome to participate as mentors or to dip into the process/meetings, but intensive support will not be provided to them.

There are considerable benefits to taking part in the programme. From the pilot these were identified as the strength of working collaboratively, the opportunity for other authorities in the region to dip in and out to revisit their own programme and the fact that we specified as part of the brief that we wanted to engage hands-on consultants who spent a considerable time working in the region. There are also additional benefits that can be reported through the CAA and Nottingham Declaration. Once the programme is completed there is ongoing support from the Carbon Trust, Salix funding and EM IEP.

There is no cost to participate, but participants will need to be aware that the programme is quite demanding (although despite concerns the tight timescale during the pilot did not cause any problems that could not be resolved).