

**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee** Resources Performance And Development Overview And Scrutiny Committee

**Date of Committee** 11th November 2008

**Report Title** Provision of Water Coolers - Update Report

**Summary** To update members on the progress in providing changed arrangements in the provision of water in Warwickshire County Council's non-schools stock.

**For further information please contact:**

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**Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?** No.

**Background papers** Resources Performance and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee Report - 28th April 2008

**CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-** Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members  Cllrs Atkinson, Booth and Haynes
- Cabinet Member  Cllr Cockburn – for information
- Chief Executive
- Legal  Jane Pollard
- Finance  David Clarke – Reporting Officer
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

**FINAL DECISION Yes**

**SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:**

Details to be specified

Further consideration by  
this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

## **Executive Summary**

This report provides an update for Members on progress towards replacing existing bottled water coolers within the County Council's non-schools stock with mains fed units.

## Agenda No

# Resources Performance and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 11th November 2008.

## Provision of Water Coolers - Update Report

### Report of the Strategic Director of Resources

#### **Recommendation**

Members note current work being undertaken to the changing of water provision arrangements in Warwickshire County Council buildings.

#### **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 A report was presented to this committee in April of this year outlining a proposal, that where possible freestanding bottle water coolers be replaced with some other form of water provision. At that meeting members requested a six monthly update on progress.
- 1.2 Members agreed that, for both financial and environmental reasons, the Council should look at alternative ways we should provide water for our staff and visitors to our buildings.

#### **2.0 Progress to Date**

- 2.1 At present three key WCC sites are now using mains fed cooled water, the Saltisford, Kings House and Barrack St, (apart from one office as there was no mains water provision close-by).
- 2.2 Furthermore within Shire Hall a further five mains feed cooled water systems have been introduced.
- 2.3 Further analysis has now been undertaken to identify the extent of bottle water coolers facilities in our buildings and how these can be replaced.
- 2.4 In addition, as members will be aware, through the intranet, a poll was undertaken to assess staff views on what options would be best to replace the existing freestanding bottle water coolers. The outcome of the poll identified that staff preferred the option of mains fed cooled filter water, similar to those already available in the Saltisford.

2.5 In general it is proposed that work is focused on those sites with the highest number of bottled water coolers. These are:

- Shire Hall
- Orion House
- Wedgnoek
- Budbrooke
- Montague Rd

### **3.0 Current Financial Position**

3.1 In the report presented to members in April it was identified that Warwickshire County Council spent £118,350 on water provision in 2006/7 (excluding schools). Note that this information could not be aggregated down to bottled water coolers compared to mains fed based coolers. Since that point, the Saltisford, Kings House and Barrack St have already progressed to mains fed water systems.

3.2 To date, this year the cost of providing water to our staff at the half year period is £29,156 (excluding schools).

### **4.0 Next Stages of Development**

4.1 Officers are progressing a number of activities to ensure, wherever possible, the replacement of existing bottled water coolers with mains fed water coolers. Officers have completed the analysis of assessing locations for the positioning of new water facilities in Shire Hall and the associated issues of providing suitable water and electricity points are in hand. Following completion of Shire Hall works will then progress to other locations where there is still a high level of bottled water coolers.

### **5.0 Timescales**

5.1 It is anticipated that we will be able to migrate Shire Hall water facilities to mains fed by December of this year. Following this introduction, officers will then focus on the remaining properties. This focus will include communication with staff and premise managers.

DAVID CLARKE  
Strategic Director, Resources

Shire Hall  
Warwick

October 2008