Scotland's Climate Change Declaration
Revised Reporting Template
Year 4 (FINAL VERSION)

Each of Scotland's 32 local authorities signed Scotland's Climate Change Declaration in early 2007. The Declaration is a public statement wherein local authorities acknowledge the reality and implications of climate change and their responsibility to respond effectively. The Declaration also welcomes the actions of the UK and Scottish governments and the opportunities for local authorities to work in partnership with others in responding to climate change.

As signatories to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration, each Scottish local authority is committed to taking action across a range of key areas. These can be summarised as:

1. Providing effective **leadership, governance and management** on climate change.
2. Reducing the local authority's **own 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions** from their estate, services and functions.
3. Taking action to reduce **emissions from the local authority area**
4. Assessing the risks of climate change impacts and working with others to **adapt to the impacts of climate change.**
5. Developing effective **partnership working and climate change communications**, including producing an annual statement of plans, activities and achievements.

This Reporting Template focuses on these five key areas.

The principles of effective Declaration reporting include:

- Providing clear, consistent and comparable information.
- Linking climate change reporting with existing reporting requirements and the council's own performance improvement agenda.
- Showing clearly how climate change is being integrated into council and Community Planning agendas, especially through Single Outcome Agreements.
- Highlighting key achievements and initiatives
- Communicating with the community, making the report easy to understand and available to the public.

Local authorities are encouraged to provide information in a transparent and easy to understand format:

- In relation to 'corporate' and 'area-wide' emissions, quantifiable data will be vital, and this is best communicated graphically.
- On adaptation, examples of adaptation action or process initiatives would help illustrate what is being done.
- On governance, leadership and management, and on partnership working, communications and capacity building, diagrams, process maps and examples of materials and events would be extremely useful.

In order to make reporting on the Declaration as effective and efficient as possible, local authorities are encouraged to use this reporting template to report top-level information and to use web-link references to more detailed information.

Local authorities are also encouraged to make reference to their previous Declaration reports, especially making reference to the year-ahead priorities listed in those reports. This will help in showing continuity and year-on-year progress.

In reporting on the Declaration, local authorities are encouraged to recognise the importance of the UK Climate Change Act, Climate Change (Scotland) Act, national targets for emissions reduction, the Climate Change Public Bodies Duties Guidance (published 2011), The Low Carbon Scotland: Meeting the Emissions Reduction Targets 2010-2022 Report on Proposals and Policies, the Low Carbon Scotland Public Engagement Strategy, the evolving Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Framework and the Adaptation Scotland Scotland Climate Change Adaptation Workbook . Also of use is the internationally recognised 'Greenhouse Gas Protocol' for consistent reporting of 'corporate emissions' and the evolving suite of Local Authority climate change datasets and indicators published by DECC.

Section 1
Governance, Leadership and Management

Please describe and illustrate the leadership, governance and management of climate change by your local authority.

The Council's Corporate Plan (2011-12) identifies 'Working together to improve the potential of our area' as a key objective. Under this objective come the following outcomes

- We have reduced the carbon footprint of Argyll and Bute Council
- We have 'reduced, reused and recycled' more

In Argyll and Bute Council, climate change comes under the Environment theme. The Council has an Environment Policy and Performance Group (PPG) which considers all environmental issues across the Council including the Carbon Management Plan (ref below). This group is chaired by an elected member.

At a community planning level, we have been developing a new Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement for Argyll and Bute. The partnership has adopted the objectives outlined in the Council's Corporate Plan and an outcome around achieving a sustainable environment has been proposed.

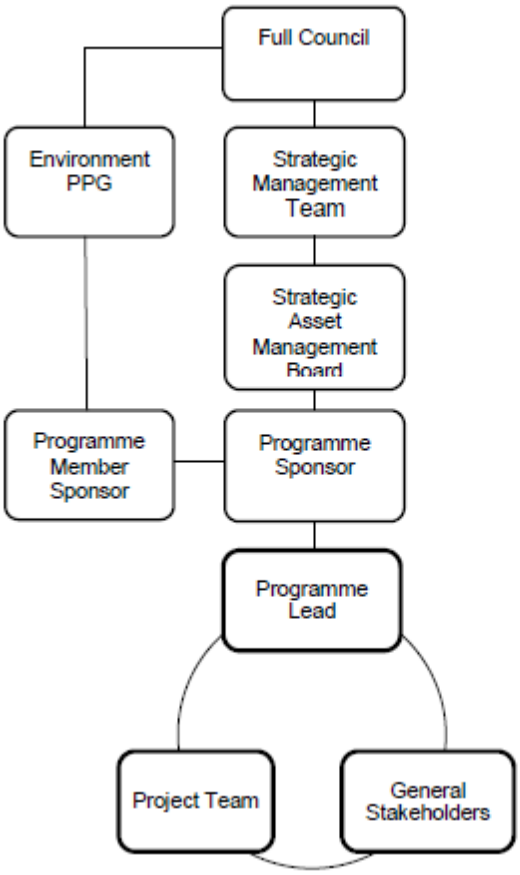
Through community planning, an Environment Thematic Group has been set up. The Thematic Group meets on the same day as the PPG and is chaired by the same elected member that chairs the PPG.

Currently there is no Council spokesperson for climate change. Again, this falls under the remit of the Environment theme and we currently have a Spokesperson and a Depute Spokesperson for Environment. In addition to the Council has a spokesperson for Energy, Enterprise, Culture and Tourism.

For community planning, the thematic lead officer comes from SNH. The Thematic Group is made up from the following partners – Argyll and Bute Council, Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspection, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission and Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park.

In terms of addressing climate change, the Carbon Management Programme is one of the Councils most prominent areas of activity. The governance and management structure is depicted in Figure 1 below. This structure has evolved slightly since the adoption of the initial Carbon Management Plan, in which time there has been some service reorganisation within the Council. The most significant change within the Carbon Management Programme has been stronger links with the activities of the Strategic Asset Management Board which helps to ensure that the potential carbon impact of proposed projects is taken into account when assessing projects for inclusion within the Capital Plan via the business case gateway process.

Figure 1 – Carbon Management Governance and Management Structure



Programme Member Sponsor – Chair of Environment PPG
Programme Sponsor – Head of Facility Services (also Chair of Strategic Asset Management Board)
Programme Lead – Energy and Building Services Performance Manager

In addition to the above, the **Project Team** includes key staff from the following disciplines:

- Waste Management
- Property Services
- Fleet Management
- Street-lighting
- Business Travel
- Procurement
- Information & Computing Technology
- Strategic Finance
- Communications
- Special Projects Team (NPDO sites)

Section 1 Priorities for the year ahead

Review the Environment and Climate Change scorecards in alignment with the new Corporate Plan and service plans.

Review priorities on climate change on the basis of the local elections.

Section 2
Reducing the local authority's own 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions from its estate, services and functions.

What are your local authority's baseline emissions, actual emissions and emission reduction targets for its direct 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions? Please make it clear what emission sources are included, and where data has been sourced.

What is your local authority doing to achieve its reduction targets?

Table 1: Summary table of Argyll and Bute Council carbon emissions with associated costs (source: Council records)

Source	Baseline Cost £	Cost %	Baseline Emissions CO_2 Tonnes	CO_2 %
Buildings Oil (non NPDO)	1,360,751	13.6%	4,888	10.9%
Buildings Gas (non NPDO)	304,776	3.0%	2,050	4.6%
Buildings HH Electricity (non NPDO)	222,955	2.2%	1,227	2.7%
Buildings NHH Electricity (non NPDO)	1,320,059	13.2%	7,267	16.3%
Buildings Oil (NPDO)	106,001	1.1%	381	0.9%
Buildings Gas (NPDO)	120,927	1.2%	813	1.8%
Buildings Electricity (NPDO)	315,278	3.1%	1,736	3.9%
Unmetered Electricity*	415,701	4.1%	3,106	6.9%
Fleet Transport	1,408,783	14.0%	3,476	7.8%
Business Travel	2,178,701	21.7%	1,617	3.6%
Waste (All Landfill)	2,274,216	22.7%	18,153	40.6%
TOTAL BASELINE	**10,028,148**	**100%**	**44,714**	**100%**

Argyll and Bute Council Carbon Management Plan (CMP) was developed in 2008/2009 using 2007/2008 data as baseline. The Plan was developed as a result of participation in the Carbon Trust Local Authority Carbon Management Programme (LACM6). The CMP represented a 5 year programme to reduce carbon emissions (tCO_{2e}) by 20% by March 2014.

For simplicity, Carbon conversion factors, as advocated by the Carbon Trust in 2008/2009, are being used consistently over the five year programme.

Table 2: Conventions - Carbon Conversion Factors and Costs

Source	Baseline Cost – Rates Utilised 2007/08	Baseline Cost – Rates Utilised 2011/12	Baseline Emissions – Factors Utilised	Source of Emissions Factors
Buildings Oil	£0.48/litre	£0.70/litre	0.251kg CO_2/kWh	www.defra.gov.uk
Buildings Gas	£0.03/kWh	£0.0275/kWh	0.185kg CO_2/kWh	www.defra.gov.uk
Buildings Electricity	£0.12/kWh	£0.095/kWh	0.523kg CO_2/kWh	www.defra.gov.uk
Unmetered Electricity*	£0.11/kWh	£0.07/kWh	0.523kg CO_2/kWh	www.defra.gov.uk
Fleet Transport	£0.85/litre	£1.07/litre	2.63kg CO_2/litre	www.defra.gov.uk
Business Travel	£0.218/km	£0.279/km	0.21kg CO_2/km	www.defra.gov.uk
Waste	£110/tonne	£56/tonne	447kg CO_2/tonne	www.defra.gov.uk

*Unmetered electricity generally consists of street lighting.

Data collection and quality has proven to be an area of difficulty. The position has been reviewed with the publication of the Carbon Management Plan Update 2011 in December 2011 and actions have been identified to attempt to improve data streams.

- Waste arriving at landfill is accurately measured and reported (SEPA)
- Business travel is based on staff mileage claims.
- Fleet fuel/mileage data has been a problem but the implementation of a new fleet management system should correct this going forward.
- Unmetered electricity information quality is dependent on whether the Council can maintain an accurate database of street furniture and power ratings year on year. Resourcing this has been difficult.
- Utilities otherwise have historically been a problem as supplier billed information has been awash with error and consumption estimates. Heating oil, natural gas and half hour electricity are now under control, but non half hourly electricity remains an area of concern. This remains a work in progress and work streams are in place for further data cleansing and the installation of advanced meter reading (AMR) technology.

The Carbon Management Plan Update 2011 has utilised improved data streams and a revised emissions baseline of 44,714 Tonnes CO_2 per annum has now been confirmed. The revised five year reduction target has therefore increased to 8,943 tonnes CO_2 per annum and the three year interim reduction target has increased to 4,337 tonnes CO_2 per annum.

Progress/performance on CMP implementation is made available on the Council's Performance Management system, Pyramid. Although the measures in Pyramid and data handling are currently being reviewed, CMP implementation continues to be tracked in three ways:

- Subjective assessment – updated quarterly.
- Numerical re-evaluation of emissions baseline – updated annually.
- Accumulative carbon savings from tangible and complete projects - updated quarterly.

Overall qualitative progress is regarded as 'On Track'.

Concerns over data quality, which makes reporting and performance management difficult, have been addressed within the CMP Update 2011. Solutions entail a combination of the use of alternative data

streams and actions being identified to improve data quality.

To enable quantitative assessment to be carried out within the current Programme, given data quality concerns, the following measures are utilised:

- measured data, when quality is assured.
- tangible project evaluation, when information is lacking.

Accumulated Carbon Savings to Date

Information to the end of financial year 2010/2011 shows carbon reductions of 3,857 tonnes CO_2 per annum, exceeding the pro rata two year target of 2,896 tonnes CO_2 per annum.

The timing of this report does not allow a full evaluation for financial year 2011/2012, but there is sufficient information to indicate that progress remains 'On Track' – this has resulted from a healthy carbon reduction capital programme and strong waste reduction performance.

Funding

The Carbon Management Programme is currently being financed within existing service budgets and through a capital programme financed by Prudential borrowing – business case development demonstrating 'spend to save' opportunity.

Carbon Reduction Highlights

- The introduction of a new communication system, Microsoft Lync, across the Council has reduced the need for travelling to meetings for staff as they can participate in conference calls and video calls through the use of their IT equipment.
- There has been an increase of meetings held by video conferencing facilities e.g. the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee. This has reduced the need for travelling for Council staff and partner organisations. Facilities are available in a number of towns across the local authority area and this seems to have been a welcomed approach by all partners.
- The Council has recently reduced its carbon footprint by investing in four hybrid vehicles (with intention to install electric charging points). The vehicles – three 17 seater minibuses and a transit van, replaced diesel only vehicles. This is an important step in reducing our transport emissions. The minibuses take children in the Dunoon area to and from school during the week and will also be available for community group use at weekends. More information on the vehicles can be found at: *http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/news/2012/jan/hybrid-vehicles-help-reduce-council-carbon-tyreprint*
- trials and procurement consideration of more environmentally friendly fleet vehicles e.g. street cleaners, refuse vehicle with electric ramp.
- Greater use of LED lamping technology in street-lighting applications.
- Increasing waste re-cycling opportunities/levels including food waste.
- Two biomass (woodchip) heating system installations are scheduled to be installed between Easter 2012 and Summer 2012. They are:
    - Islay High School (including Bowmore Primary School)
    - Kilmory Castle (including Kilmory Nursery)
- A number of heating fuel conversion projects have been completed – ensuring improved energy efficiency and lower carbon reduction.
- Protocols have been developed to ensure that all building lighting/lamping is procured/installed to ensure good energy efficiency, long lamp life, correct comfort and design levels and achieve cost controls/savings. This relates not only to replacement of lamps upon expiry, but also to programmed lamping replacements where existing arrangements can be improved.
- Options appraisal work has been completed, in conjunction with the Carbon Trust, in terms of developing a renewables sourcing strategy. A cross-Council team is currently being formed to

progress this initiative.

Section 2 Priorities for the year ahead

2012/2013 will be Year 4 of the 5 year Carbon Management Programme. Key objectives include:

- Further develop and conclude the **Renewables Sourcing Strategy** in conjunction with the Carbon Trust – this will ensure that renewables implementation across the whole Council estate is conducted in a strategic, well considered manner. Against the evaluation criteria of impact/affordability/deliverabilty/risk, only suitable renewable technologies and sites will be developed further. An estimate of 30-40 business cases will be developed with access to renewable heat incentive (RHI) and feed-in-tariffs (FIT) a key consideration.

- Delivery of a substantial **Capital Programme** with £2.5Million specifically allocated to carbon reduction projects and a raft of other asset sustainability projects with carbon benefits. Biomass projects are prominent for the second year running. A summary of the proposed projects is as follows:

Site(s)	**Project**	**Carbon Saving (tonnes CO_2/annum)**	**Project Cost (£)**
Colgrain PS; Queens Hall; John Logie Baird PS; Hemitage PS; Sandbank PS; Rhu PS; Castlehill PS; St Andrews PS	Oil to gas fuel conversions	250	395,000
Lochgilphead Campus	Oil to biomass fuel conversion	384	499,675
Tarbert Academy	Oil to biomass fuel conversion	91	360,525
Inveraray PS (provisional)	Oil to biomass fuel conversion	70	320,650
Unspecified	Solar photovoltaic	42	250,000
Lochnell PS; Innellan PS; Achahoish PS (all provisional)	Small scale wind turbines	20	120,000
Various	Energy efficiency best practice	371	425,000
Various	Renewable Sourcing Strategy development	N/A	115,000
Totals:		**1,228**	**2,485,850**

These projects have the potential to deliver estimated combined carbon reductions in the region of 1,228 tonnes CO_2 per annum at a cost of circa £2.5Million. This is expected to return revenue savings of circa £300,000 per annum with an average payback of approximately 8 years.

- Significant work on **Embedding** (create behavioural change platform, raise awareness, training etc) the carbon reduction ethos into the organization as a whole will be undertaken.
- Exploring opportunities arising from joint working or **Shared Services**.
- Implementation of a substantial **Advanced Meter Reading** (AMR) programme, which will then offer a level of data with which to target inefficiencies.
- Increasing **Re-cycling** opportunities including food waste and extending those items which can be placed in household re-cycling bins.
- Continued Executive Controls on business mileage and promotion of use of video/audio conferencing facilities.
- Ongoing consideration of utilizing more environmentally friendly fleet vehicles.
- Controls on lamping procurement/use - controlling costs, emissions and improving user experience.

Section 3
Taking action to reduce the emissions from the local authority area

What are your local authority area-wide emissions? Please make it clear where data has been sourced.

What is your local authority doing to measure and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from your local authority area/communities?

Argyll and Bute is the only local authority in the United Kingdom where LULUCF removals outweigh all emissions from the other sectors.

Year	Industry and Commercial	Domestic	Road Transport	LULUCF	Total	Population ('000s, mid-year estimates)	Per Capita Emissions (t)
2005	241	306	216	-1389	626	91	-6.9
2006	243	308	214	-1334	569	91	-6.2
2007	236	299	215	-1276	527	91	-5.8
2008	239	300	208	-1259	512	91	-5.7
2009	219	276	201	-1193	497	90	-5.5

Source: 'Local and Regional CO2 Emissions Estimates for 2005-2009', produced by AEA for DECC (see *http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/climate_stats/gg_emissions/uk_emissions/2009_local/2009_local.aspx)*

Waste collected by Argyll and Bute Council continues to be above the 40% target. Performance for the first 2 quarters in 2011/12 has continued the trend of performance level being above 40%.

Organisations in Argyll and Bute were awarded over £900,000 in 2011/12 through the Climate Challenge Fund. The fund is about supporting communities to tackle climate change by reducing their emissions. A breakdown of the organisations in Argyll and Bute securing funding in 2011/12 were as follows:

Project Name	Award	Summary
Renewables And Carbon/Energy Savings (RACES) Part 2 (Islay Energy Trust)	£182,736	Managing carbon and energy savings programmes for community, school and charity buildings, and SMEs on Islay, and undertaking feasibility studies for community renewable energy projects (1MW wind, 180kWp solar PV and 24kW hydro) and micro-generation installations with domestic and commercial partners. Carbon dioxide savings in period 2011/12 are targeted at 68-100 tonnes, and energy cost savings in total up to £50,000.
Tobermory Allotments Initiative: Eco Design and Renewables Study (Tobermory Endeavour)	£12,500	Tobermory Endeavour is developing community allotments on the outskirts of the town to provide a resource for local people to grow their own fresh food and produce, tackling the difficulty of sourcing fruit and vegetables given the distance from markets. In addition they will conduct a feasibility study into the renewable technologies which could help power the site. The local community will also be engaged in discussions on food miles, waste and composting to raise awareness of environmental issues.
Mull & Iona Community Wind Turbine	£31,146	The Mull & Iona Community Wind Turbine feasibility project follows directly from a community consultation held during

(Mull & Iona Community Trust)		the previous Community Powerdown project. The project aim is to evaluate whether a medium-sized turbine can be established without serious damage to the special environment of Mull, with all the profits being reinvested in Community projects through the life of the turbine.
Kerrera Wind Turbines (Isle of Kerrera Development Trust)	£41,000	The island of Kerrera is a beautiful, unspoilt island that can prove challenging to live on due to the lack of services and infrastructure. The Kerrera Wind Turbine project aims to assess the feasibility of harnessing the island's wind power to generate community revenue that will help rebuild the island's infrastructure and dramatically reduce Kerrera's carbon footprint.
Memorial Hall Heating Control System (Strachur Memorial Hall Committee)	£7,500	The Strachur Memorial Hall heating system is being upgraded in a two phase project. The first phase, which is complete, was to replace the existing oil boiler with a 35kW biomass boiler and the second to install a zoned, programmable, control system to heat the rooms as and when they are booked out to user groups.
Lochgoil Community Hydro Generating Scheme (Lochgoilhead Community Development Trust)	£32,701	The community of Lochgoil in Argyll is seeking to develop a community owned revenue raising hydro electricity scheme to bring revenue, viability and sustainability to the village. The carbon reduction this scheme will directly achieve is 22.7T-30T annually and further energy conservation strategies will be supported through revenue, contributing to the national CO2 reduction targets.
Kilfinan Community Forest - Growing Green Project (Kilfinan Community Forest Company)	£164,686	Kilfinan Community Forest's Growing Green Project is a legacy project engaging hearts, minds and hands in building a positive future. This community is committed to reducing its dependency on imported food and fossil fuels to reduce our carbon footprint.
Rosneath Peninsula Carbon Reduction Officer (Rosneath Development Trust)	£238,729	Rosneath Peninsula West Community Development Trust is teaming up with the Climate Challenge Fund to pursue short and long-term routes to reduce carbon emissions. The initial project is to conduct Home Energy Checks throughout the area to improve energy efficiency, whilst the long-term plan is to carry out pre-development work on a community owned wind farm, which would make a massive contribution to CO2 reduction.
Balnakailly Hydro Scheme Feasibility Study (Bute Community Land Company)	£41,000	This project is carrying out feasibility studies for a community owned hydro scheme and for support towards the costs of undertaking a campaign to encourage the community of Bute to switch to low carbon electricity tariffs.
Towards Zero Carbon Bute: Bute Renewable Energy Project (Fyne Futures Ltd)	£28,500	Towards Zero Carbon Bute's feasibility study for the Bute Renewable Energy Project will investigate the opportunity to generate energy from renewable sources on the Isle of Bute in order to reduce its carbon emissions and help make it more independent of the mainland. This includes an investigation of ways to facilitate the uptake of micro renewables amongst community groups and businesses, an assessment of the opportunity for a large scale wind project and for a tidal project

Other organisations developing projects awarded funding in 2011/12 were as follows: Bute Community Land Company - £41,000 Whitehouse Village Hall - £21,600 Fyne Futures Ltd (Towards Zero Cabon Bute) - £79,478 Islay Renewable Energies Ltd - £39,668
Section 3 Priorities for the year ahead Develop a closer relationship with community organisations which have been awarded funding through the Climate Challenge Fund. Work with partners and key organisations to identify measures we can take to reduce the emissions at an area wide level. Work with partners to highlight the implications of climate change to our communities.

Section 4
Assessing the risks of climate change impacts and working with others to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

What is your local authority doing to adapt to climate change?

Business Continuity Plans are in place based on critical activities identified by Council departments.
Argyll and Bute Council does not have a separate severe weather emergency response plan but does have a generic emergency response plan.
Emergency response plans are in place at 3 different levels – strategic, tactical and operational.
An emergency planning group is co-ordinated by Strathclyde Emergencies Co-ordinated Group consisting of key partners including Strathclyde Fire and Rescue, Strathclyde Police, SEPA, Scottish Water, Scottish and Southern Energy, Scottish Power, Ministry of Defence, NHS Highland and NHS Greater Glasgow.
Internally, quarterly meetings are held of the Emergency Planning Support Team.

Section 4 Priorities for the year ahead

Continue to work with key partners to continue the effective working relationship we have in place.

Section 5
Developing effective partnership working and climate change communications, including producing an annual statement of plans, activities and achievements.

Please describe and illustrate your local authority's partnership working on climate change.

Argyll and Bute has an abundant and significant mix of natural renewable resources, including wind, water, wave and tidal, and the energy potentially generated by biomass, which is harnessed and managed correctly, present key sustainable economic development opportunities for local communities, Argyll and Bute and Scotland. This resource is highlighted by the area's distinguished track record of pioneering and delivering renewable energy projects.

Whilst to date the majority of commercial renewable development has been concentrated on onshore windfarm development, that focus is now shifting to other forms of renewables such as off shore wind, marine and tidal development. Recent studies have highlighted that the west coast of Argyll offer some of the best wave and tidal resource within Scotland.

In February 2009 The Crown Estate granted exclusivity to two separate developers (Scottish and Southern Energy Renewables and Scottish Power Renewable) to take forward the development of offshore wind farm wind sites in Argyll and Bute. Proposals for two sites are currently being considered by the developers - the largest of which, located off Tiree (the Argyll Array), could potentially generate enough power for up to 1,000,000 households. These sites will have a 5–8 year project development and if progressed a 20 operational life span, although the lease of the seabed will be 50 years.

In addition to the above, in March 2011 we saw the approval by the Scottish Government for the development by Scottish Power Renewables, of the world's largest tidal power array in the Sound of Islay. This £40 million tidal array project will consist of 10 x 1MW tidal devices designed by Hammerfestrom. The test prototype of the turbine is currently being built and tested at the BiFab yard at Arnish.

In October 2011, The Crown Estate announced that in addition to the SPR site in the Sound of Islay, three new sites in Kintyre and Islay are being taken forward for consideration by tidal energy developers - including West Islay (30MW), Mull of Kintyre (3MW) and Sanda Sound (35kW). This is exciting news and it reflects the significant natural marine resource that we have in Argyll and Bute, however it is still early days in the development of these tidal projects.

Argyll and Bute Renewable Energy Action Plan

The Renewable Energy sector is increasingly being recognised as a key sector within Scotland and a significant driver of its future economic success. Argyll and Bute offers an abundant indigenous renewable resource with the potential to fundamentally and positively transform the economy and communities of Argyll and Bute, as well as significantly contribute to the delivery of Scottish Government targets and ambitions for renewable energy.

The Argyll and Bute Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) was developed from a key action in the Argyll and Bute Community Plan 2009-2013, approved by the Community Planning Partnership 16th June 2010, to facilitate a co-ordinated partnership approach to renewable development in Argyll and Bute. The REAP was developed by lead partners Argyll and Bute Council and Highlands and Islands Enterprise, through the CPP.

The REAP provides a framework to facilitate a co-ordinated partnership approach to renewable

development in Argyll and Bute. It has not been developed in isolation but reflects and promotes renewable energy ambitions at an International, European, UK and Scottish level, including recognising the ambitious targets for 80% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions in Scotland by 2050.

Our collective vision, as identified by the Renewable Energy Action Plan seeks to ensure:

"Argyll and Bute will be at the heart of renewable energy development in Scotland by taking full advantage of its unique and significant mix of indigenous renewable resources and maximising the opportunities for sustainable economic growth for the benefit of its communities and Scotland."

There has been ongoing delivery of the REAP with key local and national partners, further assisted by the establishment of the Argyll and Bute Renewables Alliance (ABRA). The REAP is currently undergoing review by lead partners Argyll and Bute Council and HIE, liaising with ABRA and key local and national partners, to produce a plan which is focused on collective outcomes.

Further information, and the current full document, can be found on the Argyll and Bute Council Renewable Energy webpage at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/renewable-energy.

Argyll and Bute Renewables Alliance (ABRA)
The Argyll and Bute Renewables Alliance (ABRA) was identified as a key action within the REAP to facilitate a coordinated approach to renewable development in Argyll and Bute.

ABRA brings together key public and private sector partners, under the auspices of Community Planning, including: Argyll and Bute Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Scottish Government, Marine Scotland, The Crown Estate, Scottish Power Renewables, Scottish and Southern Energy, Scottish Natural Heritage and Skills Development Scotland.

ABRA provides a strategic and holistic overview of renewable development in Argyll and Bute and assists with ongoing delivery of the REAP. Through close partnership working ABRA aims to identify the barriers to realising our collective vision, as defined by the REAP, and develop options to maximise the opportunities presented by this industry for local communities, Argyll and Bute and Scotland.

The inaugural meeting of the alliance was held 18th March, and subsequently 22nd June and 28th October. Work is ongoing to progress key areas of work identified by the alliance, which will assist with ongoing delivery of the REAP. Progress is reported and monitored through the CPP Management Committee.

Please describe what your local authority has done on climate change communications.

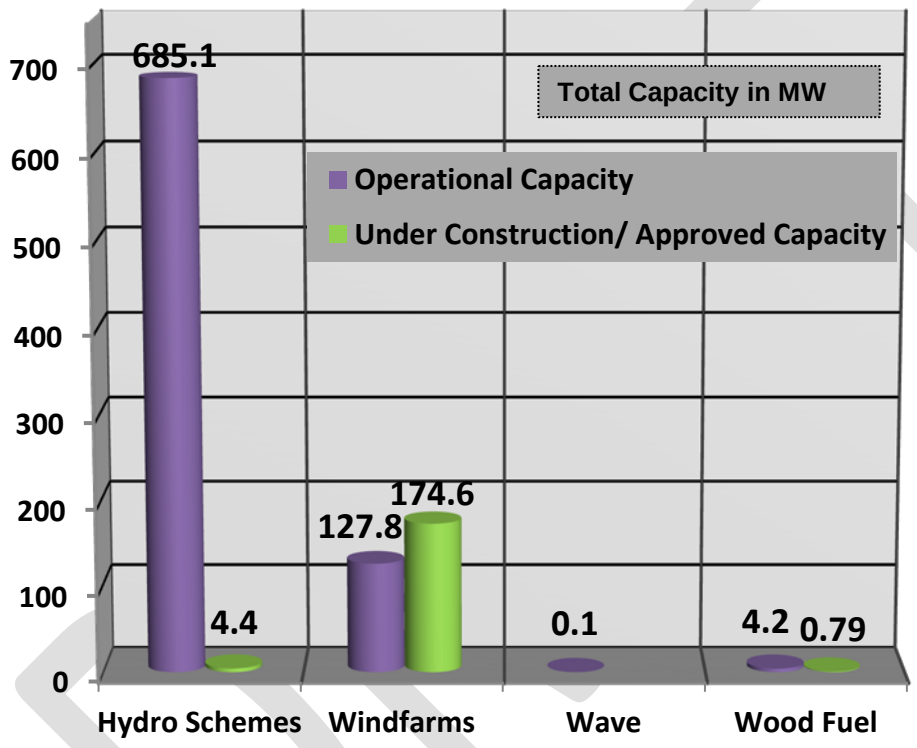
As part of the Carbon Management Plan Update 2011 business cases have been developed which highlight the need for communications with resulting learning opportunities and reputational benefits for the Council.

Please describe what your local authority has done to build capacity on climate change – internally, with partners and/or with the community.

- The Council has worked with community planning partners in developing an Argyll and Bute Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement for 2012-2013.
- The Eco-schools programme is supported by schools across the local authority with 91 Bronze flags, 89 Silver flags and 62 1st Green flags awarded to schools. 95% of local authority schools in Argyll and Bute had achieved at least one award by the end of 2010/11.
- The Council continues to promote the Cycle to Work Scheme which encourages employees to consider reducing their carbon emissions by cycling to work rather than using cars.
- The Council has continued to support the WWF Earth Hour campaign and has switched off the lights

at an iconic building in Oban, McCaigs Tower, in recent years. In 2011, Argyll and Bute was 17th in a table of local authority areas in the UK with the largest percentage of the population signed up via an online map.

The Renewables Interactive Map is live on the Council website and is available from *www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/LocalViewExt/Sites/Renewable_Energy*. The map provides up-to-date and detailed information relative to renewable energy developments throughout Argyll and Bute. This has recently been updated to display information on solar panel developments, in addition to on and offshore wind, hydro, marine (wave & tidal) and biomass. The current operational capacity and under construction/approved capacity generated within Argyll and Bute, from onshore wind, hydro, wave and woodfuel, as of February 2012, is highlighted below.



- Total Operational Capacity = 817.2 MW
- Total Under Construction/ Approved Capacity = 179.79MW
- Total Capacity = 996.99MW

*Please note that this capacity does not include offshore wind/ wave and tidal sites.

Section 5 Priorities for the year ahead

- Continue, working with key local and national partners, to develop and deliver the Argyll and Bute Renewable Energy Action Plan.
- Continue to develop the Renewables Interactive Map, providing an up to date assessment of renewable energy capacity within Argyll and Bute; including operational and approved/under construction.

Climate Change Progress Highlights of the Past Year

Please use the following section to highlight the local authority's main climate change achievements in the past year. This can include processes, plans, projects, partnerships, events, investments, and actions.

The main Climate Change achievements in the past year are largely associated with the Carbon Management Plan Update 2011. These have already been highlighted as 'Carbon Reduction Highlights' in Section 2.