

Council Climate Change Indicator Update

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 At the 16th January 2020 meeting of the Climate Change Environmental Action Group (CCEAG) Members considered a number of proposed climate change indicators to assist the Council monitor its performance in relation to emissions, carbon footprint and climate change related activity. The Members agreed to the draft list of indicators but also sought further discussion on them and a greater understanding of operational activities, plans, programmes and actions that officers of the Council are currently working on.
- 1.2 From the discussion it was apparent that a corporate, strategic and overarching approach should be taken and Members specifically requested to host a:-

‘...informal workshop, involving a wider range of officers, to facilitate further discussion’.

Minutes from 16th January 2020 CCEAG

- 1.3 The Officer workshop was well attended with all Councillors invited – not only those who sit on the CCEAG. It took place on 10th March (week before Covid19 impact) so there was no immediate follow up and this has been first opportunity to report back to the group. Minutes were recorded and discussions took place around each indicator or climate theme. The attendance list and minutes from the workshop are attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 1.4 Based on the feedback and discussion at the workshop a new draft list of climate change indicators is outlined at **Appendix 2**.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Group:-

1. Note the update and agree minute from officer / Councillor workshop – Appendix 1;
2. Agree the updated indicators at Appendix 2 for development and inclusion in Council corporate performance monitoring and inclusion within the proposed De-carbonisation plan.

3.0 IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Policy:	None at present.
3.2 Financial:	None at present
3.3 Legal:	None at present
3.4 HR:	None at present
3.5 Fairer Scotland Duty:	None at present
3.6 Equalities – protected Characteristics:	None at present
3.7 Socio-economic Duty:	None at present.
3.8 Islands	None at present
3.9 Risk:	None at present
3.10 Customer Service:	None at present.

Aileen Morton

Strategic Lead for Commercial Services & Priority Projects

Douglas Hendry

Executive Director with responsibility for Commercial Services

12th August 2020

For further information contact:

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Appendix 1 – Climate Change Workshop – Officers & Councillors

Climate Change Workshop – 10th March 2020 at 11.30am within Committee Room 1,
Kilmory, Lochgilphead

Present:- Councillor Aileen Morton (Chair)
Councillor Kieron Green
Councillor Jim Findlay
Councillor Jim Lynch
Ross McLaughlin, Head of Commercial Services
Louise Connor, Head of Education: Teaching and Learning
Shona Barton, Committee Manager
Paul Gillies, Energy & Building Services Performance Manager
Audrey Martin, Projects & Regeneration Manager
Peter Leckie, Project Manager
Sandra Black, Performance Manager (Fleet)
Arthur McCulloch, Principal Engineer
Ruth Crosbie, Senior Communications Officer
Paul Convery, Planning Officer
Aileen Semple, Housing Officer
Samantha Somers, Community Planning Officer
Julie Young, ACT Development Manager

1.	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES The Chair welcomed everyone to the workshop session and general introductions were made.
2.	APOLOGIES Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Rory Colville and Yvonne McNeilly.
3.	OVERVIEW OF CLIMATE CHANGE BOARD TO CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION GROUP The Head of Commercial Services provided an overview of the role and objectives of both the Climate Change Board and the Climate Change Environmental Action Group. He set the context for discussion by outlining the actions required due to the implementation of the Climate Change (Emissions, Reductions, Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 and explained that he hoped the workshop would assist in information gathering and stimulate further discussion on the plans and activities within each of the services. Ross introduced Julie Young of Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT). Julie gave a brief outline of the work of ACT and of a number of projects they are currently involved in. She advised that ACT would be happy to work in partnership with the Council, particularly both the Climate Change Board and the Action Group.
4.	CONSIDERATION OF INDICATORS LINE BY LINE 1. <u>Emissions of the Council (Overall Carbon Footprint)</u>

Ross advised that this indicator was defined by SSN and provides something that can analyse a baseline/trend going forward. He further advised that it has been used for the last 4 years, but is liable to change, depending on Scottish Government guidance. Discussion took place in respect of being aware of the absolute target and also the need to be aware/clear of the meaning for emission of the Council. It was agreed that it was necessary for the communities that we serve to understand what it means and that it was comparable with others. Further discussion on how best to publish information to get community buy in and taking advice from those who work in the sector to give a steer on how they would record information was had. Ross advised that indicators 1-6 were already taken out of resource efficiency, and that he was happy from a Climate Board perspective to go away and have a look and review what should be an overall snapshot with a view to how we deliver over future years.

2. Emissions of Refuse Municipal Waste

As a starting point it was agreed that this had to be top of the list. Peter Leckie advised that the Councils Waste Strategy had been accepted. He suggested that future carbon reporting should include a further breakdown of what municipal waste is and also all associations to it, for example haulage, through a waste hierarchy. He advised that ultimately the ambition would be to change people's behaviours, and suggested that emissions from municipal waste should be forefront of things on the web as there will always be a requirement to resource this service. Peter outlined the current reporting mechanism and suggested that going forward it would be useful to keep reporting in terms of the 3 distinct waste models, which would allow for comparison and could form the basis of discussions with the Scottish Government. Discussion was had on the educational aspects, with Louise highlighting the target of Rhu Primary School to become the first carbon neutral school and Aileen's advising of the Change Works Argyll project running at Arrochar Primary School. Samantha spoke of the works of the CPP and its short life working group on Climate Change, which was set up in December 2019. She spoke of initiatives and ways of sharing them through the partnership.

Further discussion was had in relation to pilot schemes being run and the possibility of running schemes in areas where there are a large number of houses with front and back doors, in an attempt to get buy in from those who don't have front and back doors. It was noted that ongoing discussions were taking place with Planning regarding new properties and available bin storage. Also discussed was the possibility of incorporating a food waste collection as another means of educating behavioural change.

3. Emissions from use of fossil fuel in Council buildings (Natural Gas, Oil, LPG)
4. Emissions from electricity use in Council buildings and street lights (Grid, Electricity & Street Lighting)

Both indicators 3 & 4 were discussed together with Paul providing a brief overview of the projects currently being taken forward by his team, including augmenting solutions to come up with something on low carbon

energy use; the audits commissioned in an effort to ensure water efficiencies; oil sites and renewable energy incentives. Ross advised that they are currently moving to core actions with specific actions starting to form the narrative of these indicators. He advised that behavioural changes are required and this would see relatively low actions forming part of the bigger picture for example staff switching off lights. He further advised that electricity coming from the grid is decarbonising by virtue of the number of windfarm installations.

Discussion took place in respect of the use of biomass and the need to be clear on where the point is that shows that we are substantially reducing our emissions.

5. All Council fleet and business miles consumption of fossil fuels (bin lorries, cars, all vehicles)

Sandra Black advised of a number of different types of electric and hybrid vehicles being introduced to the Council's fleet, totalling 40, as a result of a successful funding bid. She advised that they were to be introduced into the school runs etc to encourage the education of children. She spoke of an electric bin lorry that is currently being trialled in Glasgow and advised that Argyll and Bute are currently on the waiting list for one. She advised of the need to choose wisely which run it should be added to due to the range it will be able to travel – she advised more would be known on this once the trial in Glasgow was complete. Sandra spoke of a continuous in-house training programme for mechanics and advised that she was looking at working with partners, such as ACHA, to offer a wider service. Sandra spoke of a number of other incentives currently being looked into by the Fleet team and advised that the outcome of discussions would be advised in due course. Discussion took place on the emissions of older vehicles within the fleet and the need to move around the current fleet for efficiency reasons.

6. Generation of renewable energy
(a) Electricity (Solar, Wind, Hydro)
(b) Heat (Biomass, Air Source pumping)

Paul Gillies spoke of the renewable Sources review. He advised that the whole estate had been looked at and a list of potential lower risk projects such as biomass, wind, hydro and solar was compiled. To date over 30 projects have been delivered and were generating renewable energy for possible distribution into the grid where there is a business reason to do so. Peter suggested building in a storage element to reporting mechanisms going forward.

7. Sustainable procurement, policy and landuse

Discussion took place in respect of the need to monitor and record the climate change narrative, specific to the internal documentation. It was agreed that there was a need to look into what is considered the Councils remit and what isn't. Paul Convery spoke of the Councils staff base and addressed the need to change people's behaviour. He gave an example of the need to reduce travel as a way to reduce emissions and advised that certain documents such as the development plan can feed into this. Ross

advised that the Climate Change Board haven't as yet bottomed out what they need/want to gather from internal documentation, but said that it was about gathering all corporate policy and deciding how best to record against it. Further discussion on the possibility of including a Climate Change section within the implications section of reports that go to Council and Committee meetings was had. Ross advised that this indicator would continue to be developed.

8. Education & Publicity to affect behavioural Change – Key Messages

Ross advised that this indicator would predominantly be led by the Communications team. Discussion was had in relation to the education of people specifically in relation to changing behaviours. Louise suggested that we could look at the percentage of eco-schools. She advised that there were more primary than high schools with this award and suggested that this be looked into. She also suggested that specific information in this regard could be incorporated into the annual Primary School reports that are presented to Area Committee. Audrey advised of the education available as part of the CARS projects and spoke of opportunities to link into this as did Julie Young from ACT who suggested that there may be an opportunity to link into their 2 year project.

It was agreed that the title of this indicator should be changed to Community Education and publicity to affect behavioural change.

9. Budget aligned to adaptation for Climate Change

Arthur spoke of the Flood (Scotland) Act 2009 and gave a brief overview of a number of studies being carried out in Argyll and Bute. Discussion took place in respect of the risk of flooding and the need to align budgets, using the Tarbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration fund as an example given the importance of the works about to commence on the front green in Lochgilphead and the flooding issues it has had during the recent spate of storms. Ross advised that the measure for this indicator was around the budget as it is quantifiable.

10. CO2 Per Capita – Regional Performance

The group agreed that this measure was self-explanatory.

11. Climate Change Offsetting & Carbon Capture

It was agreed that it would be interesting to hear what ACT were doing in this regard.

Ross advised that he would take the comments made in regard to the indicators to the Climate Change Board for their consideration.

5.	<p>CONSIDERATION OF NEW INDICATORS OR ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR PARTICIPANTS</p> <p>Councillor Morton suggested that it would be good to find out to what extent the corporate indicators sit within the outcome improvement plan.</p>
6.	<p>CONSIDER COMMUNICATIONS PLAN</p> <p>Ross advised that the plan was heading in the right direction. He advised that this would be brought back to a future meeting of the Climate Change Environmental Action Group.</p> <p>Councillor Jim Findlay took the opportunity to commend the officers in attendance on their wealth of knowledge on the subject.</p>

Appendix 2

Proposed Climate Change – Corporate Indicators

	Value	Benchmark	Target	Comments
1. Emissions of the Council (Overall Carbon Footprint)	34,738 tCO ₂ e	Other LA's	75% reduction 2030 / 100% by2045	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity of Council including below indicators Need to publish / promote to understandable to staff + communities Key part of De-carbonisation plan is understanding contributors & targeting intervention
2. Emissions of Refuse Municipal Waste	17,645 tCO ₂ e	Other LA's	BMW ban	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Top priority given footprint Landfilled Municipal waste – includes business pick ups and household. Importance of publicising / promotion of reuse + recycling in our buildings, schools, communities
3. Emissions from use of fossil fuel in Council buildings (Natural Gas, Oil, LPG)	5,840 tCO ₂ e	Other LA's	tbc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical / Property works – boilers, efficient systems Actions of users of buildings – promoton & education
4. Emissions from electricity use in Council buildings and street lights (Grid Electricity + Streetlighting)	6,357 tCO ₂ e	Other LA's	tbc	As above
5. All Council fleet and business miles consumption of fossil fuels (bin lorries, cars, all vehicles)	4,246 tCO ₂ e	Other LA's	tbc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in business miles post Covid19 & increased homeworking to be considered
6. Generation of renewable energy				
a. Electricity (Solar, Wind, Hydro)	1032843	Other LA's	tbc	
b. Heat (Biomass, Air source pump)	4691800	Other LA's	tbc	
7. Sustainable procurement, policy and landuse		tbc	tbc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative indicator - requires further development
8. Community Education and publicity to affect behavioral change	Plan to be put in place	tbc	Delivery of plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do we have communications strategy around key climate change messages – influence community behaviour
9. Budget aligned to Climate Change Activity	Financial figure	tbc	tbc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires further work with strategic finance Overall figure to include proactive activity (hybrd vehicles, flood mitigation, road re-alignment, waste investment, building improvements) & reactive (Road

				repairs, building repairs from storm damage, road realignment)
10. CO2 Per Capita – Regional Performance	0.3	5.3 national average	tbc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All activities within our region (not just Council)
11. Climate Change Offsetting & Carbon Capture				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative indicator - requires further development • At this stage likely to be qualitative and largely developed by ACT as new and evolving sector – examples of carbon trading and tree planting on land and schools.