

CLIMATE CHANGE BOARD – DECARBONISATION PLAN TRACKER

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Climate Change Board has operated since 2018 and brings together Officers from across all departments of the Council and other partners to support the Council's journey towards being a net zero organisation by 2045.

In November 2020 the Council adopted its first De-carbonisation Plan and set out a number of key actions to contribute towards reducing our overall carbon emissions and footprint in 2021. Each month at the Climate Change Board contributing Officers provide an update on their respective activities and their performance against the agreed actions of the De-carbonisation Plan.

Now that reporting of Climate Change will be reviewed by the Policy & Resources Committee the 'Tracker' will be provided for noting and is contained within **Appendix A**.

The Policy & Resources Committee is asked to:

- i. Note and consider the Climate Change Board activity *Tracker* contained within **Appendix A**;
- ii. Note and consider the actions contained within the tracker contribute towards the Council becoming a net zero organization by 2045 as outlined in our De-carbonisation Plan.

2.0 IMPLICATIONS

2.1 Policy - This proposal is entirely consistent with climate change policy and action at local, national and international level.

2.2 Financial – As outlined in the De-carbonisation Plan some activity is currently funded whereas others are not. The financial implications vary depending on action.

2.3 Legal – Will be a legal requirement to achieve net zero by 2045

2.4 HR - None

2.5 Fairer Scotland Duty – N/A

2.6 Equalities – protected characteristics – None

2.7 Socio-economic Duty – N/A

2.8 Islands – N/A

2.9 Risk – Varied depending on tracker item

2.10 Customer Service -None

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director with responsibility for Commercial Services

16th July 2021

Councillor Robin Currie, Policy Lead for Climate Change.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A: Climate Change Board Tracker

APPENDIX A - Climate Change Board - Action Tracker @ August 2021

ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS FOR JUNE 2021 CLIMATE CHANGE BOARD
W1 -Develop and Implement Waste Strategy Peter Leckie	(L) Roads and Amenity Services, Community, commercial customers	Implementation of the Waste Strategy transitioning to Landfill ban compliant Residual Waste Recovery solutions by 2025.	External funding and support being sought from the Scottish Government	Negotiations with Scottish Government officials continue; a joint Officer/Official Working group has been established to develop proposals further. The Scottish Government Announced a £70m capital funding pot to improve Recycling Infrastructure. We intend to make a joint bid with West Dunbartonshire Council for funding to build a new joint Waste Transfer Station that would serve Helensburgh and Lomond and support landfill ban compliance.
W2 - Promote the Waste Hierarchy through community Education Peter Leckie	(L) Roads and Amenity Services	Evidence of community Education	Not secured	New Web content and Education materials for Primary and Secondary Schools are being developed. The draft content will be made available for peer review by August 21.
W3 - Reduce Council use of disposable and single use plastics across all departments and settings Elaine Appleby	(L) Procurement and Commercial Services, all Council Services	Adoption of new working practices and procurement	No specific funding in place, research required to impact on operation costs	A decision would need to be taken at the Council-level on our approach to disposable and single use plastics. Once a decision is taken, procurement can provide support to Council Services in sourcing supplies.

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				<p>Note new legal change likely to come into force in Jan 22 restricting single-use plastic cutlery, plates, straws, drink stirrers and balloon sticks, expanded polystyrene food containers and expanded polystyrene cups and other beverage containers, as well as all products made of oxo-degradable plastic.</p> <p>Some products already changed and others under review. Contact also established with Scotland Excel. Statement received from Scotland Excel on single use plastics: <i>“We have addressed the matter of single use plastics over the last few years in line with Govt. Legislation.</i> <i>There are a number of areas that have specifically been addressed such as the removal of plastic straws on the school milk cartons, encouraging suppliers to look at pricing against items such as wooden cutlery as opposed to plastic cutlery and more bio degradable disposables on the catering sundries framework as opposed to plastics.</i></p>

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				<p><i>Zero Waste Scotland have been involved in the recycling of plastic bottles with the return deposit scheme :- https://www.gov.scot/news/deposit-return-scheme/ which we will be promoting through our suppliers.</i></p> <p><i>There is also useful info within this link :- https://wrap.org.uk/resources/arket-situation-reports/plastics-2019</i></p> <p><i>As a matter of course, we look at the environmental aspect of specific items that are included within any tendering activity in order to ensure we address the commodity specific concerns.</i></p>
<p>W4 – Extend and explore pre-ordering for school food to reduce food waste Peter Leckie / Jayne Jones</p>	<p>(L) Commercial Services and Education</p>	<p>Evidence of extension of pre-ordering & food waste reduction</p>	<p>No specific funding in place, research required to impact on operation costs</p>	<p>Being scoped out by ICT.</p> <p>National solution also being looked at with Scotland Excel and following universal roll out of Free School Meals for primary school children by Aug 22.</p>

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<p>E1 – Deliver Renewable Sourcing Strategy 2 Paul Gillies</p>	(L) Commercial Services	Adoption of Strategy	RSS2 consultancy work funding to be confirmed; expectation is that project implementation will be through combinations of prudential borrowing (subject to business case approvals) and/or external funding.	RSS2 next stage development work includes specification development and preparation of invitation to tender for specialist consultancy support. Current work in progress; tender issue in FQ2 2021/2022 expected. Whilst this larger procurement exercise is conducted, a Quick Quote was developed in conjunction with Procurement colleagues to secure consultancy support to assist with immediate renewable consultancy requirements (including development of items E2 and E4). This interim contract has now expired but existing commissioned work-streams will be concluded.
<p>E2 – Delivery of Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) Projects Paul Gillies</p>	(L) Commercial Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Consultancy work funding to be confirmed; expectation is that project implementation will be through combinations of prudential borrowing (subject to business case approvals) and/or external funding.	Consultancy support acquired through the Quick Quote process described in E1 to conduct feasibility study for 10no sites (to convert from oil fired heating to heat pumps). Outcome was that scoped project possibilities too small to access remnants of RHI – a number of air source heat pump solutions however have now been integrated into the NDEEF project (ref item E3). Other

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				potential projects will be considered as a component of RSS2 (ref item E1) and future NDEEF phases, especially where external funding opportunities arise. This specific item will now be absorbed by items E1 and E3.
E3 – Delivery of Non-domestic Energy Efficiency Framework (NDEEF) Projects Paul Gillies	(L) Commercial Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Project development work is funded by combinations of the Scottish Government and the procured provider (costs absorbed within the tender process). Funding for project implementation will come from Council approved capital allocations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change 20/21 - £500K • Climate Change 21/22 - £600K • Asset Sustainability – circa £100K 	Ten sites were identified for energy efficiency improvements to be procured/delivered through the Scottish Government Non Domestic Energy Efficiency Framework (NDEEF) - outcome being enhanced/best in class energy solutions delivering carbon and cost reduction against an agreed performance level. An NDEEF information paper was submitted to DMT on 22 nd June 2020. Following a formal procurement exercise, two qualifying bids were received by the tender return deadline; the Contract Award Recommendation Report (CARR) was signed and contract award made. A contract variation was required due to accommodation reviews i.e. Manse Brae District Offices & Whitegates replaced by GWIT, Kintyre House and Manse Brae Roads Office – project

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				<p>consequently revised to capital investment of circa £1.2Million with a project payback of circa ten years i.e. annual revenue saving of circa £120K. NDEEF investment level business case was completed and supporting paper considered by DMT on 29/3/21. Revenue savings also offer opportunity to further re-invest in similar spend to save projects. Current position that the NDEEF Energy Performance Contract Works has been collated (with monitoring and evaluation criteria agreed) and is expected to be available for signature w/c 28/6/21. Therefrom, a works programme is to confirmed but intention is to conduct bulk of works in Summer/Autumn 2021. In addition to combinations of standard and innovative energy efficiency measures, the following renewable solutions are being developed within the NDEEF package:</p> <p>Solar PV: Manse Brae Roads Office, Kilmory Castle, Riverside Leisure Centre, Rothesay Pool, GWIT Centre, Moat Centre, Lochgilphead RC, Kintyre House.</p> <p>Air Source Heat Pump: Manse</p>

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				<p>Brae Roads Office, Lochgilphead CEC, Strachur Primary School, Lochgilphead RC, Arrochar Primary School.</p> <p>In addition to the above, the procurement strategy for the next batch of sites, using designation NDEEF2, is under way.</p>
<p>E4 – Delivery of additional solar installations at Council assets Paul Gillies</p>	(L) Commercial Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Consultancy work funding to be confirmed; expectation is that project implementation will be through combinations of prudential borrowing (subject to business case approvals) and/or external funding.	Solar pv Options (initial feasibility work completed for circa 9 sites) – some opportunities absorbed within NDEEF (Ref item E3) as project replacements due to accommodation reviews. A ‘mop up’ of remaining project prospects intended to be market tested as a component within an upcoming solar pv maintenance contract (FQ2 2021/2022).
<p>E5 – Delivery of Water Efficiency Audits across our Estate Paul Gillies</p>	(L) Commercial Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Feasibility work being absorbed within existing approved budgets. Individual works items are generally small scale and it is proposed to utilise existing approved budgets where possible.	Ongoing Council wide asset verification exercise and ensuring water use minimised. Approx 80no. works instructions issued to conduct water efficiency audits on a range of sites. Audits now substantially completed and collated report received/reviewed. COVID permitting, target is to have any recommended works completed such that savings will manifest in the 21/22 financial year.

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E6 – Delivery of Energy Efficiency Scotland Programme Aileen Semple	(L) Housing Services, Registered Social Landlords	Evidence of delivery of projects	Part for current financial year	<p>The 2020/21 Area Based Scheme which delivers insulation measures fully resumed from 26th April 2021, in line with Scottish Government restrictions. The budget for 2020/21 has been extended until October 2021 by the Scottish Government in recognition of time lost due to lockdown and ongoing difficulties with labour and material shortages. To date 110 households have received insulation measures under the 2020/21 programme.</p> <p>Continuing to work with ACHA to deliver external wall insulation to mixed tenure blocks in Oban. The programme will progress to Bute and Cowal over the summer.</p> <p>The Scottish Government have provided an allocation of funds for the 2021/22 Area Based Scheme. An application for funds has been submitted and currently awaiting feedback and grant award from the Scottish Government.</p>

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E7 – Complete LED streetlight replacement programme John Blake/Kevin McIntosh	(L) Roads and Infrastructure Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Fully funded through prudential borrowing	<p>The Project was halted by Covid and some of the Council's Street Lighting Inventory is still to be upgraded in the Lorn Area where we are still to replace approx. 1100 no. Luminaires. The Council has 14442 streetlights in total so carbon emissions have already been greatly reduced by the LED Upgrade Project.</p> <p>2019/20 figures were CO2 Totals 889 tonnes, this has been reducing year on year, back in 2015/16 figures were CO2 Totals 3140 tonnes.</p> <p>The last of the projects installation / upgrade phases will be completed in summer/autumn 2021.</p>
E8 – Continue support of ABRA and review Renewable Energy Strategy annually Audrey Martin / Anna Watkiss	(L) Economic Development	Evidence of delivery of projects	Officer resource to support currently funded	<p>Work to support ABRA ongoing. Considering arrangements for a meeting during 2021.</p> <p>Current ongoing project by SSE Networks for renewal of powerlines between Inveraray and Crossaig.</p> <p>Options appraisal for Islay Energy System has been completed and it is hoped that this can be progressed through the Rural Growth Deal.</p>

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E9 – Continue support for offshore development of renewables Audrey Martin / Anna Watkiss	(L) Economic Development	Evidence of delivery of projects (expected late 2020s/early 2030s)	Officer resource to support currently funded	Offshore wind allocation off Islay is confirmed in Marine Plan. Scotwind Leasing deadline is currently 16 July 2021. Agreements in place with various potential developers.
T1 – Develop a Fleet Replacement Strategy supportive of fuel efficient, electric and hybrid vehicles John Blake	(L) Roads and Infrastructure Services	Adoption of Strategy	Part for current financial year	The Strategy is complete, final review will take place to ensure the 2025 legislative changes are included. A brochure will then be designed.
T2 – Develop a vehicle routing system that will reduce road miles for operations John Blake	(L) Roads and Infrastructure Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Part for current financial year	The vehicle routing system is currently being explored. A specification is with the Head of Service and will incorporate Commercial Waste requirements.
T3 – Develop an electric vehicle infrastructure strategy John Blake / Mark Calder	(L) Roads and Infrastructure Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Part for current financial year The development of the EV network is funded by external grant monies from Transport Scotland, and the costs of developing the strategy in terms of staff time are covered via existing budgets Ultimately the cost recovery model	On track Cost recovery [stage 1] in place 1 st April Ongoing development of future install criteria with a view to sharing a draft for consultation later in the year The strategy isn't about the delivery of projects per se, rather it's about setting up the framework for cost recovery which was agreed at Council and will be in place 1st April; then developing a set of criteria for site

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				selection and funding applications for future development of the network inc. public and council e.g. offices, depots, school estate, coinciding with the vehicle replacement programme.
T4 – Support Digital by Default theme Service Review & Recovery Plan to reduce need to travel	All Council Departments	Evidence of delivery of projects	Part for current financial year	Council is adopting ‘Our Modern Workspace’ programme and Digital First approach as services change and evolve post pandemic.
T5 – Develop new active travel plans for Council buildings and our towns Colin Young	(L) Economic Development	Evidence of delivery of projects	Part for current financial year	The purpose of active travel plans, for buildings or towns, is to help direct and implement change to encourage and make it as easy as possible for individuals, businesses and visitors to choose to walk, cycle or take public transport for journeys. Increasing activity and reducing sedentary behaviour has significant health benefits and can increase accessibility to essential services, education, employment, retail and leisure. Walking and cycling are lower cost travel modes and, if they are a viable option, can help households reduce their reliance on private cars,

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				<p>particularly multiple car households.</p> <p>No Council funding is currently expended on genuine Active Travel work, with all costs, including internal staff costs (1.3FTE), having to be funded via successfully securing external challenge funds. As all active travel work is currently reliant on securing external funding, therefore the projects which are progressed are those which can successfully secure external challenge funding.</p> <p>Council Staff Travel Plan: The Staff Travel Plan will focus on measures to make it easier and preferable for staff to choose to walk, cycle, use public transport or car share to commute to work or for work journeys, or use economical Council vehicles for work journeys. The travel plan should encourage staff to choose the most economical and least environmentally</p>

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				<p>damaging travel mode. Some initial work has been undertaken by external consultants, focussing on staff based at the larger offices. Further engagement and development is required with Estates, HR, SMT and building users to create deliverable and effective travel plans for Council staff. It is recommended that work on the Council Staff Travel Plan is recommenced after a decision has been made on future staff working patterns and office rationalisation as these may have a significant impact on the Council Staff Travel Plan. There is currently no funding secured to enable this work to be progressed.</p> <p>Active Travel Plans for Towns: There are Active Travel Plans in place for the main towns in Argyll and Bute, albeit some are now quite historic. The town Active Travel Plans focus on identifying potential active</p>

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				<p>travel route networks for key towns. These provide a framework for the development of new active travel routes, which will enable and encourage residents, businesses and visitors to choose to travel more actively. No funding is currently secured to enable the Active Travel Plans for towns to be updated.</p> <p>Argyll and Bute Active Travel Strategy: It is recommended the Committee instruct Officers to develop an Argyll and Bute Active Travel Strategy and present it to full Council for approval by the end of 2022. The Active Travel Strategy would provide the overarching context for the Council to support and promote active travel across the Council area.</p>
PA1 – Review Council Flooding & Coastal Protection Policy	(L) Roads and Infrastructure	Review of policy	No specific funding in place, research required to impact on	Reviews are in process.

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Elsa Simoes	Services		operation costs	
PA2 – Review Council Sustainable Procurement Policy Elaine Appleby	(L) Procurement	Review of policy	No specific funding in place, research required to impact on operation costs	This policy is reviewed on an annual basis. The draft version will be sent to RML for input/feedback in late June/July 2021
OFF1 – Develop opportunities for Carbon Offsetting with ACT and partners Julie Young	(L) Climate Change Board, ACT and partners	Delivery of projects	Limited funding via ACT for existing projects	ACT agreement with SSEN for planting of 30ha on Council land is being drawn up, planting plans provisionally approved, consultation with FS underway. Peatland restoration work on Islay continues for ACT’s CANN project. Follow on project for peatland restoration piloting private/public finance arrangement under development.
COMM1- Develop and deliver Communications Plan to support Decarbonisation Plan Julie Millar	(L) Climate Change Board and Communications Team	Delivery of Communications Plan	Part of Communications Support	External communications Charging for electric vehicles will help climate goals. Energy conservation – UK decarbonisation grant from UK Govt. for ACHA houses. Get a business assessment from Zero Waste Scotland. Flower seeds donated to schools – education on climate change Earth Day 2021. ACCT food project.

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				<p>Council progress to carbon neutral goal. £1.2m investment in energy saving actions.</p> <p>Internal communications How the council is tackling climate change: education and R&IS. Saving energy in the office.</p>
<p>COMM2 - Engage with community and partners and deliver Climate Change Directory for our region David Rennie</p>	<p>(L) Community Planning and Development Team</p>	<p>Delivery of engagement map</p>	<p>In place until end of financial year</p>	<p>Have met /had contact with many community groups throughout Argyll and Bute.</p> <p>Identified a wide variety of material online that can be promoted on a web based signposting directory.</p> <p>Have developed a rough draft to bring to the next meeting of the CPP Climate Change working group to get their input and buy in to the draft.</p> <p>2 x Meetings have taken place with Argyll and Bute Branch of National Farmers Union (NFU) and workshop currently being scoped out to explore Climate Change opportunists across the Agricultural and Land Use Sector. Headline topics likely to</p>

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				include :- Sustainable Upland Farming, Planting for Carbon Sequestration, Dairy Industry and Suckling Beef.
COMM3 - Monitor the delivery of actions in the Climate Change Action Plan and review in 2021	(L) Climate Change Board	Review of this plan by December 2021		Monitored through Tracker to be submitted quarterly to Policy & Resources Committee.