



Environment Thematic Group Update Report

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1** This report summarises activity undertaken by the Environment Thematic Group.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** That the Management Committee note the current activity of the Environment Thematic Group

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1** A key part of the current work programme is to develop the scorecard for the thematic group and agree on the groups priorities. To facilitate this a number of presentations has been scheduled from key partners e.g. SNH, SEPA, Argyll and Bute Council, RPD. The first of these, from the Forestry Commission, was very informative and stimulated good discussion about local priorities, measurements and key performance indicators which will help inform the scorecard development.
- 3.2** Given that many environmental indicators do not change from quarter to quarter some care will need to be taken over the scorecard to ensure that indicators are meaningful, and can capture both short term, and much longer term performance.
- 3.3** Beyond scorecard monitoring time is being taken to prepare a forward work programme for the thematic group and this will include future items on the revised Biodiversity Strategy, Review of Agricultural Forum and Carbon and Waste reduction.
- 3.4** Highlight/ Exception reports have been requested from a number of strategic partnerships. At the November meeting reports were received from:
- Argyll and Bute Biodiversity Partnership
 - REJIG
 - GRAB Trust Ltd
 - Greenlight Environmental Ltd
 - Kintyre Recycling Ltd

The Partnership should note a general theme in terms of 'challenges' arising from the recycling groups who all highlighted concerns over the impact of any reduction in Service Level Agreements on their activity.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1** Further work is required to identify key performance indicators for the scorecard, however considerable progress has been made in the group beginning to define its priorities and understanding of meaningful measures.

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