

# CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held via Microsoft Teams and in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 9 November 2022

## **Chair:**

Councillor Mark McGeever

## **Councillors Present:**

Councillor Alex Allison, Councillor John Anderson, Councillor Janine Calikes, Councillor Andy Carmichael (*substitute for Councillor Margaret B Walker*), Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Councillor Ross Clark, Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Colin Dewar, Councillor Ross Gowland, Councillor Lynsey Hamilton, Councillor Mark Horsham (*substitute for Councillor John Ross*), Councillor Gavin Keatt, Councillor Ross Lambie, Councillor Richard Lockhart, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Julia Marrs, Councillor Lesley McDonald, Councillor Elaine McDougall, Councillor Carol Nugent, Councillor Mo Razzaq, Councillor Kirsten Robb (Depute), Councillor Dr Ali Salamati, Councillor Graham Scott, Councillor Bert Thomson

## **Councillors' Apologies:**

Councillor Ralph Barker, Councillor Joe Fagan (ex officio), Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor John Ross, Councillor Margaret B Walker

## **Attending:**

### **Community and Enterprise Resources**

D Booth, Executive Director; K Carr, Head of Facilities, Waste and Grounds; G Simpson, Development Officer; J Richmond, Carbon Management Officer

### **Education Resources**

L Sherry, Head of Education (Support Service and School Estate)

### **Finance and Corporate Resources**

T Little, Head of Communications and Strategy; P MacRae, Administration Adviser; K McLeod, Administration Assistant

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## **Welcome**

The Chair welcomed to the meeting the following members of Education Resources' Youth Forum on Climate Change and Sustainability:-

- ◆ Luca Assadi (Chair), Strathaven Academy
- ◆ Amber Cooper, Trinity High School, Rutherglen
- ◆ Luke Sutherland, Trinity High School, Rutherglen
- ◆ Latifa Yakubu, St John Ogilvie High School, Hamilton

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## **1 Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

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## **2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee held on 31 August 2022 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

**The Committee decided:** that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

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### 3 Climate Change and Sustainability Presentation

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The representatives of Education Resources' Youth Forum on Climate Change and Sustainability gave a presentation on the following, all of which were aligned to combatting climate change and promoting sustainability:-

- ◆ Climate Emergency Newsroom (CEN), a collaborative effort by the University of Glasgow's Department of Politics and International Relations and the Council's Education Resources in which around 80 S6 pupils participated to report on issues arising from COP26
- ◆ Youth Forum events, including election of office bearers and participation in a sustainable pathways course led by Ciaran Armstrong, Sustainability Consultant
- ◆ Conference of Schools (COS1) event, organised by the Youth Forum where pupils participated in activities focusing on the promotion of sustainability in terms of Travelling, Influencing, Eating, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle (3Rs) and Shopping (TIERS)
- ◆ aspirations beyond COS1

There followed a discussion during which the members of the Youth Forum responded to members' questions and advised on ways in which the Council could support the Youth Forum.

The Chair, on behalf the Committee, thanked the Youth Forum representatives for their interesting and informative presentation.

**The Committee decided:** that the presentation be noted.

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### 4 Good Food Strategy Update – Quarter 2 2022/2023

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A report dated 18 October 2022 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the status of the actions and measures contained in the Good Food Strategy at Quarter 2 of 2022/2023.

The Good Food Strategy had been approved by the Executive Committee on 4 December 2019 and covered a 5 year period from 2020 to 2025. It set out outcomes and actions organised around 6 key themes as follows:-

- |                                          |                                 |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ◆ good food at home and in the community | ◆ good food growing             |
| ◆ good food in the public sector         | ◆ good food for the environment |
| ◆ good food economy                      | ◆ good food governance          |

The Good Food Strategy contained an action plan which set out specific actions to progress the objectives in the Strategy. It contained 22 performance measures towards the Strategy's outcomes together with 20 improvement actions. The measures were rated using a traffic light system of green, amber or red while the improvement actions were rated using green, amber or red as well as blue which indicated that an action had been completed. Of the 22 measures within the Strategy:-

- ◆ 7 had been achieved or were on course to be achieved (green)
- ◆ 1 had seen some minor slippage against target (amber)
- ◆ 14 would be reported later when data was available

Of the 20 improvement actions within the Strategy:-

- ◆ 1 had been completed (blue)
- ◆ 16 had been achieved or were on course to be achieved (green)
- ◆ 2 had seen some minor slippage against target (amber)
- ◆ 1 would be reported later when data was available

No measures or improvement actions had seen major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target

Progress on all objectives, actions and measures was detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

*[Reference: Minutes of 2 February 2022 (Paragraph 4)]*

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## **5 Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Annual Report 2021/2022**

A report dated 18 October 2022 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the Council's annual Public Bodies Climate Change Duties report for 2021/2022, as legally required under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

The report contained the following 6 sections:-

- ◆ organisational profile
- ◆ governance and management
- ◆ corporate emissions
- ◆ adaptation
- ◆ procurement
- ◆ validation

The purpose of each of those areas was summarised in the report.

Highlights from the 2021/2022 annual report were provided in the Executive Director's report and the annual report itself was attached as Appendix 1 to the report. If approved, the report would be published on the Council's website and submitted to the Scottish Government by the required date of 30 November 2022.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

**The Committee decided:** that the Council's annual Public Bodies Climate Change Duties report for 2021/2022 be approved.

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## **6 Clyde Climate Forest Concordat**

A report dated 19 October 2022 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the Glasgow City Region (GCR) cabinet report on the first year progress of the Clyde Climate Forest (CCF) initiative and the development of the CCF/GCR Concordat.

The Clyde Climate Forest, launched by the GCR Cabinet in June 2021, aimed to enable and coordinate an approach which would deliver a major increase in tree planting across Glasgow City Region as a response to the Climate Emergency. The GCR cabinet report, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, detailed the first year progress of the CCF initiative.

The cabinet had also endorsed the Clyde Climate Forest Concordat and had asked individual local authorities to approve the Concordat, attached as Appendix 2 to the report. The Concordat aimed to clarify the roles of the Clyde Climate Forest Team and its delivery partners as well as the role of councils in relation to clear commitments, roles and responsibilities in pursuit of the CCF objectives, which aligned with Council objectives and aspirations.

If approved, it was hoped that the Concordat would be signed by the GCR Cabinet on or around National Tree Week which would take place from 25 November to 5 December 2022.

To progress the Council's commitment to the Clyde Climate Forest, a Working Group would be established with key Service areas involved in making or influencing decisions affecting trees or in shaping spaces in which residents lived, worked and relaxed.

There followed a discussion during which:-

- ◆ officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report
- ◆ members highlighted the need for a "joined up approach" in relation to the various issues around tree canopy cover

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the first-year report on progress of the Clyde Climate Forest initiative and the development of the CCF/GCR Concordat be noted;
- (2) that the Concordat be approved for signature by the GCR cabinet; and
- (3) that the establishment of a Working Group to progress the Council's commitments in relation to the Clyde Climate Forest be noted.

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## **7 Mid-Term Report on the Climate Emergency Fund 2021 to 2024**

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A report dated 24 October 2022 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted providing an update on the Climate Emergency Fund.

At a special meeting of the Council held on 24 February 2021, as part of a package of investments, approval was given to allocate £2 million to the Climate Emergency Fund, to be committed over a 3 year period from 2021 to 2024.

The Fund was split into the following 5 key areas:-

- ◆ staffing
- ◆ development fund
- ◆ match funding
- ◆ projects/pilots
- ◆ scheme of grants to local groups and schools

Details were given on progress in relation to each of those areas.

Key objectives for the next year were to:-

- ◆ ensure that projects which had been awarded funding were progressed and achieved the outcomes and benefits outlined by the Climate Emergency Fund
- ◆ continue to process new Climate Emergency Fund bids, committing the outstanding sum of £110,275
- ◆ continue to promote and administer the Climate Emergency Community Grants to ensure that £75,000 was allocated to projects in 2022/23 and 2023/24

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report and confirmed that work undertaken by consultants would be reported back to the Committee.

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

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## **8 Urgent Business**

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There were no items of urgent business.