

Report

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	26 February 2020
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Sustainable Development Update – Quarter 2 2019/2020
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide a progress report, as at Quarter 2, on the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy's action plan for 2019/2020

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the 2019/2020 Quarter 2 position in respect of actions and measures within the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy be noted.

3. Background

3.1 The Council's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy (SDCCS) covers a five year period from 2017 to 2022. The strategy sets out outcomes and actions organised around three sustainable development themes:-

- ◆ Sustainable Council
- ◆ Sustainable environment
- ◆ Sustainable communities

3.2 Delivery of actions within the strategy provides the main focus for our sustainable development activity and also enables the Council to fulfil its duties under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 2003, the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and the Council's contribution to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

3.3 The strategy action plan sets out specific actions to be undertaken to deliver objectives under each theme. The action plan is monitored using IMPROVe and the current arrangement is to report progress on the action plan to the Corporate Management Team at Q2 and Q4.

4. Sustainable Development Strategy 2019/20 Q2 Update

4.1 The action plan for 2019/2020 contains 39 actions across the three strategic themes. Each action has one or more defined measures providing the current status for each action. In total there are 68 measures in the 2019/2020 action plan.

4.2 The overall summary of progress at the end of quarter two is as follows: -

Total number of measures		68
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	55 (81%)
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target	0
Status - Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target	0
Reportable at a later stage / contextual	For some measures, the statistics are not yet available to allow us to report whether the target has been reached or not. These will be reported when available	13 (19%)

Progress on all objectives, actions and measures is noted at appendix 1.

4.4 Highlights during quarter 2 of 2019/2020 include:-

- ◆ several single-use plastic items were removed from the procurement catalogues in accordance with the EU directive banning certain single-use items (including plastic cutlery, straws and cups)
- ◆ the introduction of a sustainability and climate change checklist in the capital project submission process. Successful capital projects will require to undergo further climate change screening
- ◆ as part of the National Clean Air Day, the Council hosted a promotional event with support from local businesses to promote the use of electric vehicles. A range of electric cars, motorcycles and scooter were available for staff and members of the local community to see and trial
- ◆ the Council supported up to 20 community-led local Spring clean events as part of the wider Clean Up Scotland Programme
- ◆ a consultation with secondary geography teachers provided positive feedback on the benefits of the State of the Environment Report on Glow in terms of use of quantitative and qualitative data
- ◆ ten teachers participated in the West Partnership's Professional Learning Programme aimed at developing teachers' confidence in delivering Learning for Sustainability to pupils and building STEM skills. The programme focuses on aspects such as the Global picture in terms of global goals and the circular economy as well as citizen science

- ◆ an active travel study in the Cambuslang and Rutherglen area was undertaken in June 2019 by Roads and Transportation. The outcome of this study will form the basis of future funding bids required to implement the conclusions
- ◆ Green Flag accreditation was retained for Strathaven Park, Cambuslang Park and Castlebank Park. The Green Flag Award scheme recognises and rewards well managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. All Resources are required to contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Climate Change strategy and Carbon Management Plan to ensure that actions and targets are met. The Sustainable Development Officer and Carbon Management Officer monitor and report the Council's progress.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. Sustainability and Climate change actions have been achieved within current budgets, additional capital funds and external grants, however further financial investment will require to be considered for the Council to respond to a climate emergency and contribute to the challenging national net zero carbon targets.
- 6.2. The capital programme is a crucial part of being able to achieve net zero carbon emissions. There is potential for new or refurbished buildings to be carbon neutral but there may be an initial financial outlay in order to achieve savings over the lifetime of the building.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1 The review of the actions in the sustainability and climate change strategy will be led by the Council's Sustainable Development Officer, however the review will require input from officers across all Resources in terms of agreeing actions, measures, monitoring indicators and timescales.
- 7.2 The sustainable development and climate change strategy contributes towards the Public Sector Climate Change Duties, the Biodiversity Duty and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The strategy also underwent the Strategic Environmental Assessment process during development.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1 Failure to meet sustainable development and climate change objectives is one of the Council's top risks. A robust sustainable development and climate change action plan is one of the control measures to mitigate this risk. With the introduction of the new national target of net-zero by 2045, failure to meet our targets are at a greater risk therefore it is important that the action plan is reviewed demonstrating the trajectory to the transition to a low carbon economy.
- 8.2 In response to the national declaration of a climate emergency there will be a new Climate Change Committee established within the Council. The Committee will have a responsibility to ensuring that the sustainable development and climate change action plan is implemented and in turn minimising the risk of failure to meet our climate change

targets. Member awareness sessions will be undertaken during March 2020 to build members' awareness in making decisions in relation to their responsibilities as part of the new Committee.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1 During the development of the sustainable development and climate change strategy and framework for preparing annual action plans underwent a full public consultation and equality impact assessment

Michael McGlynn
Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

3 February 2020

Link(s) to Council Objectives and Values

- ◆ Work with communities and partners to promote high quality, thriving and sustainable communities

Previous References

- ◆ None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
- ◆ Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2017-2022

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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