

Report to:	<b>Climate Change and Sustainability Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>28 February 2024</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy Action Plan: Quarter 2 Progress Report</b>
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## **1. Purpose of Report**

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ◆ present the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy Quarter 2 Progress Report 2022/2023, for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023

## **2. Recommendations**

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendations: -

- (1) that the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy Action Plan Quarter 2 Progress Report 2022/2023 be noted.

## **3. Background**

3.1. The Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2022-27 was approved by the Council on 15 June 2022. The Strategy sets out how the Council aims to develop sustainably and tackle the climate change emergency over a five-year period, whilst also providing a broad strategic direction for longer term planning to help deliver on the agreed outcomes and contribute to achieving a longer-term vision.

3.2. The Action Plan for 2022-2027 was approved at the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee in February 2023.

3.3. Progress against these actions will be monitored using IMPROVe and reported to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee at Quarter 2 and Quarter 4 from this year onwards.

3.4. Delivery of actions within these strategies provides the main focus for the 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.

3.5. Progress on all objectives, actions and measures as at Quarter 2 1 April 2023 – 30 September 2023 is set out in Appendix 1. All data and comments included in the Appendix are correct as of 24 January 2024.

## **4. Sustainable Development Strategy 2022-2027 Quarter 2 Update**

4.1. The Action Plan progress report comes in two parts; the first part contains performance/contextual measures towards the Strategy's outcomes, and the second

part contains improvement actions for each of the themes within the Strategy.

#### 4.2. Part One - Performance Measures

The overall summary of performance measures at the end of Quarter 2 is as follows:

Total number of performance/ contextual measures		<b>21</b>
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations.	<b>2 (10%)</b>
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target.	<b>1 (4%)</b>
Status - Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target.	<b>0</b>
Reportable at a later stage	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	<b>4 (20%)</b>
Contextual	The contextual measures provide a health check for South Lanarkshire. The council's activities contribute to these measures, however there are many factors that could influence these measures which are not fully within the council's scope.	<b>14 (66%)</b>

#### 4.3. Areas for Improvement

There are 0 measures marked as 'red'. There is 1 'amber' action where minor slippage was reported at Quarter 2. Further justification for this delay, and associated management actions, are included within Appendix 1.

#### 4.4. Part Two – Improvement Actions

Total number of improvement actions		<b>111</b>
Status - Blue	Action Complete	<b>8 (7%)</b>
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	<b>80 (73%)</b>
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target	<b>8 (7%)</b>
Status - Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target	<b>0</b>
Reportable at a later stage	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	<b>15 (13%)</b>

#### 4.5. Areas for Improvement

There are no measures marked as 'red'. There are 8 'amber' actions where minor slippage was reported at Quarter 2. Six of these actions' categorisation relates to revision of timescales for the delivery of associated plans, guides, and strategies. One action's categorisation relates to the Council-wide website redesign currently under review; and the final one relates to the slight delay in implementation of a new app in schools which is now due later this month. Further justification for these delays, and associated management actions, are included within Appendix 1.

#### 4.6. Key Highlights

Progress on all objectives, actions and measures is set out in Appendix 1. Some of the key achievements for Q2, are noted below:

- ◆ Climate Change Learn online modules have been completed by 1364 employees since being introduced in 2023
- ◆ 43 schools currently hold Green Flag awards, with 9 further schools progressing through the assessment framework
- ◆ The Council's direct carbon emissions reduced by 2.3% compared with 2019-20, with the Council's indirect carbon emissions reducing by 38% compared with 2019-20
- ◆ Installation of 13 dual outlet EV charge points within on-street residential areas.
- ◆ £75,000 of the Climate Emergency Community Grants for 2023-24 has been fully allocated with projects underway
- ◆ Chatelherault allotment site opened in Summer 2023 with an increase of 64 plot holders funded by the Council's Food Strategy Fund
- ◆ New tender scoring approach introduced for all regulated procurement which sees an increased weighting on environmental sustainability

#### **5. Employee Implications**

- 5.1. All Resources are required to contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy to ensure that actions and targets are met. Officers within the Sustainable Development and Climate Change team monitor and report the Council's progress, however there are officers from all Resources who have responsibility for updating and owning the actions noted within the IMPROVe action plan.

#### **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1. The actions detailed in the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy and associated action plan are funded from existing Resource budgets, however the scale and pace of action needed to meet climate change targets and address the current climate crisis will require significant capital investment and is likely to require external funding and investment. The delivery of the Strategy may help leverage for additional funding and investment, however alternative financing models are also being explored.

#### **7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 7.1. The Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy contributes towards the Public Sector Climate Change Duties, the Biodiversity Duty, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

#### **8. Other Implications**

- 8.1. The Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy has been assessed as part of the Council's risk management arrangements and relevant issues have been added to the Resource Risk Registers.

#### **9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 9.1. An Equality Impact Assessment and Fairer Scotland Duty impact assessment have been carried out on the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy.
- 9.2. Public and stakeholder consultation was undertaken during the development of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy.

**David Booth**  
**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

8 February 2024

**Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes**

Values

- ◆ Focused on people and their needs.
- ◆ Working with and respecting others
- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Ambitious, self-aware and improving
- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable

Priorities

- ◆ We will work to put people first and reduce inequality.
- ◆ We will work towards a sustainable future in sustainable places.
- ◆ We will work to recover, progress and improve.

Outcomes

- ◆ Our children and young people thrive.
- ◆ Good quality, suitable and sustainable places to live.
- ◆ Thriving business, fair jobs and vibrant town centres
- ◆ Caring, connected, sustainable communities.
- ◆ People live the healthiest lives possible.
- ◆ Inspiring learners, transforming learning, strengthening partnerships

**Previous References**

- ◆ South Lanarkshire Council report on 15 June 2022 entitled 'Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2022-2027'
- ◆ Climate Change and Sustainability Committee report on 31 August 2022 entitled 'Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2022-2027'

**List of Background Papers**

- ◆ The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
- ◆ Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2017-2022
- ◆ Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2022-2027
- ◆ UN's Sustainable Development Goals

**Contact for Further Information**

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

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