

## Appendix 2

# South Lanarkshire's Climate Change Declaration Annual Report 2011

Each of Scotland's 32 local authorities signed Scotland's Climate Change Declaration in early 2007. The Declaration is a public statement wherein local authorities acknowledge the reality and implications of climate change and their responsibility to respond effectively. The Declaration also welcomes the actions of the UK and Scottish governments and the opportunities for local authorities to work in partnership with others in responding to climate change.

As signatories to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration, each Scottish local authority is committed to taking action across a range of key areas. These can be summarised as:

1. Providing effective **leadership, governance and management** on climate change.
2. Reducing the local authority's **own 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions** from their estate, services and functions.
3. Taking action to reduce **emissions from the local authority area**
4. Assessing the risks of climate change impacts and working with others to **adapt to the impacts of climate change**.
5. Developing effective **partnership working and climate change communications**, including producing an annual statement of plans, activities and achievements.

This Reporting Template focuses on these five key areas.

The principles of effective Declaration reporting include:

- Providing clear, consistent and comparable information.
- Linking climate change reporting with existing reporting requirements and the council's own performance improvement agenda.
- Showing clearly how climate change is being integrated into council and Community Planning agendas, especially through Single Outcome Agreements.
- Highlighting key achievements and initiatives
- Communicating with the community, making the report easy to understand and available to the public.

Local authorities are encouraged to provide information in a transparent and easy to understand format:

- In relation to 'corporate' and 'area-wide' emissions, quantifiable data will be vital, and this is best communicated graphically.
- On adaptation, examples of adaptation action or process initiatives would help illustrate what is being done.
- On governance, leadership and management, and on partnership working, communications and capacity building, diagrams, process maps and examples of materials and events would be extremely useful.

In order to make reporting on the Declaration as effective and efficient as possible, local authorities are encouraged to use this reporting template to report top-level information and to use web-link references to more detailed information.

Local authorities are also encouraged to make reference to their previous Declaration reports, especially making reference to the year-ahead priorities listed in those reports. This will help in showing continuity and year-on-year progress.

In reporting on the Declaration, local authorities are encouraged to recognise the importance of the UK Climate Change Act, Climate Change (Scotland) Act, national targets for emissions reduction and the evolving Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Framework. Also of use is the internationally recognised 'Greenhouse Gas Protocol' for consistent reporting of 'corporate emissions' and the evolving suite of climate change National Indicators used by local authorities in England (NI185, NI186 and NI188).

## Section 1

### Governance, Leadership and Management

Please describe and illustrate the leadership, governance and management of climate change by your local authority.

#### Sustainability Partnership

The Sustainability Partnership was formed in October 2008 and is one of seven community planning themed groups in South Lanarkshire. The partnership has a particular focus on environmental issues in south Lanarkshire including Climate Change.

The partnership has developed a Partnership Improvement Plan (PIP) which includes actions that contribute directly to, and are listed in, the South Lanarkshire Single Outcome Agreement (SOA). This Partnership Improvement Plan incorporates both quantitative and project-type measures through which partners will work together to meet the requirements of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and the Low Carbon Scotland report. This collaborative approach was strengthened in June 2010 when seven partners joined the Council in signing Scotland's Climate Change Declaration.

These signatories are Strathclyde Fire and Rescue, Strathclyde Police, NHS Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire Voluntary Action, South Lanarkshire College, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and Scottish Natural Heritage.

The partnership is hosted by South Lanarkshire Council's Community Resources and is supported by the Council's sustainable development officer.

#### Performance management

The partnership's improvement plan measures will be updated and reported on using the Council's performance management IT system 'IMPROVe'. The Council's sustainable development strategy actions have been integrated into Resource Plans across the Council and reported on through this system. The use of IMPROVe has aided the good progress made within South Lanarkshire Council on sustainable development strategy actions. It has also made reporting much easier, the quality of information has improved and reporting is more transparent. This demonstrates that Resources are mainstreaming sustainable development actions into their plans.

The partnership agreed that as a result of the success of the Council using IMPROVe that it should be used to measure the partnership's performance in relation to measures and actions in the Improvement Plan.

#### Strategy

There is no community planning sustainable development strategy as yet but partners work together on a number of key areas in relation to Sustainable Development and Climate Change.

Climate change action within the Council is coordinated via a Sustainable Development Strategy originally adopted in September 2007. The strategy action plan was extensively reviewed at the beginning of 2010 and improvements were made to actions and measures. This review also took account of the contents of Audit Scotland's sustainability best value toolkit. The lifespan of the current sustainable development strategy is to September 2011.

Work to develop the new four year strategy is already well underway. The new strategy will take account of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and the public sector duties that derived from the Act; and considers the policies and proposals in the Low Carbon Scotland report. Resource engagement workshops and a staff survey to help shape the new strategy have taken place around the three proposed key themes of 'A Sustainable Council', 'A Sustainable Environment' and 'Sustainable Communities'. A fourth workshop will also be arranged to consider climate change adaptation.

## **Governance structures – South Lanarkshire Council**

There have been no major changes in climate change governance structures for management of climate change since last year's annual report. The key structures in South Lanarkshire Council are:

### Executive Committee

Oversees all Council business and receives quarterly update reports on implementation of the sustainable development strategy and reports on more general sustainable development issues. This committee determines Council policy on all major issues.

### Resource Committees

Each of the Council's Resources has its own committee.

### Scrutiny Forums

A Performance and Review Forum considers best value, service reviews and efficiency initiative across the Council. Guidance on how to consider sustainable development within best value reviews has recently been updated. A Risk and Audit Scrutiny Forum monitors the Council's high level risks and reviews external audit reports of relevance to Council services. The Council's risk register includes several sustainable development risks which are addressed through actions contained in the Sustainable Development Strategy. There have been a number of Internal Audit reviews into aspects of sustainable development, including a review in 2009 to obtain assurance that sustainable development actions are sufficiently embedded in Resource Plans and that performance management arrangements are effective.

### Officer Member Group

A Sustainable Development Officer Member group consisting of three elected members and three executive directors meets three times per year to oversee all sustainable development business.

### Sustainable Development Coordination Group

Sustainable development coordination group consist of officers from all Council Resources, and is accountable to the officer member group for the implementation of the sustainable development strategy. The group meets every 6 weeks.

### Working groups

Two working groups report to the coordination group. They coordinate strategic environmental assessment and carbon management across the Council.

## **Committee decisions**

In the Council officers preparing committee reports highlight sustainable development impacts of decisions and to identify where policies, strategies or plans require to undergo strategic environmental assessment.

## **Members awareness**

Three of South Lanarkshire council's elected members are involved the sustainable development member officer group and the sustainability partnership. A members' awareness seminar covering a wide range of climate change issues impacting on the Council was held in March 2010.

## **Improvement Planning**

The Council has committed to using the public sector improvement framework (PSIF) as an improvement tool. All services will be reviewed using PSIF by 2013. This process is an opportunity to consider sustainable development issues in the context of service improvement plans.

## External Audit

The Council's carbon management activities were also touched on by external auditors. The audit and assurance plan produced does not include any red or amber risk areas for sustainable development but does include a recommendation to undertake a review of the carbon management plan in the light of the new public sector climate change duties which came into effect on 1 January 2011.

## Section 1 Priorities for the year ahead

- ◆ Monitor and review the effectiveness of the partnership's improvement plan using the Council's performance management system IMPROVe.
- ◆ Review the effectiveness of the revised performance management arrangements for sustainable development/climate change and the use of new committee report guidelines.

## Section 2

### Reducing the local authority's own 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions from its estate, services and functions.

What are your local authority's baseline emissions, actual emissions and emission reduction targets for its direct 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions? Please make it clear what emission sources are included, and where data has been sourced.

Scottish Natural Heritage has developed a green office plan for their Lanark office. This local action will deliver the aims of their Environmental Management Programme of managing resources more sustainable, reducing emissions from operations and make corporate processes and programmes more sustainable.

Other actions to reduce emissions include the introduction of fobs and satellite monitoring to reduce car use, use of travel hierarchy to promote video / tel-conferencing, increasing active travel and use of public transport.

The Council first estimated its carbon emissions in 2005/06 following its participation in the Carbon Trust's local authority carbon management programme. The baseline includes emissions from buildings, business travel, fleet, domestic waste sent to land fill and street lighting but currently excludes Council housing, staff commuting and procurement.

The Council's first carbon management plan was published in August 2008. Baseline data comes from the following sources;

- ◆ Buildings – Utility suppliers agreed consumption data
- ◆ Fleet – Fuel consumption data
- ◆ Waste – SEPA annual and quarterly submissions regarding landfill and recycling information
- ◆ Street lighting – Lighting inventory where electricity consumption is agreed with utility supplier
- ◆ Business Travel – Employee travel claims

The latest DEFRA conversion factors are used on an annual basis to take account of changes in the UK grid electricity generation mix (2008, five year rolling average). Previous emissions figures below have been recalculated using these new conversion factors to ensure comparability with previous years.

The Council had a corporate plan target to reduce operational emissions by 5% compared to the baseline year of 2005/6 by the end of March 2011. This target was exceeded with a 9.4% reduction. The Council remains committed to making further reductions.

| <b>Carbon Totals - Source/Year</b>   |                            |                |                |                |                |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Year</b>                          | <b>2005-6<br/>Baseline</b> | <b>2006-7</b>  | <b>2007-8</b>  | <b>2008-9</b>  | <b>2009-10</b> | <b>2010-11</b> |
| Buildings -<br>Electricity, Gas, Oil | 69,427                     | 66,480         | 67,573         | 67,691         | 69,512         | 67,914         |
| Waste (Municipal)                    | 61,320                     | 60,015         | 57,824         | 54,876         | 50,711         | 48,928         |
| Fleet                                | 10,418                     | 10,290         | 10,210         | 9,710          | 10,039         | 10,032         |
| Street Lighting                      | 13,005                     | 13,155         | 13,957         | 13,564         | 12,932         | 12,962         |
| Employee Travel                      | 1,795                      | 1,941          | 1,772          | 1,783          | 1,638          | 1,428          |
| <b>Totals (Carbon<br/>Tonnes)</b>    | <b>155,965</b>             | <b>151,882</b> | <b>151,337</b> | <b>147,623</b> | <b>144,832</b> | <b>141,265</b> |
| <b>Variation against baseline</b>    |                            | <b>-2.6%</b>   | <b>-3.0%</b>   | <b>-5.3%</b>   | <b>-7.1%</b>   | <b>-9.4%</b>   |
| Employee numbers                     | 16,521                     | 16,254         | 15,552         | 15,481         | 15,471         | 14,693         |
| CO2 T/ Employee (TC)                 | 9.4                        | 9.3            | 9.7            | 9.5            | 9.4            | 9.6            |

#### **What is your local authority doing to achieve its reduction targets?**

The carbon management plan sets out a range of projects to make carbon reductions from all the monitored baseline sources of carbon across the Council. These projects are reviewed by the Carbon Management Group which meets every quarter.

Examples of carbon reduction projects undertaken include;

- ◆ The remote shutdown of all Education curricular PC's during summer holidays - saving 41 tonnes of carbon and £4,524 for the year on electricity costs
- ◆ The use of a telematic system was piloted in 35 refuse collection vehicles to collate and analyse fuel and vehicle performance data - saving 68 tonnes of carbon and £28,779 on fuel costs
- ◆ The installation of and adjustment of timers in various car parks across South Lanarkshire to reduce burning time of lamps - saving 17 tonnes of carbon and £2,535 on electricity costs.
- ◆ The installation of voltage optimisers in various buildings to minimise over use of power - saving 648 tonnes of carbon.
- ◆ The glass recycling scheme for households has diverted 6,915 tonnes from landfill waste and saved 4,827 tonnes of carbon.

The examples above have been financed through existing budgets or in the case of energy reduction within buildings, through the central energy efficiency fund (CEEF), an internal spend to save payback mechanism. The current programme (£690,000) is the second largest programme of its type across the 32 Scottish Councils.

The Council has an ambitious replacement programme for its schools estate. All 17 secondary schools have been replaced through a private finance initiative partnership and there is an extensive programme for the replacement of primary schools. Improved energy performance certificates (EPC) ratings are being achieved through energy efficient design and increased use of renewables.

Following the Carbon Trust's review of the Council's carbon management plan in 2009 a number of actions are now included in the plan, including an aspiration to continually improve our Carbon Trust Maturity Matrix.

The Council successfully registered for the CRC scheme in 2010/11 with a figure of 61,886 tonnes. There was a decision not to renew the Carbon Trust Standard in view of it no longer contributing towards a financial benefit for CRC. However the Council has invested in new software to track CRC emissions.

Reductions in land filled waste have accounted for most of the reductions in emissions achieved so far. The previous annual growth in the tonnage of waste produced by South Lanarkshire households has been reversed and less waste has been sent to landfill each year since 2005/06. The Council met its 40% target for recycling in 2009/10.

Although the Council has not included an estimation of emissions arising from procurement decisions it is working towards implementation of the national flexible framework for sustainable procurement.

## Section 2 Priorities for the year ahead

- ◆ Finalise the Council's carbon management plan taking account of anticipated guidance on the new public bodies contained in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and the Carbon Reduction Commitment. The Council's carbon reduction targets will also be reviewed.
- ◆ Continue to integrate our approaches to asset management and carbon management.
- ◆ Maintain a high standard of energy efficient design in new buildings and develop a strategic approach to the deployment of renewables.
- ◆ Target reductions in energy consumption through improved monitoring and benchmarking and continue to implement the CEEF projects.
- ◆ Continue with the Council's pool car scheme and analyse the outcomes of the pilot of electric vehicles.
- ◆ Progress the Council's new waste management solution to reduce reliance on land fill and meet the Government's zero waste targets.
- ◆ Progress implementation of the national sustainable procurement flexible framework.

## Section 3

### Taking action to reduce the emissions from the local authority area

[What are your local authority area-wide emissions? Please make it clear where data has been sourced.](#)

#### Local Authority Area Emissions

The most recent data available from the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) are for 2009 when South Lanarkshire's emissions were estimated to be 1,916 kt CO<sub>2</sub>, down from 2,164 kt CO<sub>2</sub> in 2005 which is an 11.46% reduction. Emissions per capita have fallen by 12.68% since 2005 and now stand at 6.2 tonnes compared to Scotland's average figure of 7 tonnes. This is a slightly higher reduction than Scotland's overall reduction of 12.5% over the same period.

What is your local authority doing to measure and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from your local authority area/communities?

### Ecological Footprint

The Council took part in two ecological footprinting projects during 2010; employing temporary staff under the UK Government's future jobs fund. The projects used footprinting methodologies to assess scenarios for a revision of the Local Transport Strategy and for low carbon development of the Council's community growth areas. No further projects have taken place during 2011.

### Energy efficiency in residential property

One of the sub-partnerships affiliated with South Lanarkshire's Sustainability Partnership is the Lanarkshire Community Energy Partnership. The partnership comprises of South Lanarkshire Council, North Lanarkshire Council and EAGA (a subsidiary of Scottish Power) and delivers energy efficiency improvements. The table below indicates the level of investment over the last four years.

| Cavities     | 2007/2008  | 2008/2009 | 2009/2010 | 2010/2011 * | Total      |
|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------|
| Rented       | 1,962      | 1,651     | 2,081     | 1087        | 6,781      |
| £            | £547,516   | £474,295  | £543,397  | £264,652    | £1,829,860 |
| Private      | 1,231      | 973       | 1,717     | 3053        | 6974       |
| £            | £384,083   | £315,290  | £477,151  | £998,869    | £1,176,524 |
| <b>Lofts</b> |            |           |           |             |            |
| Rented       | 2,135      | 1,749     | 1,189     | 369         | 5442       |
| £            | £462,758.2 | £475,583  | £385,657  | £190,000    | £1,513,998 |
| Private      | 32         | 198       | 530       | 553         | 1313       |
| £            | £8,163     | £43,358   | £119,132  | £122,000    | £292,653   |
| Business     |            |           |           | 327         | 327        |
| £            |            |           |           | £70,265     | £70,265    |

\* Figures to be confirmed for final report

### Scottish Housing Quality Standard

The number of local authority homes that now meet the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) for energy efficiency in South Lanarkshire is 14,327 i.e. 56% of the total stock. The Council is working to a target of achieving 100% by 2015.

### Universal Home Insulation Scheme

South Lanarkshire Council have managed to secure approximately £740,000 from the £12.5 million Universal Home Insulation Scheme which will be administered by local authorities. The funding will be delivered in March 2012 and will be used to offer a range of free home insulation measures to improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty in South Lanarkshire.

### Council Tax Rebate scheme

In total 30 households had benefited from the Council Tax rebate scheme introduced in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 for energy efficiency improvement work carried out under CERT (Carbon Emissions Reduction Target).

### Renewables

South Lanarkshire has considerable renewables potential and will eventually become net exporter of electricity. Current installed hydro power capacity is 17.975MW and for wind farms is 128.6MW. Further expansion of wind generation is underway, construction of what will be Europe's largest wind farm near Abington on either side of the M74 corridor has begun. Three sites have been granted planning consent. Once in operation all the sites within South Lanarkshire could potentially provide an operational output of 821.2 MW, which could potentially save approximately 1.3 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually.

The current renewable generating capacity in the area is 146.575 MW, whereas the overall potential generating capacity could be 839.175 MW, once all consented sites are operational.

Households in South Lanarkshire now have 0.53MW installed domestic micro renewables from wind and solar. This is 0.36% of installed domestic capacity for the UK as a whole.

### **Electric Vehicles**

The partnership was granted £215,000 funding in March 2011 under the Scottish Government LCVPS. The funding was made available by Transport Scotland to meet the additional cost of procuring low carbon vehicles. All 32 Scottish community planning partnerships are participating in the initiative.

South Lanarkshire Council and Strathclyde Fire and Rescue were the partners who agreed to be part of the project at this stage however other partners were interested and may participate later. It was agreed that the grant would be used to purchase 13 small electric cars with approximately £15,000 of the total grant used to pay for the installation of charging points. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue operates one of the 13 vehicles from their new national training centre based in Cambuslang and the remaining 12 vehicles augment South Lanarkshire Council's employee pool care scheme.

Additional funding has been secured to install an additional 44 electric vehicle charging points across South Lanarkshire for public use.

### **South Lanarkshire Food Waste Collection**

In April this year, in preparation for the Scottish Government's recycling and composting targets of 50% by 31st March 2013, South Lanarkshire Council carried out an eight week pilot scheme to determine the quantity of food waste available for collection from households in South Lanarkshire and how acceptable the proposed method of collection was for the householder.

2,389 households in the Hamilton and Cambuslang areas were issued with a food waste caddy and three rolls of biodegradable liners to collect food waste from their kitchen. At the end of the pilot a survey was taken which found that the majority of the householders surveyed supported the scheme and the proposed collection method and, the average quantity of food waste collected was the equivalent to 2.51 kgs per household per week.

Directing food waste away from landfill will contribute to increased recycling and composting levels and the diversion of biodegradable waste from landfill which are both key actions in South Lanarkshire's Single Outcome Agreement.

Following the success of the Food Waste trial preparation for the roll-out of the scheme will begin in August this year with collections starting in April 2012. The food waste will be separated at a processing plant and then composted and the final product used for landscaping and brownfield restoration.

### **Section 3 Priorities for the year ahead**

- ◆ Continue to invest in energy efficiency improvements in local homes through the Council's Local Housing Strategy
- ◆ Work with the Scottish Government and other partners to develop and install a network of electric vehicle charging points across South Lanarkshire.
- ◆ Roll-out of food waste collection in South Lanarkshire



## Section 4

### Assessing the risks of climate change impacts and working with others to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

What is your local authority doing to adapt to climate change?

#### Adaptation

As part of the public sector climate change duties; the Council will host an 'Adapting to Climate Change in South Lanarkshire' engagement workshop with the participation from relevant Resources and partners. The workshop will have input from Adaptation Scotland (formally known as SCCIP). The workshop will provide an opportunity for Resources and partners to work together to learn more about how changes in climate are likely to impact South Lanarkshire. Priority adaptation challenges and opportunities will be identified and work required to address these will be incorporated into strategies and plans for implementation.

The Council has registered to be part of a wider project on climate change adaptation in the Glasgow and Clyde-valley area. The workshop will be led by Adaptation Scotland and will help with the work required in South Lanarkshire.

As part of climate change adaptation Scottish Natural Heritage have been involved in the protection of carbon-rich soils on designated sites and in the wider countryside.

#### Section 4 Priorities for the year ahead

- ◆ Identify climate change adaptation challenges and opportunities in South Lanarkshire. Plan and implement work required to address these.

## Section 5

### Developing effective partnership working and climate change communications, including producing an annual statement of plans, activities and achievements.

Please describe and illustrate your local authority's partnership working on climate change.

#### South Lanarkshire Sustainability Partnership

The sustainability partnership's improvement plan incorporates collaborative work in relation to the commitments of SCCD, Climate Change Duties and transition to a low carbon economy.

#### State of the Environment Report

On behalf of the partnership the Council has updated the South Lanarkshire State of the Environment Report which provides a compendium of statistics including climate change related factors.

Please describe what your local authority has done on climate change communications.

#### Internal communications

The Council's employee magazine is used as the principal means of communication with periodic articles on sustainable development issues. The visibility of sustainable development as a Council value has helped keep the issue live in the minds of staff and employee suggestion frequently propose 'green' initiatives. Surveys have also been used to raise awareness. One Resource has established 'green champions' to promote sustainable work practices. The trade union UNISON was awarded a grant last year

through the climate challenge fund to promote green behaviour at home and at work. This project ended in March 2011 however union members involved continue to carry out and promote good practice in their places of work.

### **Carbon Teams**

In 2009 members of the Council's carbon management group started work with five secondary schools to focus on saving energy. School buildings account for a significant proportion of the Council emissions. A school carbon team comprising pupil and teacher representatives, facilities staff, and supported by appropriate Council officers was established and an information pack was developed to provide schools with a model to monitor energy use and identify opportunities for reducing energy.

### **General public**

The Council's newspaper delivered twice a year to all South Lanarkshire households includes features on what the council and partners are doing together in relation to climate change.

The community paper 'Community Matters' delivered quarterly to household in South Lanarkshire features articles on sustainable development.

The Council takes soundings of public opinion on what it is doing regarding climate change through its general customer satisfaction survey which was completed by over 11,000 people in March 2010. The satisfaction (combined 'good' and 'excellent') score for 2010 was 73.6%, compared to 66.7% in 2008.

North and South Lanarkshire councils in partnership with NHS Lanarkshire hosted the 2011 International Children's Games where over 80 teams from around the world competed in sporting events in the Lanarkshire area. The launch event in March 2010 coincided with WWF Earth Hour and had an environmental theme as part of the switch off initiative. A legacy plan was also developed for the event taking into account environmental impacts of the games and actions to off-set these impacts. This is the first legacy plan to be produced for the games and it is hoped that it will inspire future hosts to develop one too.

[Please describe what your local authority has done to build capacity on climate change – internally, with partners and/or with the community.](#)

### **Community capacity**

There was limited opportunity for the Council to develop community capacity in climate change during the year and this has not been a priority. However, a number of voluntary groups are actively engaged in climate change initiatives. South Lanarkshire benefited from a number of Climate Challenge Fund grants to local groups totalling £683,499. They projects are:

- ◆ **Lightburn Elderly Association Project** (£181,197) – local energy reduction project involving older people
- ◆ **Bothwell Community Garden** (£196,354) – organic community allotment project
- ◆ **Clydesdale Energy Efficiency Project** (Funded £141,858) – local energy reduction project involving volunteers
- ◆ **Milton Rovers Football Club** (£8,568) – measures to improve energy efficiency in a community facility
- ◆ **Green Workers at Home and at Work Initiative** (£60,728) – a Unison initiative working through with trade union members to reduce their emissions at home and travelling to work.
- ◆ **East Kilbride Development Trust Food Initiative** (£123,300) – an organic food growing and seed exchange project
- ◆ **Carlisle Development Trust** (£113,352) - local energy-saving tips tailored to individual needs

The Council will focus more on building community capacity on climate change mitigation and adaptation as part of one of the key themes 'Sustainable Communities' in their new sustainable development strategy.

#### **Section 5 Priorities for the year ahead**

- ◆ Improve partnership annual reporting for Scotland's Climate Change Declaration, in the light of the new public sector duties which come into effect in January 2011 and associated guidance.
- ◆ Work in partnership to improve community capacity on in climate change issues
- ◆ Roll out of carbon teams initiative to other workplaces
- ◆ Further develop 'green champions' within Council workplaces

### **Climate Change Progress Highlights of the Past Year**

Please use the following section to highlight the local authority's main climate change achievements in the past year. This can include processes, plans, projects, partnerships, events, investments, and actions.

- ◆ The Council achieved a 9.4% reduction in internal emissions by March 2011 compared to 2005/06 baseline.
- ◆ The Council has continued to maximise spend of its central energy efficiency fund in 2010-11. The current programme (£690,000) is the second largest programme of its type across the 32 Scottish Councils.
- ◆ Significant improvements in the carbon efficiency of new Council buildings
- ◆ The national recycling target of 40% was met by March 2010, resulting in a significant reduction in the Council's emissions. At the end of March 2011 this figure had dropped to 38.2% due to the impacts of the severe weather in December and January. Despite the reduction in recycled waste the carbon emissions have still decreased due to the amount of general waste being generated by households.
- ◆ The Council appointed of a fuel efficiency officer during 2010-11 has also allowed the implementation of an employee pool car project reducing employee travel and associated carbon emissions.
- ◆ Launch of the partnership's electric vehicles.
- ◆ A successful food waste composting trial
- ◆ Participation in the 2011 Earth Hour event.