

Report

Report to:	Climate Change and Sustainability Committee
Date of Meeting:	8 February 2023
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy Action Plan - Quarter 2 Progress Report 2022/2023
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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 to 30 September 2022.

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 new Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy (SDCCS) 2022 to 2027 was approved by South Lanarkshire 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 to deliver on the agreed outcomes and contribute to achieving a longer-term vision.
- 3.2. It was agreed that the action plan for 2022/2023 would be an interim action plan, while work continued with services and resources across the Council to develop the longer-term actions covering the five-year period of the Strategy.
- 3.3. The interim action plan sets out specific actions to be undertaken to deliver on the objectives under each sustainable development theme. The action plan is monitored using IMPROVe, and progress on the action plan will be reported to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee at Q2 and Q4.
- 3.4. Delivery of actions within these strategies 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.
- 3.5. Progress on all objectives, actions and measures as at Q2 is set out in Appendix 1.

4. Sustainable Development Strategy 2022/2023 Q2 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 two is as follows: -

Total number of performance/ contextual measures		28
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	5 (18%)
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target	1 (3.5%)
Status - Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target	1 (3.5%)
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	11 (39%)
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	10 (36%)

4.3. Areas for Improvement

One measure has been classified as "red" (major slippage against timescale or shortfall against target). This is detailed below, together with the reason why, and the management action being taken.

Measure	Comments/Progress	Management Action
Percentage of total household waste that is recycled	<p>This measure is reported per calendar year. The figure for quarter 2 (April to June 2022) was 45.07%, which is an improvement on the previous quarter.</p> <p>However, the year to date figure of 40.28% is below the 2021 figure (41.50%) and remains below the target of 50.00%.</p> <p>Higher residual waste tonnages collected at the kerbside due to homeworking, high residual waste content in bulk uplifts (black bag waste accepted),</p>	<p>A new contract is now in place for bulky waste (from 1 April 2022), and this has increased the amount of bulky waste being recycled. The service is also currently recruiting Waste Education Officers to roll out a new service change for flatted properties to try and improve the recycling rate. Currently, the majority of the material is too badly contaminated to recycle and ends up being disposed of as residual waste.</p>

	and more non-recyclable waste being disposed of in Household Waste Recycling Centres, are all factors that need to be taken into account when understanding the household waste recycling performance	
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The “amber” performance measure relates to household waste recycled at the Council's Household Waste Recycling Centres. The year-to-date figure at Q2 was 57.7%, which is below the target of 64.5% (2019-20 level). Factors such as the large amount of non-recyclable waste being brought into the sites by members of the public is contributing to the lower recycling performance.

4.4. Part Two - Improvement Actions

The overall summary of improvements actions at quarter 2 is as follows: -

Total number of improvement actions		47
Status - Blue	Action Complete	3 (6%)
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	35 (75%)
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target	6 (13%)
Status - Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target	0 (0%)
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	3 (6%)

4.5. Areas for Improvement

There are 6 “amber” actions where minor slippage was reported at Q2. The justification for these delays, and associated management actions, are included within Appendix 1.

4.6. Key Highlights

Key achievements for the first 6 months of 2022/2023, are noted below:-

- ◆ the new Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy (2022 to 2027) was approved at Full Council in June 2022
- ◆ the annual report on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) progress was approved by the Executive Committee on 29 June 2022. It was noted that ten Council led plans had been subject to SEA consideration during 2021 – 2022
- ◆ the Litter Strategy was approved by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on 31 August 2022
- ◆ Strathaven Park, Cambuslang Park and Castlebank Park have retained their Green Flag status
- ◆ 40 South Lanarkshire Council education establishments currently hold an Eco Schools green flag award
- ◆ a cross resource working group has been established to assist with the development of a Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy for South Lanarkshire

- ◆ approval has been given to recruit 2 temporary Waste Services Assistants to facilitate projects aimed at reducing residual waste and increasing recycling rates
- ◆ planning permission has been granted for Lanark Interchange Improvements Park and Ride

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 capital investment and is likely to require external funding and investment. The delivery of the Strategy may help to leverage in additional funding and investment, however, alternative financial models may need to be considered.

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.
- 7.2. A full Strategic Environmental Assessment was carried out alongside preparation of the SDCCS. This has ensured a consistency in approach to addressing the climate crisis alongside the ecological emergency. It ensures that the importance of sustainable development is mainstreamed across the Council and promoted to communities and partners. Incorporating this sustainable approach across all Council led policies, plans, programmes and strategies should result in continued environmental benefits for South Lanarkshire and the people who live, work and visit here.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. The SDCCS 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)

24 January 2023

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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