



Council Offices, Almada Street
Hamilton, ML3 0AA

Tuesday, 07 May 2024

Dear Councillor

Climate Change and Sustainability Committee

The Members listed below are requested to attend a meeting of the above Committee to be held as follows:-

Date: Wednesday, 15 May 2024

Time: 10:00

Venue: Hybrid - Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton, ML3 0AA

The business to be considered at the meeting is listed overleaf.

Yours sincerely

Paul Manning
Chief Executive

Members

Mark McGeever (Chair), Kirsten Robb (Depute Chair), Joe Fagan (ex officio), Alex Allison, John Anderson, Ralph Barker, Maureen Chalmers, Ross Clark, Margaret Cooper, Colin Dewar, Ross Gowland, Lynsey Hamilton, Gavin Keatt, Ross Lambie, Richard Lockhart, Katy Loudon, Julia Marrs, Monique McAdams, Lesley McDonald, Elaine McDougall, Carol Nugent, Mo Razzaq, John Ross, Graham Scott, Bert Thomson, Helen Toner, Margaret B Walker, Kirsty Williams

Substitutes

Walter Brogan, Robert Brown, Andy Carmichael, Gerry Convery, Poppy Corbett, Andrea Cowan, Allan Falconer, Gladys Ferguson-Miller, Elise Frame, Geri Gray, Martin Hose, Richard Nelson, David Watson

BUSINESS

1 Declaration of Interests

- 2 **Minutes of Previous Meeting** 3 - 8
Minutes of the meeting of the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee held on 28 February 2024 submitted for approval as a correct record. (Copy attached)

Monitoring Item(s)

- 3 **Good Food Strategy Update – Q4 2023/2024** 9 - 36
Report dated 24 April 2024 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)

Item(s) for Noting

- 4 **Carbon Management Interim Update 2023/2024** 37 - 46
Report dated 24 April 2024 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)
- 5 **Non-Domestic Buildings - Net Zero Feasibilities** 47 - 52
Report dated 24 April 2024 by the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources). (Copy attached)
- 6 **Energy Demand Reduction Plan Update** 53 - 58
Report dated 24 April 2024 by the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources). (Copy attached)
- 7 **Scottish Government Consultations on the Social Housing Net Zero Standard in Scotland and Heat in Buildings Bill** 59 - 64
Report dated 25 April 2024 by the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources). (Copy attached)

Urgent Business

- 8 **Urgent Business**
Any other items of business which the Chair decides are urgent.

For further information, please contact:-

Clerk Name:	Susan Somerville
Clerk Telephone:	07557 323097
Clerk Email:	susan.somerville@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

2

Minutes of meeting held via Confero and in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 28 February 2024

Chair:

Councillor Mark McGeever

Councillors Present:

Councillor Alex Allison, Councillor John Anderson, Councillor Ralph Barker, Councillor Walter Brogan (*substitute for Councillor Mo Razzaq*), Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Councillor Ross Clark, Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Colin Dewar, Councillor Ross Gowland, Councillor Gavin Keatt, Councillor Richard Lockhart, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Julia Marrs, Councillor Lesley McDonald, Councillor Elaine McDougall, Councillor Carol Nugent, Councillor Kirsten Robb (Depute), Councillor John Ross, Councillor Graham Scott, Councillor Helen Toner, Councillor Kirsty Williams

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Joe Fagan (ex officio), Councillor Lynsey Hamilton, Councillor Ross Lambie, Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Mo Razzaq, Councillor Bert Thomson, Councillor Margaret B Walker

Attending:

Community and Enterprise Resources

J Birkin, Biodiversity Officer; A Brown, Head of Enterprise and Sustainable Development; F Carlin, Head of Planning and Regulatory Services; K Carr, Head of Facilities, Waste and Grounds; C Park, Head of Roads, Transportation and Fleet Services; C Reid, Grounds Manager; A Wallace, Sustainability Adviser; M Wilkie, Performance and Policy Development Manager

Education Resources

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

Finance and Corporate Resources

K McLeod, Administration Assistant; S Somerville, Administration Manager

Housing and Technical Resources

J Forbes, Head of Property Services; J Smith, Strategy Team Leader (Built Environment)

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee held on 29 November 2023 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

3 Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy Action Plan Quarter 2 Progress Report

A report dated 8 February 2024 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy (SDCCS) Action Plan Quarter 2 Progress Report 2022/2023, for the period 1 April to 30 September 2023.

The Council's SDCCS covered a 5-year period from 2022 to 2027. Delivery of actions within the Strategy provided the main focus for sustainable development activity over the period and enabled the Council to fulfil its duties under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 2003, the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and other associated environmental legislation.

The SDCCS Action Plan for 2023/2024 contained 21 performance measures towards the Strategy's outcomes, together with 111 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 21 measures within the SDCCS:-

- ◆ 2 had been achieved or were on course to be achieved (green)
- ◆ 1 had minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target (amber)
- ◆ 4 would be reported later when data was available
- ◆ 14 were contextual and provided a health check for South Lanarkshire

Of the 111 improvement actions within the SDCCS:-

- ◆ 8 had been completed (blue)
- ◆ 80 had been achieved or were on course to be achieved (green)
- ◆ 8 had seen some minor slippage against targets (amber)
- ◆ 15 would be reported later when data was available

For the 8 amber improvement measures that had minor slippage, 6 related to revision of timescales for the delivery of associated plans, guides and strategies. One action's categorisation related to the Council-wide website redesign currently under review. The final one related to the slight delay in implementation of a new app in schools which was now due later in the month.

Progress on all objectives, actions and measures were contained in the Quarter 2 performance report for 2023/2024, attached as an appendix to the report.

Officers responded to members' questions in relation to the following:-

- ◆ the percentage of trips made by bike
- ◆ a study undertaken by a PHD student
- ◆ the Council's carbon footprint feasibility studies
- ◆ managing and monitoring food waste in schools
- ◆ Active Travel funding
- ◆ plans for progressing net zero

The Head of Roads, Transportation and Fleet Services gave an undertaking to share a link to a website called uSmart which provided cycling and walking count data across the country. This data was collected from a network of counters, including those in South Lanarkshire.

The Committee decided: that the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy Action Plan Quarter 2 Progress Report 2022/2023 be noted.

4 Good Food Strategy Update – Q2 2023/2024

A report dated 8 February 2024 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the Good Food Strategy actions and measures at Quarter 2 of 2023/2024.

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 in the public sector
- ◆ good food economy
- ◆ good food growing
- ◆ good food for the environment
- ◆ 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 17 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:-

- ◆ 12 had been achieved or were on course to be achieved (green)
- ◆ 10 would be reported later when data was available

Of the 17 improvement actions within the Strategy:-

- ◆ 17 had been achieved or were on course to be achieved (green)

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 20 September 2023 (Paragraph 5)]

5 The Biodiversity Strategy (2024 to 2030) and Biodiversity Duty Implementation Plan (2024 to 2026)

A report dated 8 February 2024 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the Council's new Biodiversity Strategy and Biodiversity Duty Implementation Plan (BDIP) as required under the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011.

The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 placed a duty on public bodies to further the conservation of biodiversity. The Biodiversity Strategy and BDIP set out how the Council and the biodiversity partnership would contribute to the targets set out in the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and identify priorities for action.

The Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011 required every public body in Scotland to produce a publicly available report on compliance with the biodiversity duty. This must be completed every 3 years. The latest biodiversity duty report had been approved by this Committee on 29 November 2023 and submitted to the Scottish Government thereafter.

The Council's previous Biodiversity Strategy covered the period 2018 to 2022. A summary of achievements and key actions against strategic objectives was presented in Appendix 1.

The new Strategy, covering the period 2024 to 2030 and aligned with guidance from the Scottish Government, was attached as Appendix 2 to the report. Direct Council delivery of the biodiversity duty was managed and monitored through the Council's BDIP which was attached as Appendix 3 to the report.

The new Strategy took a long-term approach to ecosystem conservation and restoration, with short and medium-term actions contributing towards the long-term aims and overall vision of the Strategy. The ecosystems identified in South Lanarkshire were:-

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| ◆ freshwater and wetland | ◆ upland |
| ◆ lowland and farmland | ◆ urban |
| ◆ peatland | ◆ woodland |

The Strategy also considered the following cross-cutting themes:-

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| ◆ key sites | ◆ climate change |
| ◆ invasive non-native species (INNS) | ◆ people and nature |
| ◆ soils and geology | |

Officers responded to members' questions in relation to the:-

- ◆ Ash Dieback Recovery Plan
- ◆ Nature Restoration Fund and potential projects, subject to receipt of funding
- ◆ review of grassland management

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the summary of achievements and key actions from the Biodiversity Strategy 2018 to 2022 be noted;
- (2) that the Biodiversity Strategy, covering the period 2024 to 2030, be approved; and
- (3) that the Biodiversity Duty Implementation Plan (BDIP), covering the period 2024 to 2026, be approved and submitted to the Scottish Government by 31 March 2024.

[Reference: Minutes of 29 November 2023 (Paragraph 3)]

6 Update on Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy

A report dated 8 February 2024 by the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources) was submitted providing an update on progress with the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) and the stakeholder and public consultation.

The development of an LHEES brought together key priorities around the reduction of carbon emissions, improvement of domestic and non-domestic building stock and the need for a reduction in fuel poverty.

In May 2022, the LHEES (Scotland) Order placed a duty on local authorities to prepare, publish and update an LHEES Delivery Plan.

The South Lanarkshire LHEES complemented and supported the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2022 to 2027. It was a long-term strategic framework for the improvement of the energy efficiency of buildings in South Lanarkshire, and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the heating of buildings.

The public consultation on the LHEES would run for an 8-week period, concluding on 10 April 2024. Following the consultation period and amendment of the Strategy and Delivery Plan to reflect comments received, the LHEES Strategy and Delivery Plan would be submitted to the Executive Committee in June 2024 for approval.

Once approved, the LHEES Strategy and Delivery Plan would be published as separate documents on the Council's website.

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

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the update on progress made to date on the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) be noted;
- (2) that the consultation period for the LHEES be noted; and
- (3) that it be noted that the final LHEES would be submitted to the Executive Committee on 26 June 2024 for approval.

Councillor Anderson left the meeting during this item of business

7 Education Resources' Sustainability Report

A report dated 8 February 2024 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted providing an update on activities ongoing within Education Resources since the last report on 10 February 2021.

In 2021, a Youth Forum on Climate Change and Sustainability was established with representation from all 19 secondary schools, including Additional Support Needs (ASN). The Forum was chaired by the young people and supported by education officers. Its purpose was to allow young people to:-

- ◆ discuss and exchange views on issues which mattered to them
- ◆ enhance the reach of their voice and opinions over time across a wider community partnership
- ◆ influence change within the Council in the way in which it discharged its responsibilities
- ◆ influence the wider school community in learning more about climate change and affecting a positive change in behaviours

Examples of how young people had used their voice to influence others and shape decision-making were given in Section 4 of the report. Section 5 outlined other work undertaken within the Resource, schools or within the wider community to promote climate change and sustainability issues.

Renewed focus on Scotland's Learning for Sustainability Action Plan, officially launched in December 2023, would be taken forward by officers and would form part of the suite of materials available to schools to support curriculum planning and development across all areas, including sustainability.

The funding for the fixed term Primary Science and Sustainability Development Officer post would end in June 2024, however, funding had been identified to allow the post to continue until March 2025. Money allocated from the Council's Climate Emergency Fund had been used to support the administration of the Youth Forum meetings, the newsroom hub, the secondary school waste recycling pilot, primary school food waste project and the JUMP app recently launched and being piloted in 4 secondary schools.

The Head of Education (Support Service and School Estate) responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report and advised that she would raise with the Youth Forum the potential for them to present at a future meeting of this Committee.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the contents of the report relating to the range of activities across Education Resources be noted; and
- (2) that the continued steps for further activity be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 10 February 2021 (Paragraph 8)]

8 Community Climate Action in South Lanarkshire

A report dated 8 February 2024 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted providing an update on community climate action initiatives taking place in South Lanarkshire which had been supported by the Council.

Empowering communities to take action and be more environmentally sustainable was one of the Council's priority actions in its Climate Change Strategy 2022 to 2027.

In June 2022, the Council recruited a Sustainable Communities Engagement Officer for a period of 2 years. The officer had been involved in a number of initiatives aimed at supporting engagement on climate and sustainability focused issues in communities across South Lanarkshire.

Section 5 of the report provided an update in relation to the following key projects and community climate action case studies:-

- ◆ ONECAN Community Climate Conference
- ◆ Bee Line to Nature Project
- ◆ Lanarkshire Regional Climate Hub

Several additional case studies of community climate action ongoing within South Lanarkshire in 2023/2024 were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

Climate Change had been added to the list of permanent communications campaigns for the Council. Between February and December 2023, there were 178 social media posts and 29 South Lanarkshire View articles. In addition, a 17-day Communities Sustainable Development Goals campaign ran on the Council's social media channels in the lead up to the Community Planning Partnership's Nature and Climate Event on 24 October 2023.

The fixed-term 2-year Sustainable Communities Engagement Officer post would come to an end in June 2024, however, Community Climate Action would continue to be supported through the relaunch of Community Climate Grants and it was anticipated that communities would continue to engage in climate action through the Climate Hub.

The Committee decided: that the content of the report be noted.

9 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

Report

3

Report to:	Climate Change and Sustainability Committee
Date of Meeting:	15 May 2024
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Good Food Strategy Update – Q4 2023-2024
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ◆ update the Committee on the status of Good Food Strategy actions and measures at Quarter 4 of 2023-2024

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the 2023-2024 Q4 position in respect of actions and measures within the Good Food Strategy is noted.

3. Background

3.1. On 4 December 2019, the Executive Committee approved the Good Food Strategy which covers a five-year period from 2020 to 2025.

3.2. The vision of the Strategy is to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of everyone in South Lanarkshire where food is celebrated, supports healthy life and wellbeing, is affordable and accessible to all, encourages a fair and inclusive food economy, has limited impacts on the environment and climate change, and promotes animal welfare.

3.3. The Strategy sets out outcomes and actions organised around six themes and twelve objectives:

Good Food at Home and in the Community

- 1. Supporting good food education and culture
- 2. Reducing food poverty and insecurity

Good Food in the Public Sector

- 3. Improving food in schools and in Council properties
- 4. Improving food in public places

Good Food Economy

- 5. Supporting a good food retail and catering environment
- 6. Encouraging a fair and inclusive local food economy

Good Food Growing

7. Providing food growing opportunities
8. Promoting good food growing and sustainability

Good Food for the Environment

9. Reducing waste and packaging
10. Limiting the impact of the food system on the environment and climate change

Good Food Governance

11. Developing and strengthening food partnerships
12. Making good food a priority in the Council's area

- 3.4. The Strategy sets out specific actions to be undertaken to deliver these objectives under each theme.
- 3.5. The Strategy 2023-2024 action plan was approved by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on 20 September 2023 and is monitored using IMPROVe. Its progress is reported to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee at Quarter two and Quarter four.

4. Good Food Strategy 2023-2024 Q4 Update

- 4.1. The 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. The overall summary of performance measures at the end of Quarter four is as follows:-

Total number of performance/ contextual measures		22
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	12 (55%)
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target	0 (0%)
Status - Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target	0 (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	10 (45%)

- 4.3. There are no performance measures showing an amber or red status.
- 4.4. Eight of the performance measures are reported as contextual. These measures are for information only. An additional two measures will be reported later because end-year figures for these measures were not available at the time of preparing this report - no slippage is expected in relation to meeting targets for these measures.

4.5. The overall summary of improvement actions at the end of Quarter four is as follows:-

Total number of improvement actions		17
Status - Blue	Action Complete	4 (24%)
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	12 (71%)
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target	1 (6%)
Status - Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target	0 (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	0 (0%)

Percentages do not total 100 due to rounding.

4.6. One of the measures shows an amber status. The measure relates to the facilitation of networking among food stakeholders. Specific networking activities around food have paused towards the end of the year due to the Policy Officer (Food Development) reducing her working hours and eventually leaving her post. As a result, there has been a lack of resources to support this activity. Other options to encourage a partnership approach around food are now being explored.

4.7. Progress on all objectives, actions and measures is set out in Appendix 1. Some of the highlights for each of the themes of the Good Food Strategy include:

Good Food at Home and the Community

- ◆ Eleven “Spectacular Summer Session” hubs (Education) were successfully delivered across the four localities in key locations across South Lanarkshire with breakfast and lunch served each day. Across the 6 weeks, over 4,500 meals were provided by Facilities Services.
- ◆ The Youth Family and Community Learning Service (Education) delivered a large variety of food related learning programmes to 686 learners through the year.
- ◆ In line with the national plan “Cash-First- towards ending the need for food banks in Scotland” published June 2023, the Council agreed to extend the Financial Wellbeing Support Fund for two years. As a result, Money Matter Advice service provided £50 cash payments to 1,743 households facing financial insecurity issues including food insecurity since October 2023.
- ◆ The Council financially supported seven local food banks with payment of £4,000. During the Christmas period, over 1,000 gifts were donated by the Council and SLLC staff to 8 of the food banks as well as over 700 food items.

Good Food in the Public Sector

- ◆ Levels of total primary and secondary school meal uptake (free and paid) exceeded the targets as well as the level of free primary and secondary school meals uptake.
- ◆ Following the presentation of the outcomes of the Market Capacity Assessment and the next steps at the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on 20 September, actions were undertaken by services to follow up on recommendations. Activities included the following: the Council directly engaged with the 22 businesses interested in supplying food to the Council; Chatelherault venue is getting ready to proceed with Quick Quote processes to identify local

suppliers for meat, fruit and vegetables, coffee, and artisan bread in 2024-2025; engagement took place with other local authorities to understand good practices in relation to procurement of local food.

Good Food Economy

- ◆ 95% of food businesses were compliant with food safety statutory requirements, the target being 85%.
- ◆ Engagement with the food and drink sector included: South Lanarkshire Council representation on the Lanarkshire Larder Committee to ensure that outcomes including increased membership and networking are achieved; support to eight local businesses through the EAT South Lanarkshire Business Accelerator programme; promotion of business-to-business events including Larder of the Lowlands (April 2024) and national Meet the Buyer event (June 2024).

Good Food Growing

- ◆ With the opening of the Chatelherault allotment site in summer 2023, the number of plot holders on Council managed growing sites increased by 64 (which represents an 18 percent increase compared to last year) and total area increased by ten percent. The occupancy level of these sites is 99 percent.
- ◆ The Council wide Open Space Strategy is under development with the finalisation of the audit of open spaces, including for food growing. The engagement strategy for the formulation of the Council Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3) was developed. The new LDP3 represents an opportunity to further embed health and wellbeing in planning policies.

Good Food and the Environment

- ◆ The Waste Education Team updated the education materials used in primary schools to include a specific section on food waste reduction and recycling.

Good Food Governance

- ◆ The Fairtrade Zone Status of the Council was renewed following its successful application. The Council also supported the Fairtrade Education Award at the Scottish Fairtrade Awards Ceremony 2023.
- ◆ The Rural Conference took place in February 2024 with more than 100 participants. The conference was an opportunity to discuss community food growing projects and opportunities to secure funds to assist in the growth of experience and knowledge around community food projects.
- ◆ Opportunities to reinforce and support the third sector as part of the activities for the development and implementation of the future local Good Food Nation Plan (2025) are being considered across different services.

5. Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 5.1. Following the SEA pre-screening exercise and communication with the Scottish Government, it was concluded that no further action was required in relation to the SEA process for the Good Food Strategy

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. It was the role of the Policy Officer (Food Development) to monitor and report progress on the implementation of the Good Food Strategy. The policy officer has left the Council and the future of this role is being considered.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no direct financial implications as a result of the report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. The Good Food Strategy 2023-2024 action plan, by taking into account all the aspects of the food systems from farm to fork and encouraging the transition towards a more sustainable food system, helps to achieve the objectives of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. Given the departure of the Council's Food Policy Officer, new arrangements will be made for the development, implementation and monitoring of the upcoming local Good Food Nation Plan as part of the duty of the Council to develop Good Food Nation Plan as per the Good Food Nation Act (Scotland) 2022. The timescale to develop the plan has not yet been confirmed by the Scottish Government but it is expected that the local food plan will have to be approved by the end of 2025.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. The Equality Impact Assessment for the Good Food Strategy was conducted and approved.
- 10.2. There was no other requirement for consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

David Booth

Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

24 April 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
- ◆ Excellent employer

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

Previous References

- ◆ Executive Committee 4 December 2019 - Good Food Strategy
- ◆ Climate Change and Sustainability Committee 20 September 2023 – Action plan for the fourth year of implementation of the Good Food Strategy

List of Background Papers

- ◆ None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact: Michelle Wilkie (Performance and Policy Development Manager)

E-mail: michelle.wilkie@southlanarkshire.gov.uk



The graphic features a large white plate with a green rim, centered on a yellow and orange background. The plate contains the text "South Lanarkshire Good Food Strategy 2020-2025" and a silver fork. The background is decorated with various food-related icons: a carrot, a tomato, a fish, a whisk, a cow, a chef, a strawberry, a cheese wedge, and a sheep. At the bottom right, there is a circular logo with a leaf and a gear, and the text "Sustainable South Lanarkshire".

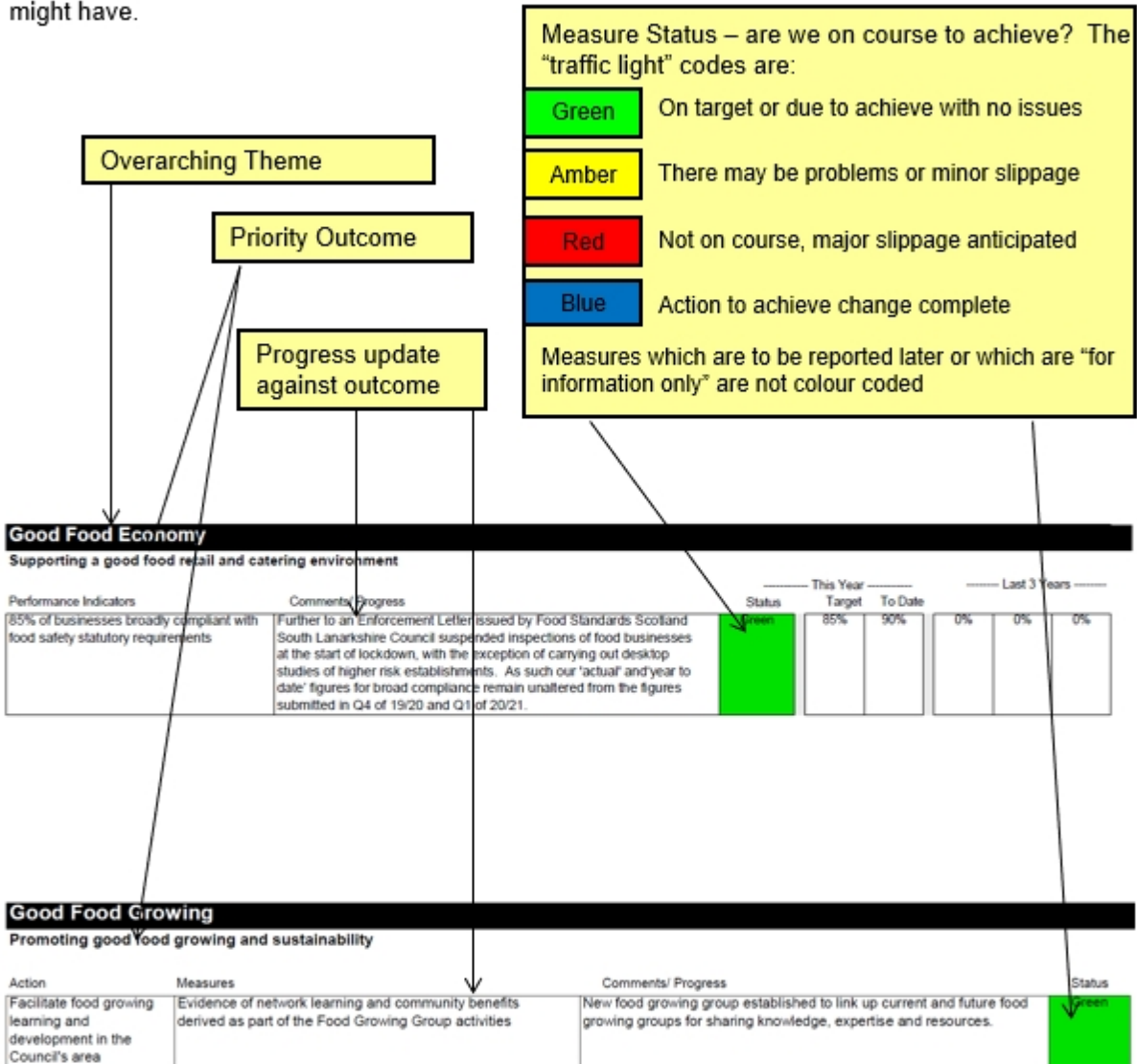
South
Lanarkshire
**Good
Food**
Strategy
2020-2025

Performance Report

Quarter 4 : 2023/24 - April to March

How to use this performance report

This performance report is intended to be both informative and easy to use. The guide below is designed to help you get the most out of the report and to answer the most common questions you might have.



What are the objectives of the Good Food Strategy?

There are 12 objectives categorised into six themes.

Good Food at Home and in the Community

1. Support individuals, families and communities in strengthening Good Food culture, in particular in relation to health and wellbeing, in developing interest and skills for food, including food growing and cooking. Promoting Good Food during pregnancy, childhood and old age is a priority.
2. By working with existing community food initiatives and partners, help reducing food insecurity and poverty by building the resilience of individuals and families and preventing crisis. If emergency support is needed, encourage dignified and respectful responses.



Good Food in the Public Sector

3. Ensure that the council prepares, serves and promotes enjoyable, healthy, and sustainable food in council properties and schools by seeking to meet the Soil Association Food for Life standards as appropriate.
4. Engage with partners and the private sector to explore and research opportunities to improve public procurement of food, including in relation to the provision of local food.



Good Food Economy

5. Support the development of safe, healthy and affordable local retail and catering food environments.
6. Encourage the development of a thriving and sustainable local food economy that is fair and inclusive, and contributes to the creation of decent and skilled jobs in the food sector.



Good Food Growing

7. Increase the provision of high quality food growing opportunities.
8. Engage with partners and local food growing initiatives to promote and support sustainable food growing.



Good Food for the Environment

9. Reduce food waste and food packaging in the public sector and support the community and the private sector to do so, redistribute food surplus and support food composting.
10. Connect with the community, partners and the private sector to reduce the impacts of the food system on the environment and its contribution to climate change and promote animal welfare.



Good Food Governance

11. Engage with, build on and support the various local food initiatives and encourage collaboration and partnership.
12. Ensure that healthy, sustainable, fair food is embedded in local policies, increase policy coherence and guarantee that food has a high profile across the council by connecting with partners.



Summary (Section 1) - number of Quantitative Measures green, amber and red under each Good Food Strategy objective

Theme	Green	Amber	Red	Report later / Contextual	Total
Good Food at Home and in the Community	1			3	4
Good Food Economy	1			1	2
Good Food for the Environment				2	2
Good Food Governance	1				1
Good Food Growing	4			1	5
Good Food in the Public Sector	5			3	8
Total	12	0	0	10	22

Summary (Section 2) - number of Project Measures complete, green, amber and red under each Good Food Strategy objective

Theme	Complete	Green	Amber	Red	Report later	Total
Good Food at Home and in the Community		3				3
Good Food in the Public Sector		1				1
Good Food Economy		2				2
Good Food Growing		3				3
Good Food for the Environment	1	1				2
Good Food Governance	3	2	1			6
Total	4	12	1	0	0	17

Good Food Strategy

Section 1: Quantitative measures

Good Food at Home and in the Community

1. Supporting good food education and culture 2. Reducing food insecurity and promoting dignity

Performance Indicators	Comments/ Progress	Status	----- This Year -----		----- Last 3 Years -----		
			Target	To Date	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Number of learners from Youth, Family and Community Learning service (Education) benefiting from food related learning programmes	<p>409 learners benefited from food related learning programmes delivered by the Youth Family and Community Learning service (YFCL) across South Lanarkshire over the Q3 and Q4 periods (until mid-March) making a total of 686 learners over the year.</p> <p>Learners included: young carers; vulnerable families, adults and young people; school groups; adults in recovery; pupils at Kear Campus; literacy learners; families and adults referred from schools, foodbanks and Department for Work and Pensions (DWP); disengaged secondary pupils and groups of care experienced young people.</p> <p>Programme content delivered by YFCL across South Lanarkshire included: outdoor cooking; the basics of cooking; learning about energy and nutrients; cooking for health; Café Connections- participants learning to run a café; exploring hospitality as an industry; cooking together as a family; creating and maintaining allotment spaces; growing organic foods; food pricing; growing seasonal food and cooking fresh produce; international cookery.</p> <p>28 learners achieved a REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene Certificate.</p>	Green	300	686	567	414	834
Number of children eligible for free school meals and supported during school holiday periods (£2.50 per day)	9,199 children were supported during school holiday periods. The figure is for quarter 3 (figure for quarter 4 was not yet available when preparing the report).	Contextual	-----	9,199	0	0	9,544

Good Food Strategy actions and measures (level 2)

Good Food at Home and in the Community

1. Supporting good food education and culture 2. Reducing food insecurity and promoting dignity

Performance Indicators	Comments/ Progress	Status	----- This Year -----		----- Last 3 Years -----		
			Target	To Date	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Number of referrals to specific food initiatives for families experiencing food insecurity made by Council services and partners (Best Start Food applications; Healthy Start Voucher applications; Food Bank referrals; School meal applications; Scottish Welfare Fund applications)	Money Matters Advice Service made 1,783 food related referrals for families experiencing food insecurity in 2023-2024. Figure refers to the period 01/04/2023 to 15/02/2024. This figures only include referrals made by Money Matter Advice Service as figures from partners were not available when preparing the report. This explains the drop in referrals compared to 2022/23 when referrals made by partners were included.	Contextual	-----	1,783	0	1,056	3,565
Number of people receiving food parcels or vouchers distributed by food banks	The 12 month data (2023-2024) for this measure will not be available until after the 31/03/24. In absence of the 12 month data, the most recent figures are the 6 months up to 30/09/23 which indicates that 12,811 households were referred to South Lanarkshire food banks during this period. This includes 21,162 people with 13,901 adults and 7,261 children. The number of households referred to local food banks during quarter one and two has increased by almost 29% compared to Q1 and Q2 2021/22, with the number of children being fed through emergency parcels increasing by the same percentage compared to this time 12 months ago. The number of children being fed through emergency food parcels during Q1 and Q2 2022/23 represents the highest figure ever recorded in South Lanarkshire Council for the first 6 months of the year. Based on the trend seen in previous years, it would be expected that the second half of the year will again see an increase in food parcel uptake across South Lanarkshire, but this will only be confirmed once the 12 months figures for 2023-2024 are released by the food banks after the 31/03/24. In addition to food parcels, local food banks have also distributed other forms of aid to help households with the cost of living, these include distribution of 683 energy vouchers and 255 vouchers to enable clients to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables.	Contextual	-----	21,162	0	41,293	57,709

Good Food Strategy actions and measures (level 2)

Good Food in the Public Sector

3. Improving food in schools and council properties 4. Improving food in public places

Performance Indicators	Comments/ Progress	Status	----- This Year -----		----- Last 3 Years -----		
			Target	To Date	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Level of total (free and paid) primary school meal uptake (as proportion of total primary school meals which could be taken up over the period)	Annual figure (until 31/03/2022) was not available when preparing the report. The figure reported here shows the position until 22/02/2024 and that the target is achieved.	Green	60%	69%	41%	58%	66%
Level of total (free and paid) secondary school meal uptake (as proportion of total secondary school meals which could be taken up over the period)	Annual figure (until 31/03/2022) was not available when preparing the report. The figure reported here shows the position until 22/02/2024 and that the target is achieved.	Green	38%	40%	24%	36%	38%
Number of lunches served in nursery schools as part of new Scottish Government Early Years Initiative	Annual figure (until 31/03/2022) was not available when preparing the report. The figure reported here shows the position until 22/02/2024 and that the target is achieved.	Green	500,000	539,087	218,249	438,249	571,245
Number of free breakfasts served in primary schools during school days	The total number of breakfast served in primary schools since the beginning of the year to this period (22/02/2024) is 714,172. Full year figure (until 31/03/2024) was not yet available when preparing the report.	Contextual	-----	714,172	0	0	727,816
Level of free primary school meals uptake (as proportion of total primary school free meals which could be taken up over the period)	Annual figure (until 31/03/2022) was not available when preparing the report. The figure reported here shows the position until 22/02/2024 and that the target is achieved.	Green	65%	67%	0%	58%	73%
Level of free secondary school meals uptake (as proportion of total secondary school free meals which could be taken up over the period)	Annual figure (until 31/03/2022) was not available when preparing the report. The figure reported here shows the position until 22/02/2024 and that the target is achieved.	Green	41%	45%	41%	44%	43%
Annual public procurement spending on Fairtrade products in schools and council premises	During the period April 2022 - March 2023, the Council spent £7,412.04 on Fairtrade products as part of the Scotland Excel Frameworks. This excludes spending towards Fairtrade coffee which is not purchased through this framework.	Contextual	-----	£7,412	£3,890	£4,116	£9,348
Annual public procurement spending on local food (i.e. food produced or manufactured in Scotland)	33.44% of food and drink purchased by the Council as part of the Scotland Excel Frameworks was manufactured or produced in Scotland. Data refers to the period April 2022 to March 2023. The level of spending towards local food depends on the availability of the required products in Scotland.	Contextual	-----	33%	0%	39%	36%

Good Food Strategy actions and measures (level 2)

Good Food Economy

5. Supporting a good food retail and catering environment 6. Encouraging a fair and inclusive local food economy

Performance Indicators	Comments/ Progress	Status	----- This Year -----		----- Last 3 Years -----		
			Target	To Date	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Food businesses compliant with food safety statutory requirements	Please note that this is the figure for Q3, as the Q4 figure was not available yet when compiling this report. This compliance figure continues to exceed the annual target set for this measure, and has increased gradually since the new food law rating scheme has come into affect in 2019. This is due to the fact that the new food law rating scheme allows local authorities to focus resources on high risk and non-compliant businesses by conducting more frequent inspections in these establishments.	Green	85%	95%	90%	93%	96%
Number of local food businesses engaged with and supported	This is a combination of grant support, business advice and participation in the EAT South Lanarkshire Accelerator programme.	Contextual	-----	15	0	0	10

Good Food Growing

7. Providing food growing opportunities 8. Promoting good food growing and sustainability

Performance Indicators	Comments/ Progress	Status	----- This Year -----		----- Last 3 Years -----		
			Target	To Date	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Loss of Prime Agriculture Land as a result of non-agricultural development	No planning applications have been granted that would result in the loss of prime agricultural land.	Green	0	0	0	0	0
Increase in the number of overall plot holders on Council managed food growing sites by March 2024	Chatelherault allotment site opened in Summer 2023 with an increase of 64 plot holders, which is an 18% increase compared to last year. The target for 2023-24 was 10%.	Green	36	64	0	31	25
Increase in the area of council land made available for food growing sites by March 2024	Chatelherault allotment site opened, increasing area of council land for food growing by 3,743m2 which is a 10% increase.	Green	10%	10%	0%	20%	4%
Increase in the overall number of food growing participants on council land including schools, care homes, housing areas and areas managed by community groups or third party organisations by March 2024	Survey on number of food growing participants not yet complete at the time of reporting	Report Later	5.00%	-----	-----	167.00%	-----

Good Food Strategy actions and measures (level 2)

Good Food Growing

7. Providing food growing opportunities 8. Promoting good food growing and sustainability

Performance Indicators	Comments/ Progress	Status	----- This Year -----		----- Last 3 Years -----		
			Target	To Date	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Occupancy levels at council managed food growing sites	Occupancy levels are 99% of capacity.	Green	98%	99%	0%	99%	99%

Good Food for the Environment

9. Reducing food waste and packaging 10. Limiting the impact of food system on the environment and climate change

Performance Indicators	Comments/ Progress	Status	----- This Year -----		----- Last 3 Years -----		
			Target	To Date	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Undertake waste compositional analysis to estimate the share of food waste in residual bins	The Waste Compositional Analysis was completed and the report received in September 2023. The results show that more than 30% of the waste in the residual (non-recyclable) bin is food waste. This figure is consistent with other local authorities throughout Scotland.	Contextual	-----	30%	-----	-----	-----
Share of food waste from school catering which is recycled/composted	The "Waste Warrior" initiative where pupils are involved in the monitoring of the dining hall food waste was rolled out in 21 schools. The project is still on-going and the team is also currently reviewing BIFFA waste data to get a more accurate picture.	Report Later	2%	-----	-----	1%	1%

Good Food Strategy actions and measures (level 2)

Good Food Governance

11. Developing and strengthening food partnerships 12. Making good food a priority in the Council's area

Performance Indicators	Comments/ Progress	Status	----- This Year -----		----- Last 3 Years -----		
			Target	To Date	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Report on the £0.3m Food Strategy Support Fund budget including the community grants by March 2024	<p>£0.277m of the £0.300m was committed, with the breakdown of projects as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •£205,000 to provide a new allotment site in the Hamilton area (Chatelherault). The site is now complete. •£15,000 to develop additional growing space at Richmond Allotment. Work is now complete. •£5,000 for Unpaid Work Service Garden Project (Social Work). The project is ongoing. •£20,000 for the Food Strategy Community Grants which was allocated to groups in 2022-2023. •£32,500 to five other projects which were approved for funding in financial year 2021-2022 <p>The remaining £23,000 was returned to Corporate Finance as a result of a savings exercise.</p>	Green	£0.300m	£0.270m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.000m

Good Food Strategy

Section 2: Project measures

Good Food at Home and in the Community

1. Supporting good food education and culture 2. Reducing food insecurity and promoting dignity

Action	Measures	Comments/ Progress	Status
Work in partnership with community food organisations and partners to identify and support the development of initiatives to tackle food poverty	Activities developed to tackle food insecurity including improving access to food and ensuring those accessing aid receive the advice and support required	<p>Following the publication of the national plan "Cash-First: towards ending the need for food banks in Scotland" in June 2023, Money Matters Advice Service launched a Cash-First Scheme using the Council Financial Wellbeing Support Fund to support households with £50 vouchers.</p> <p>Between October 2023 (start of the project) to March 2024, the service issued 1,845 vouchers of £50 to households for a total value of £92,250. There have been 1,743 families accessing the voucher with 122 accessing the fund for a second voucher.</p> <p>The Council financially supported seven local food banks in 2023-2024, they received £4,000 each.</p> <p>Each of the food banks are listed within the new version of the "Money is not the only problem" booklet, along with St Anthonys and St Marks foodbank – taking it up to 8 main foodbanks. The online directory will also be updated.</p> <p>During Christmas, 1,056 gifts and 790 food items were donated by council and SLLC staff to each of the 8 food banks (all 8 taking a share of either gifts, or food items, in some cases both).</p> <p>A community networking event including community food organisations was organised by the Community Engagement Team during the Challenge Poverty Week in October 2023.</p> <p>Eleven "Spectacular Summer Session Hubs" were successfully delivered across the four localities of South Lanarkshire in key locations between 03/07/2023 and 11/08/2023. Each hub delivered a targeted intensive two-week programme which ran Monday-Friday with breakfast and lunch included. Across the 6 weeks, over 4,500 meals were provided.</p>	Green
Deliver Kitchen Learning Hub to service users of the Unpaid Work	Increased number of service users participating in the hub and gaining REHIS qualifications. Service users report having more confidence to cook	There continues to be an increased use of the kitchen learning hub. A healthy soup lunch for all those who attend unpaid work is also available seven days a week.	Green

Good Food Strategy actions and measures (level 2)

Good Food at Home and in the Community

1. Supporting good food education and culture 2. Reducing food insecurity and promoting dignity

Action	Measures	Comments/ Progress	Status
Service	healthy meals for themselves and family and report a better understanding of nutrition and impact on their health and wellbeing	The bread making sessions continue to be undertaken to enhance the skills and knowledge of service users with the bread being given to various housing and homelessness services. A new unpaid work coordinator was also recruited to continue to improve the services delivered in the kitchen.	
Employ an educational gardener to support service users of Unpaid Work Service undertaking food growing as part of their unpaid work	Service users report increased knowledge and skills in gardening and food growing. Opportunity to undertake the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society GLiN Award. Fruit and vegetables grown are distributed to support foodbanks and other community food initiatives promoting access to locally grown affordable produce	Activities are still supported by an educational gardener within the service and a member of staff is currently going through a college course on food growing and gardening to increase knowledge in house. The garden project continues to grow in both size and range of products that is grown. All service users have the opportunity to undertake work there and enhance their knowledge and skills of growing food from seed. The food from the garden is being used within the kitchen learning hub. The above has resulted in excellent learning opportunities that are now used by learners to grow their own food at home and cook with their family.	Green

Good Food in the Public Sector

3. Improving food in schools and in council properties 4. Improving food in public places

Action	Measures	Comments/ Progress	Status
Progress actions to increase supply of local food and drink in the Council following recommendations from the Market Capacity Assessment	Demonstrated actions to increase supply of food and drink in the Council	<p>Outcomes of the market capacity assessment and next steps (action plan) were presented at the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on 20 September 2023 and to the Community Wealth Building Commission on 12th December 2023.</p> <p>Updates on the implementation of the action plan are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-The Council engaged with the 22 businesses that were identified through the assessment.-Chatelherault venue aims to proceed with Quick Quote process to identify local suppliers for meat, fruit and vegetable, coffee and artisan bread in 2024-2025.-Engagement with the catering team of Glasgow City Council and North Lanarkshire Council was conducted and key lessons shared with relevant services.-EAT South Lanarkshire Programme (August 2023- March 2024) supported eight SLC based food and drink companies to achieve their growth ambitions.-The Council continues to financially support Lanarkshire Larder and provide expertise. South Lanarkshire Council now has a seat on the board of Lanarkshire Larder.-"Showcasing the Larder of the Lowlands" event was organised with support from Scotland Food and Drink in April 2023 with 50 food and drink businesses attending the event. The event took place again in April 2024.	Green

Good Food Economy

5. Supporting a good food retail and catering environment 6. Encouraging a fair and inclusive local food economy

Action	Measures	Comments/ Progress	Status
Encourage networking amongst the food and drink sector	Demonstrated activities to encourage networking in the sector	<p>South Lanarkshire Council continues to have a seat on the Committee for the Lanarkshire Larder (the Lanarkshire Food and Drink Producers Network).</p> <p>The Council is currently promoting the Larder of the Lowlands event scheduled for April 2024. This is a Business to Business (B2B) event where local producers can engage with buyers.</p> <p>The Council is also promoting the national Meet the Buyer event on 5 June 2024 organised by the Supplier Development Programme (SDP).</p>	Green
Promote use of local food produce through promotion and events	Demonstrated activities to promote local products	The Council has been active on Social Media activities to promote events promoting local products and businesses such as the "Larder of the Lowlands" event in April 2024 and the national "Meet the Buyer" event in June 2024.	Green

Good Food Growing

7. Providing food growing opportunities 8. Promoting food growing and sustainability

Action	Measures	Comments/ Progress	Status
Develop a Council wide Open Space Strategy (OSS) including consideration of the potential of open space for providing food growing opportunities	Consultants to be appointed to develop standards and analysis of the open space audit data at Council and locality level with public engagement carried out by the Council (draft OSS to be submitted for committee approval in 2024/25)	<p>The first part of the consultancy work was completed. This included an analysis of the open space audit, the development of standards to measure open space in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility, and the carrying out of testing of these standards for individual localities and open space typologies.</p> <p>Engagement on these findings will commence in May 2024 for 8 weeks. This will include speaking to local communities, children and young people, older people and other interested parties.</p> <p>This will inform the development of the Open Space Strategy that will be submitted for approval in 2024-2025.</p>	Green
Promote awareness of, and provide guidance on, the development of Local Place Plans by local communities and in particular highlight the potential to support them in meeting food growing aspirations.	Demonstrated activities to promote and develop Local Place Plans	<p>A dedicated web page was created to promote the development of Local Place Plans and which includes information and advice for local communities exploring the possibility to prepare this type of plan.</p> <p>A formal invitation was launched in Q4 to directly target community groups.</p> <p>In addition to this, informal discussions took place with a number of local communities and a presentation to partners of the Community Planning Partnerships was made.</p>	Green
Ensure embedding of health and wellbeing issues in the preparation of Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3) in accordance with the NPF4	Early public engagement to inform LDP3 and committee approval to commence its preparation Preparation of Evidence Report (including collation of evidence on Lifelong Health and Wellbeing)	<p>An extensive engagement strategy was prepared and will be used to inform engagement activities throughout 2024.</p> <p>This will include direct liaison with the wide range of local organisations who have an interest and involvement in promoting healthy food. In addition health and wellbeing outcomes will form part of the wider engagement with communities in terms of local living principles.</p>	Green

Good Food for the Environment

9. Reducing food waste and packaging 10. Limiting the impact of food system on the environment and climate change

Action	Measures	Comments/ Progress	Status
Revise the content of the presentations provided by the Waste Education Team to schools in South Lanarkshire to include information about food waste reduction and recycling	Educational material updated by March 2024 including criteria to assess the impact of the educational programme	The Waste Education Team updated the educational material used in primary schools to include a specific section on food waste reduction and recycling. The team also developed a questionnaire for pupils to assess their level of understanding about the issues raised on food waste.	Complete
Undertake campaigns promoting sustainable food to Council employees and South Lanarkshire residents	Type of campaigns promoting sustainable food	National campaigns from the Love Food Hate Waste initiative and promoting food waste reduction were shared on Council social media.	Green

Good Food Governance

11. Developing and strengthening food partnerships 12. Making good food a priority in the council's area

Action	Measures	Comments/ Progress	Status
Promote Fairtrade principles in the council's area together with members of the Fairtrade steering group and renew the Fairtrade Zone status of the council	Fairtrade Zone Status renewed by August 2023	After submitting its application, the Council successfully renewed its Fairtrade Zone Status. The application showed that recently the Council worked in partnership with 13 local Fairtrade groups including community organisations, colleges, and businesses; organised or participated in seven Fairtrade events; promoted Fairtrade principles in schools during the Fairtrade Fortnights; generated around 10 media articles; financially supported the Scottish Fairtrade Forum; sponsored the Fairtrade awards at the Scottish Fairtrade Award; and is serving Fairtrade coffee in Council premises and in South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture premises.	Complete
	Demonstrated activities promoting Fairtrade principles	The Council supported the Fair Trade Education Award at the Scottish Fair Trade Awards Ceremony 2023. Most of the promotional activities usually take place during the Fairtrade Fortnight in February and the Fortnight was postponed this year to September 2024. Organisation of events will be discussed during the next South Lanarkshire Fairtrade steering group meeting in June 2024.	Green
Encourage and facilitate information sharing among participants of the Good Food Forum and encourage a partnership approach to progress the objective of the food strategy	Demonstrated activities to encourage and facilitate networking and partnership	The Good Food Forum discussion list has ceased given the lack of resources to maintain it. All participants were invited to join the Financial Inclusive Network (FIN). Other options to encourage a partnership approach around food are also being explored by the Community Engagement Team.	Amber

Good Food Strategy actions and measures (level 2)

Good Food Governance

11. Developing and strengthening food partnerships 12. Making good food a priority in the council's area

Action	Measures	Comments/ Progress	Status
Facilitate discussions on local food production at the next Rural Community Conference (scheduled in March 2024)	Agenda, participants and outputs from the discussion	The Rural Community Conference took place on 29th February 2024. The Conference had 100 participants and the feedback forms were 100% positive on the content and information within the Conference. The Conference included speakers demonstrating food growing community projects. The conference also shared information on community projects in South Lanarkshire and on securing funding which can assist in the growth of experience and knowledge around community food projects.	Complete

Good Food Governance

11. Developing and strengthening food partnerships 12. Making good food a priority in the council's area

Action	Measures	Comments/ Progress	Status
Work with partners including the Community Planning Partnership to define and implement collective actions to progress the objectives of the Good Food Strategy	Demonstrated actions to increase partnership working among partners and collective actions developed	<p>The Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Food Group was constituted after nomination of its members during summer 2023. The action plan approved by the CPP Board included the following action: promoting good food across the partnership, increasing networking among partners and with the community, sharing information and considering common actions on priority areas (i.e. food poverty and food served in public places), and monitoring national and local food related policy developments.</p> <p>Some of the actions were paused in 2023-2024 given the lack of resources to convene meetings with the CPP food group. Follow up meetings could be organised as part of the development of the Council Good Food Nation plan.</p> <p>Key actions that were conducted in 2023-2024 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mapping of Council food activities against the Sustainable Development Goals; - Mapping of food related initiatives led by communities; - Communication to partners on the results of the Market Capacity Assessment exercise on procurement of local food; - Support from the Community Engagement Team to food banks; - Cash First Approach developed by Money Matters Advice service; - Publication of the leaflet "Money is not the only problem"; - Consideration of the opportunity to reinforce and support the third sector as part of the activities for the development and implementation of the Good Food Nation Plan. 	Green
Conduct a mid-term review of the Good Food Strategy	Publication of the mid-term review report	The mid-term review of the Good Food Strategy was completed in consultation with all food related services of the Council. It includes recommendations for the next years and for the development of the upcoming local Good Food Nation Plan.	Complete

Report

4

Report to:	Climate Change and Sustainability Committee
Date of Meeting:	15 May 2024
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Carbon Management Interim Update 2023 – 2024
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ update the Committee on the mid-year position with respect to South Lanarkshire Council's carbon emissions for 2023-2024

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) note the mid-year position with respect to the Council's carbon emissions for the year 2023-24 as outlined in paragraph 5.2.

3. Background

3.1. The Scottish Government had set climate targets within legislation to reduce all greenhouse gas emissions Scotland-wide by 75% by 2030, 90% by 2040 and a total reduction from the 1990 baseline by 2045 (i.e. net zero emissions).

3.2. Public bodies, like South Lanarkshire Council, are expected to contribute to the above national targets, with the statutory framework for their climate action and reporting outlined in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act: which states that a public body must, in exercising its functions, act:

- ◆ in the way best calculated to contribute to the delivery of Scotland's national emissions reduction targets.
- ◆ in the way best calculated to help deliver Scotland's statutory climate change adaptation programme; and
- ◆ in a way that it considers is most sustainable.

3.3. To measure the Council's success in exercising the above functions and contributing to the above national targets, the Council's carbon footprint has been measured and reported annually since 2005-06. The parameters of the footprint were set following advice from The Carbon Trust as part of the Council's participation in the Carbon Trust's Local Authority Carbon Management Programme and its signing of the Scottish Climate Change Declaration in 2006. The scope of the Council's carbon footprint currently includes emissions from:

- ◆ Buildings energy
- ◆ Fleet

- ◆ Employee travel
- ◆ Household waste
- ◆ Street lighting

- 3.4. Each year, the Council agrees a short-term carbon reduction target for the year ahead. Last year it was agreed at the Corporate Management Team meeting on 20 April 2023 that a defined carbon percentage reduction target could not be set for 2023-24, and instead the Council should aim to reduce as much as possible compared with previous years.
- 3.5. The Council has, however, committed to a zero direct emissions target by 2038. This target is in line with the ambitious public sector targets detailed in Scotland's Climate Change Plan and Scotland's Heat in Buildings Strategy (this is a statutory target for public organisations such as local authorities to achieve zero emissions heat from their public sector buildings by 2038, i.e. remove fossil fuels from the Council estate).
- 3.6. On 20 March 2024, Scotland's Climate Change Committee (CCC), the independent statutory body established under the Climate Change Act 2008, published its annual report [Progress in reducing emissions in Scotland 2023 Report to Parliament](#). This report highlighted that the Climate Change Committee believed that the Scottish Government would not meet its statutory 2030 goal to reduce emissions by 75%. The carbon reduction figure for Scotland is currently sitting at 49.2% (Scotland would need to reduce by another 25% over the next 6 years to meet the 75% target). The report stated the following:-

‘(The Scottish Government’s) action and policies “continue to fall far short” of what was needed. Most sectors, such as housing, transport and farming, remained so far behind their interim targets “the acceleration required [to] meet the 2030 target is now beyond what is credible”.’

- 3.7. Following this report, on 18 April 2024 the Scottish Government announced that the 2030 target and annual carbon targets would be replaced with a system measuring emissions every five years. It was confirmed that new legislation would be expedited to address the matters raised by the CCC, and ensure the legislative framework better reflected the reality of long-term climate policymaking.

4. Carbon Management Reporting

- 4.1. To align the Council's carbon management reporting with the Public Sector Climate Change Duties Compliance report, going forward all Council carbon management related reports will categorise the Council's corporate emissions as Scope 1, 2 or 3 emissions. This is the standard for carbon reporting as per the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard (the world's most widely used greenhouse gas accounting standards). Categorising the emissions in this way highlights the direct emissions that a company generates while performing its business activities (scope 1), whereas scope 2 covers indirect emissions from purchased energy, and scope 3 covers indirect emissions created elsewhere in the value chain.
 - ◆ Scope 1 (direct emissions): greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel related activities controlled by an organisation. Examples might be emissions from gas boilers in Council leisure centres and emissions from the Council's own petrol and diesel vehicles
 - ◆ Scope 2 (energy indirect): emissions associated with the consumption of purchased electricity, heat, steam, and cooling. Examples might be emissions

from lighting in the Council's primary schools and offices, and from charging Council's EV fleet vehicles

- ◆ Scope 3 (other indirect emissions): emissions arising from the procurement of goods and services from a third party/contractor. Examples might be emissions from: business travel associated with staff-owned vehicles; household waste; and from the Council's procurement of goods and services

4.2. Figure 1 below provides an overview of the scope of the Council's carbon footprint and which category these align with:

Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings (gas) • Buildings (oil) • Fleet (petrol and diesel) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings (electricity) • Street Lighting • Fleet (Electric Vehicles) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste (Household) • Staff Travel (own vehicles) • Waste (Council Buildings)* • Water (Council Buildings) * • Homeworking*

Figure 1: South Lanarkshire Council's Carbon Footprint (* indicates additions for 2024/25 reporting)

4.3. Waste (Council buildings), water (Council buildings) and homeworking emissions have not been historically included in the Council's carbon footprint. However, as data is now being actively collected for these areas by the Council, they will now be added to the carbon reporting from financial year 2024-25. This is consistent with the reporting requirements within the Council's Public Sector Climate Change Duties Compliance report. This will lead to an increase in our recorded carbon footprint but will constitute more accurate reporting and will result in a new baseline. As noted in previous reports on this topic, carbon management reporting will continue to evolve as more data becomes available.

5. Council's Carbon Emissions 2023-24 Interim Update

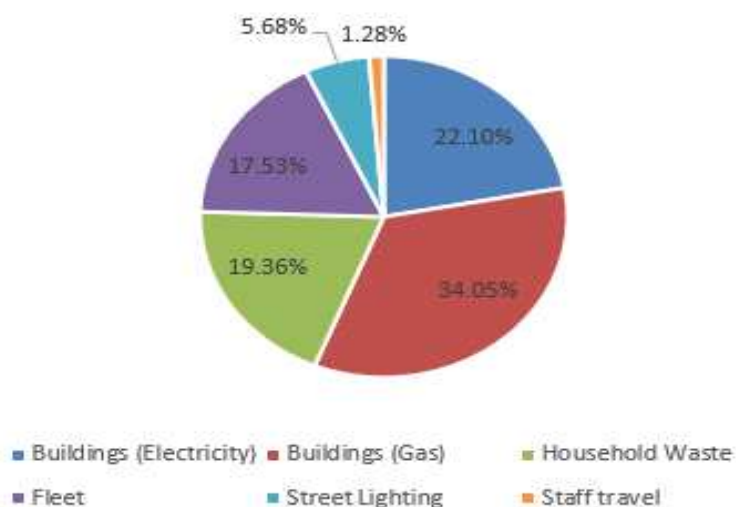
5.1. As reported to the Committee on 29 November 2023, the Council's total carbon footprint has reduced by 65.7% between 2005 and March 2023. This has been achieved through introduction of numerous energy efficiency measures including behaviour changes related to reducing energy use, use of renewable technology such as solar PVs, boiler upgrades, introduction of EV vehicles as part of the Council's fleet, reduction of household waste going to landfill, and increased use of Energy from Waste (EfW) facility, as well as through the decarbonisation of the grid.

- 5.2. The Council's interim 2023-24 carbon emissions (from April – September 2023) are detailed in the table below and are compared with the same corresponding period for 2022-23:

Emissions Source	Timeframe	2022-23 (CO2te)	2023 -24 (CO2te)	2023-24 % by source	Variance	Variance %
Buildings (Gas) (Scope 1)	Apr – Sept	7,779	6,910	34.0%	-869	-11.17%
Fleet (Scope 1)	Apr - Sept	3,609	3,558	17.5%	-51	-1.43%
Buildings (Electricity) (Scope 2)	Apr - Sept	4,397	4,486	22.1%	89	2.02%
Street Lighting (Scope 2)	Apr - Dec	1,079	1,153	5.7%	74	6.84%
Household Waste (Scope 3)	Jan - June	4,125	3,929	19.4%	-195	-4.74%
Staff travel (Scope 3)	Apr - Sept	261	260	1.3%	-1	-0.34%
Totals (CO2te)		21,250	20,296	100%	-954	-4.49%

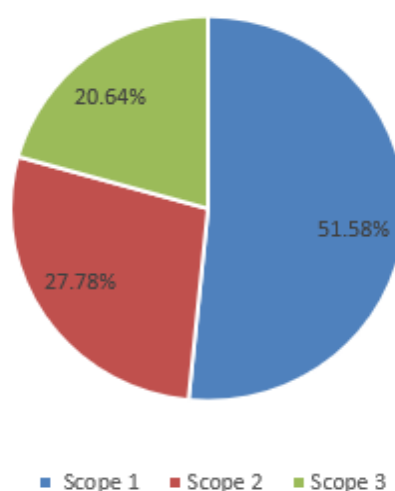
- 5.3. The carbon figures are calculated using the Greenhouse Gas Conversion Factors for Company Reporting¹ for electricity, gas and waste. These factors are subject to change due to updated data, shifts in energy sources and advancements in methodologies. As a result, the factors can vary from year to year, which can impact the Council's carbon footprints.
- 5.4. The charts below show the proportion of the Council's Interim 2023-24 carbon footprint allocated to each source and scope:

2023-24 Interim Carbon Emissions by Source %



¹ The GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting are published each year by UK Government's Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

2023-24 Interim Carbon Emissions by Scope %



- 5.5. These figures demonstrate that an overall reduction of 4.49% has been achieved so far for 2023-24 scope 1-3 emissions and 8.08% has been achieved for scope 1 emissions. The likely reasons for these reductions are listed below (paragraph 5.7) for each source.
- 5.6. Based on 2022/23 carbon emissions (53,553 tCO₂e), an annual reduction of roughly 2,550 tCO₂e per year, or 4.76% per year, would be required to bring total Council operational emissions down to net zero by 2045 (the target date for total emissions reduction from 1990 baseline). Based on 2022/23 for Scope 1 emissions (32,869 tCO₂e), an annual reduction of roughly 2,347 tCO₂e per year, or 7.14% would be required to bring Council Scope 1 emissions down to zero by 2038, the date for zero direct emission committed to in line with the Scotland's Heat in Buildings strategy (see paragraph 3.5). These figures are based on 2022/23 figures and therefore do not account for the proposed changes in Council carbon emissions reporting (paragraph 4.3) which would increase the Council's carbon footprint. There is also potential for other emissions sources to be added or removed from the Council's emissions reporting in future years as reporting requirements change; this would alter the figures detailed above.
- 5.7. Buildings
- 5.7.1. Gas consumption in Council buildings for April - September 2023 (scope 1 emissions) decreased by 11.36% compared to the same period in 2022, resulting in a carbon emission decrease of 11.17%. This decrease is in part due to the Council Headquarters being shut in July for two weeks, a later start date for the school heating switch-on, and a relaxing of Covid ventilation measures.
- 5.7.2. Electricity consumption (scope 2 emissions) in Council buildings for April - September 2023 decreased by 4.72% compared with the same period in 2022. However, a 7% increase in the carbon conversion factor for electricity has resulted in an increase in emissions from electricity use in buildings of 2.02%.
- 5.7.3. Oil for heating in Council buildings (scope 1 emissions) is not included in the interim report figures. These figures are calculated at the end of the financial year and will be included in the end of year carbon management report.

5.8. Household Waste

- 5.8.1. The emissions attributed to household waste collection (scope 3 emissions) from January – June 2023 have reduced by 4.74% compared with the same period in 2022.
- 5.8.2. The overall amount of waste collected from households increased slightly by 2.78% over this period compared to 2022. Although the amount of waste collected increased from last year, emissions attributable to household waste decreased due to a higher percentage of the Council's non-recyclable waste being sent to the EfW facility and a smaller percentage being landfilled (carbon associated with waste processed at EfW facilities is much less than if the waste had been landfilled). An increase in the household recycling rate of 1% in 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 also contributed to the overall reduction emissions attributable to household waste.
- 5.8.3. Work is continuing to increase recycling facilities for households and reduce recycling contamination rates where possible to further reduce emissions.

5.9. Fleet and Staff Travel

- 5.9.1. An emissions reduction of 1.43% was achieved from fleet vehicles (scope 1) between April and September 2023 compared with the same period in 2022. A reduction in the amount of petrol and gas oil consumed by SLC fleet vehicles has contributed to this decrease in emissions.
 - 5.9.2. A further emissions reduction of 0.34% was achieved from staff travel in the same period; this covers electric pool car usage (scope 2), and staff travel claims (scope 3). The reductions are attributable to increased use of staff's own low emissions vehicles, the increase in home and agile working and the use of information technologies such as MS Teams. Staff mileage claimed has increased this year compared to years 2020/21 and 2021/22, however is below pre-pandemic levels.
- 5.10. Street Lighting
- 5.10.1. Electricity consumption from street lighting (scope 2) during the period April – December 2023 decreased slightly by 0.23%, however carbon emissions increased by 6.84%. This is due to the 7% increase in the carbon conversion factors for electricity as reported in 5.7.2.

6. 2024-25 Carbon Emissions Target Setting

- 6.1. To establish achievable carbon reduction targets for 2024-25, meetings have been held with Resources and Services and a summary of discussions for each source of emissions is detailed below. These discussions provide context for setting carbon emission reduction targets.
- 6.2. Buildings
- 6.2.1. The Council has committed to a zero Scope 1 (direct emissions) target by 2038. This aligns with Scotland's Climate Change Plan and Scotland's Heat in Buildings Strategy which both detail 2038 as the date for decarbonising public buildings. The expectation is that 2038 is the backstop date for only the most difficult buildings, such as hospitals, to be decarbonised.
 - 6.2.2. As outlined in paragraph 4.2., Scope 1 emissions includes the gas and oil used in Council buildings. To date in 2023/24, gas (oil reported at Q4) in our Council buildings accounts for 34% of all Council carbon emissions. Representing over a third of total emissions, any decarbonisation measures within Council buildings stand to have a substantial impact on the Council's overall carbon reduction performance.

- 6.2.3. The Council currently has 258 non housing properties heated by gas or gas hybrid systems and a further 29 heated by oil or oil hybrid systems. Assuming all these buildings are to be retained for future service delivery, to achieve zero direct emissions as per the Heat in Buildings Strategy and the Council's own scope 1 emissions carbon reduction target, all these buildings would require heating system replacements and fabric upgrade works by 2038 – this equates to approximately 20 buildings per year.
- 6.2.4. Further to scope 1 emissions detailed above, 22.1% of the Council's emissions come from electricity used in Council buildings (scope 2). It is anticipated that emissions attributable to electricity in Council buildings will primarily reduce as a result of the decarbonisation of the national grid. Practical measures to reduce electricity demand in Council buildings could also help to reduce emissions associated with this source and could be considered when setting emission reduction targets.
- 6.2.5. To progress this work, feasibility studies have been commissioned on four primary schools and three wet leisure facilities. This information will form the basis of the initial route map to decarbonise the Council buildings estate. A report on the findings of the net zero feasibilities and the actions already taken to date to reduce building energy demand is being submitted to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on 15 May 2024.
- 6.2.6. Until the above preliminary work is complete, a more detailed route map for the building's estate cannot be progressed. It is clear, however, that an associated financial strategy will be required for the above as reduction targets cannot be met within current budgets.
- 6.3. Household Waste
- 6.3.1. 19.36% of Council emissions come from household waste. The emissions from waste have reduced by almost 85.9% since 2005. This is due to increased recycling opportunities for most households, greater segregation of waste type and the new residual waste contract which sees non-recyclable waste treated at an Energy from Waste facility rather than sent to landfill.
- 6.3.2. The kerbside collection service is currently undergoing a review to consider frequency and capacity of kerbside collections. The aim of the review is to maximise recycling opportunities and encourage positive behaviour change and it is hoped that this will have a beneficial impact on the Council's carbon footprint. A report will be presented later in the year on the findings of this review.
- 6.3.3. Currently, no suggested reduction target can be offered on this source as no further reductions are expected for the coming year. The outcome of the review mentioned above will inform future target setting around emissions from household waste.
- 6.4. Fleet and Staff Travel
- 6.4.1. 18.8% of Council emissions come from fleet and staff travel. The emissions from fleet and staff travel have reduced by 25% and 82% respectively since 2005. This is due to many activities such as downsizing the size of vehicles, the introduction of the pool car system, driver fuel efficiency training, route planning, installation of fuel-efficient technologies and the move from fossil fuel to electric for around 35% of fleet cars.
- 6.4.2. South Lanarkshire Council no longer procures new petrol and diesel cars and is committed to phasing out petrol and diesel cars by 2030 as per the Scottish Government's Programme for Government 2019-20 target. Further carbon reduction would be possible by replacing the remaining 65% of fossil fuelled cars with electric equivalents and installing the charging infrastructure as appropriate. We continue to

review the vehicle requirements across the Council in discussions with Services; these discussions will formulate the basis of a fleet modernisation programme which will in turn inform future target setting around emissions for fleet vehicles.

- 6.4.3. Staff travel will continue to be monitored and staff are encouraged to use MS Teams for meetings and EV pools cars for business journeys when possible.

6.4.4. Street Lighting

5.7% of Council emissions come from street lighting. The ambitious LED replacement programme which completed in 2019 achieved a 68% emissions reduction from street lighting between 2014 and 2019. It is anticipated that emissions from street lighting will increase in the future as there continues to be an increase in the number of streetlights within newly adopted housing developments. For this reason, a carbon reduction target cannot be set for street lighting for 2024-25.

7. Next steps

- 7.1. Based on the above information, it is proposed that a percentage reduction target is not set for financial year 2024-25 and instead the Council should continue to aim to reduce as much as possible compared with the previous year, without a set target.
- 7.2. As noted at paragraph 3.5, whilst the Council has a zero direct emissions (scope 1) target by 2038, it does not have a route-map in place to achieve this target. This route map is being developed as part of the Council's longer-term Net Zero strategy and will require collaboration with all Resources. Over the next 18 months, a series of reports will be produced which will form the basis of the Council's net zero route map. These include:-
- ◆ Carbon Management Year End Report 2023-24
 - ◆ Public Sector Climate Change Public Duties Report 2023 -24
 - ◆ Fleet Modernisation Plan
 - ◆ South Lanarkshire Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy
 - ◆ Carbon Future Targets Report
- 7.3. In addition, it is expected that the new Climate Intelligence Service (CIS) will provide a joint approach to councils meeting Scotland's national commitment to net zero by 2045. The CIS is being jointly funded by Scottish Government and local government to help councils deliver their own net zero targets and for the development of area-wide programmes of emissions reduction. The CIS aims to:-
- ◆ procure a platform for all 32 local authorities populated with area wide data to collate and report action.
 - ◆ support local authorities and partners to identify and enter current and future actions into the platform.
 - ◆ provide a service to local authorities to support decision making through access to data, sharing best practice and solutions.
- 7.4. The CIS is in the initial stages, with user groups being set up with local authorities to establish the key requirements of the service. The Council's Sustainable Development Officers are attending these preliminary sessions and will continue to engage with the CIS on behalf of South Lanarkshire Council.
- 7.5. Furthermore, the Enterprise and Sustainable Development Service is looking to undertake a feasibility study on energy and income generating opportunities for the Council through renewable technologies. This exercise will add value to the information in this report as there is potential for any future renewable energy project to provide low or zero carbon energy for Council owned premises, or to generate

income for the Council which could be reinvested in projects to achieve Net Zero ambitions.

8. Employee Implications

- 8.1. All Resources are required to contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change strategy to ensure that actions and targets, including carbon reduction actions and targets, are met. The Council's Sustainable Development Officers monitor and report the Council's progress.

9. Financial Implications

- 9.1. The amended order for the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 introduced a Statutory Instrument highlighting the need to report how we align spending plans and use of resources to contribute to meeting our carbon emission reduction targets. This was introduced from 2020-21 onwards and is required to be included in the annual climate change report due to be submitted in November 2024.
- 9.2. As previously reported, carbon reduction up to now has been achieved within current budgets and from ad hoc capital funds, however, without significant financial investment (whether through direct government funding or via innovative new funding models), the Council will be unable to meet the challenging national net zero carbon targets.

10. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 10.1. The carbon management process demonstrates the Council's commitment to contribute to national targets and to the global sustainable development goals.

11. Other Implications

- 11.1. 'Failure to meet sustainable development and climate change objectives' is one of the top risks for the Council. Without a plan in place and a financial plan to support it, then this risk will continue to be one of the Council's top risks.

12. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 12.1. Consultation has been undertaken with all relevant Council Resources in the preparation of this report.
- 12.2 This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no equality impact assessment is required.

David Booth

Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

24 April 2024

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

Values

- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable

Priorities

- ◆ We will work towards a sustainable future in sustainable places
- ◆ We will work to recover, progress and improve

Outcomes

- ◆ Good quality, suitable and sustainable places to live
- ◆ Caring, connected, sustainable communities

Previous References

- ◆ Climate Change and Sustainability Committee report, 29 November 2023, Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Annual Report 2022-23

List of Background Papers

- ◆ The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
- ◆ 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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E-mail: kathryn.mccafferty@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Report

5

Report to:	Climate Change and Sustainability Committee
Date of Meeting:	15 May 2024
Report by:	Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

Subject:	Non-Domestic Buildings – Net Zero Feasibilities
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ♦ provide an update on the outcome of seven feasibility studies, conducted to assess the investment required to achieve national net zero standards for the Council's primary school and wet leisure estate
- ♦ provide an updated estimate of total capital investment required to meet national net zero standards for the council's non-domestic property estate based on the outcome of the feasibility studies

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the outcome from the feasibility studies completed be noted;
- (2) that it be noted that the updated estimate of total capital investment that would be required to achieve national net zero standards is £927m, based on the outcome of the feasibility studies;
- (3) that it be noted that the Scottish Government intend to legislate that all non-domestic buildings in the public sector should be using clean heating systems by 2038 which will require the Council to replace fossil fuel heating systems at around 300 properties; and
- (4) that the Council's existing fabric first approach around retrofit investment decisions be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Scottish Government has set out ambitious emission reduction targets in legislation with the intention for Scotland to become net zero by 2045.
- 3.2. Through the proposed Heat in Building's Bill, currently under development, the Scottish Government intends to legislate for non-domestic buildings in the public sector to be using clean heating systems by the end of 2038. This means that no such council building would be permitted to burn fossil fuels to generate energy for heating or hot water systems. Currently, just under 300 of the Council's non-domestic properties are heated using fossil fuels.
- 3.3. It is anticipated that as fossil fuels are replaced by electrically powered solutions for heating and transport, that the demand on the electricity grid is likely to double, which has implications in terms of stability of supply.

- 3.4. To better understand the practical challenges and financial implications from this proposed legislation, Housing and Technical Resources committed to conducting a range of feasibility studies across the Council's non-domestic estate, aiming to quantify what would be required to achieve net zero within these building types.
- 4. Modelling of measures to set on the path to net zero.**
- 4.1 Funding for the seven feasibility studies was secured through the council's Climate Emergency Fund. Four primary school and three wet leisure properties were selected with the intention to cover a range of build contractor, geographical location, and year of construction. In total, these property types account for circa 48% of carbon emissions from all the Council's non housing buildings.
- 4.2. The assessment process utilised modelling tools to understand how the properties in the study performed in theory against reality. 'Digital Twin' models for each building were constructed and the modelled outputs compared to real life performance utilising energy billing data.
- 4.3. Once the Digital Twin for each building had been calibrated, the effect of applying a series of retrofit measures incrementally was modelled to output expected energy, carbon, and cost reductions.
- 4.4. The Digital Twins were then used to model the effect of installing each of the retrofit measures shown in Table 1 sequentially.

Measure	Purpose	Impact on Energy consumption
1. Fabric Updates	Improves energy efficiency of building fabric reducing the amount of energy required to heat the building.	Reduces gas / oil usage.
2. Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting	Improves energy efficiency with respect to electricity usage for lighting in the building.	Reduces electricity use however gas / oil usage increases as additional heating is required to offset the loss of internal gains.
3. Air Handling Unit (AHU) improvements, pumps, and fans	Improves energy efficiency by optimizing the existing building systems.	Reduces both electricity and gas / oil usage.
4. Ground Source Heat Pump (GSHP) for all heating and Domestic Hot Water (DHW) requirements	Improves energy efficiency and eliminates fossil fuel usage to achieve Zero direct emissions heat targets.	Eliminates gas / oil usage for heating / hot water. Electricity increases by approx. 1 kWh for every 3 - 4 kWh of gas /oil previously used for heating.
5. Photo Voltaic (PV) panels added to the roof	Self-generation of electricity helps offset cost of procuring electricity from the grid supply	None

Table 1: Retrofit Measures

- 4.5. Table 2 provides a summary of the outcomes, combining the results for all four schools detailing the effect on energy usage, carbon emissions, and operational cost. Please note the percentage savings expressed below are cumulative.

Measure	Cumulative Energy Reduction	Cumulative Carbon Reduction	Cumulative Operational Cost Reduction
None	0%	0%	0%
Fabric Updates	15%	14%	8%
LED lighting throughout	16%	16%	19%
AHU improvements, pumps, and fans	21%	21%	22%
GSHP for all heating and DHW requirements	66%	63%	11%
PV panels added to roof	66%	64%	20%

Table 2: Combined expected Energy, Carbon, and Operational Cost reductions for the Primary School properties.

- 4.6. Similarly, a summary of the findings combining the results for the three wet leisure facilities selected is shown below in Table 3. Again, note that the figures savings figures are cumulative.

Measure	Cumulative Energy Reduction	Cumulative Carbon Reduction	Cumulative Operational Cost Reduction
None	0%	0%	0%
Fabric Updates	17%	16%	10%
LED lighting throughout	17%	17%	14%
AHU improvements, pumps, and fans	22%	22%	24%
GSHP for all heating and DHW requirements	68%	66%	3%
PV panels added to roof	68%	66%	6%

Table 3: Combined expected Energy, Carbon, and Operational Cost reductions for the Wet Leisure properties.

- 4.7. As illustrated within Tables 2 and 3, the studies suggest that significant energy and carbon reductions can be achieved by investing in the measures identified in Table 1 in sequence. However, operational cost reductions, as shown in column 4 in tables 2 and 3 above, which would typically be used to financially appraise investment decisions, are far less significant. For example, the average investment required for a primary school included in this feasibility exercise was £3.3m. The average modelled utility cost savings for this level of investment would be just £16,500 per annum. This would imply a simple financial payback of around 200 years.
- 4.8. Finally, the findings from these seven feasibility studies were extrapolated across the council's non housing estate to estimate the level of investment required to transition these properties towards net zero. The result of this exercise suggested around £927 million of capital investment would be required at 2023 prices for the existing non-housing portfolio. Around £192 million of this figure relates to properties currently operated by South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture.

5. Current position

- 5.1. The Council has a fabric first approach to improving the energy efficiency of its non-domestic buildings, which aims to reduce energy consumption, leading to reduced operating costs and lower carbon emissions. These energy efficiency improvements are outlined as measures 1, 2 and 3 in Table 1.
- 5.2. Investment in such measures is already taking place across the Council's non-domestic estate, with the funding made available through Lifecycle and/or CEEF funding sources.
- 5.3. Due to the capital costs and running cost increases from currently available clean heating systems (measure 4 in Table 1), the Council does not have a programme for the replacement of its fossil fuel systems across its non-domestic estate at present.

6. Next Steps

- 6.1. The Council await the outcome of the Scottish Government's consultation on the proposed Heat in Buildings Bill, expected later in 2024/25. This will confirm the legislative timeline for the new net zero standards to be introduced and detail any additional support or grant or private sector funding routes that may be available to local authorities to support the transition.
- 6.2. The outcomes of the feasibility studies and modelling for the councils' other non-domestic properties will be incorporated into the South Lanarkshire Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy, subject to approval at Executive Committee on 26 June 2024. Through this long-term framework, considerations can be made as to how these buildings can be transitioned to net zero, potentially aligning with other improvement projects and accessing suitable grant or private sector funding.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. Many of the Council's non-domestic properties are heated through gas boiler systems and maintained through internal services or external contracts. Should a significant proportion of these be replaced there will be implications on employees with upskilling or training required to service and maintain these new systems. Operation of systems will also differ, again requiring training for relevant officers.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. As detailed at 4.8, significant investment will be required to transition the Council buildings to a net zero standard. The expected funding required is estimated to be over £900m over the next 14 years, which significantly outstrips available funding of any of the existing internal investment programmes or potential grant funding opportunities currently available.
- 8.2. As referenced at 5.2, the council does have limited funding to progress some energy efficiency measures on its non-domestic estate, which will make a small contribution to achieving the proposed standards. Additional resources will be required, however, to implement a full fabric first approach.
- 8.3. The transition of heating away from fossil fuel sources by installing measure 4 in Table 1, while essential for meeting carbon reduction targets, has significant financial implications in terms of both capital and day-to-day running costs. Albeit policy decisions by UK Government on whether to remove renewable levies applied to electricity charges could significantly change the economics of this.
- 8.4. Taking account of the scale of investment required alongside the legislative requirement to reduce emissions, it is essential that consideration is given to the

funding/partnership delivery models that are currently available and seek to agree which model best suits the Council's requirements. Whilst the Scottish Government have stated that they will provide some limited funding towards the transition, it is anticipated that private sector funding routes will also be explored.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. Failure to meet sustainable development and climate change objectives is one of the Council's top risks. The council's Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) is currently out for consultation. One of the main objectives of LHEES will be to set out how the council will seek to decarbonise heat and increase energy efficiency within council owned properties.
- 9.2. Should the Council successfully transition to net zero and achieve the proposed legislative standards, it is expected to have a positive impact on efforts to tackle climate change.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. The decarbonisation of heat from the Council's non-Domestic property portfolio is essential for the Council to meet the Emissions Reductions Targets set in regulation by the Scottish Government.
- 10.2. The shape and nature of the council's property portfolio has been driven by the requirements of individual services. However, prior to embarking on the required programme of investment, a fundamental review of service and area need should be undertaken to identify opportunities to reduce the property estate and to maximise the service benefits from the investment in the remaining assets.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. The Sustainable Development and Climate Change strategy has undertaken a public consultation, an equalities impact assessment, and a Fairer Scotland assessment.

Stephen Gibson

Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

24 April 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
- ◆ Excellent employer

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

- ◆ None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ None

Contact for Further Information

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

Steven Turner, Section Leader (Legislative)
Ext 5659

Report

6

Report to:	Climate Change and Sustainability Committee
Date of Meeting:	15 May 2024
Report by:	Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

Subject:	Energy Demand Reduction Plan Update
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ◆ advise the Committee on an update on the work undertaken to date on the development of an Energy Demand Reduction Plan, contained within the motion approved by Full Council on 7 December 2022 entitled 'Cut Fuel Bills, Cut Carbon Emissions, Kick Start the Green Economy'

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) note the update on progress made to date on the Energy Demand Reduction Plan, and the proposed action going forward; and
- (2) note the actions detailed on Appendix 1 of this report.

3. Background

- 3.1. At the Full Council meeting on 7 December 2022, a motion was passed titled 'Cut Fuel Bills, Cut Carbon Emissions, Kick Start the Green Economy'. This included a range of actions for the Council to progress including a requirement to consider how it could further reduce energy usage across its property portfolio.
- 3.2. In response to this, Housing and Technical Resources is currently working with relevant services from across the Council to prepare an Energy Demand Reduction Plan.
- 3.3. A full report, detailing the Council's response to the motion, was submitted to the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Committee on 14 June 2023, including the proposed approach of developing an Energy Demand Reduction Plan to align with the Property AMP and annual update.

4. Update on Actions Progressed in Repose to Council Energy Demand Reduction Plan

- 4.1. An analysis of the total energy use in the non-domestic estate was undertaken which identified the properties with the highest energy consumption.
- 4.2. Technical officers within Housing and Technical Resources have advised that it is not practical or feasible to implement a set point of 18 degrees across all buildings due to the differences in construction types, thermal efficiency, and orientation of the

Council's public building estate. It is therefore recommended that a temperature reduction of 1°C is implemented in the buildings where it is safe to do so.

- 4.3. Leisure facilities under the management of South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture have been omitted from this exercise. Secondary schools have also been omitted since these are not owned by the Council. Homes for the elderly and nursery schools were not considered due to the demographic of the users of these premises.
- 4.4. In order to test the concept, a pilot has commenced in 30 buildings across the Council's non-domestic buildings estate, selecting from the properties identified during the analysis undertaken at 4.1.
- 4.5. Where remote access to the heating controls was available, the temperature of the space heating was lowered by 1 degree before the end of December 2023. In the sites where it was necessary to engage the services of a contractor to change the heating controls, visits to the sites were arranged for the first week of January 2024.
- 4.6. The energy consumption in the pilot properties will be monitored across a six-month period, along with registering any operational or service issues, prior to rolling out to other facilities.

5. Other Action taken to Date

5.1. Energy Champions

Currently, there are around 28 members of staff in South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture who have volunteered to undertake training to become energy champions. This will be run as a pilot scheme undertaken in SLLC and rolled out to other Resources upon completion and review of the pilot. Training materials will be developed alongside SLC training section in the first half of 2024.

5.2. Energy Audits

The number of energy audits have been increased with the focus on primary schools and leisure facilities. 68 audits have been completed to date this financial year comprising 45 schools, 19 leisure facilities, 2 social work properties and 2 corporate buildings.

Faults identified during the energy audits are reported to staff on site or the Maintenance Team for attendance. Recommendations from the audits are considered for inclusion in future CEEF programmes.

5.3. Vacant Properties

To minimise the energy costs in vacant properties, procedures are in place to ensure that the utility supplies will be disconnected, water supply pipes drained down and meter readings taken so these can be monitored with the intention of reducing energy costs down to standing charges only.

5.4. Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF)

CEEF is a revolving fund for implementing energy efficiency projects, which was set up to achieve energy efficiency and carbon emissions reductions, in Council General Services' properties. Following the Scottish Government's decision to cease the requirement to report on CEEF, the Council agreed to continue in house with an annual programme of CEEF projects.

The 2023/24 programme was approved by CMT on 28 September 2023 and all projects are scheduled to complete by April 2024.

6. Other Actions Recommended

- 6.1. The current heating season, while dependent on various factors, can range from September to May. It is recommended that the heating season be reduced to commence from 1 October and run until 31 March (weather dependent) each year.
- 6.2. Extend the current pilot to identify an Energy Champion on each site with responsibility for ensuring that energy use is limited wherever possible and promoting changes in behaviour within the services occupying the buildings. We intend implementing this once we have feedback from the SLLC pilot.
- 6.3. Work with teachers and pupils on school sites regarding education on energy, how to save energy, and how they can contribute to this.
- 6.4. Develop staff behavioural change programme in relation to energy awareness including development and promotion of Learn Online training.
- 6.5. Engage with ICT Services to ensure that PC shutdown software is in place across the Council's estate.
- 6.6. Continuous monitoring and management of energy use. Making sure that meaningful reports are available monthly. Monitoring to be carried out on a weather corrected basis. Prepare quarterly reports for all properties in each resource and prepare a monthly report for top 20% of energy users. These reports will be passed to a senior nominated energy champion within each Resource.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. There are no current employee implications associated with this report, however additional volunteers will be sought to act as Energy Champions and staff will be encouraged to undertake the Learn Online training.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. The Council motion instructed officers to look at no/low-cost ways to reduce bills therefore there are no financial implications from the implementation of the measures described above.
- 8.2. Any financial savings will be dependent upon the costs of utilities. The focus of the actions proposed by this report are on consumption savings which the Council can influence, rather than cost savings as we have no control over the cost of energy.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. The Council's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy outlines the action to meet our climate change duties and has undergone a full Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This can be found on the Scottish Government's SEA Gateway database.
- 9.2. This assessment identified that these priorities could make a positive contribution to local and national sustainability and climate change targets.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. 'Failure to meet sustainable development and climate change objectives' is one of the top risks for the Council. Without a plan in place and a financial plan to support it then this risk will continue to be one of the Council's top risks.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) processes were undertaken throughout the development of the key strategies aligned to this agenda, including the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy and Local Housing Strategy. These assessments aimed to identify and mitigate any negative impacts and seek opportunities to promote equality and found that the strategies would have no negative impacts on any protected characteristics groups and will have significant positive impacts in relation to age and disability.
- 11.2. There was no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

Stephen Gibson

Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

24 April 2024

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

Values

- ◆ Focused on people and their needs
- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable

Priorities

- ◆ We will work towards a sustainable future in sustainable places

Outcomes

- ◆ Good quality, suitable and sustainable places to live
- ◆ Caring, connected, sustainable communities

Previous References

- ◆ South Lanarkshire Council motion, 7 December 2022, 'Cut Fuel Bills, Cut Carbon Emissions, Kick Start the Green Economy'
- ◆ Housing and Technical Resources Committee report, 31 May 2023, Annual Update on the Property Asset Management
- ◆ Climate Change and Sustainability Committee report, 14 June 2023, Update on South Lanarkshire Council Motion to 'Cut Fuel Bills, Cut Carbon Emissions, Kick Start the Green Economy'

List of Background Papers

- ◆ The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
- ◆ South Lanarkshire Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2022-27
- ◆ South Lanarkshire Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2023-28
- ◆ South Lanarkshire Council Corporate Asset Management Plan 2021

Contact for Further Information

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

Name: John Smith, Investment Officer

E-mail: john.smith@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Action Plan

Measure	Action	Start Date	Completion Date	Status
Identify properties with the highest energy consumption	An analysis of the total energy use in the non-domestic estate was undertaken to identify properties with the highest energy consumption	November 2023	December 2023	Complete
Implement a pilot of a 1-degree temperature reduction in suitable properties	Commence a pilot in 30 buildings across the council's non-domestic buildings estate.	December 2023	January 2024	Complete
Commence energy monitoring of properties	Monitoring to take place across a six-month period, along with registering any operational or service issues.	January 2024	June 2024	Ongoing
Energy Champions Training	Training materials will be developed alongside SLC training section in the first half of 2024.	January 2024	June 2024	Yet to start
Energy Audits	To be continued throughout 2024	-	December 2024	Ongoing

Report

7

Report to:	Climate Change and Sustainability Committee
Date of Meeting:	15 May 2024
Report by:	Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

Subject:	Scottish Government Consultations on the Social Housing Net Zero Standard in Scotland and Heat in Buildings Bill
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ provide an overview of two recent Scottish Government consultations on proposed new net zero standard for social housing and the new Heat in Buildings Bill, and
- ♦ provide a summary of the Council's response to the consultations, submitted to the Scottish Government on 8 March 2024.

2. Recommendations

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

- (1) that the overview of the consultations on the proposed new net zero standard for social housing and Heat in Buildings Bill be noted; and
- (2) that the summary of the Council's response to each consultation be noted.

3. Background

3.1. In 2021, the Scottish Government published a Heat in Buildings Strategy, which committed to:

- ♦ reviewing the existing standards for improving energy efficiency within social housing across Scotland. The review aimed to better align the existing standards with Scotland's latest net zero targets, as set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, as amended in 2020
- ♦ introducing new legislation to phase out the need to install new or replacement fossil fuel boilers across all domestic and non-domestic buildings in Scotland, whilst also requiring building owners to improve the energy efficiency of buildings to help achieve net-zero targets, as set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, as amended in 2020

3.2. Consultations on each of these commitments were launched by the Scottish Government in early 2024, with the public and stakeholders asked to consider how they could be delivered within current delivery models and budgets, whilst highlighting any possible implications from the proposals.

- 4. Overview of the ‘Consultation on the Social Housing Net Zero Standard’ and response from South Lanarkshire Council**
- 4.1. The consultation sought views on a proposed new energy efficiency and net zero standard to be implemented across all social housing in Scotland. In South Lanarkshire, this comprises of over 32,000 homes, the majority of which are owned by the Council.
- 4.2. The consultation documents provide limited detail on what the proposed new Social Housing Net Zero Standard (SHNZS) will comprise of, but highlights that it should aim to:
- ◆ be compatible with and enable progress towards net zero targets
 - ◆ be compatible with Scotland’s fuel poverty targets
 - ◆ be compatible and consistent with proposals for other domestic buildings.
 - ◆ support a just transition
 - ◆ set a timescale for meeting the SHNZS which recognises the pressures on social landlords
 - ◆ support the Scottish Government’s Heat Network targets
 - ◆ take a realistic view of the whole system costs
 - ◆ address concerns about the Standard Assessment Procedure as the underlying methodology for a new metric
 - ◆ provide flexibility for specific circumstances while still requiring action
- 4.3. The consultation did detail that there would be two aspects to the standard:
- A requirement to achieve a yet to be defined fabric energy efficiency rating for each home to reduce heat demand and living costs for tenants.
 - A requirement to install a clean heating system within each socially rented home to contribute to reducing emissions across Scotland.
- 4.4. The consultation advises that the SHNZS will be introduced no earlier than 2025, however this will be confirmed following review of responses by a dedicated Review Group.
- 4.5. In responding to the earlier consultations on carbon reduction, the council, along with many other social landlords and representative bodies, has emphasised that for the transition to be truly just, it is essential at a national level that sufficient funding is provided to avoid an unacceptable burden being placed upon tenants. The Scottish Government has established a Green Heat Finance Taskforce to explore ways of encouraging private finance with a report on the outcomes of this anticipated later in 2024/25.
- 4.6. The consultation states that the cost of meeting previous standards (Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing 2) by 2032 was estimated at £3.4 - £3.7 billion in 2018. Costs have since increased, and a new net zero standard would require additional capital cost elements such as installing new clean heating systems and the consultation paper suggests that total capital costs of approximately £4.6 billion will now be required for clean heating alone across the sector. Additionally, the Scottish Housing Regulator stated in February 2024 that the anticipated total costs of implementing the full standard could be in excess of £9 billion across Scotland.

4.7. The Council submitted a response to the consultation on 8 March 2024, with a summary of this provided below:

- ◆ The Council is supportive of a fabric efficiency rating based on heat demand but highlights the significant costs associated with this and the additional support that would be required to avoid tenants having to cover all of this
- ◆ The council strongly disagrees with the proposal to prevent the relet of properties if they do not meet the proposed new standard by 2028. The standard itself and timescales for implementation have not yet been agreed, making it difficult for the Council to assess the implications of this on its own stock. A phased approach and discretion for the council would be preferable
- ◆ The Council supports the requirements of installing clean heating systems by 2045 and recognises the contribution this could have on achieving wider climate change targets. However, there are significant costs and practical challenges associated with retrofitting the systems currently available and the response highlights the need for additional support and guidance from the Scottish Government on this
- ◆ The Council highlights the importance of providing discretion to social housing providers, allowing them to make the best decisions for their tenants and housing stock whilst adhering to the regulatory framework led through the Scottish Housing Regulator
- ◆ The Council is supportive of a 2025 implementation date and notes that it would provide clarity on the standards now required, benefiting investment programmes for existing stock and new build specifications.

4.8. The full Council response to the consultation is available on request.

5. Overview of the ‘consultation on the new Heat in Buildings Bill’ and response from South Lanarkshire Council

5.1. The consultation sought views on new legislation that will be implemented to require owners of domestic and non-domestic buildings to meet yet to be determined energy efficiency standards and move to clean heating systems to heat their properties.

5.2. The proposals included within the Bill are:-

- ◆ Prohibit the use of polluting heating systems after 2045
- ◆ Requirement on homeowners to meet a reasonable minimum energy efficiency standard by 2033
- ◆ Requirement on private landlords to meet a reasonable minimum energy efficiency standard by 2028
- ◆ Requirement on property owners to end their use of polluting heat when a heat network becomes available
- ◆ Requirement on those purchasing a home or business premise to end their use of polluting heating systems within a fixed period following completion of the sale

5.3. Given the costs associated with clean heating systems, it is anticipated this will have a significant financial impact for existing homeowners. The availability of government finance through grants and loans is being reviewed by the Scottish Government, as are financial products and funding options that may be available through lenders, business, or energy companies, to assist the transition.

- 5.4. The Scottish Government state that the proposals aim to be affordable, fair, and feasible. Provisions are included within the consultation to consider the flexibility, protections, and exemptions that specific groups may need, e.g. rural communities, or households in fuel poverty, or vulnerable groups (e.g. older people) etc.
- 5.5. The Council submitted a response to the consultation on 8 March 2024, with a summary of this provided below:
- ◆ The Council is fully supportive of the necessity to transition to clean heating systems to achieve climate change commitments and targets
 - ◆ The Council believes that all obligated property owners must be bound by the requirements to move to clean heating systems and to achieve a minimum energy efficiency standard in their properties, and by the agreed deadline dates
 - ◆ The Council recognises the significant financial challenges property owners may face, and particularly in the present financial climate, and is reassured that the Scottish Government is exploring a full range of funding options. For local authorities, the transition requires to be fully funded and resourced. This also includes any additional responsibility on councils to monitor or enforce the transition
 - ◆ The Council is reassured that the Scottish Government has fully considered the scale of the challenges some vulnerable groups and communities may face to transition and that it is exploring appropriate exemptions. However, the council believes that exemptions should be on a case-by-case basis, and focused on extending timescales or providing additional support to facilitate the transition where it is technically feasible for a property to transition to a clean heating system
 - ◆ The Council is concerned that the application of a cost-cap that stipulates a maximum amount a property owner will be expected to pay to transition may result in too many properties not meeting the standard, which will impact on the progress made to transition to clean heating systems and targets
- 5.6. The full Council response to the consultation is available on request.

6. Next Steps

- 6.1. Housing and Technical Resources will continue to monitor national developments in this area and report any significant implications for the council to the relevant committee for noting.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. There may be employee implications from the proposals detailed in both consultation documents, with relevant officers requiring additional training or services requiring an increase in personnel to meet additional tasks. The Council is clear in its response to both consultations that any additional burdens placed on Council services as a result of the proposals will require to be fully funded by the Scottish Government.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. Actual costs to implement the proposals within the consultation documents are unknown at this stage and will be dependent on the finalised standards and implementation dates. It is expected however that costs to achieve the new SHNZS

will significantly outweigh the capital funding currently available through the Council's Housing Investment Programme.

- 8.2. In addition, the council's non-domestic properties will be required to comply with the standards proposed within the Heat in Buildings Bill, with costs of transitioning to clean heating systems requiring to be fully funded and resourced. It is estimated that the transitioning of non-domestic Council properties alone could be up to £900 million, significantly outweighing capital funding currently available to improve or maintain non-domestic assets.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. This report does not currently introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no strategic environmental assessment is required, however this will be kept under review.
- 9.2. Should the proposals contained within both consultations be progressed, it is anticipated these will have long term positive impacts on reducing emissions within South Lanarkshire.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. The content of this report will contribute to the evidence to support the requirements of the Annual Assurance Statement.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. Within its response to both consultations, the Council suggests it would be appropriate for the Scottish Government to consider the impact to vulnerable groups and households from the proposals.

Stephen Gibson

Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

25 April 2024

Link(s) to Council Values/Objectives

- ◆ focused on people and their needs
- ◆ working with and respecting others
- ◆ accountable, effective, efficient and transparent

Previous References

- ◆ Housing and Technical Resources Committee of 24 April 2024

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Scottish Government, Consultation on a new Social Housing Net Zero Standard in Scotland, [Consultation on a new Social Housing Net Zero Standard in Scotland \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultations/2023/consultation-on-a-new-social-housing-net-zero-standard-in-scotland/)
- ◆ Scottish Government, Consultation on the Heat in Buildings Bill, [Delivering net zero for Scotland's buildings - Heat in Buildings Bill: consultation - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultations/2023/delivering-net-zero-for-scotland-s-buildings-heat-in-buildings-bill-consultation/)
- ◆ Scottish Government, Heat in Buildings Strategy, November 2021

Contact for Further Information

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

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