

Report

Report to: **Executive Committee**
Date of Meeting: **26 May 2021**
Report by: **Chief Executive**

Subject: **Recommendations Referred by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee**

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ request approval of the following recommendations referred to this Committee by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee of 28 April 2021

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the recommendations referred by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on the staffing proposals in respect of the Climate Change South Lanarkshire Fund be approved

3. Background

3.1. Climate Change South Lanarkshire Fund-- Extract of Minute

A joint report dated 14 April 2021 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources), (Housing and Technical Resources and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the range and scope of the areas to which the £2 million Climate Challenge Fund would be directed.

As part of the 2021/2022 budget, it was agreed that a Climate Change South Lanarkshire Fund of £2 million be established to enable this Committee to prioritise match funding for external funding applications specifically linked to the UK and Scottish Government green economy and green jobs programmes.

Following discussion through the Climate Change Steering Group, it was proposed that the budget be directed to the following thematic areas:-

- ◆ natural environment
- ◆ built environment
- ◆ travel and transport
- ◆ waste and recycling
- ◆ communities
- ◆ economy

It was proposed that those thematic areas and the scope detailed in the report form a basis on which to:-

- ◆ develop detailed projects

- ◆ identify support and resources to implement those projects

The fund had an indicative 3 year timeframe, however, opportunities to accelerate spend would be exploited.

It was proposed that the fund be split into the following broad areas:-

- ◆ staffing
- ◆ project and development funds

In view of the elevated level of importance given to Climate Change and the increased level of work for officers to meet this commitment, it was proposed that 7 officers (6.5 FTE) as detailed in the report be added to the current staffing establishment. 3 of those officers, who would progress a Strategic Energy Review, would be added to the establishment of Housing and Technical Resources and the remaining 4 would be within the establishment of Community and Enterprise Resources, including a post of Project Support Assistant which was a PhD student placement, partly funded by Glasgow Caledonian University's Centre for Climate Justice

It was also proposed that funding be set aside to maximise benefits and deliver projects over the 3 year timeframe. The funds would be split as follows:-

- ◆ short term – Council projects/pilots and a small grant fund for local groups and schools
- ◆ medium term – match fund to bid for external funding
- ◆ long term – development fund to allow feasibility studies on identified/proposed projects which met the climate change objectives

The fund would be managed through the Climate Change and Sustainability Steering Group with bi-annual update reports submitted to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee.

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

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the range and scope of the areas to which the £2 million Climate Challenge Fund would be directed be noted; and
- (2) that it be noted that detailed proposals would be subject to further reports, for noting, framed around the scope set out in section 3 of the report.

The Committee recommended to the Executive Committee:

- (1) that the proposed establishment of the following 6 posts for a 23 month period, as detailed in the report, be approved; and

Post	Proposed Number of Posts (FTE)	Grade	SCP Range	Annual Salary
Development Officer (Sustainable	1	Grade 3, Level 2 to Level 4	SCP63-74	£32,994 to £38,779

Development Support)				
Development Officer - (Sustainable Development Funding)	1	Grade 3, Level 2 to Level 4	SCP63-74	£32,994 to £38,779
Development Officer - (Green Economy)	1	Grade 3, Level 2 to Level 4	SCP63-74	£32,994 to £38,779
Strategy Officer (Built Environment)	2	Grade 3, Level 2 to Level 4	SCP63-74	£32,994 to £38,779
Strategy Team Leader (Built Environment)	1	Grade 3, Level 8	SCP78-80	£41,771 to £42,410

- (2) that the proposed recruitment of a PhD student to the post of Project Support Assistant - Placement (Sustainable Development), Grade 2, Level 1 to Level 2, SCP34-40 (£22,725 to £24,809), for a period of 3 years, jointly funded by Glasgow Caledonian University's Centre for Climate Justice, as detailed in the report, be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of South Lanarkshire Council (Special) of 24 February 2021 (Paragraph 2)]

4. Employee Implications

- 4.1. All employee implications were highlighted as part of the original report to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. All financial implications were highlighted as part of the original report to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee.

6 Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 6.1. Implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment were highlighted as part of the original report to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee.

7 Other Implications

- 7.1. Any risks or other implications were highlighted as part of the original report to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee Resource Committees.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 8.2. All necessary consultation arrangements have taken place.

Cleland Sneddon
Chief Executive

5 May 2021

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Work with communities and partners to promote high quality, thriving and sustainable communities

Previous References

- ◆ Minutes of Climate Change and Sustainability Committee 28 April 2021

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Report to Climate Change and Sustainability Committee

Contact for Further Information

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

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