

# Report

Report to:	<b>Performance and Review Scrutiny Forum</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>25 January 2022</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Council Plan Connect 2017 to 2022: Quarter 2 Progress Report 2021/2022</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- provide the Council Plan Connect Quarter 2 Progress Report 2021/2022, for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021

## 2. Recommendations

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

- (1) that the Connect Quarter 2 Progress Report 2021/2022 summarised at paragraph 4.5 and attached as Appendix 1 of this report, be noted;
- (2) that the key achievements, as detailed in paragraphs 4.6 and 4.7 of this report, be noted; and
- (3) that the additional scrutiny of reporting the updated status of those measures identified as 'report later' as at Quarter 4 2020/2021 as summarised at paragraph 4.8 of this report, be noted.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. The Council Plan Connect covering the period 2017 to 2022 was approved by the Executive Committee on 8 November 2017 and by South Lanarkshire Council on 8 December 2017. The Plan sets out the Council's vision, values, ambitions and priorities for the five year period.
- 3.2. As part of the performance reporting arrangements introduced in 2007, it was agreed that progress reports on the Council Plan would be provided at the mid-year point (Quarter 2) and at the end of the financial year (Quarter 4).
- 3.3. As the Forum is aware, due to the Covid 19 pandemic, the Council was forced to suspend or reduce a number of services that could not be continued in full due to government advice, including adhering to physical distancing requirements for residents and for staff. The Council was also obliged to redirect resources so that it could deliver vital new services and supports for individuals, communities and businesses. There has been an inevitable impact on performance in some areas.
- ## 4. Quarter 2 Progress 2021/2022
- 4.1. The Council Plan offers flexibility, both at the Resource level and from one year to the next, in the choice of actions and measures required to deliver the Council's priorities. Alongside this flexibility, however, comes the requirement to ensure that the golden thread from Council Plan to Resource Plan remains unbroken.

- 4.2. The reporting framework for the Council Plan identifies key measures within Resource Plans which are taken and combined in a Connect report to provide a balanced picture of Council performance against Connect priorities.
- 4.3. A total of 264 measures have been identified from the 2021/2022 Resource Plans. Of those, 108 (41%) have been nominated as key strategic measures for reporting progress against Connect.
- 4.4. Progress to date against all measures is contained in the Connect Quarter 2 Performance Report 2021-22, attached as Appendix 1. This report has been produced from the Council's performance management reporting system IMPROVe, and uses a traffic light format with the following definitions to give a status report on each measure:-

Status	Definition
<b>Blue</b>	Project complete
<b>Green</b>	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations
<b>Amber</b>	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target
<b>Red</b>	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target
<b>Report later</b>	The information is not yet available to allow us to say whether the target has been reached or not. This will be reported when available
<b>Contextual</b>	Included for 'information only', to set performance information in context

- 4.5. To ensure adequate scrutiny of performance across all Resources, individual Resource Committees receive details of all 'red' measures relating to that Resource including management actions, where applicable.

The overall summary of Connect progress to date is as follows and performance should be considered in the context of the impact of responding to Covid 19:-

Status	Measures			
	Statistical	Project	Total	%
Blue	0	4	4	4 %
Green	28	53	81	75 %
Amber	2	2	4	4 %
Red	0	0	0	0 %
Report later/Contextual	15	4	19	17 %
<b>Totals</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>100 %</b>

(Data correct as at 17 December 2021)

- 4.6. Progress for the period ending Quarter 2, 2021/2022 on each of the four Connect Priorities and the related achievements have been summarised in the following tables:-

## 4.6.1.

Connect Priority	Ensure communities are safe, strong and sustainable					
Number of measures	Blue	Green	Amber	Red	Report later	Total
	0	31	2	0	3	36
<b>Achievements</b>	<p>The Larkhall Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan was approved at Community and Enterprise Resources Committee in May 2021. The five year strategy is aimed at developing and coordinating public, private and community-led work in the town centre to ensure it stays lively and community focused.</p> <p>The action plan considers potential activity shaped at revitalising the town centre in six distinct areas of concern:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business support</li> <li>• Parking review</li> <li>• Streetscape review</li> <li>• Town centre maintenance, signage review</li> <li>• An organised voice</li> <li>• Safe events (where and when possible)</li> </ul> <p>A litter strategy consultation was launched in August 2021 to capture the views, ideas and issues experienced by communities across South Lanarkshire.</p> <p>The consultation document also lays out the aim to develop a range of plans, policies and initiatives, all designed to drive our commitment to preventing wide ranging litter issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter Prevention</li> <li>• Dog Fouling</li> <li>• Fly Tipping</li> <li>• Graffiti</li> </ul> <p>The results will directly influence the Council's proposed Litter Strategy 2022/2027, as agreed by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee in February 2021.</p> <p>Social Work Resources provided access to timely support and interventions with 100% of clients seen within 2 days of their Drug Testing and Treatment Orders commencing. Performance continues to exceed the 95% target.</p> <p>As at September 2021, a total of 160 units have been completed at East Whitlawburn.</p> <p>98.9% of response repairs on Council dwellings were completed on time.</p>					

## 4.6.2.

Connect Priority	Promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth and tackle disadvantage					
Number of measures	Blue	Green	Amber	Red	Report later	Total
	1	20	2	0	2	25
<b>Achievements</b>	<p>The new park and ride facility opened in Cambuslang, offering 256 parking spaces, including new electric vehicle charging infrastructure. This will make it easier than ever to switch from car to train and help to make electric vehicles a viable option for more road users.</p> <p>Previously a derelict site, it is now an asset to the area improving parking in the centre of Cambuslang, supporting sustainable travel and adding to environmental improvements.</p> <p>During quarter two, <i>Lanarkshire Women in Business</i> (LWIB) was launched, following a successful year-long pilot initiative that ran during 2019/2020. The first event was held digitally on Wednesday 8 September 2021 and paves the way for a planned new programme of female focused business support, that will kick-start during spring 2022.</p> <p>1,316 businesses have been supported by Economic Development (via grants, loans or advice), including 1,063 businesses which have been helped through the new Business Gateway contract.</p>					

	We are working with a range of external employers and are seeking innovative approaches to filling Council vacancies through a new employability delivery model that fast tracks a potential pool of suitable unemployed clients participating on employability programmes into council job opportunities. We have successfully secured 8 jobs in Council Homecare positions through this new model and seeking to roll this out to Classroom Assistants, Admin Clerical posts in Social Work, Track and Trace jobs, Facilities, Driving (HGV) etc. This year we intend to develop and operate a bank staff system that will fully connect employability programmes with council job vacancies.
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4.6.3.

<b>Connect Priority</b>	<b>Get it right for children and young people</b>					
<b>Number of measures</b>	<b>Blue</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Amber</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>Report later</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Achievements</b>	89% of all reports submitted to the Children's Reporter were sent within agreed 20 day timescale – maintaining good performance by exceeding the 75% target. We continue to provide appropriate accommodation for homeless households with children.					

4.6.4.

<b>Connect Priority</b>	<b>Improve health, care and wellbeing</b>					
<b>Number of measures</b>	<b>Blue</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Amber</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>Report later</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Achievements</b>	Although the new Springhall Community Centre was handed over in March 2020, the facility only opened to the public at the end of June 2021, in line with Covid 19 restrictions. Local people were heavily involved in the planning and development of the £1m project, and the transformed centre now offers a new inviting entrance area with reception desk, a community hall, meeting and training facilities, IT suite and a new library. The Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 places responsibility on local authorities to visit adults on welfare guardianship orders. 98% of supervising officer visits for local authority and 97% of private welfare guardianship orders were completed within timescales and exceeded the target of 90%. 366 adaptations completed in Council homes Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2022/2028 has been completed and was approved at Housing and Technical Resources Committee in September 2021.					

- 4.7. In addition to working towards the four Connect Priorities, the Council will continually aim to improve and ensure effective and efficient use of resources, and that business will be conducted with integrity and transparency and will operate to the highest standards. In order to monitor and report progress against these values, Resource Objectives have also been identified, under the heading Delivering the Plan and achieving Best Value. Progress on this and the related achievements have been summarised in the following table:-

<b>Delivering the Plan and achieving Best Value</b>						
<b>Number of measures</b>	<b>Blue</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Amber</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>Report later</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Achievements</b>	The 2022/2023 financial strategy was approved in June 2021. This paves the way for finalising a budget for members to approve before March 2022, following receipt of the local government settlement later this year.					

	<p>The 2020/2021 financial accounts were finalised in line with the normal timetable, and the audit of the accounts is complete. A clean audit certificate was signed off on 17 November 2021.</p> <p>Support and advice continues to be provided by finance teams in relation to managing the ongoing impact and recovery from the pandemic during 2021/2022.</p> <p>The Chief Social Work Officer is obliged to provide an annual report on key challenges, developments and improvements across Social Work as well as reporting on service quality and performance including delivery of statutory functions. This was submitted to the Scottish Government in September 2021.</p>
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#### 4.8. Report later/contextual

Measures in the quarterly progress reports which are not red, amber or green can be assigned a status of 'report later' or 'contextual'. Of the 7 measures identified in these categories at Quarter 4 2020/2021, 6 are contextual measures, for which figures were provided in the Q4 report. The remaining one indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) suite, for which the 2020/2021 results will not be published until February 2022.

### 5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. The priorities noted within the Council Plan inform the Resource Plans and in turn the Performance Appraisal process for individual employees.

### 6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. Provision for meeting the Council Plan's priorities is reflected in both the Revenue and Capital budgets, and longer term, within the framework of the Council's approved Financial Strategy.

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

- 7.1. There are no climate change, sustainability or environmental implications arising from this report

### 8. Other Implications

- 8.1. The Community Plan 2017 to 2027 was agreed at the Community Planning Partnership Board on 11 October 2017. A significant element of the delivery of the outcomes in the Community Plan will come through the achievement of the actions contained within Connect.

### 9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken in line with the various actions within Connect as appropriate.
- 9.2. Many of the priorities, objectives and actions detailed within the Plan reflect ongoing work programmes implemented to address local and national priorities. Extensive consultation, therefore, has already taken place in relation to a significant proportion of the priorities, objectives and actions outlined in the Plan.

**Paul Manning**

**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

17 December 2021

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

- ◆ The Council Plan 2017 to 2022 reflects the overarching vision of South Lanarkshire Council and details its values, priorities and objectives, including links to the Community Planning Partnership

**Previous References**

- ◆ Executive Committee 8 November 2017: approval of Council Plan Connect 2017 to 2022
- ◆ Executive Committee 24 June 2020: endorsement of mid-term review of Connect

**List of Background Papers**

Council Plan Connect 2017-22

**Contact for Further Information**

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

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