

**Annual Governance Statement 2020/2021-Significant Governance Areas
Quarter 2 Update- April 2021 to September 2021**

No.	Areas identified in 2020/2021	Actions	Quarter 2 Progress
1	<p>COVID-19 Pandemic</p> <p>The Council will continue to respond to matters arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic</p>	<p>The Council will continue to monitor national guidance; maintain ongoing resilience arrangements; and implement further measures as and when required in response to the Pandemic.</p> <p>Corporate and Resource risk registers will continue to be monitored and updated to reflect national and local developments.</p>	<p>The Council continues to monitor and implement national guidance. Appropriate Resource measures put in place to reduce risks. Resilience arrangements in place. Schools and educational establishments continue to adapt to the specific Scottish Government guidance on reducing risks from COVID-19 in schools.</p> <p>Annual review of Corporate Risk Register and Risk Control Plan completed in August 2021.</p> <p>Resource risk registers continue to</p>

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			be monitored and updated
2	COVID-19 Pandemic recovery Recovery actions	As conditions improve, the Council will deliver the right services in the right way, for the benefit of our residents and communities.	Continuing development and implementation of Resource Recovery Framework Routinely monitored through Resource and Service Management Teams
3	IT Infrastructure Migration of computer systems to an external provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct procurement to identify and award contract for external hosting services. • Complete planning for migration of all computer systems from Caird Data Centre. • Complete preparatory work to set up new network hubs. • Commence move of IT systems to new provider. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement completed and contract awarded • Planning and preparatory work completed • Project on target to complete by December 2021
4	Cyber Resilience Compliance with legislative and regulatory policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining Public Sector Network (PSN) accreditation and instilling an ethos of ongoing compliance. • Continued compliance and accreditation to Cyber Essentials Plus. 	On track to achieve PSN and Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving forward working towards the guidelines outlined within the Scottish Public Sector Cyber Resilience Framework. • Continued awareness training for all SLC staff around the area of Cyber Resilience. 	
5	<p>Participatory Budgeting</p> <p>1% of the Council's budget to be subject to Participatory Budgeting</p>	<p>All Scottish councils are required to commit 1% of their budget to Participatory Budgeting (with the "Council budget" being defined as the council's Total Estimated Expenditure (TEE) less Assumed Council Tax Income both taken from the Government's Finance Settlement).</p> <p>Councillor's awareness sessions have been conducted and a webinar made available for councillors. The Executive Committee has agreed the first wave of services to be considered under Participatory Budgeting.</p>	<p>Participatory budgeting now features in school improvement plans which is helping to engage more widely parents and carers</p> <p>Progress is being made around the areas agreed at executive committee with updates provided at Area Committees</p> <p>Progress reports presented to East Kilbride and Rutherglen and Cambuslang Area Committees in November detailing HTR progress with PB</p>

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			Update reports to remaining Area Committees – Clydesdale and Hamilton – will be delivered in Q4
6	<p>Financial Challenges</p> <p>Reduction in Council funding, resulting in difficulties maintaining front line services</p>	<p>The Council faces a challenging situation in the medium to long-term because of reduced funding in real terms, rising costs and an increase in demand.</p> <p>The Council has developed a long-term strategy which identifies budget pressures, future risks and uncertainties, and projects budget gaps to 2028/2029.</p> <p>The Budget Strategy for 2022/2023 will be updated and presented to councillors during autumn 2021.</p>	<p>Following the receipt of the financial settlement in December, the proposed budget for 2022/2023 will be presented to Members for approval in February</p> <p>Additional funding provided by Scottish Government to support households who have been financially affected by COVID-19</p>
7	<p>Integrated Joint Board – Health and Social Care</p> <p>The need for the Council to deliver the objectives set out in</p>	<p>The current strategic direction set out and approved by the IJB is detailed within the Strategic Commissioning Plan. The Council and NHS Board are required to</p>	<p>Led by HSCP, the Review and development of new Strategic</p>

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	the Integrated Joint Board (IJB) Strategic Commissioning Plan 2019-22	<p>deploy their resources in line with this strategic direction.</p> <p>The IJB issues Directions that set out the key actions to be delivered by the Council during the year 2021/2022 and these Directions were agreed by the IJB at it special budget meeting in March 2021.</p> <p>The Council will provide progress updates against Directions for which it is the lead organisation.</p>	<p>Commissioning Plan 2022 to 2025 taking place during 2021/2022 and HTR will contribute.</p> <p>HTR lead on 2 directions for housing and homelessness.</p>
8	<p>Integrated Joint Board – Health and Social Care</p> <p>The need for the Council to deliver improvements within Care at Home to meet regulatory requirements</p>	<p>Following inspection activity in the latter half of 2019, the Care Inspectorate identified concerns in the delivery of Care at Home services in both the Hamilton and Rutherglen/Cambuslang services.</p> <p>Individual Improvement Action Plans have been developed and progressed for Rutherglen and Hamilton Services. An overarching improvement plan has been developed and progress updates are overseen by the Care at Home Transformation Board. Regular updates on progress are provided to the Health and Social Care Partnership Senior Management Team; the Council’s Senior Management Team; the Social Work Committee; and the Integrated Joint Board.</p>	<p>The Care Inspectorate concerns highlighted in the 2 areas continue to be addressed by the service through management changes in the service a service moratorium for new referrals as well as progressing the service redesign of the service. Regular updates are provided to the care Inspectorate and a follow up inspection of the 2 services will take place. Moratorium</p>

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			completed on 31 August for Rutherglen area and 16 November for Hamilton area.
9	<p>National expansion in early years education and childcare provision</p> <p>The COVID-19 Pandemic and the various announcements by the Scottish Government for schools and educational settings has impacted on the delivery of 1140 hours early learning and childcare with a change to the target date now being August 2021</p>	<p>In line with the Education Recovery Plan, a restart of the significant investment made through the capital programme to expand the delivery of 1140 hours has taken place. The support of Council services has been instrumental in re-starting the building programme.</p> <p>Woodhill Early Learning and Childcare in Kirkmuirhill opened its doors to children and staff in September 2020. The nursery offers 63 places and is an important milestone in the expansion of early years' capacity (Target South Lanarkshire Council wide: 1658 places). Admissions were reviewed and places reallocated. All families (approximately 7300 children as at April 2021) have been allocated the statutory minimum of 600 hours, however, it has been possible to provide 1140 hours places to almost 6,000 (83%) eligible families. As the capital programme progresses, further 1140 hours places will increase.</p> <p>Approximately 2,200 families are accessing places through our contracted funded providers, all at 1140 hours.</p>	<p>In line with the Education Recovery Plan, a restart of the significant investment made through the capital programme to expand the delivery of 1140 hours has taken place. The support of Council services has been instrumental in re-starting the building programme which was delivered and operational by June 2021 with the exception of Clyde Terrace ELC in Bothwell. Work progresses with this development, however, temporary</p>

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		Regular monitoring and review will be undertaken and progress reports made to the Council.	<p>facilities were established to ensure all children and families accessed their 1140 hour entitlement by August 2021.</p> <p>Approximately 7800 families are currently accessing 1140 hour places with 2500 children accessing places through our contracted funded providers.</p> <p>Woodhill Early Learning and Childcare in Kirkmuirhill, opened its doors in September 2020. The nursery is registered for 63 full time places for children aged 2 to 5 years, created a range of new employment opportunities and was an important milestone</p>

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			<p>in the expansion of early years' capacity (Target South Lanarkshire Council wide: 1658 places within the ELC 1140 hours Expansion Plan November 2017). Admissions allocations meetings took place during March and April 2021 and all eligible children aged 2 to 5 years were allocated 1140 hour places commencing August 2021.</p> <p>The capital programme was completed by June 2021 with the exception of Clyde Terrace ELC.</p>
10	Review of Community Planning	During 2019, the Community Planning Partnership Board undertook a self-assessment of the current Community Planning arrangements. Improvement actions were later supplemented by the	The focus of the Council's Community Engagement and Partnership officers is

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	Provide support to the review of Community Planning arrangements	<p>recommendations from the Council's Best Value Assurance Review and a group has been set up to take these forward.</p> <p>The review focuses on several key areas including structures, governance and accountability arrangements. The Council will provide resources to support the implementation of the agreed actions.</p> <p>The proposal was approved by the Community Planning Partnership Board at their meeting in September 2020. This highlighted a two phase approach to implementation, with interim actions to be delivered during the 2021/2022 year leading to final improvements, particularly around structures, during 2022/2023 in order to ensure that the partnership is fit for purpose to deliver the outcomes within the new Community Plan, which will be created using a co-production model during 2021/2022.</p>	<p>currently on working with communities and partners to co-produce the new Community Plan. The first phase of engagement with communities and partners is complete and priorities are being developed for phase two of the engagement which will also include communities and partners. The new Outcome Leads Officers are in place and they are considering the new Community Plan and the Community Planning Structures.</p> <p>Housing and homelessness actions to be progressed throughout the year. Review of Community</p>

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			Plan underway with input from HTR
11	<p>Community Wealth Building</p> <p>Deliver the Community Wealth Building Strategy</p>	<p>The Community Wealth Building Strategy which was approved in March 2021 will bring fundamental changes to how the Council delivers its services and works with its partners and communities. Work has started to develop an action plan and performance monitoring and reporting arrangements. A robust assessment of risks will be undertaken and a risk register will be developed.</p> <p>Other key actions for delivery during 2021/2022 include the establishment of a Community Wealth Building Commission and engaging with Community Planning partners on the Community Wealth Building Principles.</p>	<p>Development of the strategy completed during 2021/2022. Actions to be progressed throughout the year. Contribute to annual review of report, including housing actions/measures.</p> <p>Annual review to be led by FCR with input from HTR.</p>
12	<p>Sustainable Development and Climate Change</p>	<p>The Council acknowledges the serious and immediate threat of climate change and is committed to accelerating the pace of action in response to the climate emergency and in Scotland's transition to a net-zero and climate resilient society and economy. During 2021/2022, a review of the council's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy (2017 to 2022) will be carried out and concluded; and a new Strategy for 2022 to 2027 will be developed.</p>	<p>Led by CER, with input from HTR a review and development of revised Strategy underway and scheduled to be completed during 2022/2023.</p> <p>Actions to be progressed throughout the year. Contribute to</p>

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			<p>annual review, including housing actions/measures.</p> <p>Development of the strategy is progressing. Public engagement is complete and has shaped the vision, themes and priorities. Work on the Strategic Environmental Assessment is underway and once complete will go out for public consultation in January for 6 weeks, along with the consultation draft of the strategy. The final strategy will be presented for approval to Full Council alongside the Council Plan and Community Plan in May-June 2022. In the</p>

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			meantime, work is progressing with Services in order to populate the first year's action plan which will begin in April 2022.
13	Economic Recovery and Renewal	<p>Economic recovery from the Pandemic will incorporate the principles of Community Wealth Building and during 2021/2022 an Economic, 'Response, Recovery and Renewal' Strategy framed around the themes of: People; Place; and Business will be developed.</p> <p>The Council will also lead on local economic recovery for South Lanarkshire businesses through promotion of local economic support networks and contribution to the pan-Lanarkshire Economic Forum.</p>	Given ongoing effects of pandemic and imminent expiry of economic strategy, Promote 2013 to 2023, it has been agreed to review the recovery work to date and prepare a new and ambitious Economic Strategy for South Lanarkshire 2022 to 2027 as part of a more comprehensive update of Council and Community Partnership plans to be approved by the new administration

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			<p>following the election in spring 2022.</p> <p>The Council continues to contribute and provide support to the Local Economic Forum (LEF). Key actions to date include: socio-economic analysis of the pan-Lanarkshire area, establishment of sub-groups focused around the People, Place and Business themes, and; a review of existing strategies</p>
14	<p>Implement the outcomes following the Cross Party Working Group review of South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (SLLC)</p>	<p>The review of leisure and culture provision concluded on 19 May 2021. Outcomes to be implemented over the course of the year include changes to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> governance arrangements (a new constitution will be developed, reflecting a modernised governance model. This will also involve a review of various Service Level Agreements that exist for the provision of shared services with the aim of strengthening the SLC/SLLC partnership); 	<p>The outcomes from the SLLC Cross Party Working Group were endorsed by the Executive Committee and agreed at Full Council on 23 June 2021, and subsequently agreed</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pricing arrangements (SLLC will now have latitude to adjust commercial pricing without prior approval by the Council); and • Further engagement with community groups on community asset transfer of SLLC assets. 	<p>by the SLLC Board in August 2021.</p> <p>New governance arrangements and a revised pricing policy is now being developed in line with the agreed recommendations.</p> <p>The Council and SLLC continue to engage with community groups that have expressed interest in the community asset transfer of SLLC assets, with Low Waters Hall, Glassford Hall, a former school in Biggar, and vacant and open space in Hamilton and Blantyre approved for transfer to community groups since April 2021.</p>