

To: **Greener Renfrewshire Board**

On: **03 June 2015**

Report by:

**Chief Executive's Service**

## **OVERVIEW OF INITIATIVES AND GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES**

### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This document provides an overview of recent developments, initiatives and funding streams made available to Community Planning Partnerships in Scotland. It takes account of the emerging work streams and actions identified by the Board.
- 1.2 In order to provide the Board members with support, policy advice and consistency of approach, the document explores communication received from the Scottish Government and other statutory bodies, good practice examples from other local authorities as well as national and local initiatives and projects. Where available a local view has also been provided on the topic.
- 1.3 A similar update will be provided for each Board to stimulate awareness and decisions about the wider Greener theme and agenda. If any Board member has any information they would like included and circulated in future issues of the update, please forward it to [jean.brown@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:jean.brown@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

### **2. Good practice examples**

**Fife Council**

**\*FOR INFORMATION ONLY\***

Fife Council has launched new CycleFife website.

A new website has been launched in Fife to build on the growth of cycling in the area and encourage even more people to take up the activity. The new site, [cyclefife.com](http://cyclefife.com) can help plan routes and educate people on cycling in the Fife area.

The CycleFife website is only one aspect of a range of measures which are being undertaken as part of the two year CycleFife project. The council is also improving cycling infrastructure in Dunfermline and Glenrothes and delivering training and events as part of a partnership project with Sustrans (a charity helping people travel on foot, by bike or public transport) through Transport Scotland funding.

**\*FOR INFORMATION ONLY\***

Aberdeen City Council is to be the first local authority in Scotland to have in-house BREEAM assessors who will review developments for environmental performance.

A total of 15 staff are being trained by the BRE Academy in Scotland to be able to carry out the work, and they range from building standards officers to senior planners to sustainable development officers.

BREEAM - the Building Research Establishment's Environmental Assessment Methodology - sets the standard for best practice in sustainable building design, construction and operation and has become one of the most comprehensive and widely recognised measures of a building's environmental performance.

It is used in master-planning and new construction, through to operational use and refurbishment and encourages designers, clients, the construction industry and building owners to think about low impact design, construction and operation through the entire life cycle of a building. BREEAM helps minimise the energy demands created by a building, and it considers energy efficiency, occupant health and wellbeing, alternative technologies, location, proximity to transport networks, construction materials used as well as many other aspects.

The assessors will use the qualification to review new City Council or City Council-related developments.

**\*FOR INFORMATION ONLY\***

Glasgow has won a bid to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Climate Change Adaptation (ECCA) conference.

The bid for the ECCA 2017 conference was put together by a committee from research, policy and practice and was supported by 46 organisations across Scotland and the UK including the Sustainable Scotland Network, Glasgow City Council, Glasgow City Marketing Bureau, The Scottish Government, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, The University of Edinburgh, Sniffer, ClimateXChange and Adaptation Scotland.

This event will mark the first time that the conference has been held in the UK since its inauguration, with previous host cities including Hamburg in Germany and Copenhagen in Denmark. Climate resilience is at the core of decisions shaping investment in the city and transforming communities. It is this pioneering work that has won Glasgow the conference.

### 3. Research and Consultations

#### The Scottish Government

##### **\*FOR INFORMATION ONLY\***

The Scottish Government Directorate for Environment and Climate Change has produced a factsheet on resource and energy efficiency for the public sector.

The document explains that the public sector has done much to reduce its carbon emissions through estate wide Carbon Management Plans and the implementation of energy efficiency measures; from improving building fabric, installation of energy efficient technologies, and appliances, environmental and energy management systems and whole organisational behavioural change programmes.

The document lists the advice and support channels, funding channels, as well as development opportunities like district heating and street lighting advances.

#### Sustainable Scotland

##### **\*FOR INFORMATION ONLY\***

Six months into the introduction of a carrier bag charge in Scotland, usage of disposable bags has significantly reduced. Ahead of the six month anniversary on Monday (April 20, 2015) early figures show that single-use carrier bag usage has been reduced by more than 80% since the charge was introduced on October 20, 2014.

Presently, Asda is indicating a more than 90 per cent reduction in single-use carrier bag use, while raising £350,000 for two social enterprise charities – Social Investment Scotland and Foundation Scotland. Co-operative Food has used the 5p charge to raise £375,000 for community projects across Scotland, reporting a usage reduction of 80%.

Nationwide retailers that signed up to Zero Waste Scotland's Carrier Bag Commitment – an agreement to disclose information on the charge, and donations made, to a central publicly available portal – are reporting that various charities up and down the country have also benefited from funds raised by the charge.

#### Scottish Government

##### **\*FOR INFORMATION ONLY\***

The Scottish Government has launched 'Scotland 2030', a new engagement tool for the public that visions what Scotland will look like in 2030 if we achieve climate change targets.

Scotland 2030 is a series of videos and an online tool that follows a typical day of a Scottish family and shows what life will be like in 2030 across topics such as: where our energy comes from; how we travel; different ways of working; the food we eat.

The engagement tool has been informed by the ‘Scotland 2030: Picturing life in a low carbon Scotland’ report that was published by ClimateXChange in January. The report, commissioned by the Scottish Government, details a narrative for a low carbon lifestyle to help communicate with and engage people across Scotland.

Scotland 2030 is also available for stakeholders to use to engage their audiences in Scotland’s low-carbon future. There is also a Stakeholder Toolkit with background and suggestions on how to use Scotland 2030 content within your own education and communication activity.