

Minute of Meeting Climate Change Sub-Committee

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 09 December 2020	13:00	Teams Meeting,

Present

Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Eileen McCartin, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor John Shaw

Chair

Councillor Iain Nicolson, Chair, presided.

In Attendance

L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning and P Moss, Strategic Planning & Policy Development Officer (both Chief Executive's) F Carlin, Head of Planning & Housing Services (Communities, Housing & Planning Services); L Rennie, Operations Manager (Environment and Infrastructure); B Lambert, Corporate Procurement Manager, J Lynch, Head of Property Services, T Slater, Senior Committee Services Officer and J Barron, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Apologies

Councillor Hood

Sederunt

Councillor Shaw joined the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

1 Update on Climate Change Actions

There was submitted a report by Head of Policy and Commissioning providing an update on the Climate Change actions agreed by Council at its meeting on 27 February 2020, detailed in the appendix to the report.

A progress update was provided and any new opportunities, challenges or issues to be aware of were highlighted in order for members of the Sub-Committee to consider which areas they required more information on.

It was proposed that these actions would form the basis of an adaptation plan for the Council, which would be structured around the broad themes identified. The adaptation plan for climate change would be developed collaboratively across the Council with a target date of March 2021.

It was highlighted that under the first section within the Governance/Innovation part of the appendix would be prioritised in early 2021 not 2022 as stated.

The Chair proposed that a further section be added under the Waste/Food section of the appendix that officers identify and progress a new growing grounds project which we can go to communities to partner with us to develop, lever in external funding and provide educational benefit.” This was agreed.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the update and comments relating to the previously agreed Climate Change actions, as highlighted in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted;
- (b) That the priority areas would be progressed as part of the adaptation plan for the Council;
- (c) That a further section be added under the Waste/Food section of the appendix that “officers identify and progress a new growing grounds project which we can go to communities to partner with us to develop, lever in external funding and provide educational benefit; and
- (d) That an up-date be provided to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee on the growing grounds proposal and work being progressed.

Sederunt

Councillor McCartin joined the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

2 Climate Change - Partner and Citizen Engagement Proposals

There was submitted a report by Head of Policy and Commissioning relative to proposals for partner and citizen engagement to assist the Council in meeting the agreed target of zero carbon emissions by 2030.

It was recognised that to achieve this ambitious target, significant changes would be required to the way that people lived and worked in Renfrewshire, and that the Council would not be able to drive this agenda alone. The report outlined a number of key actions which officers should progress to ensure that the Council was undertaking meaningful ongoing engagement with local partners, businesses, residents and communities on their role in tackling climate change and to develop ideas as to how all stakeholders can jointly respond to the challenge.

DECIDED: That the work being undertaken to progress and establish by Spring 2021, a Renfrewshire Citizens Assembly/Forum on Climate Change; and a partnership forum on climate change, linked to community planning governance structures, be noted.

3 Procurement Policy in relation to Climate Change

The Corporate Procurement Manager gave a presentation on procurement policy in relation to Climate Change, which was supported by the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014. The Act introduced the Sustainable Procurement Duty, which required publicly funded bodies to consider how they could improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of their area and act in a way to secure the improvements identified. The Act also required the Council to set out how it would achieve its sustainable procurement goals in its Procurement Strategy and a report on progress each year is set out in the Annual Procurement Report.

Officers responded to members' comments and questions, including how the Council could influence the private sector in making use of sustainable and ethical procurement methods. There was discussion on engaging with businesses actively tendering with the Council and how they could access the sustainable procurement tool, which was currently only for public sector use. The Corporate Procurement Manager agreed to raise this issue and the wider issue of how the Council could help small businesses in terms of sustainable procurement at the Scottish Government's Climate and Procurement Action Forum and advise the Sub-Committee of any response.

Members thanked the Corporate Procurement Manager for her presentation.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the presentation be noted; and
- (b) That the Corporate Procurement Manager would raise the issue of private sector access to the sustainable procurement tool and the wider issue of how the Council could help small businesses in terms of sustainable procurement at the Scottish Government's Climate and Procurement Action Forum, and advise the Sub-Committee of any response.

4 Dates of Future Meetings

The Sub-Committee agreed that the following dates be noted for future meetings:-
3 March 2021 at 11.30 am

5 May 2021 at 12 noon
23 June 2021 at 1.00 pm
22 September 2021 at 2.00 pm
8 December 2021 at 2.00 pm
1 March 2022 at 2.00 pm
27 April 2022 at 2.00 pm