

Notice of Meeting and Agenda Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 24 January 2023	10:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

MARK CONAGHAN
Head of Corporate Governance

Membership

Councillor Andy Steel (Convener): Councillor Michelle Campbell (Depute Convener):

Councillor Alison Ann-Dowling: Councillor Stephen Burns: Councillor Graeme Clark:
Councillor Andy Doig: Councillor Neill Graham: Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes:
Councillor Colin McCulloch: Councillor Jamie McGuire: Councillor Marie McGurk:
Councillor Iain McMillan: Councillor John McNaughtan: Councillor Iain Nicolson:
Councillor Jim Paterson:

Webcasting of Meeting

This meeting will be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site – at the start of the meeting the Convener will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed. To find the webcast please navigate to

<https://renfrewshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Hybrid Meeting

Please note that this meeting is scheduled to be held in the Council Chambers. However, it is a hybrid meeting and arrangements have been made for members to join the meeting remotely should they wish.

Members of the Press and Public

Members of the press and public wishing to attend the meeting should report to the customer service centre where they will be met and directed to the meeting.

Further Information

This is a meeting which is open to members of the public.

A copy of the agenda and reports for this meeting will be available for inspection prior to the meeting at the Customer Service Centre, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley and online

at <http://renfrewshire.cmis.uk.com/renfrewshire/CouncilandBoards.aspx>

For further information, please either email

democratic-services@renfrewshire.gov.uk or telephone 0141 487 1117.

Apologies

Apologies from members.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare an interest in any item(s) on the agenda and to provide a brief explanation of the nature of the interest.

Finance

1 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 1 - 8

Joint report by Chief Executive and Director of Finance & Resources.

Economy

2 Renfrewshire Economic Profile Update (January 2023) 9 - 28

Report by Chief Executive.

3 Net Zero Business Support and Grants 29 - 34

Report by Chief Executive.

4 Cultural Infrastructure Projects - Update 35 - 46

Report by Chief Executive.

5 Tourism Update 47 - 52

Report by Chief Executive.



To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 24 January 2023

Report by: Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Resources

Heading: Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring as at 11 November 2022

1. Summary of Financial Position

- 1.1. The projected revenue outturn at 31 March 2023 for those services reporting to the Economy and Regeneration Board is a breakeven position.
- 1.2. The projected capital outturn at 31 March 2023 for projects reporting to the Economy and Regeneration Policy Board is a breakeven position against the revised budget for the year of £30.818 million.
- 1.3. This is summarised in the table below and further analysis is provided in the Appendices.

Division	Revised Annual Budget £000	Projected Annual Outturn £000	Budget Variance (Adv) / Fav £000	Budget Variance %
Economy and Development	2,996	2,996	0	0.0%

Division	Revised Annual Budget £000	Projected Annual Outturn £000	Budget Variance (Adv) / Fav £000	Budget Variance %
Economy and Development	30,818	30,818	0	0%

2. Recommendations

2.1. Members are requested to:

- (a) Note the projected Revenue outturn position detailed in Table 1 above;
- (b) Note the projected Capital outturn position detailed in Table 2 above; and
- (c) Note the budget adjustments detailed at sections 4 and 6.

3. Revenue

- 3.1. The Revenue Budget Monitoring report at Appendix 1 identifies a projected breakeven position for all services reporting to this Policy Board. Detailed division service reports can also be found here, together with an explanation of any significant projected variances.
- 3.2. The projected outturn is based on information currently available, and assumptions made by service budget holders. Any changes to these projections will be detailed in future reports to the Board.
- 3.3. The main reasons for the projected outturn position are indicated below the tables showing both the subjective analysis (what the budget is spent on) and the objective analysis (which division is spending the budget).

4. Revenue Budget Adjustments

- 4.1. No budget adjustments have been processed since the previous report to board.

5. Capital

- 5.1. The Capital Investment Programme 2022/23 to 2026/27 was approved by the Council on 3 March 2022. For Economy and Regeneration the approved capital spend for 2022/23 is £30.818m
- 5.2. The Capital Monitoring report at Appendix 2 indicates net budget adjustments to date in the 2022/23 approved capital programme for Economy and Regeneration of £15.053m, largely as a result of reprofiling budget from 2022/23 into 2023/24 for Paisley Town Hall and Paisley Museum to reflect updated cashflows.
- 5.3. Further detail, including reasons for significant variances (where applicable), can be found at appendix 2.

6. Capital Budget Adjustments

- 6.1. Since the last report, budget changes totalling £2.664m have arisen which reflect the following:

Budget carried forward into 2023/24 from 2022/23 for updated cashflows (£2.464m):

- Paisley Art Centre (£0.444m);
- Paisley Town Hall (£1.500m);
- Paisley Learning & Cultural Hub (£0.520m);

Budget Transfers in 2022/23 (£0.200m):

- Town Centre Capital Fund (£0.200m) transfer to Village Improvement Fund as approved by Council in March 2022.
-

Implications of this report

1. **Financial** – The projected budget outturn position for the revenue budget reported to the Economy and Regeneration Policy Board is breakeven. Income and expenditure will continue to be monitored closely for the rest of the financial year and, where necessary, steps will be taken to mitigate any overspend.

The projected outturn position for capital budgets reported to the Economy and Regeneration Policy Board is breakeven. The Capital programme will continue to be monitored closely for the rest of the financial year.

Any changes to current projections in either Revenue or Capital budgets will be reported to the board as early as possible, along with an explanation for the movement.

2. **HR and Organisational Development**

None directly arising from this report.

3. **Community/Council Planning**

None directly arising from this report.

4. **Legal**

None directly arising from this report.

5. **Property/Assets**

The Capital expenditure in this board will result in improvements to Culture and Heritage assets and delivery of strategic place-shaping and regeneration.

- 6. Information Technology**
None directly arising from this report.
- 7. Equality and Human Rights**
The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because for example it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
- 8. Health and Safety**
None directly arising from this report.
- 9. Procurement**
None directly arising from this report.
- 10. Risk**
The potential risk that the Council will overspend its approved budgets for the year will be managed at a Council-wide level by the Chief Executive and Directors.
- 11. Privacy Impact**
None directly arising from this report.
- 12. Cosla Policy Position**
N/a.
- 13. Climate Risk**
None directly arising from this report.

List of Background Papers

Authors: Valerie Howie (Revenue) and Geoff Borland (Capital)

RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT 2022/23
1 April 2022 to 11 November 2022

POLICY BOARD : ECONOMY AND REGENERATION

Objective Summary	Approved Annual Budget at Period 6	Budget Adjustments	Revised Annual Budget at Period 8	Projected Outturn	Budget Variance (Adverse) or Favourable		Previous Projected Outturn Variance	Movement
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	%	£000	£000
Economy and Regeneration Management	127	0	127	129	(2)	(1.6%)	(8)	6
Economic Development	1,932	(0)	1,932	1,921	11	0.6%	37	(26)
Regeneration	937	0	937	946	(9)	(1.0%)	5	(14)
NET EXPENDITURE	2,996	(0)	2,996	2,996	0	0.00%	34	(34)

Objective Heading	Key Reasons for Projected Variance
Economy and Regeneration Management	No significant projected year end variances to report.
Economic Development	No significant projected year end variances to report.
Regeneration	No significant projected year end variances to report.

RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT 2022/23
1 April 2022 to 11 November 2022

POLICY BOARD : ECONOMY AND REGENERATION

Subjective Summary	Approved Annual Budget at Period 6	Budget Adjustments	Revised Annual Budget at Period 8	Projected Outturn	Budget Variance (Adverse) or Favourable		Previous Projected Outturn Variance	Movement
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	%	£000	£000
Employees	4,609	(0)	4,609	4,556	53	1.1%	72	(19)
Premises Related	52	0	52	53	(1)	(1.9%)	(1)	0
Transport Related	3	0	3	3	0	0.0%	0	0
Supplies and Services	29	0	29	30	(1)	(3.4%)	(1)	0
Third Party Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0
Transfer Payments	721	0	721	720	1	0.1%	1	0
Support Services	39	0	39	40	(1)	(2.6%)	(1)	0
Depreciation and Impairment Losses	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0
GROSS EXPENDITURE	5,453	(0)	5,453	5,402	51	0.9%	70	(19)
Income	(2,457)	0	(2,457)	(2,406)	(51)	(2.1%)	(36)	(15)
NET EXPENDITURE	2,996	(0)	2,996	2,996	0	0.0%	34	(34)

RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
CAPITAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY - NON-HOUSING SERVICES
1st April to 11th November 2022
POLICY BOARD: ECONOMY & REGENERATION

Project Title	Prior Years Expenditure to 31/03/2022* £000	Current Year 2022-23						Full Programme - All years				
		Approved Budget 2022-23 £000	Budget Adjustments in 2022-23 £000	Revised Budget 2022-23 £000	Projected Outturn 2021-22 £000	Budget Variance (Adverse) or Favourable		Total Approved Budget to 31-Mar-27 £000	Projected Outturn to 31-Mar-27 £000	Budget Variance (Adverse) or Favourable		
ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT												
Paisley Art Centre Redevelopment	574	1,774	230	2,004	2,004	0	0%	3,050	3,050	0	0%	
Paisley Town Hall Redevelopment	8,284	11,729	(4,469)	7,260	7,260	0	0%	22,050	22,050	0	0%	
Flexible Outdoor Facility/Travel & Accessibility Infrastructure	447	1,283	(1,223)	60	60	0	0%	7,050	7,050	0	0%	
Playing Fields and Sports Development	779	1,040	(860)	180	180	0	0%	5,600	5,600	0	0%	
Paisley Museum	12,117	20,109	(6,042)	14,067	14,067	0	0%	45,522	45,522	0	0%	
Town Centre Capital Fund	1,793	2,250	(2,007)	243	243	0	0%	4,037	4,037	0	0%	
Paisley Learning & Cultural Hub	2,755	3,642	(1,244)	2,398	2,398	0	0%	7,000	7,000	0	0%	
Place Based Fund	25	0	1,195	1,195	1,195	0	0%	4,427	4,427	0	0%	
Paisley Junctions and Charging Hub	211	2,520	(185)	2,335	2,335	0	0%	3,346	3,346	0	0%	
Townscape Heritage CARS 2	2,523	1,524	(448)	1,076	1,076	0	0%	4,099	4,099	0	0%	
Total Economy & Development	29,508	45,871	(15,053)	30,818	30,818	0	0%	106,181	106,181	0	0%	
TOTAL ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT	29,508	45,871	(15,053)	30,818	30,818	0	0%	106,181	106,181	0	0%	

*Rolling programmes have a prior year expenditure of £0 as the expenditure is not directly linked from one year to the next as a singular project.



To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 24 January 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Renfrewshire Economic Profile Update (January 2023)

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report contains the eighth edition of the Renfrewshire Economic Profile. These Economic Profile updates allow members to track changes in the local economy through a set of key statistical indicators. The last update on the Economic Profile was brought to Board in December 2021.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
- (i) notes the content of the January 2023 Renfrewshire Economic Profile Update.
-

3. Background

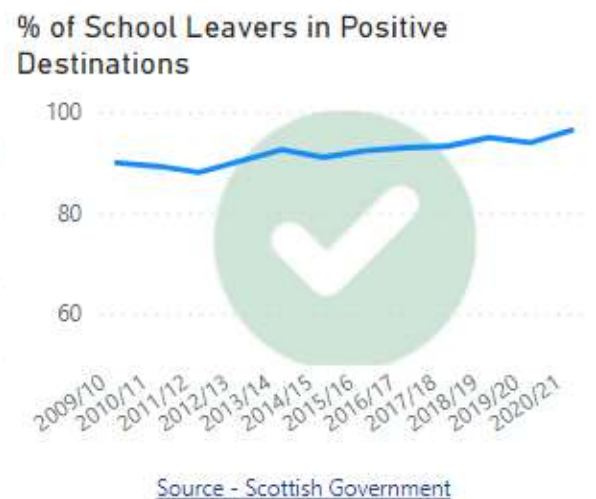
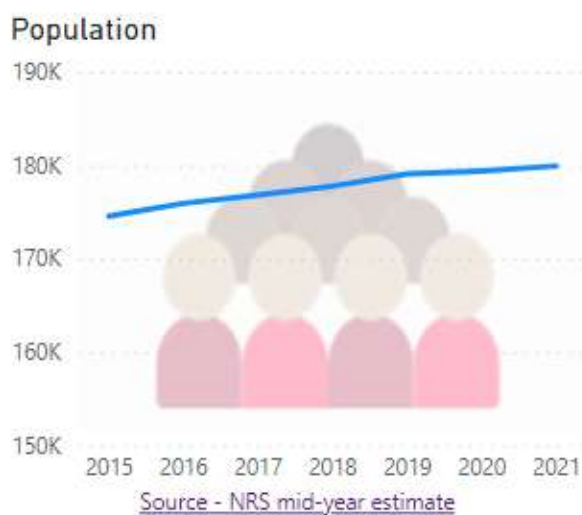
- 3.1 The purpose of the economic profile update is to describe and track local demographics and economic indicators for Renfrewshire on an annual basis. The data and analysis presented provides a context and a baseline to assess how well the Renfrewshire economy over time.
- 3.2 In terms of the profile, as with previous versions of this report, officers have selected Scotland and Glasgow City Region (GCR) as the most appropriate comparators. The national average is a commonly used guide by most local authorities in terms of relative performance.
- 3.3 Members comments are welcomed on the format and content of the economic profile. The profile will be shared with stakeholders and become the key source of data relating to the performance of the local economy. The profile aligns with the Renfrewshire Economic Strategy.

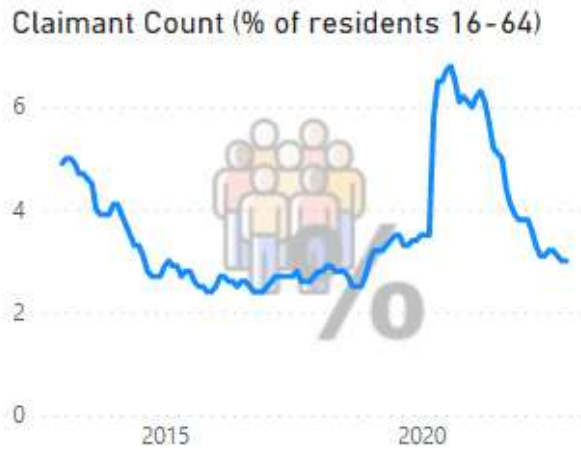
4. Key issues arising from the Renfrewshire Economic Profile

4.1 In previous version of these economic profile updates to Board, officers had selected a range of the latest statistics against Renfrewshire Council Plan and Community Plan strategic objectives to allow members to see progress against some of the Council's key priorities.

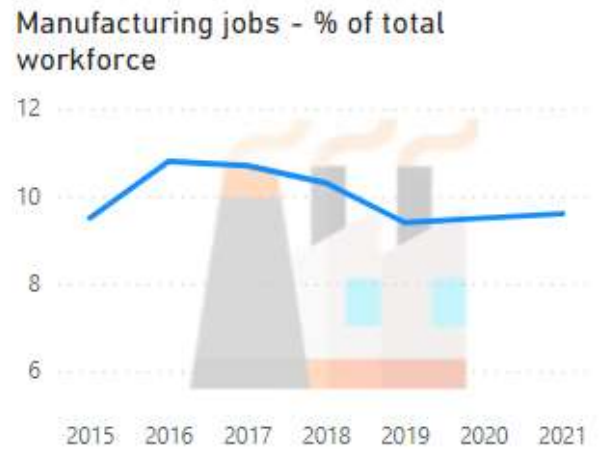
Economic indicators dashboard

4.2 Officers have selected a number of key statistics and have displayed them in the Dashboard below:





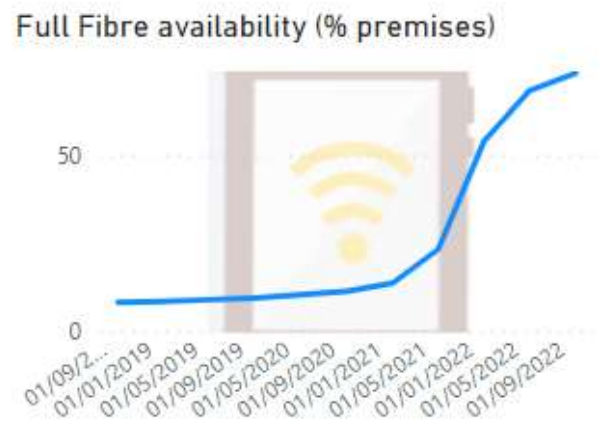
Source - Nomis LA profile



Source - Nomis LA profile



Source - Scottish Government



Source - Ofcom Connected Nations Report

- 4.3 These indicators show that Renfrewshire’s population is growing, and employment levels have increased in 2022. Female employment in particular has seen a significant increase in Renfrewshire (8.9%); far higher than the national average and the highest in the GCR. The Gender Employment Gap in 2021 also changed so that on average a higher proportion of women were in employment in comparison to men in Renfrewshire.
- 4.4 Unemployment rates have fallen between 2021 and 2022 and Renfrewshire’s claimant count has also continued to fall over the same period. This highlights that more people have attained employment coming out of the pandemic.
- 4.5 Following the CityFibre / Commsworld fibre roll out, the % of households with access to full fibre connections has further increased from 8% in September 2018 to over 73% in November 2022.
- 4.6 The rate of school leavers in positive destinations of 96.5% in 2019/20 is higher than the national level and is the 3rd highest in the City Region.
- 4.7 Following the covid pandemic, Town Centre Vacancy Rates have increased and is more pronounced in Renfrewshire’s largest towns.

- 4.8 There was a significant increase (£40m) in direct tourism expenditure in 2021 - £88m compared to 48m in 2020. The significant difference is likely attributed to restrictions related to the pandemic which were in place during 2020 and resultant capacity issues for the whole year.
- 4.9 The supply of new housing per 10,000 population increased between 2020 and 2021. Renfrewshire's rate is still the 3rd highest in the City Region and is higher than the national average.
- 4.10 The rate of manufacturing jobs as a % of the total workforce has remained stable between 2019 and 2021 but has declined by 11% from the 2017 figure. Renfrewshire has the highest proportion of employment in manufacturing (9.5%) in the City Region.
- 4.11 GVA in Renfrewshire fell between 2019 and 2020 by 23% highlighting the impacts of the pandemic on the local economy. This is broadly in line with the Scottish national average (19% decrease). Renfrewshire still generates the 4th highest amount of GVA amongst the GCR authorities.

Conclusion

- 4.12 Overall Renfrewshire's economy appears to be performing well when compared to regional and national rates for a number of key performance indicators including employment, unemployment, qualifications and earnings.
- 4.13 Of particular note is the significant increase in female employment in Renfrewshire – both higher than the national average and City Region.
- 4.14 Manufacturing, Retail and Transport and Storage continue to be important sectors for Renfrewshire in terms of jobs and GVA generated.
- 4.15 The full economic profile for Renfrewshire is included at Appendix 1 to this report.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – No additional finance is sought. All funding is accounted for within existing Council budgets.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None.
3. **Community/Council Planning** –
 - **Empowering our Communities** – the new Economic Profile will enable communities to have a clearer understanding of the relative performance of the Renfrewshire economy.
 - **Jobs and the Economy** - the new Economic Profile will present a clearer picture of the relative performance of the Renfrewshire economy.

4. **Legal** – None.
5. **Property/Assets** – None.
6. **Information Technology** – None.
7. **Equality & Human Rights**

(a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.

8. **Health & Safety** – None.
9. **Procurement** – None.
10. **Risk** – None.
11. **Privacy Impact** - None.
12. **COSLA Policy Position** – Not Applicable.
13. **Climate Risk** – Not Applicable.


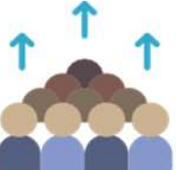


List of Background Papers





None.

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Renfrewshire Economic Statistics (Eighth Edition: January 2023)




1. Population





	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
 <p>Population 2021</p>	<p>179,940</p> <p>Increase of 4% on 2010</p>	<p>5,479,900</p> <p>Increase of 4% on 2010</p>	<p>1,849,070</p> <p>Increase of 4% on 2010</p>
 <p>Population projection (at 2043, 2018 based)</p>	<p>185,360</p> <p>3.0% increase on 2021</p>	<p>5,574,819</p> <p>1.7% increase on 2021</p>	<p>1,885,826</p> <p>2.0% increase on 2021</p>
 <p>Births (2021)</p>	<p>1,647</p> <p>This is a decrease of 17% from 1,995 births in 2010</p>	<p>47,786</p> <p>This is a decrease of 19% from 58,791 births in 2010</p>	<p>17,043</p> <p>This is a decrease of 17% from 58,791 births in 2010</p>
<p>Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (2021)</p>	<p>9.5</p> <p>In Renfrewshire, the standardised birth rate increased from 8.9 per 1,000 population in 2020 to 9.5 in 2021</p>	<p>8.7</p> <p>The rate in Scotland overall increased from 8.6 to 8.7 between 2020 and 2021.</p>	<p>In 2021, Renfrewshire was the council area with the 5th highest standardised birth rate in Scotland. Between 2020 and 2021.</p>
 <p>Deaths (2021)</p>	<p>2,232</p> <p>This is an increase of 17% from 1,910 deaths in 2010</p>	<p>63,587</p> <p>This is an increase of 18% from 53,967 deaths in 2010</p>	<p>21,704</p> <p>This is an increase of 16% from 18,791 deaths in 2010</p>











	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
 Male Male Life Expectancy 2019-21	75.5	76.6	Male life expectancy at birth has increased more rapidly than female life expectancy at birth between 2001-03 and 2019-21.
 Female Female Life Expectancy 2019-21	80.0	80.8	
 Net migration Net Migration (2020-21)	1230 Renfrewshire had the 2nd highest level of net migration in the GCR, with an increase of 380 from 850 people in 2019-20.	27,800 This is an increase of 10,900 people from 16,900 in 2019/20.	6,500 This is a decrease of 250 people from 6,750 in 2019/20.
 % of population that is of the working age (16-64yrs) (at 2021)	64%	64%	65%

2. Employment




	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
 <p>Employment rate - aged 16-64 (Jul 2021-Jun 2022)</p>	<p>77.4%</p> <p>The rate has increased by 3.9% compared to the previous 2021 figure.</p>	<p>74.4%</p> <p>The rate has increased by 2.2% in comparison to the previous 2021 figure.</p>	<p>Renfrewshire has the 2nd highest employment rate in the GCR.</p> <p>South Lanarkshire has the highest (78.2%) and North Lanarkshire has the lowest (68.1%).</p>
 <p>Employment rate - Male (Jul 2021-Jun 2022)</p>	<p>72.5%</p> <p>The male employment rate has marginally fallen by 1.2% compared to the previous 2021 figure.</p>	<p>77%</p> <p>The national employment rate for males is significantly higher than the Renfrewshire rate.</p>	<p>Renfrewshire has the second lowest male employment rate in the GCR.</p> <p>South Lanarkshire has the highest (84.8%) and North Lanarkshire has the lowest (67%).</p>
 <p>Employment rate - Female 16-64 (Jul 2021-Jun 2022)</p>	<p>82.3%</p> <p>The female employment rate has increased significantly by 8.9% compared to the previous 2021 figure.</p>	<p>72%</p> <p>The national employment rate for females is significantly lower than the Renfrewshire rate.</p>	<p>Renfrewshire has the highest female employment rate in the GCR, with Glasgow City having the lowest (66.2%)</p>
 <p>Unemployment Rate 16-64 (Jul 2021-Jun 2022)</p>	<p>2.7%</p> <p>Renfrewshire's unemployment rate has fallen by 3.4% from the previous 2021 figure.</p>	<p>3.5%</p> <p>1.3% decrease in comparison to the overall 2021 figure</p>	<p>Renfrewshire has the 5th highest unemployment rate in the GRC.</p> <p>North Lanarkshire has the lowest (1.8%) and East Renfrewshire the highest (3.7%)</p>
 <p>Claimant Count (Nov 2022)</p>	<p>3,490</p> <p>Encouragingly the claimant count in Renfrewshire has decreased by 23% compared to the November 2021 figure</p>	<p>109,585</p> <p>The national claimant count figure has decreased by 23% since November last year</p>	<p>45,370</p> <p>When compared to the November 2021 figure, the GCR claimant count has decreased by 22%</p>



	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
<p>Claimants as a proportion of residents aged 16-64 (September 2021)</p> 	<p>3.0%</p> <p>This proportion has decreased from 3.9% back in November 2021</p>	<p>3.1%</p> <p>This proportion has decreased from 4.1% back in November 2021.</p>	<p>3.3%</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the 6th highest proportion in the GCR.</p> <p>Glasgow City has the highest proportion (4.8%) whereas East Renfrewshire has the lowest (1.7%)</p>
 <p>Occupations (Workplaces in Renfrewshire; at 2021)</p>	<p>Renfrewshire has above average employment in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing (8,000) • Business administration (10,000) • Retail (10,000) • Transport and Storage (6,000) 	<p>Scotland is closer to Renfrewshire in terms of the proportion for health and construction employment but is lower in the other sectors such as Manufacturing and business administration</p>	<p>Renfrewshire has much higher proportions of employment than the GCR in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing • Transportation and Storage; and • Business administration
 <p>Earnings (at 2022)</p>	<p>Median weekly earnings for full-time employees living in Renfrewshire are £634.80</p> <p>Median weekly earnings for full-time employees working in Renfrewshire are £612.80</p>	<p>Median weekly earnings for full-time employees living in Scotland are £640.30</p> <p>Median weekly earnings for full-time employees working in Scotland are £640.50</p>	<p>Renfrewshire has the 5th highest resident earnings in the GCR with East Renfrewshire the highest (£804.90) and West Dunbartonshire the lowest (£616.00).</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the 5th highest workplace earnings in the GCR with Glasgow the highest (£670.80) and East Dunbartonshire the lowest (£582.10).</p>
<p>Employment in low pay sectors (%) 2020</p>	<p>35.1%</p> <p>0.7% decrease from 2017</p>	<p>28.7%</p> <p>1.1% decrease from 2017</p>	<p>30.8%</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the highest rate in the GCR. North Lanarkshire has the lowest rate at 25.5%.</p>

	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
			
Gender Employment Gap (full-time, % points) 2021 	-6.0% -11.1% change from 2018, which highlights that a higher proportion of woman were in employment in 2021 in comparison to men	5.0% 2.7% decrease from 2018	6.2% Renfrewshire has the 2 nd lowest gap in the GCR. Glasgow City has the largest gap at 13.9%. Inverclyde has the lowest rate at -8.0%.
 Qualifications NVQ4 and above % of pop 16-64yrs (2021)	50.4% 9.9% increase from 2018	50.1% 5.9% increase from 2018	Renfrewshire has the 4th highest rate of qualification at this level in the GCR with East Renfrewshire the highest (63.6%) and West Dunbartonshire the lowest (36.2%).
No Qualifications % of pop 16-64yrs (2021)) 	7.1% 3.1% decrease from 2018	7.7% 2.0% decrease from 2018	10.7% Renfrewshire has the 2 nd lowest level of residents with no qualifications in the GCR. North Lanarkshire has the highest % at 18.6%, whilst East Renfrewshire has the lowest at 4.4%
% of School Leavers in Positive Destinations 2020/21	96.5% 3.2% increase from 2017/18	95.5% 0.9% increase from 2017/18	93.6% Renfrewshire has the 3rd highest attainment level in the GCR . East Dunbartonshire has the highest % at 98.6%, with

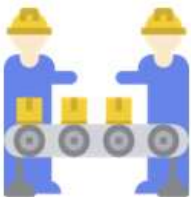
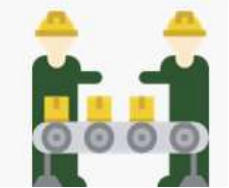


	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
			West Dunbartonshire the lowest 91.0%.
<p>% of Households that are Workless 2020</p> 	<p>16.5%</p> <p>0.4% increase from 2017</p>	<p>21.5%</p> <p>3.4% increase from 2017</p>	<p>24.8%</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the 2nd lowest % of households that are workless in the GCR . Glasgow City has the highest % at 22.5%, with East Dunbartonshire the lowest at 15.8%.</p>
<p>Travel to Work Survey SHS (2016)</p>	 3.1%  73.0%  2.1%  19.5%	 12.3%  67.0%  2.6%  15.6%	<p>Renfrewshire has the 4th highest % driving to work in the GCR with Glasgow City the lowest (55.1%) and North Lanarkshire the highest (79.9%).</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the 4th lowest % taking bus/rail services to work in the GCR with Glasgow City the highest (28%) and North Lanarkshire the lowest (12.7%).</p>





3. Business

	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
 <p>Private Enterprises (2022)</p>	<p>4,680 private enterprises in Renfrewshire.</p> <p>87% are micro businesses with less than 10 employees.</p> <p>11% are small businesses (10 to 49).</p> <p>2% have been 50 and 250 employees.</p> <p>Less than 1% are classed as large businesses with more than 250 employees.</p> <p>This figure is for VAT and/or PAYE registered enterprises</p>	<p>Generally, an equivalent split to that of Renfrewshire's with around 98% of businesses being classed as either micro or small.</p>	<p>Renfrewshire has a higher proportion of larger sized organisations compared to areas such as East Dunbartonshire and East Renfrewshire</p>
 <p>Business Start Ups (per 10,000 working age population, 2020)</p>	<p>49.5</p> <p>7.6% decrease from 2017</p>	<p>50.9</p> <p>8.5% decrease from 2017</p>	<p>53.5</p> <p>Renfrewshire had the 4th largest number of start-ups (570) with Glasgow City the most with 2,795 and Inverclyde the fewest with 180.</p>
 <p>Business Closures (per 10,000 working age population, 2020)</p>	<p>48.7</p> <p>1.8% decrease from 2017</p>	<p>53.4</p> <p>2.6% decrease from 2017</p>	<p>50.4</p> <p>Renfrewshire had the fifth largest number of closures in GCR at 560 with Glasgow City the most with 2,440 and Inverclyde the fewest with 200.</p>




	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
 <p>GVA (2020)</p>	<p>£2.7 billion</p> <p>GVA fell by 23% between 2019 and 2020 highlighting the impacts of the pandemic on the local economy.</p>	<p>£80.8 billion</p> <p>Similarly, GVA in Scotland fell by 19% between 2019 and 2020.</p> <p>GVA in Renfrewshire accounts for 3.3% of Scotland's total GVA.</p>	<p>£24.3 billion</p> <p>Glasgow City (£11.2 accounts for 46% of the overall region's GVA.</p> <p>Renfrewshire generates the fourth largest GVA (11%) in the GCR with East Renfrewshire the smallest at £419 million (2%).</p>
 <p>Town Centre Vacancy Rates (2022)</p>	<p>Paisley – 20%</p> <p>Renfrew – 14%</p> <p>Johnstone – 19%</p> <p>Erskine – 0%</p> <p>Braehead – 14%</p> <p>Linwood – 0%</p> <p>Town Centre Vacancy Rates have increased in Renfrewshire's largest towns between 2019 and 2022 – up 6.4% in Paisley, 6% in Renfrew and 9.2% in Johnstone.</p>		


4. Manufacturing

	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
 <p>Number Employed in Manufacturing Sector (2021)</p>	<p>8,000</p> <p>This figure has remained stable between 2019 and 2021 but is a 11% decrease from the 2017 figure (9,000).</p>	<p>176,000</p> <p>The total number of jobs in Manufacturing in Scotland has fallen by 4% from the 2017 figure.</p>	<p>56,250</p> <p>Glasgow City has the highest number of manufacturing jobs in the GCR (19,000) and East Renfrewshire the lowest (500).</p>
 <p>Number Employed in Manufacturing Sector per 10,000 working age population (2021)</p>	<p>692.2</p> <p>Renfrewshire has a higher rate of employment in manufacturing than the GCR and Scottish rates.</p>	<p>503.7</p>	<p>464.7</p> <p>Only Renfrewshire, North Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire have higher rates than the Scottish average rate.</p>
 <p>Manufacturing as % of total employment (2021)</p>	<p>9.5%</p> <p>This figure is down slightly on the 2017 figure (10.8%) due to a reduction in the manufacturing workforce.</p>	<p>7.0%</p> <p>Moray has the highest proportion of employment in manufacturing in Scotland (16.7%) and Edinburgh City the lowest (2.2%).</p>	<p>6.5%</p> <p>The proportion of manufacturing jobs in the GCR is lower than the national rate.</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the highest proportion of employment in manufacturing in the GCR (9.5%) and East Renfrewshire the lowest (2.3%).</p>
 <p>% of Scottish Manufacturing GVA (2020)</p>	<p>6.3%</p> <p>Renfrewshire contributes a higher proportion to Scottish manufacturing GVA than its overall contribution to Scottish GVA (3.3%).</p>	<p>100%</p> <p>Glasgow City produces the highest proportion of Scottish manufacturing GVA (8.7%) and East Renfrewshire the lowest (0.2%).</p>	<p>30.8%</p> <p>The GCR contributes around a third of Scotland's manufacturing GVA</p>



	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
 <p>Manufacturing as a % of GVA (2020)</p>	<p>25.5%</p> <p>Renfrewshire contributes the 8th highest proportion of local GVA through manufacturing in Scotland.</p>	<p>13.6%</p> <p>Angus produces the highest proportion of local GVA through manufacturing (36.2%) and City of Edinburgh the lowest (4.6%).</p>	<p>13.9%</p> <p>West Dunbartonshire produces the highest proportion of local GVA through manufacturing in the GCR (35.6%) and East Renfrewshire the lowest (4.7%).</p>
 <p>Expenditure (£) on R&D within businesses per head of population (2020)</p>	<p>£199</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the 9th highest R&D spend per head of population in Scotland.</p>	<p>£262</p> <p>West Lothian has the highest spend per head (£972) and East Dunbartonshire the lowest (£22) of the reported figures. Note: 2 councils had figures too low to disclose</p>	<p>£209</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the 4th highest per head expenditure on R&D in the GCR area. Glasgow City has the highest (£322) in the GCR area and East Dunbartonshire the lowest (£22).</p>
 <p>Manufacturing sector expenditure (£m) on R&D expenditure (2020)</p>	<p>£19.0m</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the 8th highest spend on manufacturing R&D in Scotland.</p>	<p>£668.4m</p> <p>Edinburgh City has the highest spend (£181m) and the Shetland Islands the lowest (£0.2m) of the reported figures. Note: 11 councils had figures too low to disclose.</p>	<p>£126.7m</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the 4th highest expenditure on manufacturing R&D in the GCR area. North Lanarkshire has the highest (£54m) has the highest spend. Only five LAs reported figures</p>
 <p>Manufacturing R&D expenditure as % of total R&D Expenditure (2020)</p>	<p>53%</p> <p>Renfrewshire spends a higher % of its R&D expenditure on manufacturing than the Scottish and GCR figures</p>	<p>46%</p>	<p>33%</p> <p>North Lanarkshire has the highest % spend of R&D on manufacturing R&D in the GCR area (77%).</p>



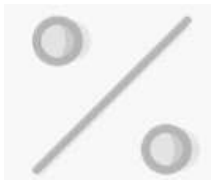
5. Tourism





	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
 <p>Sustainable employment in tourism (at 2022)</p>	5,695	196,700 A decrease of almost 19,000 employees since 2019.	58,690 This accounts for 30% of Scottish sustainable tourism employment. Renfrewshire has the fourth highest level of sustainable tourism employment (10%) in the Region. Glasgow has the largest with 29,350 (50%) and Inverclyde the smallest with 1,795 (3%).
 <p>Direct expenditure (visitors, 2021)</p>	£88.09m This is an increase of 83.4% on the 2020 figure of £48.03m <i>STEAM data was re-commissioned during 2022, and is a year in arrears (i.e. giving 2021 data). Headline data in comparison with 2020 should be understood with the caveat that COVID and related restrictions had a significant impact on the tourism industry</i>	n/a <i>STEAM is commissioned at a local authority level and therefore does not provide a Scotland or city-region wide figure</i>	n/a
 <p>Visitors to Events (2022)</p>	15,273 This figure represents visitors to events who came from outwith Renfrewshire and does not include the Christmas events programme . Note that the events programme has had to pivot due to COVID-related impacts		

 <p>All Visits to Attractions (2021)</p>	<p>1.01m</p> <p>A decrease of 4.1% from 2020 figures.</p> <p><i>It should be noted that a number of attractions Renfrewshire remained closed for the duration of 2021, including some that had been open in early 2020.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, outdoor spaces saw a big increase in 2020 which then decreased during 2021.</i></p>	<p>29.5m</p>	<p>6.04m</p>
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6. Housing

	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
 <p>Workforce lives and works in their Local Authority area (at 2011)</p>	<p>52.6%</p>	<p>67.5%</p> <p>(of Scottish people live and work in their own local authority area)</p>	<p>Renfrewshire has the 4th lowest proportion of its workforce living and working in the GCR area with Inverclyde the highest (75%) and East Renfrewshire the lowest (45.2%).</p>
 <p>Supply of New Housing – Rate per 10,000 Population (2021)</p>	<p>49.8</p> <p>There was a increase in house building completions in Renfrewshire between 2020 and 2021 from 579 to 725.</p>	<p>41.2</p> <p>There was an increase in house building in Scotland between 2020 and 2021 from 14,928 to 20,448.</p>	<p>36.5</p> <p>Renfrewshire has the 3rd highest rate of new house building per 10,000 population in the GCR. South Lanarkshire has the highest (59.2) and Inverclyde the lowest (12.9).</p>

	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
 <p>Supply of New Housing – Rate per 10,000 Population (average 2017 to 2021)</p>	44.0	34.9	28.8 Renfrewshire has the highest 5-year rate of new house building in the Glasgow City Region. South Lanarkshire has the next highest (43.2) and Glasgow City the lowest (19.8).
<p>% premises with available Fibre broadband connection (2022)</p>	73% 59% increase from January 2021	39%	30% Renfrewshire has the highest rate in the GCR. West Dunbartonshire the lowest 5%.
 <p>Urban Vacant and Derelict Land (Hectares; 2021)</p>	205 ha Renfrewshire has experienced a 78% reduction in Urban VDL between 2015 and 2021	9,459 ha Overall Urban VDL has reduced by 27% between 2015 and 2021	3,221 ha This is 29% of the Scottish total. Renfrewshire has the 4th highest total area of vacant and derelict land in the GCR with North Lanarkshire the highest with 1,354 hectares and East Renfrewshire the lowest with 47 hectares.
 <p>Urban Vacant and Derelict Land as % of all Scottish V&D land (2021)</p>	2.1%	100%	34.1% Renfrewshire has the 4th highest % of Scottish V&D land in the Glasgow City Region with North Lanarkshire the highest (14.3%) and East

	Renfrewshire	Scotland	Glasgow City Region
			Renfrewshire the lowest (0.5%).
 <p>Urban Vacant and Derelict Land as % of total land area (2021)</p>	0.5%	0.1%	0.7% Renfrewshire has the 4th highest % of its total area classed as urban vacant or derelict in the GCR, with Glasgow City the highest (2.9%) and South Lanarkshire the lowest (0.2%).
<p>Total Vacant & Derelict Land (Ha) in bottom 15% SIMD areas (2021)</p> 	36.1 ha 14.9% decrease from 2018	1,049.5 ha 31.2% decrease from 2018	280.6 ha Renfrewshire has the 3rd lowest amount in the GCR. Glasgow City has the highest amount at 515.8, with East Dunbartonshire the lowest with 0.5
 <p>Breakdown of Tenure Type (2020)</p>	Total Dwellings: 88,355 Owner Occupied – N/A Private vacant/second homes – 2% Private Rented – N/A Socially Rented – 24%	Total Dwellings: 2,645,298 Owner Occupied – 58% Private vacant/second homes – 4% Private Rented – 15% Socially Rented – 23%	Total Dwellings: 885,555 Owner Occupied – N/A Private vacant/second homes – 2% Private Rented – N/A Socially Rented – 28%
 <p>Effective Housing Land Supply % Brownfield (2021)</p>	88% This figure is from Renfrewshire's Housing Land Audit. It represents the % of the land supply that will produce units in the next 7 years that is classed as brownfield		

Glossary:

Claimant Count: The Claimant Count is a measure of the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed, based on administrative data from the benefits system.

Employment in low pay sectors: These include employment in the retail and hospitality sectors.

Gender Employment Gap: The percentage point difference between the employment rates for men and women (aged 16-64). This is calculated by subtracting the employment rate for women from the employment rate for men. A positive employment gap indicates a higher employment rate for men compared with women, while a negative employment gap indicates a higher employment rate for women. Employment rate is the number of people in employment (aged 16-64) divided by the overall population (aged 16-64).

School Leavers in Positive Destinations: Includes higher education, further education, training, employment, voluntary work, Personal Skills Development and (Activity Agreements).

Sustainable Tourism: Sustainable Tourism sector was identified in Scotland's Economic Strategy as one of the growth sectors in which Scotland can build on existing comparative advantage and increase productivity and growth. Scotland's tourism sector is a diverse industry, with a range of sub-sectors such as hotels, camping sites and other provision of short stay accommodation, restaurants, bars, travel agents, museums and other recreational and cultural activities.

Vacant and Derelict Land: Vacant land is defined as land within a settlement that has been previously developed, without physical constraint, and which the planning authority has indicated is available for redevelopment. Derelict land is defined as land 'damaged by development, so that it is incapable of development for beneficial use without some remedial works'.



To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 24 January 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Net Zero Business Support and Grants

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report updates Board on the Green Economy workstream, including the Net Zero Business Grant fund launched in May 2022 and wider support to businesses.
 - 1.2 The grant fund has garnered significant interest however conversions to successful applications have been limited. This paper provides an overview of the fund to date, next steps to increase successful applicants, as well as the wider green economy support package being progressed with City Region Partners.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Board members are asked to:
 - (i) Note the contents of the report.
-

3. Background

- 3.1 Green Economy was a new area of work for the Council in 2022 and a new post was created within Economic Development to progress this. The purpose of the role is to promote sustainable economic growth, support businesses to achieve net zero and support the delivery of a just transition as Renfrewshire Council moves towards achieving its net zero ambitions.

- 32 There are over 4,500 businesses operating in Renfrewshire and each generates carbon emissions through their use of buildings and transport as well as industrial or farming processes.
- 33 Businesses are being encouraged to reduce the impacts of climate change by determining the size of their carbon footprint, identifying which parts of the business contribute most to the production of greenhouse gas emissions and strategically planning what actions are needed to take to make the business more sustainable.
- 34 This workstream is being progressed principally through the delivery of a package of green business support, including the net zero business grant, an approach which is now being developed with City Region partners to ensure consistency throughout the region.

4. Net Zero Business Grant

- 4.1 An initial action within the Green Economy remit was the design and implementation of a Net Zero Business Grant for Renfrewshire.
- 4.2 The Net Zero Business Grant was established via resources secured through the Climate Change Action Fund and Local Authority Covid Economic Recovery Fund earlier this year and was launched in June 2022. Since then additional funding has been identified through the Business Theme of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The total fund available to end of March 2025 is around £500,000.
- 4.3 The fund was launched in June 2022 and is open to small and medium sized enterprises with premises within Renfrewshire. Local businesses can apply for up to £10,000, to a maximum of 50% grant rate, towards eligible projects which will reduce their carbon emissions.
- 4.4 In order to measure emission reductions, the application process requires potential applicants to gather baseline carbon footprint information for their organisation and to demonstrate how the proposed project will reduce their future emissions.
- 4.5 The fund has attracted a significant number of enquires however, thus far there has been only one successful application resulting in a funding award.
- 4.6 It is considered that there are multiple factors contributing to the low conversion rate, including:
- The fund requires an initial carbon footprint assessment however there is a lack of knowledge and capacity to undertake carbon reviews of organisations;
 - Technology is still developing and there is a lack of access to technical skills and trades required to develop feasible projects;

- Increasing cost of doing business reduces capital available for businesses to invest in improvements. The grant fund currently requires 50% match funding which could be prohibitive to some.

4.7 A survey of Renfrewshire businesses is currently underway. This survey provides a platform for businesses to communicate the obstacles and challenges they face on the road to achieving net zero. Feedback from this survey will be used to inform our approach to green business support provision.

5. Challenges & Next Steps

5.1 In the last two months there have been a number of meetings at City Region level to share expertise and to work collectively on the Green Economy agenda. Every area has committed to using UK Shared Prosperity Funding to bolster Net Zero activities for businesses across the eight local authorities. Some areas, such as Renfrewshire and North Lanarkshire, have already started providing services and grants and are learning from each other in terms of what is working well and where a different approach is required.

5.2 Across the City Region there is a new commitment to:

- provide a business grant programme in every local authority area to reduce carbon emissions;
- co-ordinate and deliver training to upskill business advisors and to equip them with the ability to support businesses to mainstream sustainability into business models and assist organisations to address new climate regulations as they come into force.
- Consider jointly funding additional technical support to carry out assessments across the city region.

5.3 To address the obstacles identified to date within the Renfrewshire Net Zero fund a range of changes are proposed:

- **Upskilling and Awareness:** To raise awareness and promote climate literacy, a series of Net Zero events will be held throughout 2023, bringing together speakers and workshops from organisations who have positively engaged in the green agenda to share experience and best practice.
- **Technical Support:** consultancy services will be procured to provide the technical support required to deliver carbon baselining for a few businesses. This service will be available to SMEs based within Renfrewshire, identified through the Net Zero Grant process. Eligible SMEs will be provided access to consultancy services to deliver a carbon baseline review for their organisation. This baseline can then be used to inform investment decisions, set carbon reduction targets, monitor impacts and encourage on-going evaluation of their net zero journey. In addition, baselining will not always be required in advance of grant applications and can be carried out as the project progresses where it is clear that the activities are more carbon efficient and will make a saving.

- Business Training: funding for sustainability training will be allocated to support businesses to build knowledge and capacity within their organisation and promote the appointment of “green champions” to take forward this agenda.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Green Economy is still a relatively new and evolving area of work. Technical skills and expertise are not always available and businesses are apprehensive about the effectiveness and efficiencies of new technologies. There is an enthusiasm for the agenda but a reluctance to be the pilot / tester business.
- 6.2 The move to greater collaboration with City Region partners and the development of City Region approaches will reinforce the importance of the agenda and will provide shared good practise and experiences that should support improved services in green business support.
- 6.3 Specifically for Renfrewshire Council, the recommended combination of staff training, interactive events and consultancy services will provide a package of support to allow prospective applicants to explore the green options available to them. It will also provide sufficient knowledge and expertise for organisations to make informed investment decisions in relation to the sustainability of their organisation. Subsequently, organisations will be in a better position to access grant support for feasible and significant carbon reducing projects.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial - No additional finance sought.** Resources from the existing Climate Change Action Fund, the Local Authority Covid Economic Recovery Fund and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund would ensure that business support is available.
2. **HR & Organisational Development – None.**
3. **Community/Council Planning**
 - Jobs and the Economy – progresses net zero agenda and green business support.
4. **Legal – None.**
5. **Property/Assets- None.**
6. **Information Technology – None.**
7. **Equality & Human Rights-** The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals’ human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.

8. **Health & Safety**- None.
 9. **Procurement** – None.
 10. **Risk**- None.
 11. **Privacy Impact**- None.
 12. **Cosla Policy Position**- Not Applicable.
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To: Economy & Regeneration Policy Board

On: 24 January 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Cultural Infrastructure Programme Update

1. Summary

- 1.1. This report is to update the Board on the progress of Renfrewshire Council's Cultural Infrastructure Programme, being delivered on behalf of the Council by the City Deal & Infrastructure Team (with project management expertise from the Council's Property Services team) with the Paisley Museum Project being delivered by OneRen.
- 1.2. The Cultural Infrastructure Programme investment in Paisley town centre will use our internationally significant cultural and heritage story to transform our future for visitors and events within Scotland. This programme of work will bring new footfall and life to the town centre, new homes for top class events and life-changing cultural experiences whilst preserving the heritage of the town.
- 1.3. Since the beginning of the Cultural Infrastructure Programme, the scale of the economic shock we have since experienced from global events such as the pandemic and war in Ukraine has been unforeseeable introducing significant pressure on the Council and its contractor's in delivering these ambitious plans. Completion of these projects are central to the recovery and inclusive growth of the Renfrewshire economy and Paisley Town Centre.
- 1.4. Given the very significant scale of the cultural infrastructure programme a managed programme of phased venue openings over a defined period has been planned since the commencement of the construction phase. Delivering a managed and coordinated opening programme is key to securing a successful go live phase where each venue is provided with the opportunity to be launched in its own right and contribute both individually and collectively to maximise the impact on Renfrewshire's cultural, events and heritage opportunities.

1.5. In addition, there are significant operational demands involved in planning, preparing and delivering each venue opening and consequently there is a need to actively manage the opening programme to ensure organisational capacity of both the Council and OneRen is able to appropriately support the associated demands of each individual venue opening.

1.6. The very significant scale of the construction phase, coupled with the unprecedented challenges faced across the wider construction sector over the past number of years, has meant there has been an inevitable shift in the construction completion dates of each venue in contrast to that planned at the outset of the programme. Notwithstanding, greater confidence is being increasingly secured in relation to anticipated construction completion dates which will allow a firm opening schedule to be finalised and in line with the planning principles outlined above it this will not necessarily be directly driven by the completion dates of each individual construction contractor. A paper outlining the detail of the planned opening programme will be brought to the next board.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Economy & Regeneration Board is asked to:

- i) Note the progress and current stage of construction of the projects outlined in this paper.
- ii) Note that OneRen will bring details of the cultural infrastructure opening programme and marketing plans to the next meeting of this board as detailed in paragraph 13.

3. Project Updates

3.1. Whilst each of the Cultural Infrastructure projects individually contribute to economic growth in Renfrewshire, it is important to note that the combined social and economic outcomes from across these investments are greater than the sum of the individual parts. Coupled with the Councils wider economic investments in City Deal, AMIDS, housing and other regeneration projects these social and economic outcomes for our local residents and visitors is enhanced further.

3.2. On all project sites planned progress has been difficult to maintain in line with programmes whilst contractors manage the ongoing difficulties of construction materials and supply chain with current global issues outing significant pressure on costs. The Council continues to work closely with contractors to monitor and provide any reasonable support to ensure the successful delivery of these important projects.

3.3. The Council and OneRen teams are currently working together to finalise opening plans for these venues and an update will be brought to the next meeting of this board.

4. Paisley Town Hall Redevelopment

4.1. Paisley Town Hall is being transformed into a landmark entertainment venue for the West of Scotland, to preserve its place at the heart of life in Paisley for future generations.

The Paisley Town Hall Redevelopment project includes replacement of all mechanical, electrical and plant, as well as a full fit out and redecoration of the existing building. In addition, internal modernisation to increase the quality and range of services offered by improving the main hall auditorium, increased dressing room provision, acoustic and lighting improvements, new function suite, extended kitchen and new bar provision, additional toilets, and all-round improvements to the landmark building are currently being constructed.

- 4.2. The design preserves the same classic look and grand features which make the town hall so distinctive – but creates the 21st century facilities required for a successful modern venue.
- 4.3. Redevelopment of significant and historic buildings is always challenging, and the team are ensuring that quality and care is taken to deliver the building to the high standards to meet the vision and expectations for this building. The contractor, Morrison Construction, has now completed most of the required internal structural changes and is transitioning to the fit-out works. One of the most prominent areas of construction has been the erection of an 18m high scaffolding structure that covered the entirety of the main hall, used to completely refurbish the historic ceiling decoration, and install new machinery in the attic space above the main hall. This scaffold has now largely dropped, marking the completion of a significant area of work, and showcasing the ornate ceiling that brings the main hall to life.
- 4.4. Work will continue at pace into 2023 where mechanical and electrical upgrades will complete in the early part of the year and will see the finalisation of a new heating and water system as well as new accessible lift installations. Along with the full electrical replacement, the building will also have new fibre installed to bring improved network capacity and allow the installation of a new Wi-Fi service that will provide connectivity for both staff and the public.
- 4.5. Finishing works will then take place across all rooms including kitchens, toilets, office spaces and event rooms which will conclude the construction works. It is anticipated that construction works will be complete at the end of May 2023. This will then be followed by an intense period of internal fit out of items including furniture, ICT, and high-quality stage sound and lighting equipment to ensure Paisley Town hall can deliver top class entertainment events.
- 4.6. OneRen are preparing an operational readiness programme concurrently for the internal fit out works, involving staff training and implementation of operating procedures. The PTH venue will be marketed by OneRen through a pre-planned strategy to attract events, performers, and bookings. The operational readiness programme will be implemented commencing in spring 2023, with the building opening in advance of the Royal National Mòd 2023, which will take place in Paisley from 13th to 21st of October.

5. Paisley Learning and Cultural Hub

- 5.1. Paisley Learning and Cultural Hub is a 21st century community hub and a modern home for library services at the heart of Paisley High Street, bringing new footfall into the town centre. The construction of this building is taking place in a previously vacant and derelict building in the centre of the High Street and will become a modern educational resource for people of all ages to learn and be inspired.

- 5.2. Construction of the building has seen a significant amount of the existing building stripped out whilst preserving the historic characteristics of the building. The building has been transformed with a complex network of new steel installed to create the foundation of what will be four floors of learning and collaboration space. On site, steelwork and structural changes are largely complete with the final new staircases being installed imminently to allow the works to progress to the fitout phase.
- 5.3. Early in 2023 the front of the building will be installed which will be a significant milestone towards completion. Work has already commenced to prepare the fitout of the building with mechanical and electric works started, and internal walls now being constructed. Every element of this building will be newly installed, and this will include new fibre and Wi-Fi to the building for both staff and the public who use the building.
- 5.4. Construction works are scheduled to complete by the end of May 2023, and this will deliver; a children's library including a new play structure integrated with digital learning mechanisms, various touch down spaces to work and learn, meeting rooms and event space, ICT suites, all combined with the Paisley Central Library collection throughout.
- 5.5. OneRen will deliver an operational readiness programme that will involve the transition of the temporary Paisley Central Library from its existing location in the Lagoon car park, to the new building on Paisley High Street. This transition will take place in the second half of 2023 after which the PLCH will be opened to the public.

6. Paisley Arts Centre

- 6.1. Paisley Arts Centre is being extended and upgraded into a unique and intimate performance venue and creative hub, driving new life and footfall into the heart of the town centre. This refurbishment project includes a complete replacement of the building's mechanical, electrical and plant equipment, a full refurbishment throughout, new retractable seating, accessibility improvements and a new extension to improve the number of covers in the bar. These improvements will be further supplemented by the creation of a new public realm space externally to provide event space.
- 6.2. The existing historic building has been stripped inside to enable the main works to take place. This is enabling the contractor to make final structural alterations and complete the removal of existing material no longer required. Work is beginning to pick up now with reinforcements to the internal structure taking place and progress being made on the strengthening of the roof. Foundations are in place for the new extension to the front of the building which will then progress to the construction of the additional space.
- 6.3. Construction will then move to internal fit out works in early 2023, bringing the refurbishment of all spaces. The final element will see the installation of a 'tensile wire grid' which is a permanent working platform that will allow access to the audio-visual equipment including stage lighting.

This structure will allow ease of access to an otherwise hard to reach area, to ensure performances can receive the best technical support available, resulting in higher demand for using the venue. This building will also benefit from the installation of new fibre and Wi-Fi for the use of staff and public.

6.4. It is anticipated that construction work will complete in summer 2023, where the venue will then progress into a OneRen led operational readiness programme. This will include the training of staff and implementation of operating procedures, as well as readying for performances, and marketing the venue. The operational readiness and marketing programme by OneRen will be delivered in advance of the building opening which is expected to be late 2023 / early 2024.

7. Paisley Museum Reimagined

7.1. Paisley Museum Reimagined will deliver a world-class destination telling the inspirational stories of Paisley's people and pattern and showcasing its internationally significant collections. This project includes repairing and renovating all buildings on the museum campus delivering a 20% increase in the overall area. The construction also includes a new extension housing a visitor reception and café, the installation of new mechanical, electrical and plant systems, as well as the introduction of a public courtyard. Importantly, this work enables an increase in the interpretation of the collections and number of objects on display, with a strong focus on digital interpretation.

7.2. Construction work is well underway and bulk excavation to form Level 0 and the new entrance courtyard is nearing completion. Temporary steelwork previously supporting the corner of the new gable opening has been removed and the building is now supported by the permanent columns. Roof works are ongoing at the main museum building and Oakshaw with completion of the main south roofs now largely complete. The new west extension steelwork has been erected on Level 3 and 2 and roof decking is progressing well.

7.3. Work has now begun on planning the exhibition fitout for the museum with award-winning specialist consultants 'The Hub' appointed to lead this piece of work. Work is taking place to design and create samples and mock-ups of the show cases and displays with this work progressing well.

7.4. With the project moving into the final part of delivery, work is ongoing with content and interactive development with three digital companies appointed to work on the following:

- Joi Polloi – a double BAFTA award winning independent studio has been commissioned to produce digital interactives for the museum.
- Media Co-op - a multi award winning company has been contracted to co-produce films working with local communities.
- Freakworks Ltd - one of Scotland's leading film making companies has been commissioned to produce films and animations for museum displays.

7.5. Work to conserve the collection is well underway in readiness for redisplay. Conservation treatment of all Paisley Pattern shawls, sculptures and works on paper, selected for display is already complete. Conservation work continues on paintings, ship models, frames, costume, natural history and looms.

To assist with conservation treatments, we have been successful in securing external grants including contributions from the Art Fund, National Museums Scotland's National Fund for Acquisitions, Museums Galleries Scotland and the Pilgrim Trust. As part of the conservation works programme, we have also established partnerships with organisations such as Centre for Textile Conservation at University of Glasgow and the Natural History Museum in New York.

- 7.6. A Museum Careers Day at Paisley Lagoon has also taken place to highlight the benefits of a career in museums and show potential new colleagues, what the new venue will bring when it re-opens in 2024. The target audience included school children and adults with additional support needs. Participants were offered interactive activities, competitions, films, slideshows, and hands-on experiences as well as opportunities to discuss skills and qualifications associated with various roles within the sector. In total there were 224 attendances, of which, 151 were school children.
- 7.7. Construction work on site is due to be complete late summer 2023 which will then transition to the building and exhibition fitout process over a number of months which will see the building open to the public in summer 2024.

8. Abbey Quarter

- 8.1. Abbey Quarter is a high quality public realm project to support the investment in the Town Hall facilities and provide an accessible outdoor events space for our Town Centre. The project extends over the area in front of the Town Hall across the grass area adjacent to the Abbey to Cotton St and includes the grass area to the side of the Town Hall in front of the Abbey to the bridge at Cotton St.
- 8.2. Design of the area in front of the Town Hall extending into the Green is at RIBA Stage 3 (ready for planning). This area also incorporates the entrance to the Abbey to ensure this is fully accessible. It had previously been anticipated that this area could be undertaken as part of the Town Hall project and so a public consultation was carried out for this element November and December 2021 which obtained wide public support. However, when undertaking investigative archaeological surveys in the area potential human remains were encountered and so a court order will be sought in order to deal with this in an appropriate and sympathetic manner. Historical ownership of this area is also being reviewed. The paperwork required for the court order has now been prepared and is being reviewed for our in-house lawyers, before being submitted to the Sheriff Court early in the New Year.
- 8.3. The design of the garden area adjacent to the river is also at RBA Stage 3 (ready for planning). No public consultation has yet been carried out in this area. This consultation is being prepared and will be launched in March 2023.
- 8.4. The area around the Cotton Street/Gauze Street junction forms part of the aim to create an additional town centre event space. The design proposals in this area are also at RIBA Stage 3 (ready for planning). The design is currently being reviewed with the Council's roads team to ensure alignment with their Bus Partnership project. This consultation is being prepared and will be launched in March 2023.

9. Townscape Heritage and Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme 2 (TH.CARS2)

- 9.1. Paisley TH.CARS2 is now entering its final year and is delivering Building Repair projects, Shopfront improvements and a Small Grant programme to historic properties in Paisley Town Centre. The project is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF), Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and Renfrewshire Council, with combined project funding of over £4.1 million, and additional contributions from owners. The project is also delivering public realm improvements with a successful programme of heritage related activities and events now completed. NLHF and HES have agreed an extension to the project completion date to the end of September 2023, to allow the completion of the final projects and evaluation.
- 9.2. Grant support for external repairs has been awarded to ten larger building repair projects with eight projects completed, one project on site at 5 George Place and works to the final project, 32 High St, (the former Liberal Club), due to commence in January 2023. This has made a significant difference to the condition and appearance of a number of prominent properties in Paisley Town Centre including: 2/3 County Place opposite Paisley Gilmour St, now restored and converted to flats; 20 New St (Viennas night club), 41 High St, (Right Way Credit Union offices), Sma Shot Cottages, 9 Gilmour St (Walker Laird's offices), 28 High St, 18 Georges Gate and 10 Shuttle St. The works to 5 George Place are due to complete in February 2023. The external works to the Liberal Club are expected to complete by August 2023 and will greatly improve the condition and appearance of this prominent town centre property.
- 9.3. Shopfront Improvements grants have been awarded to eleven projects in the High St with five projects completed at 30 High St (White Cart Company and Sinclair Jewellers), 36 High St, (Shelter), 61 High St (Print and Copy it), 41 High St (Right Way Credit Union) and 44 High St (Uptown Barbers). A further four projects are programmed to start in the New Year. The TH.CARS2 project has also supported a Small Grants programme mainly for traditional window repair projects in the Town Centre.
- 9.4. Public realm works have also been funded through the project with works completed at George Place. Public Realm works to pavements opposite the High St are currently on site. Works at Weighhouse Close are almost complete and footpath works have also been carried out at Storie Street. The High Street pavement works have been a complex project with private basements below the pavements and additional structural repairs required. However, the works will make a significant difference to the quality of the public realm in this area and support the improvements to the Museum.
- 9.5. TH.CARS2's community engagement programme of Heritage Education, Training and Events has also now concluded. Comprising 42 projects, it has seen delivery of 630 workshops and over 115 separate events. Over 2,500 participants, trainees and volunteers have been engaged and estimated audiences of over 50,000 reached. More than 100 partners have been involved locally and nationally, and over 150 job opportunities have been created for consultants and freelancers.

Final projects included: 'Paisley Pioneers' a short film made with Pachedu, exploring historical and contemporary stories of migration to and from Renfrewshire; 'Monumental', a project with ReMode for International Women's Day 2022 in which participants worked with a costume designer to make historically accurate costumes for significant women from Paisley's past; and a paid work placement for a Renfrewshire 16 year old with a stone sub-contractor at Paisley Museum who has recently progressed to a permanent job with a civil engineering company.

10. St James Playing Fields & Ferguslie Sports Centre

- 10.1. These projects will work towards delivering Renfrewshire's vision to 'make sport a way of life'. In 2018, Council approved the upgrading of changing facilities at Ferguslie Sports Centre and for the demolition and replacement of the existing pavilion at St James Playing Fields. When the Covid-19 pandemic hit, a decision was made to put these projects on hold until such time that it was appropriate to proceed.
- 10.2. In July 2022, approval was given to resume the planning of the Ferguslie Sports Centre upgrades. This work has now gathered pace with designs now agreed and progressing through the appropriate stages. This work will completely refurbish all existing changing facilities to the sports centre, bringing a greater experience to the already well utilised facility. It is currently projected that procurement for a contractor to complete these works can be completed and presented to the August 2023 Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board for approval. This will then allow a contractor to complete the works during the first half of 2024.
- 10.3. With regards to St James Playing Fields, a design was previously approved for the construction of a new pavilion to accommodate changing facilities for four existing football pitches, with the aim of making this a desirable destination for football bookings within Renfrewshire. The tender process unfortunately resulted in only one bid being received and this was significantly over budget and therefore not viable as no best value obligations could be met. The project team are currently considering options to de-risk the tender in light of the current market volatility and a new tender process will be conducted. It is envisaged that following completion of redesign work in early 2023, and the development of construction planning stages, this project can go back out to tender for a contractor in the first half of 2023.

11. Programme Community Benefits

- 11.1. Across the cultural infrastructure programme, we have secured 207 community benefit commitments of which 95 have been delivered. Benefits delivered include new entrant jobs, modern apprenticeships and graduate roles at Paisley Museum and Town Hall as well as supply chain development events and training. Community Engagement has been delivered through training sessions, financial donations and support from contractors and professional services for local social enterprises and third sector organisations. Educational support has included site visits, career events, specific have been supported through site visits, work experience placements for school leavers, support with CVs and applications, donations of PPE and support to secure CSCS cards.

The contractors and design teams will continue working with the Council's community benefit forum to deliver the remaining benefits before completion of the programme.

12. Programme Marketing, Communications and Engagement

12.1. With the significant capital investment being made across the cultural programme, and the benefits this will bring to Renfrewshire, it is important that marketing, communication, and engagement is delivered in a timely and effective manner. To achieve this, the following activities are being delivered:

12.2. A communications strategy has been developed by the Council's marketing and communication service and continues to inform key stakeholders about construction progress and end-dates for the cultural programme. Public communication is also taking place to notify on relevant progress for other projects until such time that they progress further.

12.3. Marketing, communication, and business engagement to support the reopening and programming of the new cultural venues will be delivered by OneRen and is expected to commence in early 2023. To supplement this process, a programme of business engagement to drive town readiness for the scheduled reopening of the venues will begin in January 2023.

13. Operational Readiness

13.1. For the four Paisley Town Centre cultural buildings (Paisley Town Hall, Paisley Arts Centre, Paisley Learning & Cultural Hub, and Paisley Museum), a joint operational readiness process is required between Renfrewshire Council and OneRen. The Council will assist in the fit out of all furniture, fixtures and equipment required to meet the operational needs of these buildings. It is however, for OneRen to deliver a detailed operational readiness programme for each of these buildings. Plans are currently under development and will be used to define a managed and achievable opening schedule for the four buildings.

13.2. This process of operational readiness will comprise of elements such as:

- Furniture and equipment installation with some of the specific requirements including:
 - Bespoke library equipment and shelving for the Learning & Cultural Hub.
 - For the Town Hall and Arts Centre, the technical fit out of all theatre and performance audio visual equipment.
 - Finally, for the Museum, this will include the bespoke exhibition fit out.
- ICT fit out including all devices, network access, staff and public Wi-fi. There are also a number of new digital interactions being installed in particular in the Learning & Cultural Hub and Museum.
- Confirmation of operational procedures and policies.
- Recruitment and training of OneRen staff.
- Specific venue marketing and bookings.

13.3. The operational readiness process for each venue requires time and resource to ensure it is a success. The planning of this process is also the key component to confirming exact opening dates. In early 2023, a detailed plan will be finalised which will show the opening programme for each of the cultural venues in a staggered way. Details of this opening programme, supplemented with operational readiness information and a marketing plan by OneRen will be brought to the next Economy and Regeneration Policy Board.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – None.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None.
3. **Community/Council Planning** –
 - *Our Renfrewshire is thriving* – These projects will link our communities and facilitate a significant increase in footfall to Paisley and surrounding areas. The infrastructure will enable Renfrewshire to host world class performances and attract new footfall from far beyond the local area.
 - *Our Renfrewshire is well* - The outputs of these projects will enable safe and inspiring locations for all. From arts and performances to learning and educational space, Renfrewshire will offer anyone the ability to engage and take interest in either a new subject matter or an existing passion that is now much more accessible. Driving world class performances to the area and having 21st century work and education spaces will support people from Renfrewshire to engage in beneficial activities that will in turn support education and interest.
 - *Reshaping our place, our economy and our future* – These infrastructure projects allow access to new and existing jobs for people in our communities. Significant increase in footfall will benefit local businesses who can grow as a result and in turn support their ongoing viability in the area. An increase in arts and performances will allow a platform for Paisley becoming a cultural hub in Scotland which can be used to drive new educational agendas with greater access to this subject matter.
 - *Tackling inequality, ensuring opportunities for all* – A specific focus has been applied to the redevelopment and construction of these projects to ensure accessibility is a key feature. A significant amount of thought has gone into making historic, and predominantly inaccessible buildings, available for anyone to enjoy and utilise. There are no barriers to utilising any of these buildings, and One Ren will continue to deliver an events programme that caters for everyone including those in more deprived areas.
 - *Creating a sustainable Renfrewshire for all to enjoy* – With these buildings being in the heart of Paisley Town centre, it means they are accessible by train, on foot, or by bus thanks to the well-connected nature of the town centre.

Limited town centre parking will force the use of public transport which will work towards the net zero ambitions of the Council. Recently completed infrastructure through AMIDS, including the shared cycle and walkway, also enhances the connectivity, and in future years with the opening of the Clyde Waterfront and Renfrew Riverside bridge, Paisley will become a vastly accessible route by sustainable travel.

- *Working together to improve outcomes* - Officers and contractors continue to work closely with local businesses and a business engagement programme will commence shortly to bring this to focus. Throughout the development of these projects, several organisations were engaged to design the outputs including accessibility groups, the Scottish Government, Historic Environment Scotland, multiple private sector organisations and the local community.

4. **Legal** – None.
 5. **Property/Assets** – Note the improvements being delivered to current assets.
 6. **Information Technology** – None.
 7. **Equality & Human Rights** -
 - (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
 8. **Health & Safety** – None.
 9. **Procurement** – all contracts are tendered in accordance with Council procurement procedures and where relevant taken to FRCS Board for approval.
 10. **Risk** – Project specific and Programme level risk registers have been established for all projects. These are kept under regular review and reported to the Council's internal City Deal and Infrastructure Programme Board.
 11. **Privacy Impact** – None.
 12. **COSLA Policy Position** – Not applicable.
 13. **Climate Risk** – these projects will significantly improve all mechanical, electrical and plant systems within existing and new buildings affected. This, coupled with improved efficiency in windows and doors will drive down the requirement for heating, in turn lowering the carbon footprint from key council buildings.
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List of Background Papers

None.

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To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 24 January 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Tourism Update

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Renfrewshire Visitor Plan concluded in 2021. There is now an opportunity to develop a new Tourism Action Plan.
 - 1.2 Work has been carried out to consider the key strengths and opportunities of the tourism sector.
 - 1.3 A series of key themes have been identified: Collaboration, Infrastructure, Rural Renfrewshire, Paisley, Events, and Business Tourism.
 - 1.4 Work will continue in the development of these themes to deliver a new industry-led Tourism Action Plan by March 2023.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:-
 - (i) Notes the work undertaken and progress to date in engaging industry and key stakeholders around a series of key themes for progression.
 - (ii) Notes the intent to develop a new Tourism Action Plan by March 2023 which will be led by a new tourism industry group, aligned to the Economic Leadership Panel.
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3. Background

- 3.1 The Renfrewshire Visitor Plan came to an end in 2021, with annual reports and a final report previously submitted to the Leadership Board in December 2020.

This plan was produced within the context of a live bid for the 'UK City of Culture 2021'. There is now an opportunity to refresh Renfrewshire's approach to supporting tourism in the context of an 'action' plan that sets out a number of key themes.

- 3.2 Investment in Paisley's cultural infrastructure worth £113m will have a significant impact on the visitor economy in the region, expanding Renfrewshire's tourism product and appeal significantly. The region is also home to a national gateway in the form of Glasgow International Airport. It is vital that Renfrewshire builds on this success to support wider tourism ambitions across the region.

4. Strategic links

- 4.1 Recently the Council have commissioned EKOS to provide an analysis of the growth sectors in Renfrewshire, identifying future opportunities and providing recommendations on which industry sectors should be prioritised and targeted for future investment. This research highlighted that tourism, hospitality and the visitor economy should be a priority growth opportunity for Renfrewshire. Across the region there are assets that have yet to realise their full potential, which in turn can unlock wider growth and investment. The analysis highlighted that there are opportunities to develop a positive impact on tourism image and perception, create new jobs and increase visitor dwell time and spend.
- 4.2 As a key identified growth sector there are opportunities to link outcomes and drivers, and support investment. For example, Ingliston Country Club have just launched their new £500,000 motorhome / RV park, the first in the county. This not only opens a new market but also supports motorhome hire businesses in Paisley by offering clients a first stop/last stop before arriving or leaving via Glasgow Airport.
- 4.3 There are also opportunities to build on the success of Future Paisley. The ongoing partnership supporting Future Paisley has driven forward £113m investment in cultural infrastructure revitalising key assets including Paisley Museum, Paisley Town Hall, and Paisley Arts Centre. It is vital that the new tourism action plan builds on this success, supporting these key assets and linking to the ongoing events programme and wider regional opportunities.
- 4.4 Renfrewshire Council has a strong partnership with VisitScotland, both at a strategic level with the Regional Director as well as through the marketing teams. This has enabled the Council in the past to determine the direction of joint marketing campaigns with VisitScotland. The Council has also been successful in securing funding from VisitScotland for infrastructure development around Castle Semple and RSPB Lochwinnoch within the last three months. Through the development of the tourism action plan we will work with VisitScotland to promote wider Renfrewshire assets and tourism businesses.

4.5 Renfrewshire Council are a member of the Scottish Tourism Alliance, who are the coordinating body on the national tourism strategy, Tourism Outlook 2030. The strategy sets out four key priorities that will be considered in developing our tourism action plan:

- Thriving places
- Memorable experiences
- Passionate People
- Diverse businesses

5. Review of current position and future focus

5.1 Business Pointer were appointed to undertake a review of the current position of Renfrewshire's tourism economy and support the development of the Renfrewshire Tourism Action Plan.

5.2 For phase one, Business Pointer undertook desk research and interviews with key stakeholders as well as workshops and engagement with the Economic Leadership Panel and wider industry. This resulted in a detailed report identifying key areas for future focus as well as noting successes of the previous Renfrewshire Visitor Plan.

5.3 Successes included:

- Increasing destination marketing to grow opportunities to see or hear something positive about Renfrewshire, from a baseline of 15m per year in 2017 to 236m by 2019/20.
- Enhancing the visitor experience in Renfrewshire by building capacity and developing a quality product – in particular the award-winning events programme, with the Paisley Halloween Festival winning Best Cultural Event or Festival at the national Scottish Thistle Awards in March 2020, against the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

5.4 The report also identified numerous points of consensus around opportunities for future direction:-

- The importance of tourism to the region.
- Paisley as a driver to promote wider Renfrewshire, and also the opportunity to capitalise on the £113m town centre investment.
- Incorporating the rural and outdoor activity assets of the region more cohesively. Our rural areas have “stunning potential” through countryside and the regional parks, green spaces, sports, outdoor activities, the Sustrans routes and long-distance walks and the villages.
- Castle Semple was identified as a key asset that could be a major regional attraction in the future. Castle Semple, together with Paisley, has the potential to create a regional destination offering urban and rural experiences for the benefit of all our towns and villages.
- Build on the success of our existing events programme to heighten profile and reputation.

- Build the green tourism agenda and incorporate the drive to Destination Net Zero in our work with tourism businesses.
- An opportunity to further capitalise on the Glasgow city region through engagement of the City Region Tourism Portfolio. The city region is a significant target market, with over 3.5m people within a 1.5 hour drivetime
- There are opportunities to build on the linkages between Glasgow Airport and the significant capital investment in key buildings. Specifically within the conference market.
- It is crucial that our approach to tourism is driven by the industry, for the industry.

5.5 For phase two, engagement with external stakeholders and the industry via an online survey and workshops resulted in the following thematic areas:-

i) Collaboration

- Public, private and third sectors working together to support tourism across the region.
- A desire for a tourism network that allows operators and organisations to create potential partnerships and opportunities.

ii) Infrastructure

- Whilst the rail links were seen as positive assets there remain opportunities around public transport and active travel provision linking our key tourism destinations.

iii) Rural Renfrewshire

- Outdoor activities and the landscape have been highlighted as assets that present a significant opportunity around product / experience development and promotion.
- Castle Semple and related activities and attractions offer a diverse range of experience that complement the developments in Paisley.

iv) Paisley

- Continuing to build on the strengths of Paisley as a destination in its own right, capitalising on its strong regional appeal, signposting to our other regional destinations, assets and experiences.

v) Events

- Building on our fantastic programme of events to drive additional visitor numbers and highlight further opportunities for the regeneration of our communities.

vi) Business tourism

- Conferences, events and the corporate market are of importance to a number of local organisations and operators and there is an opportunity to grow this sector significantly across the region.

6. Next steps

- 6.1 Following the considerable work that has been undertaken, it is now proposed that officers work with key industry stakeholders to build on the key themes and develop a new tourism action plan by March 2023. This will enable the tourism industry to build on the identified themes and priority actions. This will be developed further through a series of workshops. Once complete the tourism action plan will be brought to board for approval.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – None.

2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None.

3. **Community Planning** –

- **Reshaping our place, our economy and our future:** Renfrewshire Council is working with stakeholders to maximise the opportunities for regeneration and economic recovery/growth.
- **Building strong, safe and resilient communities:** working in partnership with local groups and organisations to achieve positive outcomes.

4. **Legal** – None.

5. **Property/Assets** - None.

6. **Information Technology** – None.

7. **Equality and Human Rights** - The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.

8. **Health and Safety** – None.

9. **Procurement** – None.

10. **Risks** - None.

11. **Privacy Impact** – None.

12. Cosla Policy Position – Recognising Tourism Outlook 2030.

13. Climate Risk - No identified impacts at present.

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