

**To: GREENER RENFREWSHIRE THEMATIC BOARD**

**On: 30 January 2017**

**Report by:**

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Head of Public Protection, Renfrewshire Council

**OVERVIEW OF INITIATIVES AND GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES**

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of recent developments, initiatives and funding streams made available to Community Planning Partnerships in Scotland. It takes account of the emerging work streams and actions identified by the Board.
- 1.2 A similar update will be provided for each Board to stimulate awareness and decisions about the wider Greener theme and agenda. If any Board member has any information they would like included and circulated in future issues of the update, please forward to the report author.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board note the content of the appendix to this report.

**3. Background**

- 3.1 In order to provide the Board members with support, policy advice and consistency of approach, this report explores communication received from the Scottish Government and other statutory bodies, good practice examples from other local authorities as well as national and local initiatives and projects. Where available, a local view has also been provided on the topic.



## **4. Resources**

- 4.1 Information on funding streams which have been identified and which Community Planning Partners can apply for in relation to the Greener agenda are included in the appendices of this report.

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## Appendix 1

### Good Practice Examples

#### Central Scotland Green Network

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

Taylor Wimpey West Scotland has been working in partnership with the Scottish Government, Central Scotland Green Network Trust and academics on an innovative 'Greener Gardens' project in North Lanarkshire. This looks at how gardens of new homes can be used to contribute to green infrastructure, biodiversity and storm water management. The project features a number of strands including installation of demonstration raingardens, academic research, provision of water butts as part of the package for new homeowners, and raising awareness by promoting the benefits of raingardens both to homeowners and the wider house building industry. The Project Team has created a homeowners' leaflet and a 'Developer's Guide' that aims to introduce the concept of greener gardens to householders and the housebuilding industry.

#### Stirling and Clackmannanshire Councils

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

A City Deal package for Stirling and Clackmannanshire was announced in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement. This ambitious plan identifies a new City Park and will bring the River Forth back into play as a major driver of Stirling's economic, cultural and social prosperity. This will include expansion and enhancement of pedestrian and cycle paths, development of the peninsulas and associated riverbanks and will explore the incorporation of a barrage to allow water levels and water quality to be controlled.

Further information can be found at:

<http://www.investinstirling.com/why-stirling/city-development-framework/>

#### Edinburgh City Council

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

Edinburgh Adapts 2016-2020 is the city's first climate change action plan, and aims to help the city prepare for and adapt to the effects of a changing climate. The plan has been developed by the Edinburgh Sustainable Development Partnership in collaboration with Adaptation Scotland and more than 40 key stakeholders from across



the city. Edinburgh Adapts builds on the Resilient Edinburgh Climate Change Adaptation Framework, which was approved by the City of Edinburgh Council's Transport and Environment Committee in 2014, and provides a platform for bringing together adaptation activity from across the city. As well as ensuring overall governance of adaptation in the city, the plan aims to protect and enhance Edinburgh's wildlife and green spaces, providing nature-based solutions to climate-related problems.

Further information can be found at:

[http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/news/article/2210/climate\\_change\\_action\\_plan\\_unveiled\\_in\\_edinburgh](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/news/article/2210/climate_change_action_plan_unveiled_in_edinburgh)



## Appendix 2

### Funding Opportunities

#### Central Scotland Green Network

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

Salix Finance is inviting funding applications for public sector building energy efficiency retrofit projects. This funding is provided by Scottish Government to accelerate decarbonisation efforts in support of the Scottish national carbon reduction targets.

Salix is calling for funding applications for energy efficiency retrofit projects in public sector buildings, with applications closing on 28 February 2017. This funding is provided by Scottish Government to accelerate decarbonisation efforts in support of the Scottish national target of 42% CO2 reductions by 2020 and 80% by 2050.

There are over 120 eligible types of energy efficiency technologies, with a full list available here:

[http://www.salixfinance.co.uk/system/public\\_files/salix\\_technology\\_list\\_and\\_persistence\\_factors\\_used\\_17th\\_march\\_2016.pdf](http://www.salixfinance.co.uk/system/public_files/salix_technology_list_and_persistence_factors_used_17th_march_2016.pdf)

Both the Recycling Fund and Loans can be used to finance these technologies. Popular technologies funded include LED lighting and controls, boiler replacements, heating controls and insulation. Eligible areas of estate include schools, Council offices, depots, museums, car parks, lecture theatres, server rooms, labs, street lighting, leisure centres and care homes.

The compliance criteria are up to an 8 year payback and £200/tCO2 saved over the lifetime of the project, and longer payback projects can be part funded.

This year, there are two interest-free Salix funding models available in Scotland, the Recycling Fund and the interest-free Loan.

### Salix Recycling Fund

There is now the opportunity for Scottish public sector bodies to set up a ring-fenced Salix Recycling Fund dedicated to energy efficient technologies. Energy savings achieved from installing new efficient technologies are reinvested year-on-year into new projects.

The Recycling Fund combines 50:50 contributions from Salix and the public sector body. The Salix contribution is a long-term 100% interest-free repayable grant. Scottish



local authorities can use their existing Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) or their own capital as match contribution. Salix provides a free online system for managing the Recycling Fund, which offers project, carbon and financial management, as well as ongoing client and technical support from Salix to assist with successful delivery of the fund.

## **Salix Energy Efficiency Loan**

Salix offers one-off interest-free loans for a wide range of energy efficiency technologies. Funding is awarded based on the expected energy savings of the project, after completion of the project the loan is repaid by Direct Debit over the payback period of the project. Salix is able to provide up to 50% of the funding toward project costs, which can include project management and associated work costs within the payback period.

## **Next round of funding**

Due to the ongoing successful uptake of Salix funding for public sector energy efficiency projects, Scottish Government has made available further interest-free funding for both Recycling Funds and Loans. Loan applications can be made online at <http://salixfinance.co.uk/loans/scotland-loans>. Recycling Fund applications can be made by contacting Salix with details below. This call for funding applications closes on 28 February 2017.

During 2016/17, Salix are focusing support on estate-wide building energy efficiency retrofit. In March this year, Scottish Procurement launched the Non Domestic Energy Efficiency (NDEE) framework which offers guaranteed energy performance contracts. A Project Development Unit was launched in October of this year, to facilitate use of the NDEE Framework by public sector organisations. Salix is able to offer part funding for these programmes, as well as ongoing support and independent technical feedback during the process.

For more information on the Salix funding options available in Scotland, please contact the Programme Coordinator Lindy Frey on [lindy.frey@salixfinance.co.uk](mailto:lindy.frey@salixfinance.co.uk) or 0203 102 6904, or make an expression of interest at <http://salixfinance.co.uk/loans/scotland-loans>