

**To:               INFRASTRUCTURE, LAND AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY BOARD**

**On:               20 March 2019**

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**Report by:     DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE**

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**Heading:       OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

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## **1.       Summary**

- 1.1     This report provides an overview of key service activities since the last Policy Board report in January 2018. This report provides an operational performance update on the services and key projects delivered during this period.
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## **2.       Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board:

- 2.1     Approves the operational performance update detailed within this report.
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## **3.       Background**

- 3.1     Environment & Infrastructure provides essential services to every household in Renfrewshire and works in partnership with the local community, other services and Community Planning Partners to deliver key Council priorities and initiatives. A progress update on the main projects and activities delivered by the services within Environment & Infrastructure in respect of the areas of activity delegated to this Policy Board, together with key performance indicators, is detailed below.

## Operational Updates

### 4. Roads & Streetscene

#### Winter Maintenance

- 4.1 During the cold weather periods our newly named gritters have been dispatched throughout the period to ensure the main arterial roads remained open with streetscene providing winter gritting of town centres, around schools and at areas of concern, as part of the winter maintenance programme. Satellite tracking has assisted greatly in responding to urgent requests and the introduction of the live tracker has been received well by the public and is available on the Council's website: <http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/grittertracker>. To date there has been more than 4,965 tonnes of salt used this winter on Renfrewshire's roads.

#### Roads Maintenance

- 4.2 The roads capital investment for 2018/19 delivered a capital investment programme of £7.2m, improving the surfaces of Renfrewshire's roads, pavements, paths and cycle tracks. The programme commenced in April 2018 and is complete with 85 carriageways resurfaced, 24 surfaces dressed, and 45 footways resurfaced, delivering improvements to both strategic and local roads. There are currently 30 locations of historical flooding being addressed through a minor drainage contract. This work is underway and will be complete by the end of this financial year.

#### ROADS CAPITAL INVESTMENT 2018/19

**85** Carriageways  
resurfaced

**24** Surfaces dressed

**45** Footways  
resurfaced



- 4.3 A £40 million investment in Renfrewshire's roads and infrastructure was approved by Council in February 2019. A capital investment of £8m in Renfrewshire's roads and footways, during 2019/2020. The capital programme for 2019/20, as in previous years, will be published on the Council's Information Bulletin later this month.

#### Trial of New Asphalt Product

- 4.4 In August 2018 this Board approved the trial of a new asphalt product that contains recycled plastic waste. The waste plastic is designed to replace part of the bitumen in an asphalt mix. Plastic pellets are introduced into the bituminous mix as an 'admixture' to achieve a desired effect. A relatively small volume of bitumen can be saved by using this product, however, the main purpose is to improve certain characteristics of the material whilst utilising plastic that would otherwise go to landfill.
- 4.5 The earliest use of the product was in a road resurfacing scheme in England, less than two years ago, and as such the service has been trialling its use over time at a localised section in advance of considering its wider usage. The trial patch was installed in February 2019 on the A726 Hurler Road near St Andrews School, a heavily trafficked section of carriageway which will adequately test the patch. The performance of the new product will be monitored, and results reported back to a future meeting of this Policy Board.

### **StreetScene**

- 4.6 The service has been working to ensure that all plant equipment is serviced and ready for the grass cutting season and has been recruiting seasonal employees to support the grass cutting activity. The streetscene review is ongoing with analysis planned over the grass cutting season of the current standards through quality improvement officers.
- 4.7 The review will also include assessment of the current naturalised areas in conjunction with Local Area Partnerships. The Partnerships will be asked for their input on existing areas and proposed locations for naturalised and wildflower areas as part of the review, including suggestions for new locations.

### **Gully Maintenance**

- 4.8 In 2018/19, over 13,000 gullies have been visually inspected and cleaned (approximately 43% total of Renfrewshire). Around 700 gullies were found to be inaccessible for a variety of reasons including; parked cars, jammed lids and other factors which prevented cleaning. In February 2019, the service commenced a programme of revisits for all inaccessible gullies with the following approach:
- Parked Cars - Varied visit days/times and use of temporary traffic restriction orders to address the 478 gullies which were impacted previously by parked cars; and
  - Jammed/Blocked - 224 gullies were found to be jammed or blocked. These have been digitally mapped and a programme developed to address these gullies.

## **5. Fleet Services**

### **Electric Vehicle Grant Funding**

- 5.1 An additional grant funding bid for 24 Electric Vehicles (£198,171) was submitted to Transport Scotland in December 2018. This submission for additional EV grant funding includes community partners of University of West of Scotland, Linstone Housing Association and Strathclyde University (Inchinnan Campus). The grant funding bid was approved on 24 January 2019, by Transport Scotland. This will allow the total number of Electric Vehicles in the Council Fleet to increase from 41 to 86.

### **Review of Electric Vehicle Charging Point Infrastructure for Paisley Town Centre**

- 5.2 There are currently two electric vehicle charging bays within the Council controlled on and off-street parking locations in Paisley Town Centre at Renfrewshire House. As noted above the Council has been successful in its submission to Transport Scotland for funding to install electric charging points in public car parks across Renfrewshire. It is proposed through 2019 to install 26 charging spaces across 4 public car parks in Paisley Town Centre as set out below.

Location	Charging Point Details
Lagoon Leisure Centre Car Park, Christie Street, Paisley	1x 22kW dual outlet charging post (2 spaces)
Bridge Street Car Park, Paisley	2x Triple Outlet Rapid Chargers and 2x 7kW dual outlet charging posts (8 spaces)
New Sneddon Street Car Park, Paisley	2x Triple Outlet Rapid Chargers and 2x 7kW dual outlet charging posts (8 spaces)
Hunter Street Car Park, Paisley	2x Triple Outlet Rapid Chargers and 2x 7kW dual outlet charging posts (8 spaces)

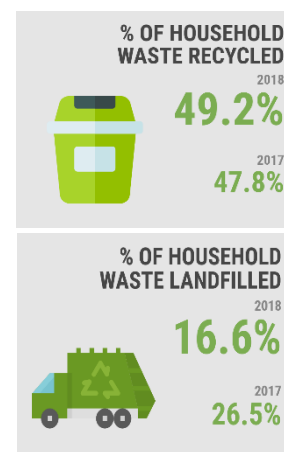
## 6. Waste Services

### Service Changes

- 6.1 Participation in all recycling collections has been positive with high levels of engagement as evidenced through bin presentation. Waste advisors remain within communities assisting householders where required.
- 6.2 As agreed at the January Policy Board a progress report will be provided at a future Board fully detailing the service change during its first six months.

### Household Waste

- 6.3 This data relates to the calendar year 2018, January to December. It is an estimate which has not yet been verified by SEPA. The recycling rate is estimated to be 49.2%. This is a 1.4% improvement on performance compared to 2017 was 47.8%.
- 6.4 The percentage of household waste which is landfilled has seen an improvement between 2017 and 2018. In 2017 26.5% of waste was landfilled. In 2018 this had fallen to 16.6% and reflects the Council's residual waste being sent to an energy for waste facility than landfill.



## 7. Transportation, Fleet and Infrastructure Services

### Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets

- 7.1 The 2018/19 Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets programme is nearing completion. Projects include:
- A network of dropped kerb road crossings installed to help disabled residents in Gockston; and
  - Bollards to stop inconsiderate parking on the footway of Jura Avenue.

### Public Transport

- 7.2 A programme of bus stop improvement works on the Beith Road corridor and in Newmains, aims to provide high access kerbs and shelters where appropriate to encourage more bus patronage is nearing completion.
- 7.3 The preparatory work for real time passenger information displays on Paisley Road/ Renfrew Road is substantially complete and awaiting the erection of the installation of the displays by Strathclyde Partnership for Transport.

7.4 An application was made to Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) for capital grant funding in 2019/20, to support public transport infrastructure improvements. At SPT's Partnership Meeting on 8 March 2019, £1.825 m of funding over the next financial year, was approved. The applications included:

- Replacement of Urban Traffic Control System;
- Bus Corridor Improvements focussing on Renfrewshire villages;
- Construction of Paisley to Renfrew Cycle Route; and
- Creation of a Park and Ride facility for 20 – 25 spaces at Miliken Park.

In addition, SPT have committed to supply Real Time Passenger Information displays for the Paisley to Johnstone corridor.

7.5 Strathclyde Partnership for Transport is in the early stages of developing a new Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) for the Glasgow city region. Understanding the experiences of the travelling public is seen as a key success factor and as such they have developed a short online survey to help improve understanding of the day to day transport issues and challenges experienced by people travelling in the city region. Renfrewshire Council has shared key links with elected members, Community Councils, and the public to encourage participation within Renfrewshire. The links are as follows:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SPTtransportsurvey> (Take the Survey)  
<http://spt.co.uk/vision/> (Dedicated RTS website)

The RTS and survey have also been promoted via the Council's social media accounts and on the Council's website.

7.6 The Strathclyde Safety Camera Partnership expect to install a safety camera, in association with Renfrewshire Council, on the northbound carriageway of Renfrew Road opposite Dundonald Road, before the end of March 2019.

## **8. Attendance – April 2018 to March 2019**

8.1 A key priority of Environment & Infrastructure's Workforce Plan is to address levels of absence within the service. This includes a more proactive approach to managing absence and supporting attendance at work. Recent developments have included:

- Joint working with HR across all service areas to provide a more consistent approach to managing absence;
- Introduction of physiotherapy sessions at Underwood Road depot; and
- Engagement with occupational health services to improve appointment timescales

- 8.2 Environment & Infrastructure recorded an overall absence rate, for the first 3 quarters of 2018/19, of 10.35 days lost per FTE employee. However, the Operations & Infrastructure rate was 7.87 which is below the department's performance of 10.35.



#### Attendance Analysis: April – Dec 2018

Service	Target (Q1-Q3) Days lost per FTE	Actual Days lost per FTE	Short Term Absence	Long Term Absence
Department	7.52	10.35	21%	79%
Operations and Infrastructure	7.52	7.87	30%	70%

#### Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – None
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None
3. **Community & Council Planning** –

**Our Renfrewshire is thriving / Reshaping our place, our economy and our future** - the service is actively involved in the Invest in Renfrewshire scheme and investing in road network to support and facilitate economic growth.

**Creating a sustainable Renfrewshire for all to enjoy** - working in partnership with the community to deliver a cleaner Renfrewshire. Promoting and encouraging waste minimisation through reducing, reusing and recycling. Reducing carbon emissions, through LED streetlights and electric and low carbon vehicles within the council fleet.

**Our Renfrewshire is well** - the services encourages use of our parks and open spaces to promote a healthy and active lifestyle.

4. **Legal** – None.
5. **Property/Assets** – The Council's roads, fleet and open space infrastructure is maintained and enhanced.
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. 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** – None.
  10. **Risk** – None.
  11. **Privacy Impact** – None.
  12. **CoSLA Policy Position** - none
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**List of Background Papers:** None

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