



To: GREENER RENFREWSHIRE THEMATIC BOARD

On: 01 FEBRUARY 2016

Report by:

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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:
 - notes the content of the appendices 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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Good Practice Examples

City of Edinburgh Council

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The City of Edinburgh Council has now progressed its energy retrofit programme to the next key stage. Following the signing up to the London RE:FIT scheme, the Council has run a mini competition to appoint a preferred bidder to develop Investment Grade Proposals (IGPs) on nine of the largest Council buildings. This crucial stage will begin the development of detailed business cases for each building detailing the energy efficiency and retrofit options for each property including the carbon savings and the financial benefits. Benchmarking has already been done on the properties. Once the IGP stage has been completed, the aim will be to implement measures and deliver savings through an Energy Performance Contracting framework. The Council has been liaising with the Scottish Government and Scottish Futures Trust on the development of a national non domestic energy efficiency framework for energy retrofit of public sector buildings. For more information please contact Janice Pauwels, Janice.pauwels@edinburgh.gov.uk

Orkney Islands Council

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Orkney Islands Council are consulting on a draft hydrogen strategy, it was announced on 4 December. The strategy highlights the benefits offered by hydrogen production and looks at a range of challenges that hydrogen production could help address. A key challenge is to find ways to unblock restrictions currently placed on renewable energy generation in Orkney by inadequate grid connections to mainland Scotland. The European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) in Orkney has already invested in an electrolyser that will use power from tidal turbines operating off Eday to produce hydrogen. A range of partners have also developed the 'Surf 'n' Turf' initiative, which will see electricity from Eday's community wind turbine used to produce hydrogen using EMEC's electrolyser. The hydrogen will be transported to Kirkwall, where a fuel cell installed on the pier will convert the hydrogen back into electricity for use as auxiliary power for ferries when tied up overnight. Access the [draft hydrogen strategy](#) via Orkney Island Council's website.



Sustainable Scotland Network

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The Carnegie UK Trust has recently published three case studies, describing the experiences of community groups across Scotland piloting the new Place Standard tool. The tool is designed to support communities and the public and private sectors to work together to deliver high quality, sustainable places.

The new '[Place Standard' tool](#) has been designed in partnership with the Scottish Government, Architecture + Design Scotland and NHS Health Scotland to support the delivery of high quality public places, which can help to reduce health inequalities.

The Place Standard tool can help you to achieve a number of aims. Communities can use the tool to assess what works about their place and where it needs to improve. This may be part of a wider discussion about the regeneration of an area, or it might be to inform a new place or development which is planned nearby. Local authorities and Community Planning Partnerships can use the tool to help plan their activities and prioritise appropriate action. The development sector can use the tool to establish to the needs of communities and create good places where people want to live.

Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Report-a-Flood is a new tool introduced by SEPA which enables members of the public to share information on current flooding issues, to help reduce the disruption flooding can have on people's lives and make communities more resilient. The public can report incidents of flooding, whether from sea, rivers or in towns using the tool and SEPA will publish these reports online to increase awareness of local flood impacts and help keep communities moving.

To access this tool please see the following website:

<http://www.floodlinescotland.org.uk/report-a-flood>



Keep Scotland Beautiful

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Environmental charity, Keep Scotland Beautiful, is calling for groups from Renfrewshire to register to take part in either *Beautiful Scotland* or *It's Your Neighbourhood* - as it celebrates 50 years of community growing.

Local volunteers and entire communities are being urged to come together to clean up and 'green up' the areas in which they live, work and play - and be recognised for their tireless efforts in improving their own villages, towns and cities.

Beautiful Scotland and *It's Your Neighbourhood* are managed by Keep Scotland Beautiful and linked to the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Britain in Bloom campaign. The campaigns have, for many years, supported and celebrated the achievements of communities throughout Scotland in their continuous work to improve local environmental quality, and *Beautiful Scotland* is celebrating 50 years of success in 2016.

The campaigns focus on year round horticultural and gardening achievements, environmental responsibility and community participation, with recognition being given for exemplar work in areas such as tourism, biodiversity and sustainability.

Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN)

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Adaptation Scotland has launched a new online resource that allows users to visually explore what a 'climate ready' Scotland looks like. The website is intended to be used by individuals and groups in the public sector, businesses, schools and community groups.

The Climate Ready Places website takes six 'typical' Scottish places - Uplands, Lowlands, Coast, Infrastructure, Suburbs and City. In each of these areas, the website identifies:

- The key climate change impacts and risks identified for Scotland; and
 - The adaptation measures that could contribute to a climate ready (adapting) place.
- The website is designed to be seen as a collection of ideas, rather than a prescriptive adaptation plan, that gets people thinking about Scotland becoming climate ready. The website can be used to:



- Introduce adaptation to a broad audience – providing visual representation of climate impacts and a shared vision of ‘climate ready places’
- Engage with specific audiences (e.g. planners or communities) to identify what they could contribute to achieving a ‘climate ready place’

The website can be used by anyone with an interest in exploring adaptation ideas, from planning professionals to school children, community groups to corporate business.

For more information please see:

<http://www.adaptationscotland.org.uk/5/222/0/Climate-Ready-Places.aspx>

Tesco Local Community Grants

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Tesco-Groundwork community grant scheme awards six grants per year across England, Wales and Scotland, supporting around 2,500 projects each year.

The scheme will fund capital projects that provide community benefit and there is no charge to access. The grants programme is open to organisations such as: voluntary/community organisations, registered charities, health bodies, Parish/Town councils, social enterprises, Community Interest Companies, schools, hospices, community councils, local authorities and housing organisations. Other not-for-profit organisations might also be eligible.

The programme helps people carry out thousands of projects each year which: tackle climate change; help people out of fuel poverty; bring out the best in young people by helping them to improve their local area; building stronger communities by improving green space; and helping people back into work by creating green jobs

Note – Funding Round 2 closing date is April/May 2016

For more information see:

<http://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme/Pages/large-grants-tes>



Scottish Natural Heritage

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Scottish Natural Heritage has been approved to lead the Green Infrastructure Strategic Intervention, forming part of the 2014 – 2020 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) programme. Through this funding they aim to improve Scotland's urban environment, increasing and enhancing green space in our towns and cities, especially close to areas of deprivation. This will be delivered through a small number of high impact improvements to the quantity, quality and accessibility of green space and other green infrastructure in urban Scotland, targeted at our most deprived communities.

Detailed guidance has been produced to assist in completing the application form. The Application Handbook is available on a dedicated website (<https://www.greeninfrastructurescotland.org.uk>), while the application forms are available by request only. The closing date for applications for this round is **1 April 2016**. We appreciate that this timescale is extremely tight and we will be happy to help to ensure you have the information required to complete and submit your application. We anticipate that there will be future application rounds, but this will depend on the quality and value of applications received in the first funding round.



Research and Consultations

Committee on Climate Change (CCC)

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

On 26 November, the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) published its advice to the UK Government on setting the fifth carbon budget, covering the period 2028-2032. The Committee recommends that the government should commit to an emissions reduction of 57% by 2028-2032, based on 1990 levels.

The UK Climate Change Act of 2008 established a target for the UK to reduce its emissions by at least 80% from 1990 levels by 2050. A system of five-yearly carbon budgets was also established to ensure regular progress was being made. The first four carbon budgets, leading to 2027, have already been set in law, and the Government must legislate the level of the fifth carbon budget by June 2016.

The Committee recommends that the fifth carbon budget is set at 1,765 MtCO₂e, including emissions from international shipping, over the period 2028-2032.

While the CCC notes that the UK is on track to outperform the first two carbon budgets, it makes clear that, to meet future budgets, emissions reductions will have to speed up, and “a number of new policies and clear long-term signals to investors are urgently required”.

By 2030, the Committee’s scenarios to meet the fifth carbon budget involve:

- Around 1 in 7 UK homes are heated using low-carbon sources of energy
- The majority of new cars and vans bought in the UK are fully or partially electric
- The UK is largely powered by low-carbon sources of electricity
- Insulation is installed in nearly all UK homes where it is cost-effective, reducing the cost of energy to households.

The 2009 Climate Change (Scotland) Act has set an interim 42% reduction target for 2020, and an 80% reduction target for 2050, based on 1990 levels. Scottish Government has additionally set annual targets to monitor and assess progress. The Annual Target Report for 2013 was published on 27 October 2015. CCC advises Scottish Ministers. The CCC is also due to give advice to Scottish Ministers on the next set of greenhouse gas emission annual targets for Scotland for 2028-2032 under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. This advice is expected to be published in March 2016.