



To: **GREENER RENFREWSHIRE THEMATIC BOARD**

On: **31 AUGUST 2015**

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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Appendix 1

Good Practice Examples

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Strathclyde Partnership Transport (SPT) has provided £10,000 funding towards the latest version of the Traveline Scotland app, which features an easy-to-use, dedicated 'Travel to Hospitals' section. This offers instant information on transport links available to hospitals across Scotland at the tap of a screen and is particularly relevant with the opening of the new Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow. With space for 750,000 patients and more than 10,500 staff, it is vital that the large volume of people accessing Europe's largest hospital can easily access travel information.

SPT Director of Bus Operations Ronnie Park said: "SPT recognised the need to have the app updated and available on all relevant smartphone platforms well before NSGUH opened its doors. With several existing NHS facilities being merged into one campus, the number of new public transport users is likely to significantly increase, so having a simple and seamless source of information is absolutely essential."

Using the new feature, users can easily pick their NHS destination from a list of pre-defined locations, which will plan their journey right to the door of that facility. For the new Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow, this will take staff and visitors directly to the new bus facility at Arrival Square on the campus.

Glasgow City Council

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Glasgow City Council hosted an event in July highlighting the various Affordable Warmth programmes available for homes and businesses in the city, that offer both reduced energy costs, tackle fuel poverty and a reduced impact on the environment.

The council's Affordable Warmth team outlined, to an audience of housing associations, the available programmes, such as the Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland Area Based Schemes (HEEPS ABS) and the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding and initiatives using cutting edge technology and renewables such as district heating, biomass, Ecopod projects and innovative programmes for insulating Glasgow homes. The council's Energy Efficiency Loan Scheme (EELS) provides interest free loans to help owners participate.

This council team is unique in Scotland firstly because of its focus on all homes in the city, not just public sector stock, and secondly its assistance to housing associations through the drawing



together of complex funding packages for Affordable Warmth projects which could not be accessed otherwise.

The Scottish Government

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Construction work has started on a state-of-the-art biomass facility on the site of a former paper mill at Guardbridge in Fife. The site will be constructed using only wood from sustainable local sources and will pump hot water from the plant four miles underground to heat and cool laboratories and student residences in St Andrews.

The green energy centre which is being delivered by St Andrews University will help to regenerate north east Fife by creating more than 225 jobs in the construction phase.

The University has developed the Guardbridge Guarantee as part of the project. This ensures that the project supports apprenticeship and graduate training, creating and sustaining jobs while working with the local community to promote environment and energy projects and local business.

The Scottish Government

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Communities from inner city Glasgow to western Harris are set to benefit from £500,000 in funding for demonstrator projects designed to encourage the use and local ownership of renewable energy.

A third of the 23 projects are specifically focussed on town and city areas, building on the already established trend for community ownership of renewable energy sources in more rural areas.

Energy Minister Fergus Ewing announced in June that community and locally owned energy capacity in Scotland could generate enough electricity to power approximately 100,000 domestic households.

This is the second allocation made from the Scottish Government's Local Energy Challenge Fund, which confirms Scotland's position as a global leader in renewables and low carbon development. Each project has received funding of up to £25,000 for feasibility work and, if successful, may be able to compete for significant capital support.



Keep Scotland Beautiful

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Keep Scotland Beautiful has secured future funding from the Scottish Government to continue to develop and manage the Eco-Schools Scotland programme, which 98% of schools are engaged with.

Keep Scotland Beautiful will receive £440,000 of funding to manage the Eco-Schools Scotland programme and develop new activities to support educators, children and young people to engage with learning for sustainability and will reshape Eco-Schools Scotland around the needs of learners and schools.

Eco-Schools is the largest sustainable schools programme in the world and is operated internationally by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE).



Appendix 2

Research and Consultations

Scottish Government

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

A consultation has been carried out by the Scottish Government in respect of Permitted Development Rights for Non-Domestic Solar Panels and Domestic Air Source Heat Pumps. This consultation paper sets out proposals that increase the number of situations in which solar panels on non-domestic buildings (those that are not homes) and air source heat pumps on domestic buildings (homes) can go ahead without first having to seek planning permission through making a planning application to the planning authority for the area.

Permitted development rights help provide certainty about what development can proceed. Permitted development rights can reduce costs for applicants and building owners by removing the fees and costs associated with the planning application process. The consultation closed on 27th August 2015.

Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

SEPA is carrying out a consultation to provide the opportunity for stakeholders to give their views on their revised enforcement policy and new guidance on enforcement. The Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 (**RR(S) Act**) has enabled the Scottish Ministers to give SEPA the power to impose fixed and variable monetary penalties and accept enforcement undertakings (**the enforcement measures**). The enforcement measures form part of the new environmental enforcement framework for Scotland that will enable more proportionate and flexible enforcement and will help ensure that SEPA have the right tools to change the behaviour of those who continue to perform poorly or ignore their responsibilities, and will help to tackle non-compliance at an earlier stage before it becomes entrenched.

The consultation is open until 22 October 2015 and can be accessed on the [SEPA website](#).