

Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority

**To: Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority
Joint Committee**

On: 14th March 2022

**Report by
Stuart Tait, Manager**

Annual Report 2021

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for the Joint Committee to consider and approve for publication its Annual Report for 2021.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Joint Committee
- approve the 2021 Annual Report as set out in the Appendix; and,
 - agree that, in accordance with the practice of previous years, an enhanced version of the Annual Report be produced in order to promote the work of the Joint Committee.

3. Context

- 3.1 Clydeplan's Minute of Agreement requires the preparation of an Annual Report to set out the work of the Authority for the previous calendar year.
- 3.2 The Appendix sets out the 2021 Annual Report and provides a summary of the work undertaken by Clydeplan during the year under the following broad headings:
- Clydeplan Joint Committee;
 - Glasgow City Region;
 - Planning (Scotland) Act - Regional Spatial Strategies and National Planning Framework 4;
 - Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership Evolution;
 - Annual Accounts and Audit Report; and,
 - Priorities and Issues affecting the future work of Clydeplan.

Appendix



CLYDEPLAN

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Introduction

The eight Clydeplan Local Authorities are committed to strategic planning and working in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders in support of the delivery of its Vision and Spatial Development Strategy as set out in the Clydeplan Strategic Development Plan for the Glasgow City Region which was approved by Scottish Ministers on 24th July 2017.

The Clydeplan Strategic Development Plan provides a sound foundation upon which the city region can deliver growth for Scotland's largest city region and a context for its Local Authority Local Development Plans, Local Housing Strategies and Development Management decisions as well as supporting the Glasgow City Region's Economic Strategy.

The scale of work that has been undertaken by Clydeplan during 2021 has only been made possible by the willing support that it has gratefully received from both private and public sector partners.

These include the Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Historic Environment Scotland, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, Glasgow Airport, Transport Scotland, Scottish Forestry, NatureScot, Climate Ready Clyde, Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Environment Partnership, Clyde Marine Planning Partnership, Green Action Trust, Glasgow Centre for Population Health, Public Health Scotland, Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership, Scottish Water, Homes for Scotland, Glasgow University, Strathclyde University and Heriot Watt University.

This report sets out the work that has been undertaken by Clydeplan along with its partners during 2021.

Further information on the work of Clydeplan can be found at

www.clydeplan-sdpa.gov.uk.

Clydeplan Joint Committee

The Clydeplan Joint Committee met four times during 2021 in March, June, September and December. Details of the meeting's agendas, papers and minutes can be found at <https://bit.ly/2TAaTZo>.

During 2021, the Joint Committee published its Annual Report 2020 and its Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement 2021/2022.

In December 2021 the Joint Committee approved its revenue budget for the period 2022/23.

Glasgow City Region

During 2021 Clydeplan continued its support for the various work streams of the various Glasgow City Region thematic portfolios including Land Use and Sustainability, Infrastructure and Assets, Housing and Equalities, Transport and Connectivity based portfolios and both the Economic Delivery Group and the Intelligence Hub.

Clydeplan's involvement with the Glasgow City Region activities is likely to continue to grow and develop during 2022 particularly given the economies of scale and general benefits that can be gained through city region scale joint partnership working.

Clydeplan actively supported the development of the City Region's new Regional Economic Strategy which was approved by the Glasgow City Regional Cabinet in December 2021. <https://glasgowcityregion.co.uk/regional-economic-strategy/>

This regional joint working approach also supports the Planning (Scotland) Act which seeks for local authorities, working together, as groupings to support the delivery of National Planning Framework 4 through the development of Regional Spatial Strategies.

Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 - Regional Spatial Strategies and National Planning Framework 4

The Planning (Scotland) Act which was enacted on 25th July 2019 removes the statutory requirement to prepare a Strategic Development Plan and replaces it with a duty for planning authorities to work together to prepare and adopt a '*Regional Spatial Strategy*'.

The eight Clydeplan Local Authorities have agreed to continue to work together to prepare a future Regional Spatial Strategy for the Glasgow City Region.

The formal duty to prepare a Regional Spatial Strategy will come into effect once National Planning Framework 4 is approved which is anticipated to be in the summer of 2022.

As part of the Draft National Planning Framework 4 which was published for consultation in November 2021 the Scottish Government stated that new Regional Spatial Strategies can identify areas for future population growth, align with regional economic strategies and identify key sectors and clusters for future development and investment.

Regional Spatial Strategies should also set out a clear place-based spatial strategy that guides future development across different areas of Scotland. This will include identification of networks of regionally significant centres, growth and investment areas and ensuring that future development and infrastructure works with each area's assets and whilst conserving and enhancing nationally and regionally recognised natural and historic areas and assets.

The Scottish Government have stated that Regional Spatial Strategy guidance will be published late in 2022.

Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership Evolution

Since the establishment of the GCV Green Network Partnership in 2007, the first partnership of its type in Scotland, green networks and related thinking has developed significantly much of which has been at the instigation of the work of the GCVGNP team including

- the Central Scotland Green Network has been established as a National Development in NPF3 and proposed to continue as a National Development in NPF4,
- the GCV Green Network '*Blueprint*' has been endorsed by the Glasgow City Region Cabinet and featured in the Scottish Government's 2019/20 Programme for Government.
- the development and launch of the '*Clyde Climate Forest*';
- the development of Green Infrastructure policy advice.

The role for green networks have also been identified as an important component of the city region's green recovery from the current Covid-19 pandemic.

In addition, the team provides support for amongst others the constituent local authorities, key agencies, Green Action Trust and Scottish Government in terms of strategy development, policy development, shared learning and project delivery.

Given the development and publication of the Green Network '*Blueprint*' (www.gcvgreennetwork.gov.uk/what-we-do/our-blueprint) and its focus on delivering both a strategic access network and strategic habitat network across the city region aligned to staffing changes in the Green Network Team it was considered an opportune time to evolve the Green Network Partnership into a more delivery focussed partnership working model, the '*Strategic Environment Partnership*'.

The Partnership will enable a stronger focus to be put on delivering the core elements of the Green Network '*Blueprint*' and also facilitate the greater integration of the strategic environmental planning work of Clydeplan.

Annual Accounts and Audit Report

The Joint Committee's Annual Audited Accounts and Audit Report for the period to 31st March 2021 were approved on 13th September 2021. Both documents are published on the Clydeplan's website.

Priorities and Issues affecting the future work of Clydeplan

The priorities for the future work of Clydeplan will be influenced, amongst other things, by

- the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 and the requirements in relation to strategic planning and the National Planning Framework 4;
- continued joint working with key stakeholders in support of the delivery of the Strategic Development Plan's Spatial Development Strategy and its related Action Programme <https://bit.ly/2HehFzV>;
- ongoing developments around Glasgow City Region in terms of governance, subject based portfolios, City Deal and support for the delivery of the Glasgow City Region Economic Strategy and Action Plan;
- development of a work programme to support the delivery of the Regional Spatial Strategy; and,
- continuing challenges of delivery in the context of reduced financial and local authority planning staff resources.