

National Context

- 4.2 The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 is the primary legislative document in Scotland and has been subject to several updates and amendments in the past decade. It created the statutory framework for greenhouse gas emissions reductions in Scotland by setting an interim 42 per cent reduction target for 2020.
- 4.3 The recently published Scottish Government's Programme¹ for Government has a substantial focus on climate change. It proposes a range of interventions across policy areas.
- 4.4 The Climate Change (Emissions Reductions Target) (Scotland) Bill² passed Stage 3 in the Scottish Parliament on Wednesday 25 September. It focusses predominantly on the numerical greenhouse gas reduction target. A number of amendments were made to the bill, most importantly an amendment to ensure early action, by increasing the interim target of 70% reduction in greenhouse gases to 75% by 2030 (compared to 1990 levels) and net-zero emissions by 2045.
- 4.5 The Climate Change Bill also puts into law the requirements for the transition to a net-zero economy to be "just". Last year the Scottish Government established a Just Transition Commission to advise on how to achieve a net-zero economy in a way that is fair for all by following the internationally recognised principles that requires all stakeholders to:
- Plan, invest and implement a transition to environmentally and socially sustainable jobs, sectors and economies, building on Scotland's economic and workforce strengths and potential;
 - Create opportunities to develop resource efficient and sustainable economic approaches, which help address inequality and poverty;
 - Design and deliver low carbon investment and infrastructure, and make all possible efforts to create decent, fair and high value work, in a way which does not negatively affect the current workforce and overall economy.
- 4.6 Scotland's Climate Change Plan³ sets out a comprehensive view of how all aspects of society across industry, transport, energy, buildings, heating and land use will need to change if we are to reach our vision for growing the economy, improving the wellbeing of the people of Scotland and protecting and enhancing our natural environment. The Scottish

policy, fleet, waste, education, roads, marine, marine design, procurement and corporate policy to name a few. There is no argument that addressing climate change is a corporate and cross cutting vocation that requires universal buy-in. This is in addition to the partnership working that is also required with our businesses and communities.

4.12 The Council was one of a few public sector organisations to pilot Carbon Management Plans in 2008 in partnership with the Carbon Trust (ie before the Climate Change (Scotland) Act). At that time it was identified that the main sources of Council CO2 production were from:-

- (1) Handling & collection of household & business waste – 42%
- (2) Buildings Electricity – 23 %
- (3) Buildings Oil – 11%
- (4) Fleet / Business Travel – 11%
- (5) Other sources – 13%.

4.13 This process also put in place a variety of onsite renewable energy schemes, installing energy efficient technologies and controls to minimize wasted energy.

4.14 The Council has also operated a Climate Change Board since April 2017 to oversee Climate Change activities and this reports to the Strategic Management Team. The Board has been chaired since July 2019 by the Head of Commercial Services and is made up of representatives drawn from all Council services and the Health and Social Care Partnership who have an interest in climate change. The Council also reports annually on climate change to the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) and publishes performance, statistics and information on both the Network's and Council websites. Links can be found here:-

<https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/sustainable-development-and-climate-change>

<https://sustainableScotlandNetwork.org/reports/argyll-and-bute-council>

4.15 The Climate Change Board broadly works to an action plan and main duties include the preparation and submission of information to SSN. The Board has also heard from component departments who have delivered on significant climate change projects like:-

- Solar panels which generate up to 1MW of energy on Council owned buildings;
- Installation of 12 biomass boilers and schools & offices;
- Operation of a 50 kilowatt wind turbine which helps to power our Glengorm Waste Disposal Site on Mull;
- The change to LED lightbulbs in our street lighting is expected to save more than 1,100 tonnes of carbon dioxide every year;

PROPOSED SLWG ACTIVITY PLAN

ACTION	RESOURCE	TIMEFRAME
Council Policy		
1. Review existing Council policy and corporate policy approach to address climate change matters; 2. Consider the implications/opportunities of Government policy and legislation in relation to addressing Climate Change;	Economic Development, Procurement, Roads & Infrastructure, Property Services	January 2020

0.a./M028h Respon (BTS) Consultation q 72.48 439.2 1 Tf
 ETe28943r1/M036 3861MC 3



5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 5.1 Policy: | Consideration given to how the SLWG wish to review and shape Climate Change Policy |
| 5.2 Financial: | Consideration given to how SLWG wish to resource climate change adaptation, policy and efficiencies |
| 5.3 Legal: | None at present |
| 5.4 HR: | None at present |
| 5.5 Fairer Scotland Duty | |