

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

19 February 2015

Report by Director of Environment

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to update the Cabinet on progress with carbon management and environmental sustainability, and to ask the Cabinet to approve the proposed 2015/2018 Environmental Sustainability Strategy/Action Plan and Scotland's Climate Change Declaration Annual Report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Cabinet is asked to:
- (a) Note the progress with carbon management and environmental sustainability to date;
 - (b) Approve the proposed 2015/2018 Environmental Sustainability Strategy/Action Plan and Scotland's Climate Change Declaration Annual Report for 2013/14; and
 - (c) Approve the terms of the environmental sustainability and energy management policy statements, to be signed by the Leader and Chief Executive, as the Council's commitment of intent.

BACKGROUND

3. The Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy/Action Plan was approved by Cabinet late in 2009. An Environment Partnership was then formed to focus senior officers on environmental issues which can be influenced by the Council, and to oversee the effective delivery of related outcomes and targets.

4. Good progress has been made with regard to environmental sustainability with most outcomes within the plan achieved and many targets exceeded.

5. In particular, an extremely challenging target to reduce council-controlled carbon emissions by 25% over a 5 year period was established in 2007. This 25% target equated to a reduction of 4,888 tonnes of CO₂ from the original baseline. At the end of the 5 year reporting period, the Council had managed to reduce its carbon emissions by 26.6% (a reduction of 5,200 Tonnes), exceeding the target set. East Renfrewshire was only one of 2 local authorities in Scotland to achieve its target.

6. As the Council's Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Management Plans have now expired, the time is right to take stock and agree a revised set of environmental sustainability actions for the period from 2015 to 2018.

REPORT

7. A new Environmental Sustainability Strategy/Action Plan has been prepared and is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. The delivery and monitoring of the action plan will be overseen by a re-established Environment Partnership and progress will be reported at regular intervals in accordance with the Council's performance management arrangements. The Strategy is underpinned by the action plan which is framed under the following main headings:

(i) Sustainable Council

8. This section focuses upon areas where Council Department's and Services can improve their own performance to reduce environmental impacts/costs and help to deliver on Scotland's Climate Change Declaration commitments.

(ii) Sustainable Environment

9. The sustainable environment section concentrates upon areas where environmental impacts can be addressed and reduced through planning policy in terms of land use and the built environment and transport policy, ensuring both development and travel within East Renfrewshire is sustainable.

(iii) Sustainable Communities

10. This section seeks to address the environmental impacts which the Council can reasonably be expected to help address through the provision of information and advice, raising awareness and maximising the availability of grant funding for energy efficiency measures through Home Energy Efficiency Programmes Scotland: Area Based Scheme (HEEPS:ABS) and any other funding sources.

11. Environmental sustainability and energy management policy statements have been prepared as the Council's commitment of intent and are attached as appendices 2 and 3 to this report. Subject to Cabinet approval, these will then be signed both by the Council's Leader and Chief Executive.

12. In relation to the Council's commitment to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration and in recognition of our response to the Public Bodies Duties, it is essential that:

- Climate Change Action is mainstreamed into Corporate Governance
- The Council provides leadership in its approach to climate change mitigation and by acting sustainably
- The Council supports Adaptation Scotland's regional approach to climate change adaptation
- Responsibility for key targets is devolved as appropriate to a Departmental/Service level
- Effective communications are in place to underpin the devolved responsibility approach, and;
- Sustainable procurement principles are adopted by the Council

13. The Cabinet is being asked to commit to these and the Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan have been developed to take account of these requirements.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

14. The actions contained within the action plan will be delivered from within existing staffing resources. Existing funding is limited and will need to be supported by any core, match or external funding which is able to be secured.

15. Whilst energy prices are currently falling, it is widely predicted that these will increase over the longer term. It is essential therefore that steps are taken to ensure that the Council's energy consumption is managed effectively, and that our communities are supported to mitigate against the impact of longer term rising energy costs.

CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

16. The proposed strategy and action plans have been developed in full consultation with staff from Departments across the Council and the Corporate Management Team. The delivery of the action plan will require all departments within the Council and indeed partners to work together.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

17. This report proposes a number of actions which will contribute positively towards environmental sustainability. There are no staffing, equalities, IT, or financial implications associated with this report.

CONCLUSIONS

18. The implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan will mean the Council is better placed to comply with the Public Bodies Duties set out within the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and help to deliver Scotland's Climate Change Declaration commitments. Mandatory climate change reporting, for public bodies, was announced by the Scottish Government in 2014 and will take effect from 2016. On a practical level, these arrangements will assist the Council and communities mitigate against the impact of rising energy costs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

19. The Cabinet is asked to:

- (a) Note the progress with carbon management and environmental sustainability to date;
- (b) Approve the proposed 2015/2018 Environmental Sustainability Strategy/Action Plan and Scotland's Climate Change Declaration Annual Report for 2013/14; and
- (c) Approve the terms of the environmental sustainability and energy management policy statements as the Council's commitment of intent.

Director of Environment

Report Author: Iain MacLean, Head of Environment on 0141 577 3720, or iain.maclean@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

February 2015

KEY WORDS

A report seeking approval for an environmental sustainability strategy and action plan.

APPENDIX 1

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN 2015/16 - 2017/18

INTRODUCTION

1. The Scottish Government's stated core purpose is to create a more successful country with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish through increasing sustainable economic growth. Underpinning the core purpose are five strategic objectives which are in place to create a Scotland that is - Wealthier and Fairer, Healthier, Safer and Stronger, Smarter and Greener.
 - 1.1. The core purpose and the five strategic objectives address sustainable development in its widest context - encompassing social, economic and environmental issues.
 - 1.2. A common definition of sustainable development is "*...development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*" (Source - Brundtland Commission: 'Our Common Future' 1987).
 - 1.3. The Council acknowledges it has a responsibility to balance social, economic and environmental objectives and to ensure the wellbeing and sustainability of future generations. Sustainable development in its widest context is addressed by East Renfrewshire Council through the Single Outcome Agreement, the Outcome Delivery Plan that underpins this, the Corporate Statement, the Local Development Plan and other high level plans that form the outcome delivery framework.
 - 1.4. The Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2015/16- 2017/18 strengthens the Council's commitment to the environmental aspects of sustainable development; this strategy complements other Council strategies that are in place to address the social and economic aspects.
 - 1.5. The Council's carbon management and climate change commitments are incorporated within this strategy and the accompanying action plan.

CONTEXT

2. At the national level environmental sustainability is addressed by the Scottish Government through a range of policies, plans, outcomes and actions which are designed to reduce local and global environmental impact, tackle climate change, move towards zero waste and increase the use of renewable energy.
 - 2.1. Climate Change continues to be a key area of public concern. It is now widely acknowledged that climate change is occurring, is caused by increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and that this is at least partly due to human activities.
 - 2.2. Scottish climate change targets, set out within the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, are broadly summarised as a 42% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 and an 80% reduction by 2050, compared with the 1990 baseline. This legislation is considered to be one of the most ambitious climate change policies anywhere in the world; exceeding the commitments in the UK Climate Change Act 2008 and the Kyoto protocol.
 - 2.3. Legally binding Public Bodies Duties are now in place as part of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 which require local authorities as "Major Players" to contribute to climate change mitigation (reduce greenhouse gas emissions) and adaptation (prepare for anticipated changes in the climate) and to act in a way considered most sustainable to support delivery of these ambitious targets.

- 2.4. Climate change adaptation is an important issue that must be addressed. However, as it is not viable for organisations working in isolation to address this effectively the Council will continue to work with Adaptation Scotland to identify the most appropriate collaborative/regional way of adapting to a changing climate.
- 2.5. Zero waste to landfill by 2021 and a 70% recycling performance by 2025 are ambitious national targets in the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan (2010). On average, each household in East Renfrewshire produces just over a tonne of waste annually, amounting to approximately 45,000 tonnes of household waste with 23,000 tonnes recycled/composted. East Renfrewshire has already attained the statutory requirement of 50% household recycling by 2013 and is working towards the challenging target of 70% recycling by 2025. New Waste Regulations came into force in 2014 that apply to commercial properties; including Council owned /operated buildings.
- 2.6. The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Bill 2014 introduces a range of General Duties for contracting authorities, including a sustainable procurement duty. Public bodies in Scotland are required to support this Bill by producing their own policy, strategy and action / delivery plan based around the Scottish Government's Flexible Framework.
- 2.7. The Environment Department, as lead department for the environmental sustainability agenda, has ensured that the Council is already fulfilling its duties under the above legislation through our ongoing commitment to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration (SCCD), which was originally approved by the Cabinet and signed by the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive in 2007. The SCCD commitments the Council has agreed to deliver are attached as Appendix 2.

CONTRIBUTION TO SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT

3. The Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2015/16–2017/18 contributes mainly to Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) outcome 3 :
- East Renfrewshire is a thriving, attractive and sustainable place for residents and businesses to grow.

VISION

4. This Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2015/16 -2017/18 has the following vision which supports the wider East Renfrewshire Council's Corporate Statement vision.
- 4.1. Environmental Sustainability Strategy Vision:
- East Renfrewshire is a thriving, attractive and sustainable place where environmental impacts are minimised*
- 4.2. East Renfrewshire Council Corporate Statement Vision:
- To be the best Council in Scotland, to maintain an attractive, safe local environment, where everyone has the opportunity to benefit from an enhanced quality of life.*
- 4.3. The environmental sustainability vision aims to ensure that East Renfrewshire Council stays within environmental limits by addressing environmental sustainability in general and climate change and carbon reduction in particular.

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES AND ORGANISATIONAL OUTCOMES

5. The following intermediate outcome from East Renfrewshire Council Outcome Delivery Plan (ODP) 2015 - 18 will be used to help monitor the progress of the work being undertaken towards achieving the long term SOA outcome.

Outcome (SOA)

East Renfrewshire is a thriving, attractive and sustainable place for residents and businesses to grow.

Intermediate outcomes (ODP)

3.2 Our natural and built environment is enhanced and our environmental impact is minimised.

3.4 Residents live in warm, dry and energy efficient homes

3.5 Residents have access to a range of services via travel choices based on an integrated and sustainable transport network

5.1 The strategy contributes to the Council's Organisational Outcomes; specifically the Efficiency outcome that is in place to ensure our resources are managed effectively, we are modernising the way we work and our services are efficiently meeting the needs of our customers and local residents.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN

6. While ensuring that the work undertaken supports the SOA outcome, the intermediate outcomes and the organisational outcomes, the Environmental Sustainability Strategy also ensures the Council is better placed to comply with the Public Bodies Duties set out within the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and to deliver SCCD commitments.

6.1 An Environmental Sustainability Action Plan has been developed to support this Strategy. The Action Plan details specific activities that will be undertaken; it will be used to monitor progress towards addressing environmental sustainability, climate change and carbon reduction in particular.

6.2 The Action Plan has been split into three distinct themes: Sustainable Council, Sustainable Environment and Sustainable Communities.

The Sustainable Council section of the action plan focuses on areas where Council departments and services can improve their own performance to reduce environmental impacts and support delivery of SCCD commitments. This includes energy efficiency and carbon reduction, street lighting improvements, managing the use of our vehicles (fleet, hired vehicles and business travel) and improving waste minimisation, recycling and water conservation within Council buildings.

In certain areas of Council activity, where appropriate, responsibility for energy/fuel efficiency, waste minimisation and carbon reduction targets etc will be devolved to departments and services. This approach will ensure more people working for the Council are sharing responsibility for, and contributing towards delivery of, environmental sustainability and carbon reduction outcomes.

Senior management within each Department/Service will be expected to identify the Building Responsible Person(s) within each building who will be responsible for:

- The site-specific energy/fuel/carbon/waste etc reduction target

- Liaising with the Energy Efficiency & Carbon Reduction Unit (EECRU) to identify opportunities and implement changes to current practice to deliver outcomes
- Establishing on-site support and buy-in (e.g. energy teams or 'champions' etc)
- Securing funding or match funding for implementation of measures from within existing [Departmental] budgets

The Sustainable Environment section of the action plan focuses on areas where environmental impacts can be addressed and reduced through Planning Policy, in terms of land use and the built environment, ensuring development within East Renfrewshire is more sustainable. The sustainable environment theme also covers work to support economic growth and regeneration at a local level.

Priorities include: sustainable transport, waste minimisation and recycling, water conservation and flooding, energy efficiency and carbon reduction. Effective environmental monitoring will ensure the Council continues to safeguard the environment.

The Sustainable Communities section of the action plan focuses on the environmental impacts which the Council can reasonably be expected to help address by raising awareness of key issues and working with people in the community.

This is a long term programme of work, focusing initially on areas where the Council has a more direct influence; such as improving energy efficiency in our housing stock, supporting work to address fuel poverty and encouraging waste minimisation, recycling and sustainable transport.

RE-AFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT

7. This strategy and the accompanying action plan are in place to mobilise the Council to action by ensuring that:

- Climate Change Action is mainstreamed into Corporate Governance
- The Council provides leadership in its approach to climate change mitigation and by acting sustainably
- The Council supports Adaptation Scotland's regional approach to climate change adaptation
- Responsibility for key targets is devolved as appropriate to a Departmental/Service level
- Effective communications are in place to underpin the devolved responsibility approach, and;
- Sustainable procurement principles are adopted by the Council

7.1 Key actions have been agreed with the Corporate Management Team and Cabinet to support implementation of this Strategy.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

8. Additional information relating to this Strategy is outlined below:

Environmental sustainability

8.1 The work outlined in this Strategy will support East Renfrewshire Council staying within environmental limits by addressing environmental sustainability in general and climate change and carbon reduction in particular.

Finance and efficiency

8.2 The actions outlined in the action plan will be delivered from within existing resources. The limited financial resources available will be supplemented by any external funding which is able to be secured. Certain activities in the Action Plan contribute directly to the drive for continuous improvement in the operational aspects of Council activities that deliver efficiencies and modernise the way the organisation works.

Partnership working

8.3 Many aspects of environmental sustainability extend beyond the work the Council in isolation is able to achieve. This strategy relates to everyone who lives and works in East Renfrewshire, and successful delivery will require close work with stakeholders, partners, local businesses and the wider community.

8.4 In order to enhance the already strong partnership working that exists, the current Environment Partnership will be extended, where appropriate, to include representatives from external organisations, including the Community Planning Partnership. This group will meet bi-annually from December 2014.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

9. An annual report containing an overview of work undertaken to address Environmental Sustainability within East Renfrewshire, based around key indicators and activities in the action plan, will be reported as part of the corporate performance management arrangements and aligned with SCCD reporting requirements and timescales. Quarterly reports will be submitted to Corporate Management Team to monitor progress and address shifting priorities.

9.1 The Environmental Sustainability Action Plan / SCCD report, once approved by Cabinet, will be available on the Council's website.

Appendix 1 – Action Plan - Attached

Appendix 1 - Environmental Sustainability Action Plan 2015/16 – 2017/18

1. Sustainable Council

The Sustainable Council section of the action plan provides a focus on areas where Council departments and services can:

1. Improve their own performance to deliver efficiencies
2. Reduce environmental impacts
3. Support compliance with the Public Bodies' Duties, and
4. Make a positive contribution to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration (SCCD) commitments.

The target areas for improvement will include, but not be limited to - energy efficiency and carbon reduction, street lighting improvements, managing the use of our vehicles (fleet, hired vehicles and business travel) and waste minimisation, recycling and water conservation within Council buildings. In certain areas of Council activity, where appropriate, targets will be devolved to departments and services.

Senior management within each Department/Service will be expected to identify a Building Responsible Person(s) within each building who will be responsible for:

- The site-specific energy/fuel/carbon/waste etc reduction target
- Liaising with the Energy Efficiency & Carbon Reduction Unit (EECRU) to identify opportunities and implement changes to current practice to deliver outcomes
- Establishing on-site support and buy-in (e.g. setting up energy teams or 'champions' etc)
- Securing funding or match funding for implementation of measures from within existing [Departmental] budgets

The work being undertaken in the Sustainable Council section of the action plan contributes towards achieving SOA Outcome 3:

East Renfrewshire is a thriving, attractive and sustainable place for residents and businesses to grow.

and the undernoted intermediate and organisational outcomes:

Intermediate Outcome 3.2: Our natural and built environment is enhanced and our environmental impact minimised.

Intermediate Outcome 3.5: Residents have access to a range of services via travel choices based on an integrated and sustainable transport network.

Organisational Outcomes (OO): Efficiency

Intermediate Outcome 2 (OO2): Residents benefit from cost effective and efficient services that comply with financial and legislative requirements.

Intermediate / Organisational Outcome	Indicator	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
		Target	Target	Target
3.2 and OO2	Percentage of Council owned or operated buildings with an identified "Building Responsible Person" responsible for site specific energy/carbon/waste reduction work.	50%	75%	100%

Intermediate / Organisational Outcome	Indicator	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
		Target	Target	Target
3.2 and OO2	Number of schools maintaining Eco-schools Green Flag status	31	35	35
3.2 and OO2	Percentage reduction in Council-controlled carbon emissions (annual reduction compared to previous year)	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
3.2 and OO2	Percentage of council buildings with improved waste min / recycling arrangements	100%	100%	100%
3.2 and OO2	Percentage reduction in average consumption per street lighting unit (compared to 2013/14 average consumption of 425.03 KWh/lighting unit)	Establish baseline and set target		
3.2 and OO2	Percentage reduction in water consumption at key sites (where opportunities exist) (compared to previous year).	5%	5%	5%
3.2 and OO2	Progress measured against the Scottish Government's Flexible Framework for Sustainable Procurement	Set baseline	Achieve level 2	Achieve level 3

Activities

- Environment Partnership will be co-chaired by the Environment Convener and Head of Environment and membership extended as necessary / where appropriate by March 2015 and annually thereafter.
- East Renfrewshire Council's commitment to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration will be publicly re-affirmed by March 2015.
- Devolved responsibility arrangements for energy / fuel / waste / carbon reduction will be fully developed and rolled out [where appropriate] by March 2018
- Projects funded by Departmental budgets and / or Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) and SALIX will be identified and delivered by the EE&CRU by March 2015 and annually thereafter (dependent on funding availability each year).
- EE&CRU will work closely with the Education Department to align energy efficiency and carbon reduction work with Eco-Schools activity (where appropriate) by March 2015 and annually thereafter.
- Energy/carbon reports will be produced and disseminated by the EE&CRU on a quarterly basis (as appropriate) as part of the devolved responsibility arrangements.
- The Waste Minimisation Team will support implementation of the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan.
- The Waste Minimisation Team will work together with Departments and Services to eliminate recyclable waste from the general waste stream in all Council buildings by January 2016.
- The Roads & Transportation Service will implement projects to reduce energy consumed by streetlighting in the area (subject to availability of funding).

- EE&CRU will work with the Communications Team to develop comprehensive employee communications and engagement arrangements, raising awareness of environmental sustainability across the Council by March 2015 and annually thereafter.
- Renewable energy options are considered and implemented wherever practicable to support the Council's dependence on fossil fuels on an ongoing basis.
- Compliance with the Carbon Reduction Commitment, other statutory (energy / carbon-related) requirements and relevant legislation is ensured.
- Water conservation projects will be identified and implemented at key sites (subject to budget availability).
- The Sustainable Procurement Policy will be Implemented following adoption in November 2014 - progress will be reported annually to Cabinet based on the Flexible Framework.

Travel & Transportation

Intermediate / Organisational Outcome	Indicator	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target	2017/18 Target
3.5	Percentage of schools completing on road cycle training.	75%	85%	95%
3.5	Percentage of pupils in full time education at school, whose usual main method of travel to school is by walking or cycling.	42%	42.5%	42.5%
3.2, 3.5 and OO2	Percentage reduction in business travel by Council employees (annual reduction compared to previous year).	5%	5%	5%
3.2, 3.5 and OO2	Percentage of Council large goods vehicles that meet Euro V standards or above.	80%	85%	90%

Activities

- The Roads & Transportation Service will implement a programme of walking and cycling infrastructure works to encourage sustainable travel by March 2017.
- The Vehicle Management Team will develop a comprehensive Fleet Plan including targets for fuel and carbon savings from the core and hired fleet by March 2016.
- The EE&CRU will work with the Roads & Transportation Team to install a charging infrastructure at appropriate sites within East Renfrewshire to enable electric vehicle charging by March 2015.
- The EE&CRU will work with Vehicle Management Team to undertake a comprehensive analysis of existing fleet prior to procurement of electric vehicles if feasible (and suitable funding identified / secured) by March 2016.
- The EE&CRU will work with the Energy Saving Trust to identify further carbon/financial saving opportunities to reduce the impact of business travel by March 2015.

- The EE&CRU to work closely with the Communications Team to promote sustainable travel initiatives such as JourneyShare, Cycle to Work and walking initiatives by March 2015 and annually thereafter .
- The Roads & Transportation Team will work closely with a range of Council departments and services to develop an Active Travel Plan (focussing on cycling and walking) by March 2015.
- The EE&CRU to work closely with the Council's Project Management Team to capture and record business travel savings achieved as part of Agile working initiatives by March 201 and annually thereafter.

Appendix 1 - Environmental Sustainability Action Plan 2015/16 – 2017/18

2. Sustainable Environment

The Sustainable Environment section of the action plan focuses on the environmental impacts that can be addressed and reduced through Planning Policy, in terms of land use and the built environment, ensuring:

1. Development and regeneration within East Renfrewshire is sustainable
2. Economic growth at a local level considers environmental sustainability where appropriate
3. Sustainable transport, resource efficiency and waste minimisation are key considerations
4. New technologies and methods of safeguarding the environment are considered wherever appropriate, and
5. Environmental monitoring is used to inform decision-making.

The Council's Local Development Plan (LDP) is in place to ensure environmental impacts are identified, addressed and reduced through planning policy. The strategic aim of the LDP is to foster a rich and diverse environment and promote and manage land use changes for the benefit of the local community and economy in a manner that is sustainable. The LDP underpins this section of the environmental sustainability action plan.

The work being undertaken in the Sustainable Environment section of the action plan contributes towards achieving SOA Outcome 3:

East Renfrewshire is a thriving, attractive and sustainable place for residents and businesses to grow.

and the undernoted intermediate outcomes:

Intermediate Outcome 3.2: Our natural and built environment is enhanced and our environmental impact minimised.

Intermediate Outcome 3.4: Residents live in warm, dry and energy efficient homes.

Intermediate Outcome 3.5: Residents have access to a range of services via travel choices based on an integrated and sustainable transport network.

Intermediate Outcome	Indicator	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
		Target	Target	Target
3.2 and 3.5	Number of hectares of greenspace in East Renfrewshire improved	6	3	3
3.2 and 3.5	The length of paths newly created or managed (km).	2	3	3
3.2	Number of developments which go ahead contrary to Local Development Plan D3: Green Belt and Countryside Around Towns.	0	0	0
3.2	Production of State of the Environment report. (Annual baseline data collation which provides a baseline of environmental indicators and reporting on annual trends so that areas of concern and/or issues can be identified and addressed)	Targets will be considered / developed when/where appropriate as trends are identified – included as an indicator for monitoring and reporting purposes		
3.2 and 3.4	Numbers of new developments falling within each category of the Building Standards	Targets will be considered / developed when/where		

Intermediate Outcome	Indicator	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
		Target	Target	Target
	'Sustainability Labelling' system (i.e. a measure of how many within each category - bronze, silver, gold, platinum etc)	appropriate as trends are identified – included as an indicator for monitoring and reporting purposes		
3.2 and 3.5	Number of Air Quality Management Sites declared.	0	0	0

Activities

- Produce and maintain an up to date Local Development Plan in order to guide investment and promote sustainable development by March 2017 - (Development Plans Team).
- Ensure compliance with LDP policies and principles - (Development Plans Team and Regeneration).
- Set out clear guidance on what is expected of applications for development in the area (i.e. provide Supplementary Planning Guidance) – (Development Plans Team)
- Direct development to appropriate locations - develop a Geographical Information System (GIS) overlay to measure existing and created greenspace within East Renfrewshire by March 2015 – (Development Plans Team).
- Encourage the use of energy efficient design, use of sustainable materials and incorporation of on-site zero and low carbon equipment (Planning Service & Building Standards).
- Support renewable energy proposals in appropriate areas – (Development Plans Team & Planning Service).
- Protect, create and enhance the wildlife, recreational and access value of green networks – (Development Plans Team & Planning Service).
- Protect outdoor access points, including the core path network, rights of way and other important access points – (Development Plans Team).
- Collate and analyse data to inform the annual State of the Environment Report by December each year and ensure compliance with Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) requirements – (Development Plans Team).
- Make use of annual 'State of the Environment' baseline data collation / reporting to identify trends so that areas of concern and/or issues can be identified and addressed
- Support a sustainable and integrated transport system, ensuring all major developments require to be accompanied by a transport assessment and / or travel plan – (Development Plans Team & Planning Service)
- Support development of the area while offsetting any environmental or social impacts by securing appropriate community benefits through the Council's Supplementary Planning Guidance on Development Contributions. Amendments to the Supplementary Planning Guidance will be consulted upon and adopted by March 2017. (Development Plans Team)

- Resist development that will adversely affect – Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Local Biodiversity sites (LBS), Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) and Ancient Woodland.- (Development Plans Team & Planning Service)
- Resist development that is likely to have an adverse effect on the water environment - (Development Plans Team & Planning Service).
- Ensure Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) are incorporated into all major developments (with minor exceptions) - (Development Plans Team & Planning Service).
- Organise events within Dams to Darnley Country Park and Whitelee Access Project which encourage residents to participate in activities which promote health and wellbeing by March 2015 and annually thereafter - (Development Plans Team)
- Test air quality at 23 locations in East Renfrewshire on a monthly basis by March 2015 and annually thereafter. Any area not meeting the set standards will be declared as an Air Quality Management Site and a plan will be put in place to improve the situation - (Environmental Health Team).
- Support implementation of the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan – (Waste Minimisation Team).
- Development Plans Team and Roads and Transportation Services to support delivery of a sustainable and integrated transport system by March 2017.
- Roads and Transportation Services to work closely with the Planning Service to ensure that all major developments are supported to produce a suitable transport assessment or travel plan as appropriate by March 2017.

Appendix 1 - Environmental Sustainability Action Plan 2015/16 – 2017/18

3. Sustainable Communities

The Sustainable Communities section of the action plan focuses on the environmental impacts which the Council can reasonably be expected to help address by raising awareness of key issues, and working with people in the East Renfrewshire community to address these.

Following the introduction of the statutory Public Bodies' Duties that have emerged as part from the Climate Change Climate (Scotland) Act 2009, the role of councils in supporting people to live more sustainably, and benefit from the transition to a low carbon economy, has increased significantly.

The Scottish Government expects local authorities to:

- Inform people about national and local climate change targets
- Encourage them to contribute towards achievement of those targets
- Identify actions people can take to contribute towards achievement of those targets
- Inform people about the impacts and consequences of the changing climate
- Encourage action to ensure communities are both prepared for the negative impacts, and able to take full advantage of the opportunities that a changing climate will bring

This is a long term programme of work, focusing initially on areas where the Council has a more direct influence, such as:

1. Encouraging resource efficiency, waste minimisation and recycling
2. Improving energy efficiency in council housing stock
3. Addressing fuel poverty and affordable warmth
4. Providing support and advice to help people reduce energy and fuel consumption, and
5. Facilitating / encouraging sustainable transport

The work being undertaken in the Sustainable Communities section of the action plan contributes towards achieving SOA Outcome 3:

East Renfrewshire is a thriving, attractive and sustainable place for residents and businesses to grow.

and the undernoted intermediate outcomes:

Outcome 3: East Renfrewshire is a thriving, attractive and sustainable place for residents and businesses to grow.

Intermediate Outcome 3.2: Our natural and built environment is enhanced and our environmental impact minimised.

Intermediate Outcome 3.4: Residents live in warm, dry and energy efficient homes.

Intermediate Outcome 3.5: Residents have access to a range of services via travel choices based on an integrated and sustainable transport network.

Waste & Recycling

Intermediate Outcome	Indicator	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
		Target	Target	Target
3.2	Percentage of total household waste that is recycled	55%	56%	56%

Intermediate Outcome	Indicator	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
		Target	Target	Target
3.2	The percentage of households offered kerbside recycling facilities.	99%	99%	100%

Activities

- Waste Minimisation Team will continue supporting implementation of the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan.
- Develop a Waste Prevention Plan for implementation from March 2015.

Housing

Intermediate Outcome	Indicator	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
		Target	Target	Target
3.2 and 3.4	Percentage of council houses that are energy efficient (SHQS).	100%	100%	100%
3.2 and 3.4	Percentage of council houses that are energy efficient (ESSH).	Establish baseline and set target		
3.2 and 3.4	Amount of external funding secured each year for domestic energy improvements. (LHS 2010/11 = £40k, 2011/12 = £255k, 2012/13 = £253k).	Target not appropriate as the Council has no control over funding availability – included as an indicator for monitoring and reporting purposes		
3.2 and 3.4	The number of domestic energy efficiency improvement measures delivered to private households in the community – subject to availability of funding and funding criteria (LHS 2010/11 = 156, 2011/12 = 1230, 2012/13 = 972).	Target not appropriate as the Council has no control over funding availability – included as an indicator for monitoring and reporting purposes		
3.2 and 3.4	The percentage of East Renfrewshire households identified as being in fuel poverty (spending more than 10% of their income on fuel. (LHS 2011/12 – 26%))	20%	19%	18%
3.2 and 3.4	The percentage of East Renfrewshire households identified as being in Extreme Fuel Poverty (spending more than 20% of their income on fuel). (LHS 2011/12 – 9%)	8%	7%	6%

Activities

- The EE&CRU and the Waste Minimisation Team will work with the Communications Team to develop comprehensive community communications and engagement arrangements, raising awareness of environmental sustainability across the Council by March 2015 and annually thereafter.
- Deliver a programme of planned maintenance and improvements for all Council houses in the area to ensure they meet the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) by 2015. (LHS)

- Deliver a programme of planned maintenance and improvements for Council houses in the area to contribute towards achievement of the new Energy Efficient Standard for Social Housing (EESH) rating by March 2017. (LHS)
- Ensure that new build affordable housing incorporates additional sustainability measures where feasible (LHS).
- Housing Team and EE&CRU to identify and secure (where possible) funding to implement energy efficiency measures in households in the community (e.g. HEEPS::ABS, CSCO, Green Homes Cashback etc).
- Housing Team and EE&CRU to Support Scottish Government with development and implementation of Regulation of Energy Efficiency in the Private Sector (REEPS)
- Improve the information and advice we provide to households on energy and fuel poverty and ensure that it is widely available to the local community by March 2015 and annually thereafter. (LHS)
- Improve our understanding of the impact of fuel poverty in the local area, in order to target advice and assistance at those households who are in most need by March 2017. (LHS)
- Work in partnership to provide practical and targeted support at the community level, to improve household energy usage and promote energy literacy by March 2017. (LHS)

Transport

Intermediate Outcome	Indicator	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
		Target	Target	Target
3.2 and 3.5	Increase in cycling, measured by the number of cyclists passing through programme count sites over the count period. (2014/15 will be baseline data collection)	Establish baseline and set target		
3.2 and 3.5	The percentage of the road network that should be considered for maintenance treatment.	44.7%	43.3%	43.2%
3.2 and 3.5	Number of infrastructure improvements, including new shelters, raised kerbs or real time information displays at bus stops.	40	40	40

Activities

- Implement a programme of walking and cycling infrastructure works to encourage sustainable travel by March 2017.
- Develop an Active Travel Strategy in accordance with guidance produced jointly by Transport Scotland and Sustrans which will provide the strategic approach to support active travel, mapping the appropriate infrastructure improvements required along with the supporting promotional work by March 2017. This Strategy will be closely aligned to the Cycling Action Plans for Scotland (CAPS) and the National Walking Strategy.

APPENDIX 2 SCOTLAND'S CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITMENTS

Scotland's Climate Change Declaration was signed by East Renfrewshire Council in 2007, and re-signed in 2015 to re-affirm commitment.

Through this we have committed to:

- Work with the Scottish Executive and the UK Government to contribute to the delivery of Scotland's and the UK's Climate Change Programmes, including to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to future climate change scenarios.
- Produce and publicly declare a plan, with targets and time-scales, to achieve a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from our own operations. This will include our energy use and sourcing, travel and transportation, waste production and disposal, estate management, procurement of goods and services, and improved staff awareness.
- Ensure that greenhouse gas reduction and climate change adaptation measures are clearly incorporated into our new and existing strategies, plans and programmes, in line with sustainable development principles.
- Assess the risks and opportunities for our services and our communities of predicted climate change scenarios and impacts, and take action to adapt accordingly and in line with sustainable development principles.
- Encourage and work with others in our local community to take action to adapt to the impact of climate change, to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions and to make public their commitment to action.
- Publish an annual statement on the monitoring and progress of our climate change response, detailing targets set, actions taken, outcomes achieved and further actions required.
- Collaborate with other organisations to promote good practice on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Appendix 2

Environmental Sustainability Policy Statement

Statement of Commitment by East Renfrewshire Council

East Renfrewshire Council acknowledges it has a responsibility to adhere to the principles of sustainable development; balancing social, economic and environmental objectives to protect the wellbeing and sustainability of future generations.

Sustainable development in its widest context is addressed by the Council through the Single Outcome Agreement and the Outcome Delivery Plan.

The Council's commitment to Environmental Sustainability is outlined in the Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan 2015/16 – 2017/18. These address environmental sustainability in general and climate change and carbon reduction in particular; focusing on the environmental aspects of sustainable development to complement other strategies that are in place to address social issues and economic development

The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 established a statutory target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050, with an interim reduction target of 42% by 2020, Part 4 (Section 44) of the Act places duties on public bodies relating to climate change. The Public Bodies' Duties require local authorities as 'Major Players' to:

- Contribute to climate change mitigation (reducing greenhouse gas emissions).
- Act in a way considered most sustainable.
- Contribute to climate Change adaptation (preparing for anticipated changes in the climate)

Through our ongoing commitment to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration, which was originally signed by the Council in 2007, and re-signed in 2015, the Council is committed to compliance with the Public Bodies' Duties and ensuring East Renfrewshire is a thriving, attractive and sustainable place where environmental impacts are minimised.

Environmental Sustainability Statement

East Renfrewshire Council's Environmental Sustainability Statement supports the Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2015/16 – 2017/18 and associated Action Plan.

This Statement is a commitment to reduce the impacts the Council's activities may have on environmental sustainability by ensuring that the Council:

- Complies with all relevant legislation and regulations
- Minimises environmental impacts where possible
- Protects and enhances the natural and built environment
- Protects natural habitats and biodiversity where possible
- Prevents pollution and minimises environmental risks and
- Promotes the benefits of a healthy, attractive environment

Scope

This Statement applies to all activities undertaken directly by or on behalf of East Renfrewshire Council.

Statement review

This commitment will be reviewed annually by the Energy Efficiency & Carbon Reduction Unit and revised as necessary.

This Statement will be made public and progress reported annually through the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan 2015/16 – 2017/18.

Summary

The Council is committed to environmental sustainability and will ensure this is viewed as a priority in all of our operations wherever it is cost effective and feasible to do so.

Signed by the Leader and Chief Executive of East Renfrewshire Council

Signature(s)

Date

Appendix 3

Energy Management Policy Statement

Statement of Commitment by East Renfrewshire Council;

East Renfrewshire Council recognises the importance of effective energy management in all aspects of our operations and in the provision of services to the community. Rising energy costs and concerns over climate change mean that the importance of controlling our energy consumption and associated carbon dioxide emissions has never been higher.

The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 established a statutory target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050, with an interim reduction target of 42% by 2020 compared to 1990 baseline. The Act also places duties on public bodies that require the Council to take action to contribute to meeting these challenging targets.

Energy Management Statement

East Renfrewshire Council's Energy Management Statement supports the Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2015/16 – 2017/18 and the associated Action Plan.

This Statement commits the Council to support work to improve energy efficiency and ensure that:

- Energy consumption is reduced to a practical minimum.
- Unnecessary expenditure is avoided.
- Environmental impacts are reduced.
- A 2.5% reduction (compared with the previous year) in council-controlled carbon emissions from buildings is delivered annually.
- Cost effectiveness, productivity and working conditions are improved.

Scope

This Statement applies to all energy use within Council owned or operated buildings (excluding housing stock).

Energy Management Statement Review

This commitment will be reviewed annually by the Energy Efficiency & Carbon Reduction Unit and revised as necessary.

This Statement will be made public and progress to address energy use and greenhouse gas emissions will be reported annually through the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan 2015/16 – 2017/18.

Summary

The Council is committed to responsible energy management and will ensure energy efficiency is viewed as a priority in all of our facilities wherever it is cost effective to do so. Sufficient funding will be identified by the Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Unit to invest in a programme of energy saving measures and ensure savings are re-invested in further energy management activities.

Approved by Leader and Chief Executive of East Renfrewshire Council

Signature(s)

Date



Scotland's Climate Change Declaration

2013-14 Reporting Template

Appendix 4

Governance, Leadership and Management of Climate Change Reporting year 2013/14

Background Information

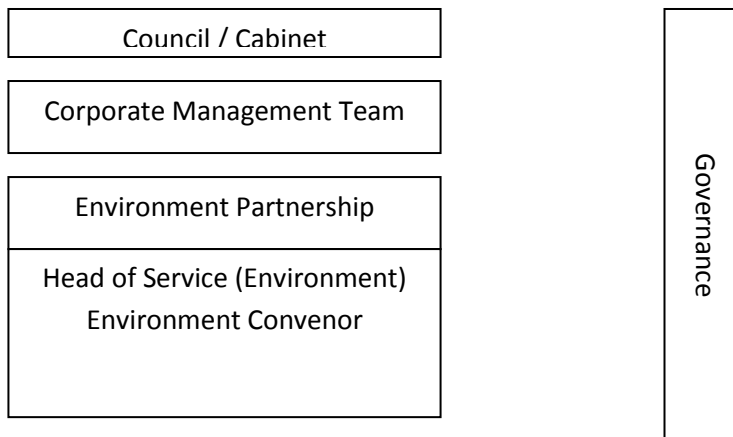
This section of the template is designed to provide background information on your local authority and to outline how you provide effective governance, leadership and management of climate change.

Local Authority Name	East Renfrewshire Council
Number of Staff	3500
Number of Council Operated Premises	140 (excluding council housing)

Governance

How is climate change governed in your local authority and what role do elected members provide? Please include a *diagram* to illustrate your Governance structure, including reference to any distinct climate change initiatives or groups in which elected members are particularly active.

The structure below is in place to govern climate change action in East Renfrewshire Council:



Leadership

Please provide examples of leadership that senior staff or elected members have promoted that have led to emissions reduction, promoted awareness and action on climate change or support for adaptation initiatives.

In 2013/14 a new Environmental Sustainability Strategy & Action Plan (2015/16 – 2017/18) was developed; this incorporates our climate change and carbon reduction commitments. The **CMT will approve this in December 2014** and Cabinet will approve in **January 2015**.

During the same period the Council's Sustainable Procurement Policy was developed. This was

adopted in November 2014 and progress will be reported annually to Cabinet using the Flexible Framework.

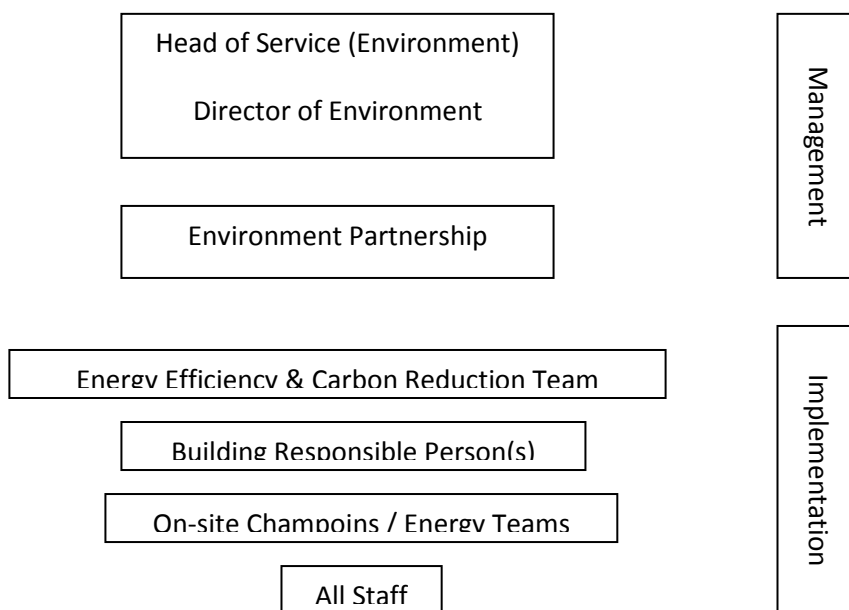
Management

Provide detail and diagram of *internal* management decision-making structures, special arrangements for mitigation and/or adaptation management, allocation of responsibilities to senior staff, etc.

The structure below is in place to manage climate change mitigation. A devolved responsibility approach has been introduced in certain areas of Council activity as part of the new environmental sustainability strategy. Where appropriate, responsibility for energy/fuel efficiency, waste minimisation and carbon reduction targets etc are devolved to departments and services. Senior management within each Department/Service will be expected to identify the Building Responsible Person(s) within each building who will be responsible for:

- The site-specific energy/fuel/carbon/waste etc reduction target
- Liaising with the Energy Efficiency & Carbon Reduction Unit (EE&CRU) to identify opportunities and implement changes to current practice to deliver outcomes
- Establishing on-site support and buy-in (e.g. setting up energy teams or 'champions' etc)
- Securing funding or match funding for implementation of measures from within existing [Departmental] budgets

Internal management / decision-making structure for climate change mitigation and acting sustainably:



At present adaptation action is driven mainly through implementation of Local Development Plan Policies and Principles. Discussions are ongoing with Adaptation Scotland regarding the terms and timescales etc surrounding when East Renfrewshire Council will endorse the Climate Ready Clyde Vision.

Improving Climate Change Governance, Leadership and Management

Provide details of plans to *improve* climate change governance, leadership and management arrangements e.g. creation of new groups, service improvement plans etc.

To re-affirm our commitment to environmental sustainability the Cabinet has been asked to commit to five key actions:

- 1** Scotland's Climate Change Declaration will be re-signed by the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council. The signed declaration will be posted on the Council website and a copy will be displayed in Council Headquarters.
- 2** The Environment Partnership will be co-chaired by the Environment Convenor and the Head of Service (Environment Department).
- 3** The Environmental Sustainability Policy Statement and the Energy Policy Statement will be reviewed and updated annually and re-signed by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive on behalf of the Corporate Management Team. The signed policy documents will be posted on the Council website and copies will be issued to each key building for display purposes.
- 4** Adaptation Scotland's 'Climate Ready Clyde Vision' will be endorsed.
- 5** The Council's Sustainable Procurement Policy will be implemented

The Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (referred to above) is split into three distinct themes: Sustainable Council, Sustainable Environment and Sustainable Communities.

The Sustainable Council section of the action plan focuses on areas where Council departments and services can improve their own performance to reduce environmental impacts and work together to support delivery of SCCD commitments. This includes energy efficiency and carbon reduction, street lighting improvements, managing the use of our vehicles (fleet, hired vehicles and business travel) and working to improve waste minimisation, recycling and water conservation within Council buildings.

The Sustainable Environment section of the action plan focuses on areas where environmental impacts can be addressed and reduced through Planning Policy in terms of land use and the built environment, ensuring development within East Renfrewshire is more sustainable. This theme also covers work to support sustainable economic growth at a local level, addressing sustainable transport issues and waste minimisation and recycling by seeking new technologies and methods and safeguarding the environment through wider environmental monitoring.

The Sustainable Communities section of the action plan focuses on the environmental impacts which the Council can reasonably be expected to help address by raising awareness of key issues and working with local people in the community. This is a long term programme of work, focusing initially on areas where the Council has a more direct influence such as improving energy efficiency in our housing stock, supporting work to address fuel poverty and encouraging waste minimisation and recycling and sustainable transport in the community.

The Action Plan details specific activities that will be undertaken; it will be used to monitor progress towards addressing environmental sustainability, climate change and carbon reduction. An annual report containing an overview of work undertaken to address Environmental Sustainability within East Renfrewshire together with key indicators and activities will be reported as part of the corporate

performance management arrangements and aligned with SCCD reporting requirements and timescales.

Strategies, Plans and Programmes

Outline how climate change is incorporated into strategies, plans and programs, e.g. the Single Outcome Agreement, the Community Plan, the Council Corporate Plan, Service Plans, Structure and Local Development Plans, etc.

Please provide links to these documents and detail the specific sections or paragraphs where climate change is referenced.

In accordance with corporate strategy-development guidance, the Environmental Sustainability Strategy & Action Plan has been linked directly to the most appropriate SOA outcome:

Outcome 3 (SOA)

East Renfrewshire is a thriving, attractive and sustainable place for residents and businesses to grow.

Intermediate outcomes (ODP)

- Our natural and built environment is enhanced and our environmental impact is minimised.
- Residents live in warm, dry and energy efficient homes
- Residents have access to a range of services via travel choices based on an integrated and sustainable transport network

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2015/16 -17/18 includes the following vision:

East Renfrewshire is a thriving, attractive and sustainable place where environmental impacts are minimised

Which supports the wider East Renfrewshire Council's Corporate Statement vision:

To be the best Council in Scotland, to maintain an attractive, safe local environment, where everyone has the opportunity to benefit from an enhanced quality of life.

The environmental sustainability vision aims to ensure that East Renfrewshire Council stays within environmental limits by addressing environmental sustainability in general and climate change and carbon reduction in particular.

In order to enhance the already strong partnership working, the existing Environment Partnership, co-chaired by the Environment Convener and Head of Environment will be extended to include representatives from external organisations, including the Community Planning Partnership, where appropriate. This group will meet bi-annually from December 2014.

An Environmental Sustainability 'Scorecard' has been developed within the Corporate Performance Management System (Covalent) to monitor progress.

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy & Action Plan 2015/16 – 2017/18 will be available on the Council website when it has been approved by CMT and Cabinet.

Climate Change is addressed in the following plans / strategies:

Local Development Plan (Proposed) - <http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/local-development-plan>

Local Transport Strategy - <http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/local-transport-strategy>

Local Housing Strategy - <http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/local-housing-strategy>

Economic Development Strategy - <http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/east-renfrewshire-economic-development-strategy>

A Place to Grow Strategy - <http://www.aplacetogrow.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/PTG-Economic-Development-Strategy-FINAL.pdf>

Priorities for the Year Ahead

What are your key priorities for climate change Governance, Leadership and Management within your organisation?

- East Renfrewshire Council's commitment to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration will be publicly re-affirmed by March 2015.
- Devolved responsibility arrangements for energy / fuel / waste / carbon reduction will be fully developed and rolled out [where appropriate] by March 2017
- ISO 50001 (Energy Management Standard) gap analysis which is currently ongoing will be completed and consideration given to a phased implementation plan.
- The Waste Minimisation Team will continue to support implementation of the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan.
- The Sustainable Procurement Policy will be implemented following adoption in November 2014 - progress will be reported annually to Cabinet using the Flexible Framework.
- An Active Travel Strategy is being developed in accordance with guidance produced jointly by Transport Scotland and Sustrans which will provide the strategic approach to support active travel, mapping the appropriate infrastructure improvements required along with the supporting promotional work by March 2017. This Strategy will be closely aligned to the Cycling Action Plans for Scotland (CAPS) and the National Walking Strategy.
- Local Development Plan policies and principles will be adhered to in relation to development in the area.
- Clear guidance on what is expected of applications for development in the area will be set out (e.g. through provision of Supplementary Planning Guidance)

Reducing Corporate Emissions

Targets:

Please state whether your local authority has set targets for 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions. If yes, please provide below:

Local Authority	Target and Document Source (please provide link)
East Renfrewshire Council	<p>The Council signed the SCCD in 2007 then worked with the Carbon Trust to develop a Carbon Management Plan (CMP) that established an extremely challenging target to reduce council-controlled carbon emissions by 25% over a 5 year period. This 25% target equated to a reduction of 4,888 tonnes of CO₂ from the original baseline. At the end of the 5 year reporting period, the Council had managed to reduce its carbon emissions by 26.6% reduction (a reduction of 5,200 Tonnes), exceeding the target set.</p> <p>2013/14 was largely a transition year between the previous CMP and the new Environmental Sustainability Strategy, which incorporates new climate change and carbon reduction commitments (referred to above).</p> <p>The current target is a 2.5%/year reduction in council-controlled carbon emissions from buildings compared with previous year (based on CRC reporting).</p> <p>Outcome Delivery Plan – page 16: http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=11978&p=0</p>

Performance:

Progress against targets (total CO₂ tonnes) –

Local Authority	Baseline year	Total in Year 1 (tCO ₂ e)
East Renfrewshire Council – based on CRC reporting criteria	2012/13 = 17,285 (tCO ₂ e)	2013/14 = 16,362 (5.34% reduction = 2.5% target exceeded)

Corporate Reporting – Further Information

Please complete the table below. Data in *italics* is optional. What are the boundaries of the data provided (e.g. local government estate?). The information below is for Council Estate Functions only.

For further information, please refer to the Scottish Government document – Public Sector Sustainability Reporting Guidance on the Preparation of Annual Sustainability Reports 2012-13 available [here](#).

Area	Performance (2013/14)	Target p.a. (if applicable)
• Total GHG emissions	22,320 tCO ₂ e (Scope = electricity and gas from all non-domestic buildings (CRC Phase One conversion factors), street lighting, fleet and business travel)	See above

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity • Gas • Street lighting • Staff travel (commute) • Fleet • Business travel 	17,483,922 kWh (actual not apportioned) 40,037,415 kWh (actual not apportioned) 6,489,355 kWh N/A 1,658 tCO ₂ e 336 tCO ₂ e	
Carbon Reduction Commitment-related emissions	16,221 tonnes	
<i>CRC-related expenditure</i>	£194,652	
<i>Energy expenditure (gas and electricity)</i>	£3,537,529 (Gross)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total waste • Waste to landfill • Waste recycled/reused • Waste incinerated or energy from waste 	47456 Tonnes (2012/13 figures – due to SEPA reporting timeframe) 21219 Tonnes 14764 Tonnes Recycled 11473 Tonnes Composted 0 Tonnes	
<i>Waste expenditure</i>	£2,872,831 (Total budget) £1,497,788 (Landfill costs) £1,623,720 (Collection costs)	
<i>Waste emissions</i>	N/A	
Water consumption	182,682 m ³ (actual not apportioned)	
<i>Water expenditure</i>	£ 653,630 (Gross)	

Biodiversity

A short commentary should be provided on action on biodiversity when performing your duty under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004. Please detail any biodiversity achievements during 2013-14 and any targets to improve biodiversity.

A range of access and biodiversity works being undertaken is listed below together with opportunities which contribute to health and wellbeing:

- Rouken Glen Park secured third place in a People's Choice vote for the Best Green Spaces in Scotland – all holders of the coveted Green Flag were eligible for the award.
- Barrhead Waterworks Project is an imaginative project that transformed a derelict sewage works into inspirational wild flower meadows. The project was chosen by public vote to be the Scottish flagship site for Grow Wild – Grow Wild is administered by Kew Gardens and supported by funding from Big Lottery. The initial designs for the Water Works were funded by the CSGN development fund as part of the Woodland and Biomass study. The Water Works received an award of £130k towards garden construction and community involvement activities based in the gardens. This is a high profile project strongly backed by Kew Gardens - 3 round concrete former water tanks will be reused as huge planters, each tank carefully prepared to create a dry/neutral /wet wildflower habitat.
- A scheme of path construction, habitat creation and woodland planting is currently being drawn up for a key section of the Newton Mearns green network which will provide linkages through from Eastwood High School to the surrounding residential area.
- An East Renfrewshire Green Network has been identified within the Proposed Local Development Plan. This is complimented by Green Network and Environmental Management Supplementary Planning Guidance which provides a context for the green network and provides further guidance on the implementation of Local Development Plan policies relating

to the green network, greenspace, access and green infrastructure.

- Dams to Darnley (D2D) Country Park/ Whitelee Access Project: Both are partnership projects which seek to promote access and recreational opportunities, environmental learning and management: works including ongoing path and mountain bike track construction. A range of activities are being promoted or developed including orienteering, cycling, mountain biking, jogging and emerging water based activities around Balgray Reservoir.
- A calendar of events which provide opportunities for environmental education, exercise and volunteering are promoted and delivered by the Countryside Ranger Services who also undertake habitat management, creation and monitoring ;
- A masterplan for Cowan Park will provide increased opportunities for use of the Park and improved lighting along established paths. 2 new areas of wetland have been created and further biodiversity enhancement work is proposed. The Dams to Darnley (D2D) Countryside Ranger Service has undertaken environmental education events within the Park with local school children;
- Construction of a further section of the Lavern Walkway will commence shortly and will complete the construction of a multi user path connecting Nitshell, Glasgow to Barrhead;
- Dams to Darnley Country Park – Eco Fair: bringing together environmental partnership organisations and the community to learn about local wildlife and get involved in conservation activity. Contributors include: East Renfrewshire Council, RSPB, Butterfly Conservation, Bat Conservation Trust, Glasgow Science Centre, Clyde River Foundation and Hessilhead Animal Rescue Centre.

Sustainable Procurement

Please complete the table below.

This information can be obtained from the most recent Flexible Framework self-assessment that would have been completed by the organisation as part of their annual Procurement Capability Assessment (PCA).

	Current Performance Level(Level 0-5)	Target (e.g. To be at Level x by x date)
People	1	Sustainable Procurement Policy, Guidelines and supporting tools etc now in place (see section below). Progress will be monitored and reported annually using the Scottish Government’s Flexible Framework.
Policy	2	
Process	1	
Suppliers	0	
Monitoring and Reporting	1	

Please provide a short commentary on any sustainable procurement achievements during 2013-14

Sustainable Procurement [incorporating Community Benefits] Policy adopted by Council in November 2014.

Implementation guidelines [for staff] developed.

Sustainability toolkit developed – embedded within tender documentation and Quick Quote processes.

Sustainable procurement e-learning course developed for employees.

All above are available on the Council website and / or intranet.

Action to Reduce your Corporate Emissions

- Please provide information on action to reduce emissions during **2013-14** including behaviour change initiatives.
- Please give details on how these initiatives were financed.
- If you have not delivered initiatives under these areas during **2013-14** then please leave blank.

Area	Initiatives	Financing
Electricity	LEDs and lighting controls, VSDs, audits, behaviour change	Capital, CEEF and Salix
Gas	Boiler replacements and upgrades, boiler controls, audits, behaviour change	Capital and CEEF
Street lighting	LED street lighting replacements. Low energy (LED) festive lighting.	Capital and Salix
Staff travel	Cycle to Work, Liftshare, awareness raising	Ad-hoc and SPT Sustainable Travel Grant
Fleet	Euro V [and above] vehicle replacements, driver training, trackers, vehicle restrictors (e.g. speed)	Capital
Waste	Implementation of waste minimisation and recycling requirements as per new Regulations	Departmental and site-specific budgets
Biodiversity	See Biodiversity section above	
Procurement	New Sustainable Procurement Policy developed and underpinned by guidance, tools and e-learning course	n/a

- What are your priorities for **2014-15**? If you do not have priorities under the areas stated for **2014-15** then please leave blank.

Area	Priorities for 2014-15
Electricity	Ongoing as above
Gas	Ongoing as above
Street lighting	Ongoing as above
Staff travel	Ongoing as above
Fleet	Ongoing as above
Waste	Ongoing as above
Biodiversity	Ongoing as above
Procurement	Ongoing as above

Reducing Area-wide Emissions

What are your total area-wide and per capita emissions? Please indicate emission amounts and unit of measurement (e.g. tCO_{2e}) and years. Please provide information on the following components using data from the link provided below:

'Emissions within the Scope of Local Authorities for 2005-12' dataset

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-emissions-estimates>

Local Authority (Insert Name)	2008 ktCO _{2e}	2009 ktCO _{2e}	2010 ktCO _{2e}	2011 ktCO _{2e}	2012 ktCO _{2e}
Total Emissions	See note in Local Data section below. The information requested in this section is available at the link below: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-emissions-estimates				
Industry and Commercial					
Domestic					
Transport total					
Per Capita					

* **SSN notes:** due to a national (UK) shift to a more coal dependant energy mix that emissions across all sections above (excluding transport) may rise in 2012.

Local Data

Have you developed any local emissions data, please provide commentary in the box below. This can include any work to footprint area energy consumption, transport, waste etc.

As stated in previous SCCD updates; caution is required when using 'area-wide emissions for local authority areas' as a measure of progress at a local level. The most recent figures do not apply to the period being reported and consequently it is very difficult for councils to use this to measure the actual results of any projects that are delivered in the local area.

ERC is not currently measuring greenhouse gas emissions from the local authority area/communities; the DECC dataset referred to above is only useful as a high level guide.

Targets:

Local Authority or other organisation/community group with Local Authority Area	Target including explanation of the reduction (% on what), timeframe (e.g. between 2005 and 2027), scope (e.g. direct, consumption) and exclusions (e.g. large industry)	Progress to date
East Renfrewshire Council	Area-wide emissions targets have not been established for the reasons stated above. However, The Sustainable Communities section of the environmental sustainability action plan focuses on the environmental impacts which the	

	<p>Council can reasonably be expected to help address by raising awareness of key issues and working with local people in the community. This is a long term programme of work, focusing initially on areas where the Council has a more direct influence such as improving energy efficiency in our housing stock, supporting work to address fuel poverty and encouraging waste minimisation and recycling and sustainable transport in the community. A key part of this work involves developing more effective community communications and engagement arrangements to reduce environmental impacts.</p>	

Area wide Actions:

What is your local authority doing to reduce greenhouse gases from your local authority area? Please provide examples of initiatives under the following headings, If you do not have any action under any of these headings then please leave blank. Please make clear distinction between initiatives initiated in **2013-14** and earlier years.

Area	Action in 2013-14
Energy	<p>Ongoing delivery of Local Housing Strategy - Outcome 4. Implementation of SHQS energy efficiency–related improvements to Council housing stock. Ongoing preparations for implementation of Energy Efficient Standard for Social Housing (ESSH).</p>
Homes and Communities	<p>Results of HEEPS:ABS and CERT funded initiatives to improve insulation in households in the community.</p> <p>Measures carried out since 2010/11 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cavity wall insulation – 696 private homes • Full loft insulation – 434 private homes • Loft insulation topped up to recommended standard – 756 private homes • Other measures (e.g. draught proofing etc) – 335 private homes • External wall insulation – 76 private homes • External wall insulation – 82 social housing properties (i.e. properties owned by the Council and Barrhead Housing Association) <p>In 2014/15, cavity wall insulation and loft insulation has been installed in a combination of Council / private housing using external funding sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 72 underway in Waulkmill Barrhead area (55 cavity, 15 loft and 2

	<p>underfloor).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 underway in Neilston area (5 cavity and 5 loft). • 722 cavity wall insulation and loft top up measures installed recently in 'Hard to Treat' properties across Barrhead. <p>Ongoing implementation of renewable technologies in the local area (i.e. consideration and authorisation of planning applications etc).</p> <p>The Council supported delivery of Barrhead Housing Association/Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire's Big Lottery-funded Poverty/Fuel Poverty initiative – Partnership Care East Renfrewshire. The Energy Advice aspect of the project is achieving a financial benefit to 82% of those who have received advice, delivering average savings of £296 each. A Climate Challenge Fund application is being prepared to fund extension of this project as the direct advocacy approach is delivering good results.</p>
Business	
Transport	<p>Delivery of Local Transport Strategy Outcomes. Implementation of SPT - funded initiatives to improve walking and cycling infrastructure.</p>
Waste & Resource Efficiency	<p>Supporting delivery of Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan. East Renfrewshire has already attained the statutory requirement of 50% household recycling by 2013 – exceeding the 50% target by delivering 53.6% - and now working towards the challenging target of 70% recycling by 2025. East Renfrewshire is currently ranked second of all 32 local authorities in terms of waste recycling</p>
Rural land use	<p>Compliance with Local Development Plan Policies and Priorities</p>

Priorities for the Year Ahead (2014-15)

Please provide priorities for the given areas for 2014-15. If you do not have action planned under the following areas then please leave blank.

Area	Action in 2014-15
Energy	Ongoing as above underpinned by the new environmental sustainability strategy and action plan and re-affirmed commitment to SCCD.
Homes and Communities	
Business	
Transport	
Waste & Resource Efficiency	
Rural land use	

Climate Change Adaptation

This section of the template has been developed in conjunction with [Adaptation Scotland](#) to align with their 5 Steps to Managing your Climate Risks Guidance published in 2014.

Climate Change Adaptation – Responsibility and Progress

Who is responsible for adaptation planning within your organisation and what progress has been made to date?

Adaptation planning is the responsibility of the Development Plans Team and the Energy Efficiency & Carbon Reduction Team.

Several meetings have taken place with Adaptation Scotland and Consultants appointed by same. It is expected that East Renfrewshire Council will endorse the Climate Ready Clyde 'Vision' in 2015. Discussions surrounding our participation and / or our contribution to the planned regional adaptation strategy will continue.

An event, chaired by Julie Nicol (Chair of Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network and Senior Planner within ERC's Development Plans Team), was organised to discuss planning for adaptation and how this aligns with GCVGN activity.

(<http://www.gcvgreennetwork.gov.uk/climate-change-adaptation/planning-for-adaptation>).

A representative from Adaptation Scotland was invited to speak at a meeting of East Renfrewshire's Community Planning Partnership to raise awareness of their work.

Climate Change Adaptation Assessment – Current Situation

Have you assessed current climate-related threats and opportunities? Where possible, make reference to threats and opportunities relating to:

- Buildings and Infrastructure
- Society
- Natural Environment

No specific assessment of Climate Change Adaptation has been undertaken, However, extensive assessment of environmental issues, including climate change adaptation have been assessed and measured and are continually monitored as part of the development process to produce the Council's Local Development Plan and the Main Issues Report that accompanies this, the annual State of the Environment Report and to inform the Strategic Environmental Assessment process.

Climate Change Adaptation Assessment – Future Threats and Opportunities

Have you assessed future climate-related threats and opportunities? Where possible, make reference to threats and opportunities relating to:

- Buildings and Infrastructure
- Society
- Natural Environment

Ongoing as above and in line with Local Development Plan Policies and Priorities. However this area of climate change action is not well developed at present.

Climate Change Adaptation – Risks

How is climate change risk embedded in your organisation? If not, how do you intend to make this business as usual?

Climate Change Adaptation included in the Council's Strategic Risk Register in 2014.

<http://intranet.erc.insider/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=6720&p=0>

Climate Change Adaptation - Actions

What actions do you already have in place to manage current and future climate change threats and opportunities? Please provide details on:

- Buildings and Infrastructure
- Society
- Natural Environment

It is not viable for organisations working in isolation to address adaptation effectively. The Council will continue to work with Adaptation Scotland and the Glasgow & Clyde Valley Green Network to identify the most appropriate collaborative/regional way of adapting to a changing climate. Local action will evolve as ERC's involvement with 'Climate Ready Clyde' develops.

Climate Change Adaptation – Next Steps

What further actions do you need to put in place to manage identified for current and future climate change threats and opportunities?

As above

Priorities for the coming year (2014-15)

What are your climate change adaptation priorities for the coming year?

Endorse Climate Ready Clyde Vision and work with Adaptation Scotland thereafter to develop a regional/partnership approach.

Partnership Working, Communications and Capacity Building

Climate Change Mitigation

Describe any partnership work on climate change, especially Community Planning Partnership initiatives conducted this year (**2013-14**) for Corporate and Area Wide emissions.

Please include diagrams to illustrate the structure of these partnerships.
Please provide an explanation of what the partnership initiatives have aimed to do, what action has happened and what plans for future work are in place

Corporate Partnership Work

The Council's Environment Partnership, which includes representative from a range of departments and services will be co-chaired by the Environment Convener and Head of Environment in 2015 and will meet bi-annually.

Area Wide Partnership Work

Membership of the Environment Partnership will be extended as necessary / where appropriate in 2015 to include external partners.

A new 'PDSA' initiative is currently underway to improve partnership working with Community Planning Partners in regard to delivery of SOA outcomes. A proposed project within this initiative aims to improve energy efficiency in public buildings.

Climate Change Adaptation Partnerships

Are you working with your Community Planning Partnership, communities or other stakeholders to identify shared threats and opportunities, and implement actions?

Adaptation action is not well developed at this stage, however Adaptation Scotland have attended a Community Planning Partnership meeting to raise awareness and understanding.

Communications and Behaviour Change Initiatives

List and describe climate change communications undertaken by you and partners either internally or to the wider community during **2013-14**. Please explain who the target audiences for the communications were and whether these were generally climate change mitigation or adaptation focused.

Have you made use of the Scottish Government's Low Carbon Behaviour Framework and ISM tool? If yes, please detail how.

Various energy/carbon/climate related articles have appeared in the Council's magazine / on the intranet and internet and we have participated in global events such as Earth Hour. We are aware that both internal and external communications need to improve and become more effective – this is addressed in the 'Sustainable Communities' section of the new environmental sustainability action plan..

Capacity Building

List and describe any climate change training and learning initiatives that your local authority has undertaken internally and within the community during **2013-14**.

Outline any initiatives taken to integrate climate change training into other 'core' staff development functions.

An energy efficiency e-learning course has been developed for employees.
A sustainable procurement e-learning course has been developed for employees.

Consideration will be given to making it compulsory for key staff and new employees to complete these courses.

Priorities for the Year Ahead (2014-15)

What are your climate change partnership working, capacity building and communications priorities for the year ahead?

Develop an effective communications strategy / plan to raise awareness of key issues and the actions that can be taken by staff and residents to reduce environmental impacts.
Roll out of the 'Devolved Responsibility' approach for energy/fuel efficiency, carbon reduction and waste minimisation / recycling to reduce council-controlled impacts (referred to in the 'Management' section above).