Item 4

16th January 2024

Glasgow City Council

Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee

Report by Chief Executive

Contact: Cormac Quinn Ext: 73625

Progress on Development of Climate Impact Assessment

Purpose of Report:

To note the development of the Climate Impact Assessment and to outline next steps and the expected roll out of the process in early 2024.

Recommendations:

The committee is asked to:

1. note development of the Climate Change Impact Assessment and the inclusion of the City Portrait Lens in the revised assessment framework
2. comment on any areas where they think the focus of climate scrutiny can be enhanced
3. note the developing link with the Equality Impact Assessment process.
4. note the revised timetable; and the intention to Impact assess papers for this Committee in May using the CCIA methodology

Ward No(s):	Citywide: ✓
Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐	consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

1. Background

1.1 In 2019, Glasgow City Council acknowledged the scale of the global climate challenge by declaring a Climate and Ecological Emergency. The city then published its Climate Plan in 2021 setting out key action required to achieve our vision and targets for 2030.

1.2 The Plan includes an ambitious target for achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030, while also addressing key impacts of our changing climate, such as increased risk of flooding or overheating as a result of increased rainfall and increased temperatures. This is framed by the UN Sustainable Development Goals and includes a firm commitment to promoting a Just Transition to a net zero, climate ready city.

1.3 A key strand of this approach is the development of a Climate Change Impact Assessment (CCIA) Tool; and associated training programme. This committee was updated in January 2023 on the commencement of work on the CCIA. The Operational Performance Delivery and Scrutiny Committee (OPDSC) was also informed in February 2023 on the anticipated approach and framework for scrutiny.

1.4 Work has been ongoing through 2023 to develop an appropriate decision tool that can assist in ensuring climate impacts are understood clearly and concisely.

1.5 The initial timescale of May 2023 outlined in February for rollout has been necessarily delayed in order reflect the outcomes of the EQIA process audit and Guidance refresh (reported to OPDSC in October 2023) as the CCIA process requires to dovetail into EQIA; and to reflect the work of the Thriving Cities initiative, and in particular the City Portrait framework that was reported in August and officially launched in November. This report seeks to outline the revised timescale and anticipated roll out.

1.6 The report will also detail how Climate has now been embedded within the Equality Impact Approach as a first step to the overall integration of Climate and Equality Impact Assessments.

2. Climate Change Impact Assessment: Approach

2.1 The complexity of Climate Change is a challenge in developing a tool that is both comprehensible and accessible to Services, while addressing the key areas of Climate focus. The challenge, as with existing Equality Impact methodologies, is to allow services to be able to understand the complexity but have an accessible toolkit that allows the burden of climate impact to be clearly understood.

2.2 The proposed methodology for fulfilling this action is a **Climate Change Impact Assessment (CCIA)**. This is similar to the council's risk assessment

and the equalities impact assessment and in the direction of travel is that there is a necessity for both processes to be integrated.

2.3 The methodology being developed aligns global, national and local agendas, from the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to the National Performance Framework and National Planning Framework 4, The Scottish Climate Change Act, Glasgow's Climate Plan and Adaptation Plan, and it's Strategic Plan. The SDGs are anticipated to form a key part of the developing framework for performance monitoring of the Strategic Plan and will allow us to link performance more effectively to Climate considerations and to the National Performance Framework itself.

2.4 As noted the work of the Thriving Cities initiative, and in particular the City Portrait framework, is also a key lens that we require to apply to the CCIA, and will be the critical driver of the second phase of assessment; linking directly to Carbon Calculation where appropriate.

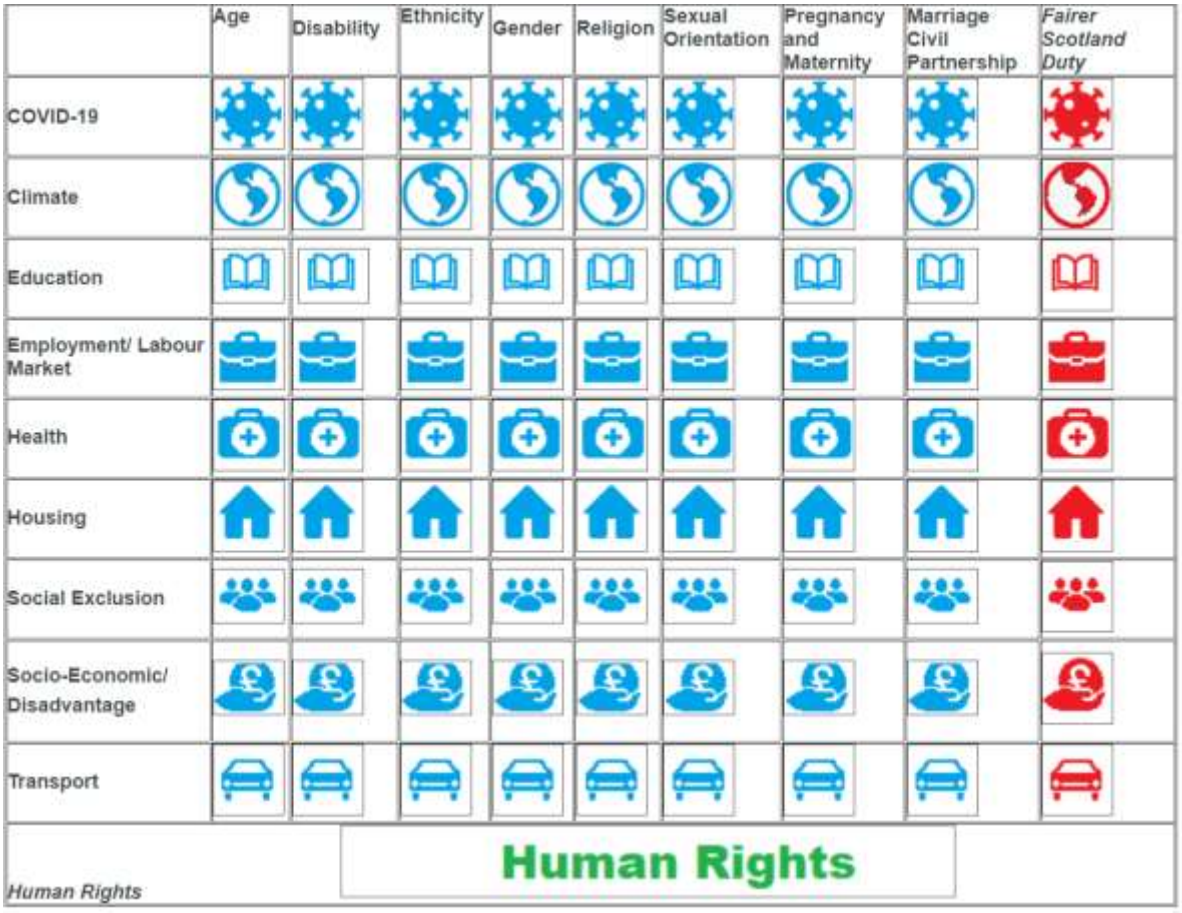
3. Climate Change Impact Assessment Approach: Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)

3.1 A key consideration in finalising the CCIA was its linkage to the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) Process. One of the factors delaying the roll out of the CCIA was the need to consider the recommendations of the Audit of the EQIA process and revise the guidance and the attendant toolkit; which will also be used in the CCIA process.

3.2 The review was undertaken during the summer of 2023; in order to reflect work undertaken to update the EQIA Evidence Matrix; in particular the work to develop a number of new and emerging areas; as well as providing further clarity in established areas based on user feedback and reflection within the audit.

3.3 It was also used to ensure that the Guidance itself place greater emphasis on the importance of reflecting lived experience where appropriate within the consultation process for EQIA and CCIA. In addition, it provides examples of how this can be undertaken practically by Services.

3.4 One of the key motivations in conducting the review was to reflect more fully the Climate and Human Rights considerations embedded within our training materials, and also the recent revision work we had undertaken of the Evidence Matrix (below); and ensure this was included in the Guidance itself.



3.5 The embedding of Climate within the Evidence Matrix also represents a first step in the integration of Climate and Equality Impact Assessments, which will continue throughout the course of CCIA implementation next year.

4. Climate Change Impact Assessment: Framework of Assessment

4.1 As noted, the revised CCIA approach will take account of both Sustainable Development Goals and the City Portrait Framework; while aligning to the Strategic Plan and providing consideration where appropriate for Carbon Calculation.

4.2 The CCIA's key output is a structured report using **four** evidence filters to determine the burden of impact:

- The Council Strategic Plan
- The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- The City Portrait (Global and Local Lenses)
- Carbon Calculation

4.3 The Framework of Assessment will be structured in **three parts**. The first two stages deploy the key evidence filters and the third reflects on the evidence.

4.4 The first stage will look at the where the decision being assessed reflects key areas of priority within the Council Strategic Plan and the SDGs.

4.5 Sustainable Development Goals (1) and Strategic Plan (2)

4.5.1 The use of the 17 SDGs will be critical in our approach to understand how our decision making reflects the international standard lens of Sustainable Development. Our approach has been to align this to the key challenges the Council is facing:

UN SDGs
GOAL 1: No Poverty
GOAL 2: Zero Hunger
GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being
GOAL 4: Quality Education
GOAL 5: Gender Equality
GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality
GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
GOAL 13: Climate Action
GOAL 14: Life Below Water
GOAL 15: Life on Land
GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goals

4.5.2 The table below outlines an example of the current Sustainable Development checklist within the draft assessment tool. It allows us to reflect the linkages between the Council Strategic Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Sustainable Development Checklist

Please select all that apply to your proposal, adding yes, no, don't know accordingly. Finally including a brief explanation for your choices using summary section below.

UN SDG Pillars & Council Strategic Plan Grand Challenges

A universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet ensuring peace and prosperity for all.

5 Pillars of UN SDGs / Strategic Plan Priorities	People	Planet	Prosperity	Partnership	Peace
Reduce Poverty and Inequality					
Fight Climate Emergency in a Just Transition to Net Zero					
Increase Opportunities and Prosperity for all					
Enable staff to deliver essential services in a sustainable, innovative and efficient way					

4.5.3 The second part of the assessment will focus on the more detailed operational evidence filters.

4.6 City Portrait Lens (3)

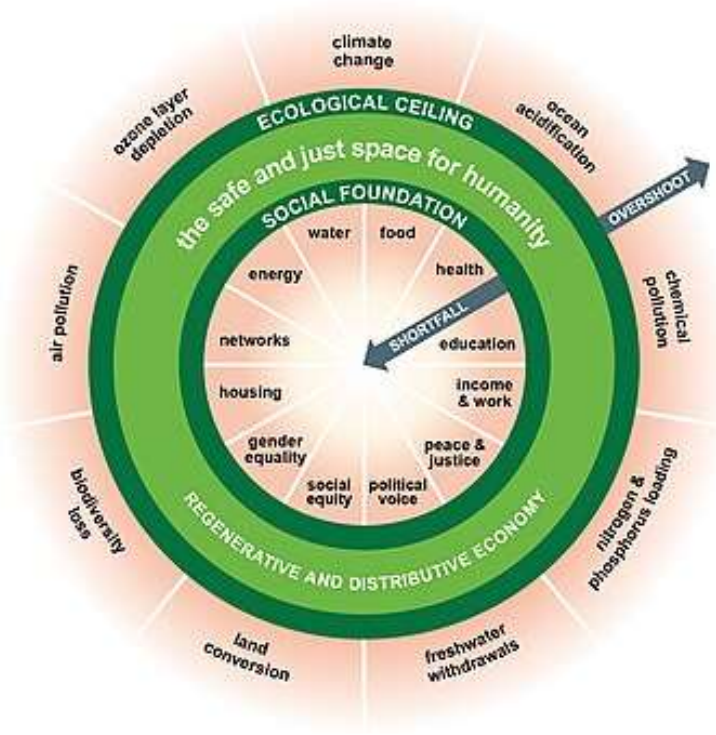
4.6.1 The City Portrait Lens supports the principles of the Doughnut Economics model that details the sustainable thresholds for climate health and meaningful impact.

4.6.2 The Portrait is organised across 44 prescribed social and ecological dimensions, deploying **four separate** lenses:

- a **local-social lens** considering what Glasgow citizens need for thriving,
- a **local-ecological lens** on protecting and nurturing Glasgow's natural environment,
- a **global-social lens** considering Glasgow's impact on people globally and
- a **global-ecological lens** considering Glasgow's impact on planetary health

4.6.3 These four lenses are the ones that will be used in conjunction with the SDGs to inform the detailed level of CCIA to understand where the burden of impact of any decision lies.

4.6.4 Below is a visual representation of the Doughnut Economics framework to give a sense of how the thresholds and lenses can be understood.



4.7 Carbon Calculation (4)

4.7.1 There are a number of innovative carbon calculators that demonstrate the application of Carbon Calculation including the UK Governments own MacKay Carbon Calculator as a good example. Unfortunately, the complexity of Carbon Calculation means that currently there is no single tool that can be deployed universally across our CCIA framework at this stage.

4.7.2 There are a number of Carbon Calculation methodologies; some specific to particular aspect of Service Delivery; and colleagues in Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS) will continue to support the embedding of Carbon Calculation into the CCIA tool; and the utilisation of existing Carbon Calculation methodologies to support the overall CCIA.

4.8 The CCIA itself will continue to support a phased approach to the assessment that draws on a wider suite of tools and approaches being implemented by the Council, including Green Budget tagging and carbon budgeting. It informs and influences decision making in relation to our local, national, and global aspirations.

4.9 As noted above, the Assessment follows an initial two stage approach using the evidence filters. It then has a third reflective stage which pulls in the evidence from all the filters into an overall determination. It is anticipated that this third stage will also include the Equality Impact Assessment interface:

- **First Stage**: Mapping the impact of the proposal on local governance, the implementation of the **UN Sustainable Development Goals** within the City, and addressing the Grand Challenges set out in the **Strategic Plan**.

- **Second Stage**: Analysing the impact the proposal is likely to have on the city's ability to achieve its vision set out in the climate plan, against the **City Portrait** and the four key lens of that approach; and the use of **Carbon Calculation** where appropriate.

- **Third Stage:** Reflecting and summarising the analysis undertaken (including relevant EQIA considerations) in phases 1 and 2, and to highlight the next steps, and a timeline for review.

5. Climate Change Impact Assessment: Next Steps and Scrutiny Approach

5.1 Subject to agreement of this Committee the proposal is to complete the CCIA Guidance and Training toolkit by February 2024; with rollout and iterative testing to follow; with prioritisation for Elected Members on relevant Committees.

5.2 The CCIA training will be aligned with future Climate Literacy Training for Elected members, and timescales for the roll out will be defined as the initial training for the CCIA is reviewed; but it general roll out of methodology and training is targeted for March 2024.

5.3 It is proposed that papers submitted for the Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee in May 2024 will deploy the Climate Change Impact Assessment (CCIA) methodology to assess impact; and demonstrate to the Committee how consideration of impact operates practically.

5.3 A further update will be brought back to committee in 12 months to reflect on the roll-out of the climate impact assessment following its launch.

6.0 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:	None
Legal:	None
Personnel:	None
Procurement:	None

Council Strategic Plan: Enable staff to deliver essential services in a sustainable, innovative and efficient way for our communities.

The assessment supports the grand challenge 3: Fight Climate Emergency in a Just Transition to Net Zero and Mission 2: Become a net zero carbon city by 2030 empowering the city council to both envisage the transformative action required, and to take meaningful action to achieve it, developing a shared language for a systems-based approach. The assessment also supports grand challenge 4: Enable staff to deliver essential services in a sustainable, innovative and efficient way for our communities and Mission 2: Run an open, well governed council in partnership with all our communities.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.	Yes, the proposal seeks to operationalise the principles of the 2030 agenda, reflecting how as an organisation and a city we are representing the world's diversity in terms of gender, geography, ethnicity, disability and other categories, enabling a reflection about the way we work - how we identify priorities, how we engage with our partners; how we implement

	activities and how we measure and report on progress
What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?	The proposal will have a positive impact as it seeks to include climate justice considerations across all assessments..
Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.	The proposal aligns with the UN sustainable Development Goals, particularly the implementation of its three guiding principles: to take a human rights-based approach, leaving no one behind, supporting gender equality and women's empowerment

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:	The proposal supports the overall implementation of the city's Climate Plan, including its vision for a fairer, greener and healthier city. The proposal particularly supports the commitment to develop and implement a Climate Change Impact Assessment for the city
What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?	The proposal seeks to address the climate and ecological emergency by encouraging a reflection on how a given proposal can impact on global climate change, but also how ;local impacts of global climate change can impact on the success of local projects and proposals
Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	The proposal includes four key missions, one of which proposes to support the city's net zero target, and outlines an approach to Carbon Calculation

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:

Data collated with be handled in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation.

7. Recommendations:

7.1 The committee is asked to note this report and to:

1. note development of the Climate Change Impact Assessment and the inclusion of the City Portrait Lens in the revised assessment framework
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