Item 1

21st November 2023

Glasgow City Council

Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods City Policy Committee

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

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REPORT ON THE JOINT HEALTH PROTECTION PLAN 2023-2025

Purpose of Report:

To advise Committee on the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Joint Health Protection Plan 2023-2025.

Recommendations:

Note this report and the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Joint Health Protection Plan 2023-2025.

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

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

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1. Background

1.1 In the foreword to the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (GG&C) Joint Health Protection Plan 2023-2025, Dr. Emilia Crighton, Interim Director of Public Health, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde writes:

"The Public Health Etc. (Scotland) Act 2008 requires NHS Boards, in consultation with Local Authorities, to produce a Joint Health Protection Plan which provides an overview of health protection (communicable disease and environmental health) priorities, provision and preparedness for the NHS Board area."

1.2 The Public Health Protection Unit (PHPU) at NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde produced the NHS GG&C Joint Health Protection Plan (JHPP) 2023-2025 in partnership with the relevant Local Authorities, i.e., East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow, Inverclyde, Renfrewshire and West Dunbartonshire. The previous plan was published in 2018 with this plan being delayed by the country's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1.3 The Health Board and partner agencies, including Glasgow City Council, formally liaise and work together as required by the Act through the mechanism of the Public Health (Health Protection) Liaison Working Group.

1.4 The plan sets out the partnership commitments of each signatory organisation regarding the protection of the public from risk and disease in line with the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Strategy.

1.5 The JHPP has been subject to consultation and agreement with representatives of the six local authorities in the Health Board area. In addition, representatives of Public Health Scotland, Diagnostic and Reference Laboratories, Infection Prevention and Control, SEPA, Scottish Water, Drinking Water Quality Regulator, Animal and Plant Health Agency, and Scotland's Rural University College – Veterinary Consulting, have all had the opportunity to comment on the plan through the Public Health (Health Protection) Liaison Working Group. The Joint Health Protection Plan is attached at Annex A and covers the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2025.

1.6 The supporting JHPP guidance, published by the Scottish Government, states that each signatory Local Authority should have the plan signed-off by an appropriate Council Committee.

1.7 The Public Health Etc. (Scotland) Act Designation of Competent Persons Regulations 2009 specify that the criteria and qualifications for Local Authority Competent Persons are:

a. Employment by the Local Authority; and
b. Qualification as an Environmental Health Officer with a minimum of two years' experience.

2. Implementation of the Plan at Glasgow City Council

2.1 Environmental Health Officers at Glasgow City Council are employed within Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability under the management of the Group Manager, Environmental Health.

2.2 The overarching aim of the Joint Health Protection Plan is to ensure that the NHS and Local Authorities contribute to the following:

- The safety and quality of food, water, air and the environment;
- The prevention of the transmission of communicable diseases; and
- The management of outbreaks and incidents.

The profile of Health Protection has increased significantly in recent years with issues such as immunisation, food borne infections, pandemic flu, COVID-19, healthcare associated infection and other communicable diseases regularly being in the public eye. The quality of public protection from hazards demands a workforce to be educated and trained to the highest standards.

2.3 The Environmental Health function delivers several strands associated with these aims including:

- Statutory Nuisance Enforcement
- Pest Control
- Food Law Enforcement
- Health and Safety Law Enforcement
- Infectious Disease Surveillance and Investigation
- Noise Investigation and Enforcement
- Anti-smoking Legislation enforcement
- Air Quality Monitoring and Enforcement
- Port Health
- Housing Disrepair
- Legionella Risk Assessment and Monitoring

2.4 Certain other related Local Authority functions include housing standards, contaminated land, air quality and houses in multiple occupation; all of which are delivered by Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability.

3. Conclusion

3.1 Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability has structures in place to deliver the Council's obligations under the aforementioned Act and the plan. It is intended that the next iteration of the plan will be presented to Committee for consideration in 2025.

4. Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:	The actions can be provided within the existing budget.
Legal:	The Environmental Health function is largely delivered under key statutes including: • Health and Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974 • Food Safety Act 1990 • Environmental Protection Act 1990 • Public Health (Scotland) Act 2008 • Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 • Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 • Control of Pollution Act 1974
Personnel:	The actions will be provided with existing staff.
Procurement:	Works and services would be met from existing frameworks.

Council Strategic Plan: Specify which Grand Challenge (s) and Mission (s) the proposal supports. Where appropriate the relevant Commitment can also be listed.

- Reduce poverty and inequality in our communities

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.	Yes
What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?	Positive impact
Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-	Yes by protecting health

economic disadvantage.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:	N/A
What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?	N/A
Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	N/A

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report - No

If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out

5. Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that Committee note this report and the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Joint Health Protection Plan 2023-2025.