



**Glasgow City Region Cabinet**

**Report by Director of Regional Economic Growth**

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**Item 16**

**25th February 2025**

**Regional Home Retrofit Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2028**

**Purpose of report:**

This report presents the Cabinet with the Proposed Regional Home Retrofit Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2028 for approval.

**Recommendations**

The Cabinet is invited to:

- a. note the content of the proposed Strategy and Action Plan.
- b. approve the proposed Regional Home Retrofit Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2028.

## **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 This report presents the Cabinet with the proposed Regional Home Retrofit Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2028 for comment and approval.

## **2. Background and context**

- 2.1 The GCR PMO provided a [report](#) to Cabinet on 13 February 2024 updating on regional retrofit activity. This report included a commitment to return to Cabinet with a 'Regional Domestic Retrofit Strategy' highlighting the key challenges preventing large scale retrofit, with proposed actions to support delivery.
- 2.2 The Strategy has been developed across the last twelve months in collaboration with all eight member authorities (MAs) and partner agencies including Scottish Enterprise (SE) and Skills Development Scotland (SDS), through the Housing Retrofit Delivery Group.
- 2.3 Following the presentation of the draft Strategy to the Regional Partnership on the 5 December 2024, it was circulated to all MAs and partners, including the Scottish Government, for consideration and comment. The document presented to Cabinet in this report reflects the feedback received during the consultation period.

## **3. Objective**

- 3.1. The aim of the Regional Home Retrofit Strategy and Action Plan is to reaffirm the ambition of MAs to deliver retrofit activity whilst providing a call to action for agencies, including the Scottish Government, to create the landscape necessary to support large scale retrofit and unblock challenges faced by delivery agencies at the forefront of this action.
- 3.2. In addition to reducing carbon emissions, delivering a retrofit programme at scale offers significant economic and employment benefits to Glasgow City Region, and SE and SDS have worked with the local authority members on the Housing Retrofit Delivery Group.
- 3.3. The GCR PMO had recent positive discussions with representatives of the Scottish Government's Heat in Buildings Future Finance and Delivery teams and there was a willingness to work collaboratively with the City Region to progress our ambitions to expand retrofit.
- 3.4. The objective of this Strategy is to present a practical set of actions that will pave the way for improved delivery of domestic retrofit across the City Region. This is a short-term three-year strategy – which recognises the constraints and uncertainties in relation to the delivery of retrofit at scale which exist in terms of national policies, legislation and funding. These constraints are explored and discussed within the document and the short-term nature of the strategy recognises that the MAs will require to respond to a changing policy landscape.
- 3.5. The Strategy represents the intention of the Member Authorities to collaborate, work together and take practical actions, where the policy and funding landscape supports us to do so. The actions will be progressed through the Glasgow City Region Housing Retrofit Delivery Group and reported through wider regional governance structures.

#### 4. Focus areas

4.1. The strategy comprises five focus areas as detailed below:

- Focus area one: Maximising the benefit of existing retrofit funding
- Focus area two: Maintenance and disrepair
- Focus area three: Finance and funding
- Focus area four: Improving the customer journey
- Focus area five: Data and Digital Platforms

#### 5. Summary of actions

5.1. The proposed actions are listed in the table below:

Action Number	Action	Key Agencies
<b>Focus Area: Maximising the benefit of existing retrofit funding</b>		
Action 1	Engage with the Scottish Government to explore ABS grant funding opportunities, highlight the impact of challenges surrounding ABS spend, explore more flexible approaches and seek to secure multi-year funding allocations for grant funding that enables MAs to establish longer term local retrofit delivery plans.	Glasgow City Region MAs to engage with SG
Action 2	MAs will work with the GCR PMO to undertake a detailed analysis of local ABS delivery, to identify bottlenecks, understand best practice and share lessons learned, especially in relation to procurement approaches that will improve the pace of local delivery.	Glasgow City Region MAs
<b>Focus Area: Maintenance and Disrepair</b>		
Action 3	The GCR MAs will engage with the Scottish Government to campaign for additional funding or the flexibility to use existing funding sources, managed by local authorities on a programme wide basis, to be used to support the undertaking of repairs that will enable subsequent retrofit interventions.	Glasgow City Region MAs to engage with SG
<b>Focus Area: Finance and Funding</b>		
Action 4	The GCR MAs will engage with the Scottish Government to campaign for a comprehensive package of support (funding and finance) which delivers on the recommendations of the Green Heat Finance Taskforce report be brought forward, with a focus on piloting of property linked financing, grants	Glasgow City Region MAs to engage with SG

	and loans for homeowners, and incentives through fiscal and taxation policy.	
<b>Focus Area: Improving the customer journey</b>		
Action 5	GCR MAs call on the Scottish Government to support the development of a one-stop-shop for homeowners to support them along the retrofit pathway from assessment and whole building retrofit plan production, to provide accessible funding at the right time, and successfully carrying out energy efficiency and clean heating improvements.	Glasgow City Region MAs to engage with SG
<b>Focus Area: Data and Digital Platforms</b>		
Action 6	GCR MAs call on the Scottish Government to complete and share the mapping and gap analysis for retrofit data as included in the Green Heat Finance Taskforce Report, Part 1.	Glasgow City Region MAs to engage with SG
Action 7	GCR MAs will explore the potential of using enabling digital platforms to help design retrofit schemes in the City Region.	Glasgow City Region MAs to engage with SG and key national retrofit organisations (i.e. BE-ST).

## 6. Recommendations

### 6.1. The Cabinet is invited to:

- a. note the content of the proposed Strategy and Action Plan.
- b. approve the Regional Retrofit Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2028.