Item 3

10th November 2026

Glasgow City Council

Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration & Sustainability

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PUBLIC BODIES DUTIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26

Purpose of Report:

To present the Council's annual statutory report on action taken to combat climate change.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Committee:

a) Notes Glasgow City Council's draft submission in response to Public Bodies Duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act.
b) Notes the next steps outlined to ensure submission before the deadline.

Ward No(s):	Citywide: √
Local member(s) advised: Yes o No o	consulted: Yes o No o

1 Introduction

1.1 Glasgow City Council has presented an annual report on climate change performance to Committee since 2009. Between 2009 and 2015, all Local Authorities signed up to the Scottish Climate Change Declaration and submitted a voluntary annual report to the Scottish Government, via the Sustainable Scotland Network.

1.2 In 2016, it became mandatory for all public sector bodies to provide an annual report on their actions to the Scottish Government in support of the Scottish Government's Public Bodies Climate Change Duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act (part 4).

1.3 This mandatory report aims to encourage continuous improvement and enable consistent information to be collected across public sector organisations. Annual reports are analysed by the Sustainable Scotland Network and made public. All local authority reports can be found here.

2 Background

2.1 Scotland's Climate Change Act requires that a public body must, in exercising its functions, act:

- In the way best calculated to contribute to the delivery of national emissions reduction targets.
- In the way best calculated to deliver any statutory adaptation programme.
- In a way that it considers most sustainable.

2.2 This paper appends the most recent 2025/26 annual report, due for submission by the 30th of November 2026, which provides detail on how Glasgow's climate mitigation action is progressing. It also provides updates on how the city is adapting to the challenge of local climate impacts brought about by global climate change (Full report available here and selected outputs from PBCCD Submission, Appendix 1).

2.3 The report also includes updates on key action taken by the Council to reduce emissions from its own estate; efforts to make Glasgow City Council's procurement activity more sustainable; and finally, work to support a reduction in City-wide carbon emissions.

3 Report Findings

3.1 The main areas where progress has been made are outlined below, categorised by the key themes from the Public Bodies Climate Change Duty reporting template.

3.2 **Climate Governance:** climate change governance has been embedded in the Council as follows:

- Continued formal reporting on carbon reduction, energy management, sustainability, and climate adaptation to Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee and to the City Administration Committee for strategic information sharing and decision making.
- The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods Regeneration & Sustainability has responsibility for net zero targets and climate resilience, championing and providing leadership in these areas. This is delivered through a Climate & Sustainability Board including directors from each of the Council services.
- The Climate & Sustainability Board recommends approaches to be taken to through the committee process for final decisions. The board governs the Climate & Sustainability workplan managing project issues by exception and providing resolution to issues. Beneath this board sits The Climate & Sustainability Scoping Group, the scoping group screens new projects and decides whether these need board approval to be brought onto the programme.
- The Sustainable Glasgow Partnership was formed in 2010 to make Glasgow a world-leading centre for sustainable policy, innovation and action. The partnership works to support the city's ambition of becoming Net-Zero Carbon by 2030, working together to create a sustainable and low carbon city.
- Launch and continued uptake of a Climate Literacy gold e-learning course which allows all council staff access to training on climate change.
- Launch of additional training modules including Energy Efficiency Awareness and Circular Economy gold e-learning courses to build on the learning of the Climate Literacy.
- Creation of a Political Oversight Group to oversee work into the establishment of a Climate Delivery Vehicle and Climate Investment Vehicle to support the delivery of the City's climate ambition.

3.3 Over 30 plans and strategies are included in the report which cover climate change. Glasgow's Climate Plan also includes a list of plans and strategies which support climate action. A selection of these are listed below:

- Glasgow's Climate Plan
- Carbon Management Plan (CMP3)
- Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES)
- Forestry and Woodland Strategy
- Local Biodiversity Action Plan - Delivery Plan
- Community Renewable Energy Framework
- Staff Travel Plan
- Circular Economy Routemap

3.4 Glasgow City Council's top 5 priorities for climate change governance, management and strategy for the year ahead are as follows:

- Continue to utilise the Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee to ensure accountability and fairness in the transition to Net Zero.
- Maintain effective governance for climate and sustainability work through the Climate and Sustainability Board and Programme

Management Office, including working with The Sustainable Glasgow Partnership to enhance and drive change and creating a new Adaptation Oversight Group to elevate the importance of adaptation work.

- Support the delivery of the Strategic Plan which focusses on supporting communities in a just transition to net zero.
- Continue to deliver, track and manage actions within the updated Glasgow's Climate Plan.
- Continue the delivery of the model for Climate Investment which will help realise the Council's ambitions around heat decarbonisation and net-carbon zero through the governance of the Climate Investment Board.

3.5 **The City Council's own emissions and projects:**

- The City Council has achieved significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, with data showing progress against the 2005/06 baseline. The Council produced total emissions of **83,245.36 tCO2e** in the 2025/26 reporting year, a reduction of **58%** from 2005/06 baseline. It is important to note that this reduction includes addition of emissions sources that were not included in the baseline and that, when comparing only those emissions sources in the baseline, Glasgow has achieved a total reduction of **61%**
- There is a **9% decrease** in total emissions compared to the 2024/25 reporting year. This can be broken down into scopes as below.
    - Scope 1 emissions have decreased by 7% compared to 2024/25
    - Scope 2 emissions have decreased by 13% compared to 2024/25
    - Scope 3 emissions have decreased by 6% compared to 2024/25

3.6 Outlined below are a selection of projects which have contributed to reductions in emissions in 25/26.

- Utilisation of energy from PV installation at 8 GCC sites including Kelvinhall.
- Lighting upgrades across Glasgow Life estate, utilising high efficiency LED lighting.
- Installation of new L.E.D. lighting to Eastgate Building and upgraded Building Management System to improve building controls.
- Capacity building through roll out of energy efficiency online training.
- Refresh of the Staff Travel Plan to address emissions from business travel and commuting.
- Implementation of the Circular Economy Routemap including ongoing work Zero Waste Scotland to develop a set of metrics and indicators that will enable more accurate tracking of data in this area of work aligned with the Circular Economy Routemap, this is likely to include some metrics associated with emissions reduction.

3.7 Details on how Glasgow City Council aligns its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions are outlined below.

- Following extensive research two specific workstreams are being investigated, a Delivery Vehicle and a Climate Investment Vehicle. The Model for Climate Investment Committee report provides further details on this work.
- The Council continues to drive forward it's thinking on climate finance. Following the appointment of the Climate Finance Manager and the approval of funding for the project an internal team was established in Summer 2024.
- As part of the internal process for budget reviews, carbon impact assessments are completed for all budget considerations.
- A dedicated Energy Management Team has been formed to pursue energy use reduction and efficiency measures which in turn reduce emissions from the council estate.
- Two phases Community Municipal Investment in 2025/26 have provided citizens, communities and businesses the opportunity to invest in climate action including renewable installation and improvements to the streetscape around schools and care facilities. A third phase is planned for during the 2026/27 reporting year.

3.8 **Climate Adaptation:**

- Key aspects of delivery of adaptation work highlighted within the report include:
    - A new internal Adaptation Oversight Group will be launched in 2026/27 to support adaptation action and deliver on key projects.
    - An action within the Climate Risk Assessment category of Glasgow's Climate Plan commits to undertaking a Climate Risk and Opportunity Assessment for Glasgow City Council staff, infrastructure and operations by the end of 2027. This project will build on existing regional work to understand the risk to the organisation and is currently underway.
    - The Council working with SEPA and other local authorities to develop and publish the Cycle 2 Clyde and Loch Lomond (CaLL) Local Flood Risk Management Plan (LFRMP).
    - The Council continuing to support the Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership and collaborative working to deliver water resilient places.
    - The Council continue active participation in the Climate Ready Clyde regional partnership and the Public Sector Climate Adaptation Network.
    - The report clearly outlines Glasgow City Council's contribution to the delivery of the Scottish National Adaptation Plan 3 (SNAP3).
    - Practical flood risk management project delivery, through the Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership City Deal funding which was provided on 22 September 2026 to the Net Zero Committee.
    - The GALLANT project is in the initial stages of undertaking a Health Impact assessment on the adaptation sections of Glasgow's Climate Plan.

- Glasgow City Council's top 5 priorities for adaptation for the year ahead are as follows:
    - Set up the Adaptation Oversight Group to formalise working together with internal GCC teams, utilising support from external partners where appropriate
    - Continue to progress action on the Risk and Opportunity Assessment project due for completion end 2027.
    - Continue to progress capacity building through the Adaptation Capability Framework assessment.
    - Continue working with SEPA to draft a scope for the next phase of work to update the tidal River Clyde flood model, which was produced in 2022 - https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/riverclydemodelguidance
    - Work with SEPA to identify Actions (projects) for the Cycle 3 CaLL FRMP, which will go out to public consultation in December 2026

3.9 **Sustainable Procurement through Corporate Procurement Unit (CPU):**

- The Sustainable Procurement Strategy (SPS) 2023-2027 was approved in early 2023, this strategy replaces the previous Procurement Strategy 2018-2022 and can be found here.
- There are 6 key objectives within the SPS covering the following areas listed below. These were shaped following two public consultations.
    - Support the Council's Net Zero, Ecological and Adaptation Ambitions
    - Provide Effective and Efficient Procurement for our Stakeholders
    - Shape and Drive Innovation
    - Support Local Wealth Building and Economic Growth
    - Procurement to be a Strategic Partner for Council Services
    - Support the Council Financial Challenges
- The CPU continues to be a key contributor to the Glasgow City Region Sustainable Procurement Strategy.
- Procurement is undertaken in line with all relevant procurement rules and regulations and includes the utilisation of various Scottish Government tools and applications such as the Sustainable Test and the Public Contracts Scotland Tendering portal. The report outlines examples of contracts awarded in 2025/26 with the sustainability considerations associated.

3.10 **Area of Wider Influence:** The appended report includes full details of projects reported under area of wider influence. Key highlights include the below.

- In 2024, Bloomberg Philanthropies launched a global Youth Climate Action Fund which provided funding to 100 cities worldwide to support young people aged 15-24, and organisations working with this age group, to design and deliver climate-focused projects in their communities. As one of the participating cities, Glasgow has received three rounds of grant funding to support delivery of climate-focused

projects in 2025/26.The projects are led by young people enhancing their participation in climate action across the city

- Greening the City project supports street tree delivery. A budget from the 2023/24 Low Emission Zone (LEZ) revenues has been allocated to support workstreams in addition to £1m for a Community Municipal Investment (CMI) opportunity for a Healthy School and Care Streets Programme.
- Glasgow Low Emission Zone (LEZ) Community Support Fund provides an opportunity to maximise the environmental, health, social and community benefits of the LEZ and allow for funding to be provided to groups and organisations which can deliver complementary projects across the city. During the reporting period, £732k was allocated through the fund to organisations.
- Glasgow City Council has continued implementation of the Circular Economy Route Map for the city, including capacity building and collaboration with corporate procurement. An overview of progress was reported to Net Zero Committee on 14 April 2026 and highlights examples of circular projects.
- The Council continues to support the Sustainable Glasgow Partnership. The Partnership's main aim is to support Glasgow's ambition to build a resilient city and become Net Zero Carbon by 2030, with the long-term goal to further support Glasgow's ambition to be a truly sustainable city and to be developed in a way that promotes climate adaptation and a just transition to a new green economy. This partnership is critical to the delivery of the ambitions set out in Glasgow's Climate Plan.
- During the reporting year, Glasgow City Council held its second Glasgow's Climate Week 2025 to showcase and celebrate all the fantastic work ongoing around the city. We plan to build and grow on this every year and have already had success with Glasgow's Climate Week 2026.

4 Next Steps

- Following presentation to Committee, the Public Bodies Duties report under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act will be submitted online prior to the deadline of 30th November 2026.
- The report for the 2026/27 financial year will be prepared next year and presented to the Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee prior to submission.

5 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:	There are no direct implications. This report provides an update on activity during financial year 2025/26.

Legal:	There is a legal obligation on all Public Bodies to report annually on their local progress in addressing climate change. In submitting the appended return, the Council is complying with their legal duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act.
Personnel:	There are no immediate impacts on human resources from this annual update on climate change action.
Procurement:	The return includes an update on Sustainable Procurement, specifically relating to sustainable and circular practices and the procuring of low carbon goods and services.
Council Strategic Plan:	Contributes to Grand Challenge 3 - Fight the Climate Emergency in a Just Transition to a Net Zero Glasgow and Mission 2 - Become a net zero carbon city by 2030.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2025-29? Please specify.	Yes. Our action on Climate Change is supportive of the Council's equality outcomes, specifically, equality outcomes 8, 9 and 10; 8. Service users with protected characteristics are provided with targeted, improved and more accessible information about the services provided by the council family. 9. Barriers to participation in arts, learning, physical activity, learning and culture have been reduced for people with protected characteristics. 10. People with protected characteristics are more regularly and systematically involved in service delivery design by the Council family. (no significant impact, positive impact or negative impact)
What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?	Climate Change impacts all of society however this can disproportionately impact women, the very young, the very old, and those in most vulnerable communities, both geographically

	and socio-economically. We must ensure that our actions minimise the negative impacts that climate change has on our most vulnerable, whilst also maximising their ability to participate and benefit from a just transition to a low carbon economy.
Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.	Addressing Climate Change often means addressing socio-economic inequalities, in particular when committing to achieving the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals and supporting a Just Transition to a Low Carbon Economy.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:	Yes, the report relates to all actions within the climate plan. It includes a report on progress achieved by the city council in addressing the climate emergency and fulfilling the public bodies duties on climate change, including reducing carbon emissions, adapting to the impacts of climate and conducting its business in a sustainable way.
What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?	The report relates to evidence of action addressing carbon reduction, building resilience to climate change and embedding sustainable development principles across the organisation.
Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	The report includes an update on progress relating to achieving the city's net zero carbon targets.
Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:	No immediate impacts
Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report N	
If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out	

6 Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

a) Notes Glasgow City Council's draft submission in response to Public Bodies Duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act.
b) Notes the next steps outlined to ensure submission before the deadline.