Item 3

28th February 2023

Glasgow City Council

Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring Committee

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability

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Community Climate Project

Purpose of Report:

To update Committee on the approach, learning and outputs from Glasgow's Climate Challenge.

Recommendations:

a) Committee notes the update.
b) Committee notes the next steps.

Ward No(s): Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

1 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to committee on Glasgow's Climate Challenge aimed at supporting and promoting local climate action initiatives. This initiative was run in collaboration with Crowdfunder, a UK based company who support groups of all sizes to undertake crowdfunding to raise money to bring their ideas to life.

2 Background

2.1 Glasgow City Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency in May 2019, publishing its Climate Plan with a target to achieve net zero carbon emissions in 2030.

2.2 The Climate Plan acknowledges the importance of developing new relationships with local communities, supporting community participation in decision making, and catalysing local climate action, and commits to exploring innovative methods of meaningfully engaging local communities.

2.3 One of these innovative approaches is a partnership with Crowdfunder launched to support local causes to take positive climate action, during Scottish Climate Week. This project was called #BackTheFuture - Glasgow Climate Challenge.

3 How it worked

3.1 In October 2022, during Scottish Climate Week, Glasgow City Council partnered with Crowdfunder to deliver the #BackTheFuture – Glasgow Climate Challenge: an opportunity for community driven projects making a positive environmental impact on the city and its residents, to crowdfund and secure a match fund from the city council.

3.2 As part of this initiative, up to £10K was on offer to local projects supporting climate action within the Glasgow boundary. Eligible topics ranged from food growing, sustainable development education, active travel, and flood or heat alleviation, to biodiversity positive action, including nature- based solutions.

3.3 Eligible projects were given four months to develop their campaigns and engage with potential supporters, being guided through this process by Crowdfunder with capacity building workshops and one to one support.

3.4 The campaign kicked off with an online call for entry, promoting the match funding available for projects from communities who had an idea about how they could tackle the climate emergency. Six project ideas were submitted in total.

3.5 Following this, projects were able to:

- register their ideas online and create a project page to describe what their project was hoping to achieve
- access workshops facilitated by Crowdfunder and offering advice and training on how to run a successful campaign
- launch their campaign, promoting their idea and gathering support from the communities. This included pledges for funds, time or expertise to help with the project.

3.6 The three projects who had received the most support or pledges from the crowd, were then shortlisted to take part in a final session to select the winner. This was open for members of the public to watch via an online stream. During the final, initiatives were showcased and awarded further funding by a panel of local judges. The panel of judges included the Head of Sustainability at Glasgow City Council; the Programme Manager at Scottish Communities for Climate Action Network and the Programme Manager at Glasgow Centre for Population and Health.

3.7 The three initiatives shortlisted focused on Sustainable Food Systems, making Active Travel more accessible to all in the city, and Behaviour Change through Climate Change Education. They are listed below:

- Bike for Good (winner);
- Locavore (runner up);
- and Stories of Glasgow (runner up).

3.8 In summary, six projects submitted ideas, with four of these taking the next step and participating in the crowdfunding campaign, raising £111k between them. Three of these were shortlisted and went through to the final. The projects were further supported by a crowd of over a thousand people and match funding of £41,899 from Glasgow City Council, Aviva, Co-Op and Crowdfunder itself.

3.9 The Glasgow Climate Challenge was set up to run as a one-off campaign. It ended on 2nd February 2023.

4 Proposed Next Steps

4.1 Officers will undertake a lessons learnt from this project and monitor the impacts of the successful submissions.

4.2 Officers will provide updates as relevant to Committee on the successes and outcomes of the successful submissions.

5 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:	No direct implications
Legal:	No legal implications
Personnel:	The project was implemented using existing staff resources.
Procurement:	Due to the unique nature of this initiative a sole supplier justification was granted by Corporate Procurement.
Council Strategic Plan:	Specify which Grand Challenge (s) and Mission (s) the proposal supports. Where appropriate the relevant Commitment can also be listed. The initiative supports the grand challenge: Fight Climate Emergency in a Just Transition to Net Zero, empowering local communities to to take meaningful action on climate change.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.	Yes, the initiative sought to be accessible to all in the city, particularly mindful of geographic areas where inequalities and climate vulnerability are higher.
What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?	The initiative had a positive impact as it sought to include equalities considerations within the terms and conditions.
Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.	The initiative sought to trial an innovative way to support community based organisations to access funding to enable delivery of projects.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:	The initiative supports the overall implementation of Glasgow's Climate Plan, and specifically Action 1: To develop a dynamic Climate Communications Strategy.

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?	The initiative seeks to promote local climate action to address the climate and ecological emergency.
Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	The initiative looked to support local action to help reduce city wide carbon emissions and therefore supporting the city's net zero target.

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:	NO
Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report Y/N	

8 Recommendations

a) Committee notes the update.
b) Committee notes the next steps.