Closure of European Commission Horizon 2020 RUGGEDISED project – Implementation report noted.

5 There was submitted and noted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, regarding the closure of the European Commission Horizon 2020 RUGGEDISED (Rotterdam, Umea, & Glasgow: Generating Exemplar Demonstrations in Sustainable Energy Districts) project together with the final implementation report, advising that

(1) in early July 2016, the European Commission notified the consortium responsible for RUGGEDISED that its bid had been successful and that the project should commence on 1st November 2016;

(2) the RUGGEDISED project was led by Rotterdam and sought to develop innovative sustainable energy districts in each of the Lighthouse cities Rotterdam, Umea and Glasgow;

(3) through the RUGGEDISED project, Glasgow focussed on creating a Smart Corridor District that was situated along a section of George Street and Duke Street which had a mix of residential, community, academic, retail and industrial facilities with the ambition to explore solutions to the challenges Glasgow faced from ageing infrastructure, fuel poverty and air pollution, by integrating planned regeneration and development with smart city capabilities;

(4) the implementation report, attached as an appendix to the report, provided background on the project as well as details in relation to the successes and challenges of the project and the specific progress of each solution;

(5) there had been several challenges in relation to the delivery of some elements of the project, most importantly was the delays to the installation of the solar canopy atop Duke St car park and the installation of the solar array had been delayed beyond the life of the project though approval had been secured to continue to finalise the delivery in early 2023;

(6) the final meeting with the European Commission and the project had taken place on 15th December 2022, with approval gained to close the project off with the compliments and appreciation of the Commission;

(7) RUGGEDISED had been instrumental in influencing a number of policies, strategies and projects in the city including the Climate Plan, the development of Pollok Park and the Burrell, the roll out of Photovoltaic the development of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy; and

(8) the city's involvement in the project had also allowed the Council to build strong relationships with cities and networks across Europe and had opened doors to future potential funding opportunities such as the new 100 Climate Neutral & Smart Cities funding call in the EU Horizon Missions.