Item 3

17th January 2023

Glasgow City Council

Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring Committee

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration, & Sustainability

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CLOSURE OF EUROPEAN COMMISSION HORIZON 2020 PROJECT - RUGGEDISED

Purpose of Report:

To update Committee on the closure of the H2020 funded RUGGEDISED project and present the final Implementation report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that;

a) Committee notes the content of the final implementation report

Ward No(s): Citywide: ✓

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

***PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING**:*

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1 Introduction

1.1 In early July 2016, the European Commission notified the consortium responsible for Ruggedised (Rotterdam, Umea, & Glasgow: Generating Exemplar Demonstrations in Sustainable Energy Districts) that the bid had been successful and that the project should commence on 1st November 2016.

1.2 The Ruggedised project was led by Rotterdam and sought to develop innovative sustainable energy districts in each of the Lighthouse cities (Rotterdam, Umea, & Glasgow) and have elements of those districts replicated in the follower cities (Parma, Gdansk, & Brno). Through the RUGGEDISED project, Glasgow focussed on creating a 'Smart Corridor District' that is situated along a section of George Street and Duke Street in the city centre, which has a mix of residential, community, academic, retail and industrial facilities. The ambition was to explore solutions to the challenges Glasgow faces from ageing infrastructure, fuel poverty and air pollution; by integrating planned regeneration and development with smart city capabilities. The below image shows the extent of the Glasgow district.

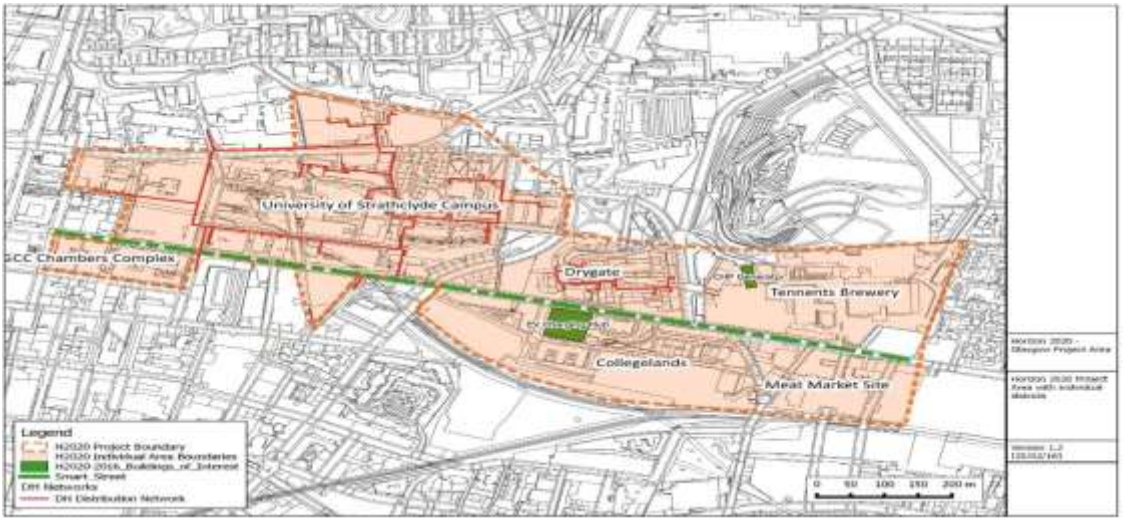


Image 1 - Overview of project district in Glasgow

2. Implementation Report

2.1 As part of the project, various reports have been created and published on the RUGGEDISED website. This includes specific reports in relation to individual solutions as well as broader implementation reports.

2.2 The appended implementation report provide background on the project as well as details in relation to the successes and challenges of the project as well as detailing the specific progress of each solution.

2.3 There have been several challenges in relation to the delivery of some elements of this project, most importantly is the delays to the installation of the solar canopy atop Duke St car park, caused by issues including the company contracted to deliver the canopy going into administration, a new company

being appointed and redesigning the solution, the particular structure of the car park, the impact of the pandemic slowing down delivery, and the impact of Brexit requiring the removal of steel from the installation to maintain a viable cost.

2.4 Due to these issues, the installation of the solar array has been delayed beyond the life of the project though approval has been secured to continue to finalise the delivery in early 2023.

2.5 The final meeting with the European Commission and the project took place on 15th December 2022, with approval gained to close the project off with the compliments and appreciation of the Commission.

3 Conclusions

3.1 RUGGEDISED has 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 PV, the development of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy.

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

4 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:	No direct implications
Legal:	No legal implications
Personnel:	No Personnel implications. The remaining tasks will be completed by existing resource.
Procurement:	No procurement implications.

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

The project supports the grand challenge 3: Fight Climate Emergency in a Just Transition to Net Zero and Mission 2:
Become a net zero carbon city by 2030 through the delivery and integration of a variety of net zero technologies and approaches.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.	This report provides an update on the conclusion of a project.
What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?	The project has delivered a number of solutions that support the transition to net-zero without detriment to equality.
Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.	The project has delivered a number of solutions, some of which have created alleviation of fuel poverty thus supporting the lessening of socio-economic disadvantage in the city.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:	The project supports the ambition of becoming a net-zero carbon city through enabling increased district heating, integrating

	renewables, supporting decarbonisation of transport in the city.
What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?	The project promotes and enables reductions in CO2 emissions through its work on electricity, heat, and data systems.
Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	The project makes direct contribution to the target through provision of renewable energy & battery storage linked to EV charging, and indirectly through facilitation of district heating.
Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:	NO
Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report Y/N	

5 Recommendations

It is recommended that;

a) Committee notes the content of the final implementation report

APPENDIX 1 – RUGGEDISED Final Implementation Report