Developing a Community Renewables Energy Framework – Update noted.

4 There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability regarding the development of a Community Renewables Energy Framework (CREF), advising

(1) that as part of the Council's work to meet its Net Zero Carbon target by 2030 and contribute towards the Scottish Government target of Net Zero by 2045, the Council was undertaking a range of actions to support the decarbonisation of energy in the city and supporting a local renewable energy generation was part of this work;

(2) that the Climate Plan (Action 46) stated the need to establish a framework to support local energy co-operatives to help deliver the Council's Net Zero target;

(3) that the Scottish Energy Strategy set out the Scottish Government's expectation that energy developers should offer meaningful community benefits in line with its Good Practice Principles and the average financial value to communities in Scotland from projects in 2022 was estimated by Local Energy Scotland to be £4,500 per MegaWatt per year;

(4) of the additional benefits to the community from generating its own energy, as detailed in the report;

(5) that the proposed CREF aimed to support the increased generation of energy from renewable sources by identifying a portfolio of sites which were suitable for community led renewable energy development and outlined the process by which communities could work with the Council;

(6) that the Framework would support a wide range of energy projects which might include electricity generation, which was more mainstream and relatively easier to derive a benefit from, as well as heat projects, which were currently less mainstream and included more challenges to delivery;

(7) that a key element in supporting Glasgow communities to realise this ambition, was to identify suitable locations within the city and the Council was supporting this through the identification of suitable site selection criteria, as detailed in the report; and

(8) of the progress to date, resources and funding, existing projects and case studies and the next steps to be taken to finalise the CREF, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the committee noted

(a) the report;

(b) the work of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability in the development of a Community Renewables Energy Framework; and

(c) that further updates would be provided on an annual basis.