



Glasgow City Council

**Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring
City Policy Committee**

Report by Chief Executive of Clyde Gateway

Contact: Martin McKay

Ext: 0141 276 0758

Item 4

27th February 2024

CLYDE GATEWAY TRANSITION TO NET ZERO ACTION PLAN

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Committee with an overview of Clyde Gateway's (CG) work to date to develop and implement an ambitious and holistic Transition to Net Zero (TNZ) action plan which will respond to Scotland's target to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045, support Glasgow City Council's Strategic Plan and reflects the need to approach this transition in a fair, inclusive and collaborative manner.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Committee:

- i) Note the contents of the report,
- ii) Endorse Clyde Gateway's TNZ ambitions.

Ward No(s): 8 & 9

Citywide: No

Local member(s) advised: No

consulted: Yes – CG Board members

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

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- 1.1 'Just Transition: A Fairer, Greener Scotland' is the Scottish Government's response to the Just Transition Commission's report 'A national mission for a fairer, greener Scotland'. It states;

"A just transition is both the outcome – a fairer, greener future for all – and the process that must be undertaken in partnership with those impacted by the transition to net zero. Just transition is how we get to a net zero and climate resilient economy, in a way that delivers fairness and tackles inequality and injustice".

- 1.2 Just transition is designed to address the challenge in a planned and fair manner, reflecting on the impact of less "just" historic transitions in many industries such as steel or coal mining and their long- lasting effects on communities and businesses.
- 1.3 The principles of just transition inform the National Strategy for Economic Transformation, various industry responses and Glasgow City Council's Strategic Plan.
- 1.4 Key challenges identified include identifying and responding to areas of heat demand, addressing skills and education needs and helping businesses to transition. To enable this a range of policies and strategies have been developed, examples include:
- Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES) which are at the heart of a place based, locally-led and tailored approach to the heat transition. These local strategies, led by local authorities will underpin an area-based approach to heat and energy efficiency planning and delivery and will help inform Clyde Gateway interventions such as the Green Regeneration Innovation District (GRID).
 - The Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan (CESAP) and Glasgow's Just Transition Skills Strategy and Action Plan, which consider priority sectors and jobs to focus on. Identifying where skills challenges arise as a result of sectors/ jobs being negatively affected by TNZ or positively affected i.e. where economic opportunities exist.
- 1.5 While TNZ is still a relatively new agenda in Scotland, what is clear is the commitment and shared ambition to respond in a collaborative and managed way. To this end CG requires its own TNZ Plan to reflect the unique circumstances and context of the challenges and opportunities within the area, the vision for change and the actions that will be taken to achieve the transition.

2. Clyde Gateway's Vision

- 2.1 It is recognised by the Scottish Government and others that there is no "one size fits all" approach to TNZ plans, however, there are common elements that should be included in all. To that end an internal TNZ team has been established bringing together the diverse experience of the company covering energy

projects, property, jobs, education, community etc. This team has been tasked with developing the CG TNZ Plan.

- 2.2 Among the first tasks was to set a vision for the company which was approved by the CG URC Board in June 2023 and expanded on the original business plan vision which was:

“of a dynamic and sought after city location with a strong community, which will attract major investment and establish itself as one of the foremost places in the West of Scotland to live and work, supporting Glasgow’s ambition to be a world class city region”

to

“of a dynamic and sought after city location with a strong community, which attracts major investment, has established itself as one of the foremost places in the West of Scotland to live and work, supporting Glasgow’s ambition to be a world class city region in a fair, inclusive and sustainable way embracing Scotland’s net zero ambition”.

- 2.3 This vision and CG’s holistic approach to regeneration - putting people, place and jobs at the centre of interventions - has the capability to take projects, including the GRID, beyond what is sometimes referred to as a “triple helix” to a “quintuple helix”.
- 2.4 The “triple helix” is referenced across in a number of innovation contexts including green innovation and refers to an approach which has the support and input of the **private sector, academia and the public sector**, an example being the University of Glasgow’s Living Laboratory for Precision Medicine which along with the academic expertise of the University has industry, NHS and Government intervention.
- 2.5 In Clyde Gateway - in addition to existing work with key stakeholders, the private sector and academia - strong and productive partnerships exist with **communities** and a track record on **environment** add to create a “quintuple helix” of opportunity.

3. Key principles

- 3.1 The TNZ Plan will act as Clyde Gateway’s guiding document up to 2045 (Scotland’s target year for reaching net zero emissions) to ensure projects and interventions, benefit those impacted by the transition to net zero. The Scottish Government has stated that transition plans should:
- Provide certainty for those involved in the transition (be they businesses, investors, consumers, or communities);
 - Ensure everyone understands the active role that they can play in the transition; and
 - Identify and mitigate economic or social injustice which may be exacerbated by climate action.

3.2 It is recognised that individual plans will vary in style, and in terms of the context in which it is developed and produced. However, it is anticipated that the ‘sum of the parts’ is enough to achieve the outcomes set for just transition. To maximise impact (and monitor progress), the Scottish Government expects the following principles to be core components of every Just Transition Plan:

- Evidence led – sequenced plans based on assessment of risks and opportunities to affected groups
- Co-designed and co-delivered – placing those most likely to be negatively impacted at the centre and empowering people to shape their future
- Adaptable and iterative – responsive to technological, policy, market and cost changes as well as learning from ongoing monitoring and evaluation.
- Built on existing work and experience – identifying interdependencies and interactions between existing interventions and policy responses with a holistic overview of the risks and opportunities presented by the long-term goals.

4. Clyde Gateway’s Transition to Net Zero Action Plan

4.1 Clyde Gateway’s TNZ Action Plan (Appendix A) outlines the initial business case actions: strategic, socio – economic, commercial, financial and management. Along with seven intervention specific actions require to produce a robust, responsive and tailored plan across Clyde Gateway’s strategic and operational objectives. The seven interventions are:

- Business Support
- Jobs & Skills
- Community Engagement
- Environment
- Energy Projects/ District Heating & Cooling
- Transport
- Clyde Gateway’s business operations

4.2 The plan assesses and sequences the actions needed to achieve the vision along with identifying the key barriers and enablers to achieving success – it is a “living document” and responsive and adaptable to evolving policy and delivery landscapes.

4.3 While most Just Transition Action Plans have the long stop target date of 2045, Glasgow’s Climate Plan has an ambitious 2030 target. CG’s TNZ plan is already supporting short term ambitions of the Glasgow plan and will over time contribute to the 2030 and 2045 targets. However, the initial plan is focused on a 12-month timescale, operating alongside the day-to-day activities of the company and the delivery of existing projects and interventions supporting TNZ. A key objective of the plan is to identify and appraise potential future actions along with the associated risks, resources and timescales required to deliver these.

4.4 The TNZ Action Plan is currently at version 11 and is enabling CG to track progress building on the contribution of individual projects and a range of

partners. Monitoring and evaluation against both outcomes and outputs which are accessible and meaningful at a Clyde Gateway level will be critical to this exercise and work is underway to identify appropriate baselines and indicators. Given the diverse range of interventions delivered by Clyde Gateway, as always, a proportionate and pragmatic approach - from responding to LHEES heat map data sharing, to Small Tests of Change for business and community interventions – is likely to be adopted. One size will not fit all.

5 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: CG resources

Legal: none

Personnel: CG staff time

Procurement: CG procurement policy applied to any intervention

Council Strategic Plan: The CG TNZ plan is fully supportive of Grand Challenge 3 and all Missions within this Challenge.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify. Yes, supportive of all outcomes by enabling just transition for all and putting people at the heart of TNZ change and opportunity.

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report? Positive impacts on all equality groups from a low carbon and climate adapted city.

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage. Yes, by addressing inequality of opportunity, particularly economic opportunity – driving green jobs, skills and investment to benefit local residents and businesses.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:

Yes, the CG TNZ action plan directly contributes to the Climate Plan.

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?

Detailed in the plan in full – supporting just transition and a climate adapted city.

Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?

Yes.

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report -
No

If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out

6 Recommendations

6.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- i) Note the contents of the report,
- ii) Endorse Clyde Gateway's TNZ ambitions.