

## **Low Emission Zone resource allocation – Update noted.**

**3** There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability providing an update on the utilisation of Low Emission Zone (LEZ) revenues allocated in the 2024-27 Council budget to community climate projects, advising

- (1) that the city's LEZ final scheme was approved by Scottish Ministers on 19th May 2022 with the full LEZ coming into effect on 31st May 2022, beginning a 1-year grace period before general enforcement began on 1st June 2023;
- (2) of the terms of section 27 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 regarding the use of residual revenue and highlighting that any income received through the enforcement of the LEZ was firstly allocated to the costs of operating the scheme, with any residual revenue allocated to the potential funding of projects which otherwise provided benefits in respect of the LEZ objectives, as detailed in the report;
- (3) of the 'Greening the City' programme, which had been allocated £250,000 of 2023/24 LEZ revenues for tree planting activity in the city centre with a further £250,000 allocated to broader climate action activity;
- (4) of the proposed establishment of a LEZ Community Climate Project Support Fund, which would support groups to deliver projects in relation to the LEZ objectives with support available across 3 broad themes, as detailed in the report;
- (5) of the timeline, process for funding applications and governance arrangements for the fund with project support available between the value of £20,000 and £50,000 per project; and
- (6) of the next steps, which would include:-
  - (a) finalisation of the application process;
  - (b) preparation of promotion, application support and a publicity programme to support potential applicants throughout the process; and
  - (c) a report being submitted to this committee with information on the approved and funded projects.

After consideration, the committee noted the

- (i) report; and
- (ii) proposal to establish a LEZ Community Climate Project Support Fund, including the proposed timeline, process for funding applications and governance arrangements.