

Item 6

12th November 2024



Glasgow City Council

Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee

Report by Chair, Councillor Lana Reid-McConnell

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NET ZERO AND CLIMATE PROGRESS MONITORING CITY POLICY COMMITTEE: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Annual Assessment of the work of the Committee as required by Standing Order 32.

Recommendations:

The Committee is asked to

- (1) consider and note the Annual Assessment; and
- (2) agree that members take or refresh their climate literacy training.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ✓

consulted: Yes ☐ No ✓

1. Background

1.1 Standing Order No 32 (8) states, in relation to City Policy Committees, that -
“An annual assessment will be carried out in each year to:

- assess the effectiveness of the workings of the committee, and to assess any training needs of members/officers; and
- the effectiveness of the implementation of agreed policies.

The assessment will be carried out by the relevant Chair in years 1 and 2, and an independent assessment will be carried out in year 3. A report setting out the findings of the annual assessment will be submitted to the Operational Performance and Delivery Scrutiny Committee.”

1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide the annual assessment of the work of the Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee (NZCPM CPC) as required by Standing Order 32.

2. Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee (NZCPM CPC)

2.1 NZCPM CPC was established in May 2022 following the 2022 Local Government Elections. The first meeting of the NZCPM CPC took place in August 2022.

2.2 The [NZCPM CPC Terms of Reference](#) are detailed as below:

In addition to the general terms of reference for all City Policy committees:

1. To fulfil the functions of policy development (including consideration of equalities issues) as they relate to net zero and climate progress, services and activities These functions include:

- Climate Plan and associated plans
- Climate Adaptation Plan
- Air Quality and Low Emission Zone
- Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Glasgow Tree Plan
- Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy
- Flood Risk Management
- Cross-Council Sustainability and Climate Action

2. In addition to the above functions, this committee will receive reporting from the activities of the Council’s Just Transition Working Group.

2.3 The NZCPM CPC has representation from three political groups on the Council and meets every 6 weeks.

3. Workplan

- 3.1 The NZCPM CPC agreed a workplan for August to December 2023 on [8th August 2023](#), for January to June 2024 on [16th January 2024](#) and for August to December 2024 on [13th August 2024](#).
- 3.2 All members were invited to input into the workplans. Members are welcome at any time to raise suggestions with officers that support the Committee or the Chair.
- 3.3 The focus of the workplans has been on reports which review, revise or create new policies and on considering reports for information or to update.
- 3.4 The NZCPM CPC has considered 41 items in total to date since November 2023 and these are outlined in Appendix 1.

4. Training Needs

- 4.1 Mandatory and non-mandatory training sessions are ongoing for elected Members. There is no specific training required to sit on the NZCPM CPC. Given the relevance to the work of the committee, it is recommended that members of the Committee take or refresh their climate literacy training as detailed in section 5.4 of this report.
- 4.2 Committee Members are encouraged to raise any areas of training or development that would assist them in their roles on the Committee. This can be done via the Chair, Vice Chair, support officers, or via the Business Bureau for any more generic training.
- 4.3 The Committee is also keen, where appropriate, for there to be visits relevant to the remit and workplan of the Committee to enable members to gain further insight and understanding into particular issues. Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability is happy to facilitate such visits as requested by members. The Committee had a trip to the SEC ahead of the paper presented on the SECs Net Zero efforts in August. This helped to provide context to the paper and the chair will work with officers to organise future visits where possible, with the aim of at least 2 visits per year.

5. Training Update

Carbon Literacy Training

- 5.1 In response to one of the recommendations made by the Climate Emergency Working Group in 2019 and with the aim of increasing climate literate leadership across all areas of the Council family, Glasgow City Council worked with Keep Scotland Beautiful to deliver a Carbon Literacy Course to political leaders, senior leadership and officers across all levels and services of the Council in 2020. Glasgow was the first local authority in Scotland to do this.

- 5.2 The council also rolled out “Train the Trainer” courses to allow Council departments to train their own teams – for example around 80 staff from the Economic Development section.
- 5.3 Training was also provided in 2023 in Gaelic to the students, parents and staff at Glasgow Gaelic School.
- 5.4 A new Climate Literacy e-learning course utilising the Council’s online learning platform was developed in-house and launched to all council staff on the 23rd September 2024. The course provides an introduction to climate science, mitigation and adaptation, and provides learners with the knowledge and understanding needed to take action within their role at Glasgow City Council and in their personal lives. Members of the NZCPM CPC are recommended to undertake this training as it may benefit their understanding of issues considered at Committee.

Just Transition Training

- 5.6 The Just Transition report of [8th August 2023](#) suggested specific elements which should be considered for training and upskilling purposes. The subsequent [Report and Recommendations of the Just Transition Working Group](#) was reported to and approved by the council’s City Administration Committee in [September 2023](#). These report recommendations influenced the development and formed the basis of [The Just Transition Implementation Plan](#) published in February 2024 which was developed to set out the approach to take the recommendations through to deliverable actions. A paper reporting progress will be presented at this Committee in November 2024.
- 5.7 A section on Just Transition is included in the new Climate Literacy e-training course referred to in 5.4 above.

6 Effectiveness of the Working of the Committee

- 6.1 The meetings of the NZCPM CPC, which have taken place since November 2023, have generally worked effectively.
- 6.2 The Committee Chair is supported by the Vice Chair.
- 6.3 The Committee meets in a hybrid format, allowing Committee Members, officers, and observers, to attend virtually online or in person. Generally, this approach has worked well, enabling a broadly high level of attendance by Committee Members.
- 6.4 The Chair’s view is that in person attendance does result in more wide ranging discussion and so Committee Members are encouraged to attend meetings in person wherever possible.
- 6.5 Meetings are recorded and webcast, enabling access to the Committee’s

business by members of the public and other stakeholders.

- 6.6 Agendas at some meetings can be lengthy however this is positive and reflects the Committee's wide-ranging remit, as well as the desire of members for a variety of different policy areas to be considered.
- 6.7 The quality of reports being brought forward by officers has been generally very good. Any suggestions on improvements to the reports being presented to Committee are welcome and can be fed back to the Chair or lead officers.
- 6.8 Several reports which have been presented to Committee have been accompanied by presentations and this has proven to be an effective format to accompany reports in an interesting and visual way.
- 6.9 Input from a variety of stakeholders has been a valuable part of the reports considered by the Committee. Contributions included those from City Building, Clyde Gateway, City Property and Scottish Event Campus (SEC) and have been welcomed by Committee Members.
- 6.10 The Committee has considered several policy issues which have generated significant interest and engagement.
- 6.11 Some notable achievements of the Committee are as follows:
- Considered reports in [February 2024](#) and [August 2024](#) on the Low Emission Zone, its progress and enforcement. Enforcement is now fully in place. The committee retains an interest in the LEZ and requests annual updates on its progress.
 - Considered a report in [September 2024](#) on development of a Community Climate Project Support Fund utilising LEZ revenues which will support community groups to deliver projects aligned to the objectives of the LEZ. Through this fund, project support will be available for between £20,000 and £50,000 per project. The process for awarding funding was agreed in September 2024 and project awards are expected to commence February 2025.
 - Considered a report in [September 2024](#) on development of a "Greening the City" programme which will utilise £250k of 2023/24 LEZ revenues for allocation to tree planting activity in the city centre, with a further £250k allocated to broader climate action activity. The funding for "Greening the City" will allow for more tree planting and greening projects to be developed across the city. These projects will provide benefits in respect of improving air quality, local biodiversity and contribute towards Glasgow's aspirations of achieving the globally recognised status as a 'Tree City of the World'.
 - Considered presentation of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy, the first of its kind, in Scotland, addressing the statutory requirement on Local Authorities to have an LHEES. The LHEES sets out the Cities strategy for heat decarbonization and improvement in the energy efficiency of the built

environment. The committee referred this to the City Administration Committee for approval.

- Committee also considered plans to establish a Climate Delivery Vehicle and Climate Investment Vehicle, each designed to support the delivery of the City's Net Zero target through enabling the delivery of the required infrastructure, particularly in relation to the LHEES and district heating, as well as enabling access to investment for other climate related projects in the City.
- As part of ongoing activity supporting the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) considered a report in [May 2024](#) on outputs of a feasibility report of using the GRREC (Glasgow Recycling and Renewable Energy Centre, an Energy from Waste plant operational in the Polmadie area of Glasgow) to supply heat to the surrounding area via district heating. The findings of the feasibility study will be added to the portfolio of asset information for inclusion in the development of a Climate Delivery Vehicle. Further opportunities for heat networks and renewable heat supply potential are being explored with support from the Scottish Governments Heat Network Support Unit in connection with the actions set out in the LHEES.
- Considered reports on air quality in the city including the 2024 Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) in [April 2024](#) which outlines the actions that Glasgow City Council will deliver between 2024 – 2029 to reduce concentrations of air pollutants and exposure to air pollution; thereby positively impacting on the health and quality of life of residents and visitors to the Glasgow area, recommending it for presentation to the [April 2024](#) City Administration Committee and a progress report in [September 2024](#).
- Considered a report on the latest iteration of the Council's Carbon Management Plan (CMP3) in [February 2024](#) and recommended it to the City Administration Committee where it was approved in [March 2024](#). The CMP3 details how it will mitigate Carbon emissions from its own activities across its estate, whilst also supporting other council strategies and objectives.
- Considered reports from the Just Transition Working Group, including the Just Transition Skills Action Plan in [November 2023](#), recommending it for subsequent approval by the City Administration Committee in [November 2023](#). This allowed the Action Plan to be formally launched at the [25th State of the City Economy Conference](#) on the 18th November 2023 before being shared internationally at [COP28](#). Also considered the Just Transition Working Group Implementation Plan in [February 2024](#) prior to its publication. Provided support through an innovative partnership approach where the lead on the Just Transition Working Group and the Chair of the Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring CPC actively participated in the others forum to ensure the work of both the Committee and working group were complimentary and supportive.
- Considered a report in [August 2024](#) on the Community Renewable Energy Framework and provided support for the continued development of this work as a key enabler of community owned renewable energy in the city, and recommended it to the City Administration Committee in [September 2024](#).

This initiative aims to support increased generation of energy from renewable sources by identifying a portfolio of sites which are suitable for community led renewable energy development and outlines the process by which communities can work with the Council.

- Considered reports on biodiversity, tree planting and other greening initiatives including [The Forestry and Woodlands Strategy](#) which sets the approach to trees and woodlands in the city within the context of the climate change and biodiversity emergencies and is the primary policy document relating to woodlands in Glasgow. This was recommended to and approved by the City Administration Committee and published in [June 2024](#).
- Considered a report on progress of Climate Impact Assessment in [January 2024](#) and agreed that papers submitted for this Committee in May 2024 will deploy the Climate Change Impact Assessment (CCIA) methodology to assess impact; and demonstrate to the Committee how consideration of impact operates practically with an update being brought back in January 2025.
- Considered reports from a selection of Council services, ALEOs and partners on their work in relation to supporting the targets of the Climate Plan, including:
 - Clyde Gateway presented in [February 2024](#)
 - City Property Group update on net zero activities presented in [April 2024](#).
 - Sustainable Glasgow Partnership update presented in [May 2024](#).
 - Scottish Events Campus report on Net Zero Energy plans presented in [August 2024](#).
- Supported the presentation of the following reports to the City Administration Committee for Approval:
 - Just Transition Skills Action Plan
 - Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES)
 - Model for Climate Investment
 - Carbon Management Plan 3
 - Community Renewable Energy Framework
 - Air Quality Action Plan and Consultation
 - Byres Rd/Dumbarton Rd Air Quality Management Area Revocation
 - Forestry and Woodland Strategy

7. Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: None

Legal: None

Personnel: None

Procurement: None

Council Strategic Plan: The annual assessment of the Committee supports the Council Strategic Plan Grand Challenge 4, Mission 2: Run an open, well governed Council in partnership with all our communities.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify. Not applicable as this is a review of Committee Effectiveness

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report? No significant impact

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage. Not applicable as this is not a policy/proposal.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify: Not applicable as this is a review of Committee Effectiveness

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal? Not applicable as this is a review of Committee Effectiveness

Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target? Not applicable as this is a review of Committee Effectiveness

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report
Y/N

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

8. Recommendations

The Committee is asked to

- (1) consider and note the Annual Assessment; and
- (2) agree that members of take or refresh their climate literacy training.

Appendix 1: Items November 2023 to September 2024

Date	Title	Description
7 th November 2023	Annual Review of Glasgow's Climate Plan	To provide Committee with an update on Glasgow's Climate Plan for discussion and consideration.
7 th November 2023	Glasgow Tree Plan	To provide an update on actions to deliver the Glasgow Tree Plan
7 th November 2024	Just Transition Skills Action Plan	To present the Just Transition Skills Action Plan.
7 th November 2023	Local Heat And Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES)	To provide Committee with the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES)
7 th November 2023	Public Bodies Duties on Climate Change Annual Report 2022/23	To present the Council's annual mandatory report on climate change to Committee.
7 th November 2023	Net Zero And Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee: Annual Assessment	To provide the first Annual Assessment of the work of the Committee as required by Standing Order 32.
16 th January 2024	Proposed Workplan January – June 2024	This report sets out the draft workplan for the Committee for January to June 2024.
16 th January 2024	Draft Forestry and Woodland Strategy	The purpose of this report is to update Committee on progress with the emerging Forestry and Woodlands Strategy, and to share the contents of the draft strategy as the basis for engaging external organisations, stakeholders, and members of the public before finalising the Forestry and Woodlands Strategy.
16 th January 2024	City Building Update	To provide an update to the Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee of activities within City Building including City Building (Glasgow) LLP and City Building (Contracts) LLP

16 th January 2024	Progress on Development of Climate Impact Assessment	To note the development of the Climate Impact Assessment and to outline next steps and the expected roll out of the process in early 2024.
16 th January 2024	Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance Annual General Meeting	To provide Committee with an update on Glasgow's membership of the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance and reflections from the 2023 Annual General Meeting.
16 th January 2024	Air Quality Action Plan Update	To provide Committee with the draft Glasgow Air Quality Action Plan and information on the next steps, including statutory consultation on the draft plan.
16 th January 2024	Update on the Cities4forests Initiative	To provide Committee with an update on the Cities4Forests initiative.
27 th February 2024	Model for Climate Investment	This paper provides Committee with a model for delivering climate-related projects through both a Delivery and Investment vehicle
27 th February 2024	Carbon Management Plan 3	To present Committee with Glasgow City Council's third Carbon Management Plan (CMP3)
27 th February 2024	Just Transition Working Group implementation plan	To present an implementation plan for the report and recommendations of the Just Transition Working Group
27 th February 2024	Clyde Gateway Transition to Net Zero Action Plan	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.

27 th February 2024	Glasgow Low Emission Zone Update	To provide Committee with an update on the Glasgow Low Emission Zone
27 th February 2024	Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Pollinator Plan	To present our Annual Monitoring Report and Duty Report, in support of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Pollinator Plan.
27 th February 2024	COP 28 Update	To present an update to the Committee on the city's participation at the COP28 United Nations Climate Conference.
16 th April 2024	Step Up to Net Zero Update	To provide Committee with an update on the first phase of the Step Up to Net Zero programme.
16 th April 2024	City Property Group Contributions to Net Zero	To provide the committee with an update on City Property Group's net zero contribution to date and the work planned to support Glasgow's net zero agenda.
16 th April 2024	Update on GCC Solar PV Installation Programme	To provide Committee with an update on the plans to install additional photovoltaic solar generation on the Glasgow City Council estate.
16 th April 2024	Update on the Community Renewable Energy Framework	To provide Committee with an update on the Community Renewable Energy Framework.
16 th April 2024	Air Quality Action Plan Update and Consultation Response	To provide Committee with the Glasgow Air Quality Action Plan and information on the statutory consultation undertaken.
16 th April 2024	Byres Rd / Dumbarton Rd Air Quality Management Area Revocation	To provide Committee with information relating to the revocation of the Byres Rd / Dumbarton Rd Air Quality Management Area

28 th May 2024	Forestry and Woodland Strategy	The purpose of this report is to update Committee on progress with the emerging Forestry and Woodland Strategy, and to share the results of engagement with external organisations, stakeholders, and members of the public.
28 th May 2024	Update on Plastic Reduction Strategy and Action Plan	To provide Committee with an update on the Plastic Reduction Strategy and Action Plan.
28 th May 2024	Update on the Polmadie District Heat Network Feasibility Study	To provide Committee with an update on the feasibility study into the potential for a District Heat Network from the Glasgow Recycling and Renewable Energy Centre in Polmadie.
28 th May 2024	Sustainable Glasgow Update	To update Committee on the Sustainable Glasgow Partnership
13 th August 2024	Proposed Workplan August – December 2024	This report sets out the draft workplan for the Committee for August to December 2024.
13 th August 2024	Presentation of the Community Renewable Energy Framework	To present Committee with Glasgow City Council's Community Renewable Energy Framework
13 th August 2024	Update on Citywide Co2 Emissions	To provide Committee with an update on CO2 emissions in the city following publication of the 2022 dataset by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero.
13 th August 2024	Update on the Glasgow Low Emission Zone Statutory Annual Report 2023/24	To provide Committee with an update on the Glasgow Low Emission Zone statutory reporting for financial year 2023/2024.
13 th August 2024	Housing Retrofit Update	To provide members with an update on housing retrofit activities and programmes in Glasgow and the City Region.

13 th August 2024	Update on Scottish Event Campus Net Zero Energy Plans	To provide Committee with an update on the latest position on the Scottish Event Campus (SEC) Net Zero energy plans.
24th September 2024	ICLEI Cities With Nature / Urbanbynature and Berlin Urban Nature Pact	To update Committee on the Council's engagement with Cities with Nature and the lead role for the Scottish Hub of UrbanByNature. To also raise awareness for the proposed invite to sign up to the Berlin Urban Nature Pact
24th September 2024	ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON AIR QUALITY	To provide Committee with Glasgow's 2024 Annual Progress Report on Air Quality
24th September 2024	Glasgow Low Emission Zone Resource Allocation	To provide Committee with an update on the utilisation of LEZ revenues allocated in the 2024-2027 budget to Community Climate Projects.
24th September 2024	Update on the Circular Economy Route Map and Action Plan	To provide Committee with an update on the Circular Economy Route Map and Action Plan.
24th September 2024	Update: Sustainability and Biodiversity Guidance for Events	To update Committee on the Year One action plan to enhance sustainability and biodiversity measures for events in parks and open spaces