Forestry and Woodland Strategy approved – Declaration of interest.

- With reference to the minutes of the Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee of 28th May 2024 (page 61 hereof) noting progress with the emerging draft Forestry and Woodland Strategy (FWS), including a planned engagement process with external organisations, stakeholders and members of the public prior to its finalisation, Councillor Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery, presented a report on the strategy, advising
- (1) that the 2019 Planning Act required the Council to produce a FWS and Glasgow Climate Plan Action 35 also required the development of an urban woodland strategy for the city;
- (2) of the engagement process undertaken in relation to the draft strategy and of a summary of the representations received and the response to comments, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (3) of the development of a delivery plan, which set out a range of actions which would contribute to increasing the tree canopy cover in the city, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report;
- (4) that the finalised FWS set out the approach to trees and woodlands in the city within the context of the climate change and biodiversity emergencies and would be the primary strategy and policy document relating to all woodlands and trees in the city; and
- (5) that the proposed FWS would form a key part of the evidence base for the emerging City Development Plan 2 and would be a material planning consideration when dealing with development proposals through the development management process.

After consideration, the committee

- (a) approved the Forestry and Woodland Strategy; and
- (b) noted
 - the requirement to use the Forestry and Woodland Strategy as the basis for protecting trees and woodlands in the city and directing investment in new planting to appropriate locations to provide social, economic and environmental benefits; and
 - (ii) that the Forestry and Woodland Strategy would be submitted to Scottish Ministers as part of the Council's documentation for the City Development Plan 2 Gatecheck process.

In terms of Standing Order No 27, Bailie Wardrop declared an interest in this item of business and left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or decision thereon.