

Glasgow City Region Climate Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan approved etc.

9 With reference to the minutes of 4th June 2019 endorsing the creation of a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan, to be developed in partnership with Climate Ready Clyde (CRC), there was submitted a report by Councillor Andrew Polson, Joint Leader of East Dunbartonshire Council, seeking approval for adoption of the Glasgow City Region Climate Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan, which was attached as an appendix to the report, and to extend the funding commitment for CRC to 2025/26, advising that

- (1) CRC had been working with organisations to develop the first regional adaptation strategy and action plan for the Glasgow City Region (GCR) and Scotland and the strategy and plan had drawn heavily on a substantial body of work developed by CRC over the past 3 years, with a full overview of this development process being summarised in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) the strategy had been designed to kick-start the collective psychological shift that was required, covered the period 2020-2030 and contained 11 interventions that provided a comprehensive programme of action covering the entire range of sectors and risks, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report, together with 5 place-based priorities for adaptation;
- (3) alongside the strategy, the document had included a strategic action plan covering the period 2021-25, containing 16 flagship actions and a set of wider contributions from stakeholders through an open invitation by CRC, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (4) the CRC Secretariat had identified 4 initial areas of activity which should support the development of an ambition loop for the GCR, and which would guide the initiative's work over the next 5 years to implement the strategy and action plan, as detailed in the report;
- (5) the adoption of the strategy and action plan would not result in any direct cost implications to GCR, and a priority for the CRC Secretariat in the next 5 years was to bring partners together to develop existing flagship actions and turn them into concrete, costed proposals and support their delivery, as well as creating new action, and in this respect, discussions between CRC, the Land Use Portfolio and the Director of Regional Economic Growth had identified that a 5-year commitment to the partnership (to 2025/26) from GCR would allow CRC to shift its work onto a more strategic footing, as detailed in the report; and
- (6) subject to approval of the strategy and action plan, the CRC Secretariat would prepare the strategy and action plan for publication, with a view to completing a final proofed and designed version and move forward to developing a formal launch event on 29th June 2021.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (a) approved the Climate Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan, subject to the approval by local authority governance processes as required;
- (b) acknowledged that delivery of the strategy and action plan necessarily implies a greater allocation of resources to planning, financing and implementation in the years ahead, as well as additional policy regulation;
- (c) endorsed the in-principle commitment to supporting CRC for the next 5 years to support delivery of the strategy and action plan; and
- (d) agreed that
 - (i) the current local authority contributions to CRC become part of the overall payments from local authorities into the City Region on an annual basis from 2022/23, as detailed in the report;
 - (ii) the GCR Programme Management Office would manage the contributions to CRC on its behalf, as detailed in the report; and
 - (iii) GCR be the strategic partner for CRC, as detailed in the report.