



## CLIMATE COMMITMENTS

Argyll and Bute Council  
Decarbonisation Plan 2022- 2025

## Foreword



**Councillor Robin Currie, Leader**

This year 2021 our Council has renewed its commitment to playing its part in the global effort to address climate challenges, and has declared a **climate emergency**.

Recent reports from the United Nations have also indicated a 'Code Red for Humanity' situation in relation to tackling climate change, following the publication of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report *Climate Change 2021 – The Physical Science Basis*'

Argyll and Bute Council has delivered a 27% reduction in carbon emissions over the past five years – with emissions dropping for three years in a row during the lifetime of this Council. However, we recognise more needs to be done to achieve our intended goals of becoming the UK's first net zero region and being a net zero organisation by 2045 – with ambitious interim targets of reaching 75% reduction by 2030.

Tackling climate change is everyone's responsibility. During the whole of this council term (2017 to 2022) Argyll and Bute Council has considered its contribution to that collective effort to be a key priority – including the theme of 'Greener, Cleaner Communities' as part of its Priorities for the Life of the Council.

This year has also been the year of COP26 in Glasgow and whilst addressing Climate Change is a global issue on that stage it is hugely reliant on partnership, collaboration and the actions of us all

at a local level. We have supported COP26 in partnership with COSLA, highlighting some of our journey towards net zero thus far and also held 2 significant events namely our first Education Summit on Climate Change and a separate Climate Change Event this year.

No single organisation can tackle it in isolation and as a Council we need to show clear leadership and lead by example in all that we do. We have strengthened our linkages with our Community Planning Partners (CPP) this year and are now part of a conjoined short life working group with our partners exploring climate change planning and mitigations for benefit of our region.



**Biomass Boiler installation at Ardrishaig Primary School**

This is a review and update of our **Decarbonisation Plan 2021** which was accelerated due to pandemic conditions to ensure our recovery from the pandemic was based upon green and climate friendly principles. We have also moved into a regular reporting and scrutiny of Climate Change Actions via our Policy and Resources Committee.

This plan will evolve in future years and the Action Plan is a live document that will be updated and reported to Committee regularly. However this plan aims to provide focus for the Council to respond to diverse challenges and to address activities required to urgently reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate change.

*Councillor Robin Currie*

*Leader, Argyll and Bute Council  
November 2021*



## CONTENTS

Argyll and Bute Council Decarbonisation Plan 2022- 2025 .....	1
Foreword.....	2
CONTENTS .....	3
Our Vision and Aims .....	4
Our Climate Context.....	5
Our Carbon Footprint .....	6
Our Climate Commitments .....	7
Waste .....	8
Energy and Water Consumption .....	10
Transport .....	13
Prepare and adapt for impacts of climate change .....	14
Offset our emissions through partnership and innovation.....	15
Tell you about it and encourage community to do their bit.....	16
Future Engagement and Community Planning Mapping .....	17
APPENDIX 1 – Climate Change Action Plan.....	19





## Our Vision and Aims

In Argyll and Bute Council we already have much to be proud of when it comes to addressing the causes and effects of climate change. For example, the Council's Climate Change Board has been in existence since 2017 and coordinates activities of the Council and key partners that have reduced CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent output by over 4,000 tonnes per annum in the past 4 years alone.

Now in 2021, we are only 9 years away from the interim target set by Scottish Government via the Climate Change (Emissions Reductions Target) (Scotland) Bill to reduce greenhouse gases by 75% by 2030 (with a target of net-zero emissions by 2045). These are ambitious targets that require all sectors to contribute and it is recognised that the public sector will play a key leadership and 'leading by example' role. We will continue to work with COSLA, our local community planning partnership and emerging national groups to shape our activities in this regard.

*Over 1MW of installed Solar Photovoltaic Panel capacity has already been installed on Council Buildings*

The Scottish Government also declared a 'Climate Emergency' in May 2019 and successive Programme's for Government encompasses a number of measures to address climate change that are likely to have implications for local authorities. In response to this our Council set up a political led Climate Change Environmental Action Group chaired by the Leader of the Council to oversee activities of the Climate Change Board and in 2021 normalised this work stream into the Policy & Resources Committee where Climate Change matters is now a standing item. This year our Council also declared a Climate Emergency and renewed commitment to addressing climate challenges.

Much still requires to be done and achieved and a whole corporate Council approach is required to

4

tackling Climate Change. Given its growing importance and technical advances the skillset and capacity for Council resource will need to evolve over the next 10 years to meet the interim 2030 targets set out nationally.

*LED Streetlights installed across Argyll and Bute have reduced carbon emissions by more than 1,100 tonnes of carbon dioxide every year*

This **Decarbonisation Plan** not only seeks to highlight work undertaken by the Council and promote planned activities but also to act as a routemap for our journey towards net zero.

### **1. Argyll and Bute Council to achieve 75% carbon reduction by 2030 and net zero before 2045**

This is the second iteration of our Decarbonisation Plan and aligns with national requirements. As this and future plans develop and resource are aligned to specific activities then these timelines for delivery of targets will be reviewed.

### **2. Support our low carbon economy**

We aim to assist our local communities and businesses to recover and build upon our low carbon economy.

### **3. Lead by example and develop practices and partnerships that inspire low carbon behaviours**

We seek to be innovative, collaborative and ambitious with our climate change actions that inspire others and tackle impacts together.

### **4. Make 'Climate Friendly Argyll and Bute' a recognised brand and underpin behaviours of our staff and customers**

Use the new branding (top left of page) to underpin messages of our Decarbonisation Plan.

*There are approximately 300 consented, operational renewable sites in Argyll and Bute with a capacity of more than 1.6 gigawatts (GW). There are many more small-scale renewable installations*

## Our Climate Context

Argyll and Bute is the second largest Council authority in terms of land mass in Scotland and has a population of just under 90,000 making it one of the sparsest in Scotland with around 50% of our communities being defined as ‘rural’. This rural and dispersed characteristic is coupled with the majority of the population living in coastal towns or our 23 inhabited islands and relying on transport links that largely follow shorelines or historic port and ferry routes. With 80% of the population living within 1km of the coast, rising sea levels and exposure from more extreme weather events is more relevant to our region than many others.

The severity of more extreme and frequent weather events has particularly impacted The Rest and Be Thankful (A83 trunk road near Arrochar) in 2020 with increased landslides and closures. Disruption to such important infrastructure has long lasting impacts on economic growth and the resilience of our communities. Our Decarbonisation Plan aims to start a long term climate wise investment in combating the sources of climate change but also to prepare for the inevitable impacts of adverse weather and rising sea levels.



*Storm Brendan, waterfront Dunoon, January 2020*

Whilst this is our second Decarbonisation Plan the Climate Change Board has been producing carbon management plans for several years and has had a statutory requirement to report on the environmental performance of our business as part of Climate Change Reporting Duties: (CCRD): the CCRD are a mandatory reporting mechanism for the Scottish Government to monitor public body performance and inform future policy. The reporting template captures how public bodies manage climate change in terms of our organisational profile, governance, corporate emissions, adaptation and procurement. This Decarbonisation Plan addresses these themes, and brings a further coherency to the work carried out across the organisation.



*Our schools & nurseries have registered with Eco-Schools Scotland Status – with some having received as many as 6 green flags*

Many of our communities and businesses are already empowered and heading towards their own climate change journey. Whilst this Decarbonisation Plan primarily focusses on activities of the Council we still aim to promote appropriate good practice of our partners in our area. Tackling climate change is also hugely diverse and under the ‘Climate Friendly Argyll and Bute’ branding we aim to promote all positive activity no matter how big or small – from installing a large scale windfarm to a community food growing project. We aim to engage and integrate future plans with our Community Planning Partnership – which much progress has taken place in 2021- local businesses and communities.

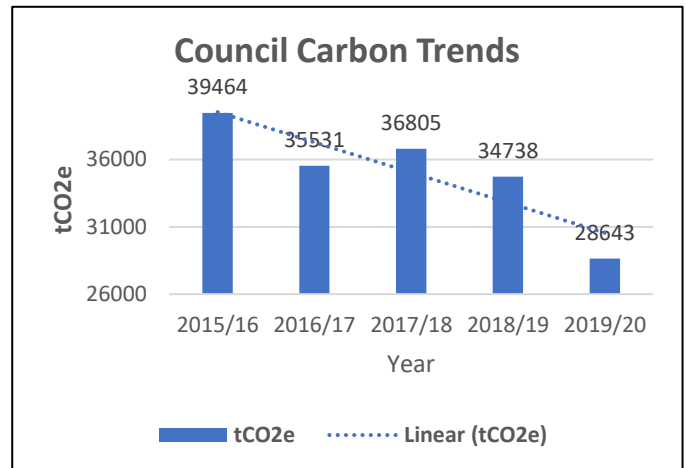


## Our Carbon Footprint

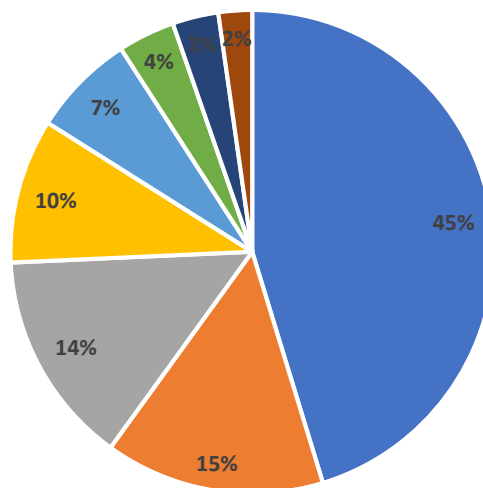
As a business, the Council is responsible for over 300 buildings, runs hundreds of vehicles including cars, buses, ferries and bin lorries and runs multiple services like disposing of municipal waste. All of these assets and activities generate greenhouse gas emissions which are harmful to the environment and contribute towards climate change.

In order to achieve maximum impact from our Decarbonisation Plan it is first essential to understand our Carbon Footprint. This will allow resources and activities to be targeted towards the most beneficial actions that will reduce emissions.

Actions of the Climate Change Board have already set a positive downwards trend of emissions but an accelerated and targeted action is required to meet the ambitious targets by 2030 and 2045. Given that some projects and activities will be large scale and require investment and lead in time it is essential to plan for these as early as possible.



## Argyll and Bute Council Emissions (CO2e) - 2019/2020



- Refuse Municipal to Landfill - 45%
- Grid Electricity - Buildings - 15%
- Natural Gas - 14%
- Fleet - all Diesel Vehicles - 10%
- Gas Oil & LPG - 7%
- Business Miles (unspecified fuel) - 4%
- Grid Electricity - Streetlighting - 3%
- All other activities - 2%

## Our Climate Commitments

From recognising the main sources of our emissions we have now set out an action plan to decarbonise our activities from 2021 onwards to improve our overall sustainability. We aim to update and review the plan annually and in future years integrate further with work being done by our local communities and businesses.

We have grouped the actions into 6 themes and provide a full breakdown including a resource plan at **Appendix A**.

The themes of our Decarbonisation Plan are as follows:-

### 1. Waste

We will tackle waste in the most sustainable way. Emissions generated by the handling of municipal waste is by far the biggest contributor to the Council's greenhouse gas emissions at over 45% of total footprint. Whether its kerbside uplifts, recycling, food waste in school canteens or commercial waste we want to consume less, waste less and send less to landfill. This will require support from both our local households and businesses in terms of behavioural change as well as adopting new methods of process change.

### 2. Energy and Water Consumption

We want to reduce resource consumption in our buildings, particularly fossil fuels. We need to consume less energy and be more efficient with heating oil, gas, electricity and water in our schools, offices, depots and other buildings. This will require building users to behave differently but also involve switching to alternative sources of energy and generate renewable energy where conditions allow for it.

### 3. Transport

Emissions from our commercial fleet like buses, bin lorries, vans and cars including business miles equate to around 14% of the Council's overall Carbon Footprint. Changing the way we work by using technology during the COVID19 pandemic reduced business mileage by 90%. Reducing the need to travel and ways we work will contribute to

this as well as changing to more efficient and environmentally friendly vehicles.

### 4. Prepare and adapt for impacts of climate change

Regardless of how successful we are in the delivery of our Decarbonisation Plan the impacts and effects of Climate Change are already being felt and we will continue to experience more frequent and severe weather events. We will need to plan and invest in infrastructure and resilience that will be ready for additional flooding, storm events, sea level rises and service disruption.

### 5. Offset our emissions through partnership and innovation

We benefit from outstanding natural resources and assets in Argyll and Bute and opportunities exist for carbon capture in peatland restoration, tree planting and other forms of offsetting. We will work with partners to deliver this.

### 6. Tell you about it and encourage community to do their bit #climatefriendlyABC

We will use our social media and communication outlets to promote, highlight and encourage activities of the Decarbonisation Plan and environmental sustainability in general. We will also form a pillar membership of the Climate Change Short Life Working group with the Community Planning Partnership. We will engage with communities, groups and service users on climate matters using #climatefriendlyABC.



*School led Beach Clean*

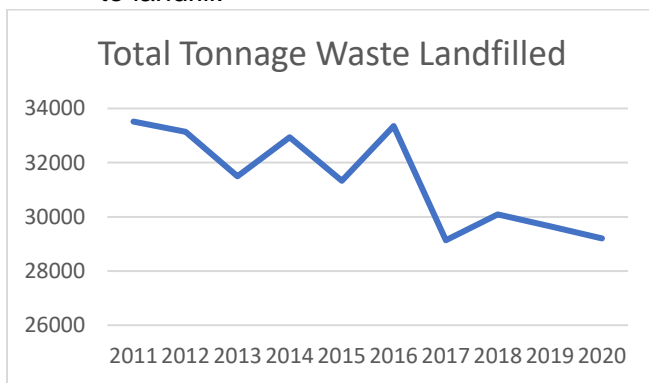




## Waste

The Scottish Government has several targets for reducing waste and increasing recycling. By 2025, they aim to:

- reduce total waste arising in Scotland by 15% against 2011 levels;
- reduce food waste by 33% against 2013 levels;
- recycle 70% of remaining waste; and
- send no more than 5% of remaining waste to landfill.



In Argyll and Bute since 2009 we have reduced the amount of waste we send to landfill by 13% and at the same time the amount of waste that we recover and recycle has gone up by around 6756 tonnes per year. Landfill accounts for around half of the Council's annual production of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>e).

The landfill ban is a measure brought in under the Waste Regulations (Scotland) 2012. By ending landfill as a means of disposal and switching to disposal via Energy from Waste (EfW) the Scottish Government expect a significant reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>e generated from waste. The ban was planned to come into force across all of Scotland from January 2021. However the deadline for compliance with the ban has now been put back to 2025.

Changing the Council's waste disposal methodology with a move away from landfill to EfW is challenging particularly in Argyll and Bute where we have some unique circumstances such as our geography and long standing contracts with

suppliers.

We are developing and implementing a Waste Strategy that commits the council to working to meet the Scottish Government's Zero Waste and Circular Economy targets by basing our waste disposal services around the waste hierarchy. Achieving this objective will have positive effect on the Council's greenhouse gas output. Through framing the policy initiative on the waste hierarchy we will also be able to achieve savings as a smaller decreasing amount of waste goes to disposal or recovery via energy from waste. Using promotional tools such as social media and the Council's website as well as direct engagement at events etc. we will educate residents, business, visitors and Council employees on the need to reduce, reuse and recycle following the waste hierarchy to reduce waste going for either disposal or recovery.

W1 –Develop and Implement Waste Strategy



In the Waste Strategy the Council acknowledged that the public of Argyll and Bute has a crucial role to play in not only maintaining current recycling and diversion rates levels, but also in making positive changes supporting the Council's ability to increase those rates. Strong community education and communications will be implemented and sustained with regular refreshes of content to reinforce the waste reduction message.



## Waste

- Cradle to grave information on all of our different waste streams, detailing the end destinations of our waste;
- Application to the Recycling Infrastructure Fund to carry out improvements that support recycling at Civic Amenity Sites.
- Advice on how to reduce food waste;
- Active promotion of local reuse charities and groups;
- Guidance on beach cleans and marine litter;
- Publication of the council's annual waste performance information; and
- Clear unambiguous guidance on what can and cannot be recycled by the council.

W2 –Promote the Waste Hierarchy through community education

### Food, Catering, PPE and Plastics

The theme of climate change and waste reduction is a thread that runs throughout all catering activities in our schools and commercial outlets. Pupils are also encouraged to retain their 'Eco Schools' standard and our catering service holds a Bronze Soil Association Accreditation.

As with many parts of the Council, Catering will continue to minimise the use of disposables and single use plastics - the service is keen to reduce its waste to landfill, and prior to Covid 19, many primary schools across Argyll and Bute had removed all disposables from their lunchtime service. In secondary schools, and commercial cafes, disposables were fully biodegradable and compostable, and incentives were in place to encourage individuals to use reusable cups, mugs, bottles and crockery. Straws and other non-essential plastics had been entirely removed from all services.

W3 –Reduce Council use of disposable and single use plastics across all departments and settings

Although the pandemic has resulted in the reintroduction of some disposables including PPE, the intention will be to remove these when it is safe to do so.

Tackling food waste - pre ordering is in effect across most schools which not only protects individual choice, but minimises food waste, as the catering staff only prepare food based on orders. This will be extended further with the exploration of a pre-order app for secondary schools and a home online ordering for Primary schools.

W4 –Extend and explore pre-ordering for school meals to reduce food waste



### Schools

Many of our schools reduce, reuse and recycle across the school estate and through their learning activities and lessons. Learning for Sustainability is supported by Education Scotland and delivered in schools through outdoor learning, sustainable education and global citizenship. This academic session the Education Department hosted an Education Climate Summit to reach all stakeholders and bring together some of the best practice within Argyll and Bute. Initiatives such as Eco Schools Scotland, the Rights Respecting Schools programme and the John Muir Award support our learners to be educated to understand their environment, culture and heritage; and develop a sense of place and belonging to their local, national and global community.



Pupils with produce picked from their school polytunnel

## Energy and Water Consumption

### Fossil Fuels and Biomass

Over the last 15 years, Argyll and Bute Council has steadily reduced its heating oil consumption by approximately 73% (from circa 23 million kWh of oil per annum to circa 6.3 million kWh per annum), largely through fuel conversions to biomass/gas fuel sources and introduction of heat pumps, with lower cost and carbon emissions.

The Council has 13 biomass installations, with installed capacity of circa 3.2MW, using combinations of wood pellet and locally sourced wood chip for fuel. A further 140kW biomass boiler was integrated into the recently constructed Mull Progressive Care facility, a joint project between West Highland Housing Association, National Health Service and Argyll and Bute Council.

Argyll and Bute Council, in conjunction with a specialist consultant, has assessed the bulk of its estate (over 1,100 land/property assets) as part of phase 1 of the Renewables Sourcing Strategy (RSS1). The assessment reviewed the available renewable technologies and screened the Council's land/property asset information to identify and rank (using key benefits criteria) the most appropriate renewable energy installations. All of the most viable projects have now been delivered. Projects have been funded on a 'spend to save' basis and have accessed supportive UK Government funding in the form of Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) and Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI). We are

aiming to update this study as part of a second phase of assessment.

### E1 –Deliver Renewable Sourcing Strategy 2

11 sites were identified for energy efficiency improvements to be delivered through the Scottish Government Non Domestic Energy Efficiency Framework (NDEEF). An outcome being enhanced energy solutions delivering carbon and cost reduction. Phase 1 of the NDEEF participation is currently underway and involves capital investment of circa £1.2million with a project payback of circa 10 years (i.e. annual revenue saving of over £120,000). First phase works are currently being implemented and are expected to be complete by the end of calendar year 2021. A second phase of NDEEF participation will be developed through 2022.



Ardrishaig Primary School biomass boilerhouse

### E2 –Delivery of Non Domestic Energy Efficiency Framework (NDEEF) Projects

#### Solar

Argyll and Bute Council has installed around 1.1MW of solar photovoltaic (pv) panels across 19 sites, mainly on school buildings.

Solar photovoltaic solutions continue to be

## Energy and Water Consumption

developed though grid connections are still constrained at 50kW at various locations. Some viable installations are currently being delivered through the NDEEF Phase 1 project (Refer to E3 or as re-named) and other prospective installations are proposed to be combined with an upcoming solar pv maintenance contract.

E3 –Deliver additional solar pv installations at Council assets

### Water

A total of 80 targeted water efficiency and asset verification audits have been conducted and recommendations arising are currently being implemented. Aspirations are that this project will deliver a reduction on water use of up to 15%.



*Tobermory Pre5 Unit has Energy Performance Certificate rated at Level 'A'*

E4 –Deliver water efficiency audits across our estate

### Housing Services and Fuel Poverty

Between 2016 and 2020, 1,408 households have received insulation measures through the Energy Efficient Scotland: Area Based Scheme (ABS). Insulation measures make homes warmer, reduce energy bills and decrease carbon emissions.

As a result of installing insulation measures to 285 households in 2019/20, it is estimated that 262.5 tonnes of carbon emissions were saved.

The Energy Efficient Scotland programme is an area based scheme, funded by the Scottish Government and delivered by Argyll and Bute Council which will continue to run until at least 2024. This scheme will offer insulation measures to private households throughout Argyll and Bute. This scheme will contribute to reducing carbon emissions and improving energy efficiency of homes, as well as being part of the Scottish Government's route map to an energy efficient Scotland.

In 2020, Argyll and Bute Council supported Argyll Community Housing Association with their Warm Homes Project. £1million of funding was used to install external wall insulation to eligible private homes in mixed tenure blocks. 131 private owners were supported with 51 blocks of flats receiving insulation. This supports ACHA's wider programme where they are installing over 1000 air source heat pumps across Argyll and Bute.

Through the Energy Efficiency Forum, Argyll and Bute Council will continue to support key partners on their projects which will impact on reducing carbon emissions.



*ACHA's External Wall Insulation works in Oban*

Through the Strategic Housing Investment Fund, housing association partners have to build properties to greener standards.

E5 –Delivery of Energy Efficient Scotland Programme





## Energy and Water Consumption

Roads and Infrastructure Services have completed 85% of our LED Luminaire replacement Street Light Network.

E6 –Complete LED streetlight replacement programme

### Renewable Energy Alliance

The Argyll and Bute Renewable Energy Alliance (ABRA) was established in 2011 and brings together key public and private sector partners - including Argyll and Bute Council, the Scottish Government, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), Marine Scotland, Scottish Power Renewables, Scottish and Southern Energy, the Crown Estate Scotland, Nature Scotland and Skills Development Scotland - to ensure a greater awareness of all the issues relating to renewable development across Argyll and Bute, and to assist with delivering the Renewable Energy Action Plan.

ABRA have supported the development of community renewables through Community Renewables Opportunity Portal webpages and the development of the Council's wind turbine, Miss Hoolie. When constructing Miss Hoolie, the contractor engaged actively with local school pupils to discuss renewable energy generation.

ABRA work with on-shore wind developers to ensure that maximum benefit is realised at a local level including through local economic opportunities and voluntary benefit funds. We are working with a developer on a new strategic concordat that will ensure that a wider economic benefit can be delivered to our communities.

There are approximately 300 consented, operational renewable sites in Argyll and Bute with a capacity of more than 1.6 gigawatts (GW). There are many more small-scale renewable and low energy installations which have utilised permitted development rights and so are not included in these figures.

There are 16 operational commercial windfarms (8 on Kintyre Peninsula) with a combined Capacity of 269 MW.

A number of our communities have developed and own their own wind turbines, solar panels, hydropower turbines and biomass boilers which all help to generate energy locally, provide income and support community investment and activities.

The [interactive renewables map](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/renewable-energy#in_map) is a tool developed by the Council which allows people to access up to date information from our planning system on renewable energy sites across Argyll and Bute. [https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/renewable-energy#in\\_map](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/renewable-energy#in_map).

### Islay Local Energy network

The Council, working with HIE, Scottish Government and the local community, have prepared an options appraisal considering the delivery of local energy networks on Islay to overcome grid capacity challenges. The options appraisal was published in early 2021 and is available at <https://localenergy.scot/local-energy-systems/islay-s-local-energy-system/>.

The project is one that currently sits within the Rural Growth Deal. [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/rgd](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/rgd) and we are working to develop outline business cases to take elements of work forward.

E7 –Continue support of ABRA and review Renewable Energy Action Plan annually

### Supporting the development of off shore wind

The Scotwind Leasing Round was launched by Crown Estate Scotland in summer 2020 and closed in summer 2020. Subject to a developer successfully securing a lease for the development of the W1 site off the west coast of Argyll, it will potentially lead to the development of an offshore wind farm north-west of Islay during the 2030s, all consenting and financial requirements would need to be addressed before work can start.





We maintain online information for all prospective developers at the [Scotwind Developers Prospectus story map](#).

E8 –Continue support for offshore development of renewables

## Transport

### Fleet

The Council operates 40 hybrid vehicles and 13 battery electric vehicles within its Fleet supporting many internal services. The 53 vehicles equates to 11.4% of the Fleet operating hybrid/electric. Older diesel vehicles were removed from the fleet which has seen a reduction in CO2. The Council



*New hybrid fleet car with Climate Friendly ABC Branding*

Fleet Replacement Strategy looks to procure more fuel efficient vehicles and ultimately reduce the carbon footprint in line with Scottish Government changes in legislation in 2025, 2030 and 2045.

T1 –Develop a Fleet Replacement Strategy supportive of fuel efficient, electric and hybrid vehicles

Fleet Services aim to introduce a new vehicle routing system to scrutinise existing routes and hopefully highlight a more efficient internal transport system.

T2 –Develop a vehicle routing system that will reduce road miles for operations

Given the increasing prominence of plug in hybrid and all electric vehicles being used by the Council and the public the Council has committed to develop an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy.

T3 –Develop an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy

### Marine

A new ferry for Lismore will be in service this year bringing modern and efficient marine engines to the route which will reduce the emissions footprint from the current vessel.

On the Eilean Dhiura ferry operating between Islay and Jura both engines have been replaced with 'Tier 2' units which are more fuel efficient and have lower NOx & SOx emissions. This was part of a life extension which should see the Eilean Dhiura to continue until a new vessel is constructed.

The concept design of any new ferry will incorporate all appropriate technologies available but should also utilise a modular approach to ensure the new innovations and regulations of the future are more easily integrated throughout the vessel lifetime.

### Reduce the need to travel

One impact of the pandemic has been to increase the use of digital technology for communications and reduce the need for face to face contact and travel. Business mileage during mid 2020 reduced by over 75% and indications are that the majority of staff wish to continue working at home in part or full. This will evolve in time as part of the Council's Recovery Plan and Digital by Default themed service review.

T4 –Support Digital by Default Themed Service Review and Recovery Plan to reduce travel

### Active Travel

Active Travel includes walking, cycling and wheeling. The small 1.3FTE Active Travel Team

secured £2.3M through successful competitive challenge fund applications, to deliver a wide range of active travel and social distancing in 2020/21. Projects funded included the Lochgilphead Colchester Square/Argyll Street public realm improvements, Ardrishaig & Dunoon Cycle Bothies, Discover Rothesay and Dunoon Forward Smartphone Apps, improved paths to Oban High School and Tayvallich Primary School, improvements to footways in Bowmore, temporary social distancing signs for town centres and schools, bus stop improvements in Kintyre, new cycle shelters at 5 schools, 17 new community cycle repair stands, support to ACT to construct a cycle track and cycle repair facilities at Blarbuie Woodland in Lochgilphead, cycle parking and improved lighting and vehicle bollards at Tarbert Harbourside and improvements to the Whiteshore Path, Tarbert. Design work was also progressed for longer term pedestrian and cycle improvement projects in Rothesay, Helensburgh-Cardross-Dumbarton, Lochgilphead, Ardrishaig, Oban and Bowmore.

T5 –Develop new active travel plans for Council buildings and our towns

## Prepare and adapt for impacts of climate change

### Roads and Infrastructure

The Council has a varied capital investment plan that includes a number of resilience and climate change related projects preparing for sea level rises, increased flood events and protection of essential infrastructure such as roads, bridges, ferry routes and buildings. During the summer of 2020, the Council agreed to invest over £20m and commence works on the Helensburgh Waterfront Development which has seen the installation of new and improved flood defences in that area of Helensburgh town centre.

The Council is in the process of reviewing both the

flooding and coastal protection policies, which include climate change actions.



*New flood defences being installed at Helensburgh Waterfront, October 2020*

PA1 –Review Council flooding and coastal protection policy

### Capital works and procurement

The Council's Major Projects team is currently working with their colleagues in the Procurement, Commercial and Contract Management Team to develop template assessment and award criteria for assessing the impact on its climate reduction targets, associated with the letting of large capital works contracts. This will align with the requirements of the Council's Procurement Strategy 2022/25 and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2022/25, and any subsequent revisions thereof.

Services will review project inception documentation to ensure that it includes questions relating to climate change when beginning new projects such as:

- Can the structure be repaired/maintained/repurposed instead of requiring a new asset creation?

- Can the design include ways to offset x% of carbon emissions from construction?
- Can a new road be designed to aid fuel efficient driving?
- Can alternative construction methods / materials be used to reduce carbon emissions?
- Can any demolition materials / arisings be reused elsewhere on other relevant projects (e.g. suitable dredge material for beach replenishment, demolished stone as infill material)?
- Can structure elements be standardised to minimise waste (e.g. rebar cutting, reused concrete formwork)?
- Can felled trees for site clearance be used as timber, and replaced nearby?

PA2 –Review Sustainable Procurement Policy on an annual basis

## Offset our emissions through partnership and innovation

Argyll and Bute benefits from outstanding natural assets and opportunities exist for carbon capture in peatland restoration, tree planting and other forms of offsetting. We will work with partners to deliver this.

### Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT)

ACT is a member of our Climate Change Board and partner with the Council on multiple projects and share a number of common objectives around people in nature.

ACT's Woodland Enterprise is an innovative new venture supporting biodiversity improvements, carbon sequestration, and community access to and involvement with Argyll's woodlands.

Agreements between ACT, Argyll and Bute Council and SSEN have been reached to deliver over 30 hectares of native tree planting on Council

owned land in Mid Argyll. An additional 30 hectares have been earmarked for planting and securing carbon credits that the Council can use to contribute towards emissions targets. ACT will use this initial investment from SSEN to attract further funding to expand the model across Argyll.

ACT's native species planting plans will involve communities and volunteers, and offer skills and training opportunities. ACT will establish a trading system to manage transactions between the investor, ACT, and the land manager/owner that recognises the carbon value and the improved biodiversity and social capital ACT will generate at each site.

Income generated can then be invested into further development of the enterprise, and improvement and expansion of Argyll's rainforest, and, thereby, contribute to the sustainable restoration and development of Argyll and Bute's unique and precious natural assets, and the economy that they support.



ACT and partners from Alliance for Scotland's Rainforest at Glen Creran – Photo - Alliance for Scotland's Rainforest

This project links to ACT's other "people in nature" projects, including outdoors health and wellbeing programmes, climate change awareness raising, and outdoor learning and training





## Peatland Restoration on Islay

ACT is a partner in the Collaborative Action for Natura Network (CANN) Project and has a team that focuses on protecting and restoring peatland in designated conservation sites. As part of the CANN project, ACT is focusing on removing non-native invasive species that are encroaching on to protected peatland. Species such as rhododendron *poniticum* dry out the wet bog conditions needed for peat, halting the carbon sequestration process, and even releasing stored carbon back into the atmosphere. ACT is engaged with landowners and contractors to treat almost 150 ha of rhododendron across Islay and Colonsay in an effort to improve the condition of these protected sites, increasing their ability to sequester carbon. This includes developing conservation action plans and training courses, local people are being equipped to continue to combat rhododendron and improve these sites after the project end date in 2022. ACT is currently developing a follow on project to extend the legacy of CANN and the broad stakeholder engagement ACT has established.



## **Tell you about it and encourage community to do their bit**

Protecting our environment from the impacts of how we use it needs action from us all.

Argyll and Bute's council is committed to leading good practice and sharing ideas on how we can all do our bit.

Leading by example, and showing others how they can get involved in making Argyll and Bute climate-friendly, will be key in achieving success for our environment.

We set out, through our communications plan, to highlight the steps the council and others are taking to involve as many people as possible in making Argyll and Bute climate-friendly.

This highlighted the many things we can do on a day to day basis that protect our environment – as individuals, as businesses and as organisations. It ranged from:

- Details on the council's actions to reduce its carbon footprint
- Regular social media campaigns on recycling and reducing food waste;
- How people can improve home insulation, save money and reduce energy;
- Encouraging people to recycle more and providing them with details on what happens to the materials they recycle; and
- Highlighting the success of our Eco Schools and congratulating the achievements of our pupils.

Our 'Climate Friendly Argyll and Bute' badge is now incorporated into publications, displayed on our hybrid and electric vehicles, and featured across social media etc. We are encouraged that partner organisations use it to flag their activities, which demonstrates the joined-up



ACT Conservation Officer undertaking a peatland habitat survey on Islay – Photo - ACT

OFF1 –Develop opportunities for Carbon Offsetting with ACT and partners





working going on across Argyll and Bute to tackle climate change.

We are using social media and media releases to engage and encourage people to make small changes that, collectively, will make a big difference to Argyll and Bute's environment.

The Council also delivered focused campaign to build on the local events that support the aims of COP 26, the global climate change conference held in Glasgow in November 2021. This has included a full programme of social media and media promotion highlighting the great work going on throughout Argyll and Bute, including:

- The Education Climate Summit (Sept 2021);
- Argyll and Bute's Challenge Climate Change Event (6<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021);
- Infographics demonstrating council and community achievements; and
- Information for businesses on how to be more 'green' and save money, through Zero Waste Scotland events.

We will continue to talk about what the council is doing to meet and exceed its climate change obligations for the future. Addressing climate change means long-term action; communication about climate issues will therefore be regular and on-going.

We can all play the part we need to, to protect the environment on which we all depend. Argyll and Bute's council will inspire, engage and lead that drive.

COMM1 –Develop and Deliver a Communication Plan to support the Decarbonisation Plan

## Future Engagement and Community Planning Mapping

This is our second Decarbonisation Plan that focuses on activities of the Council as an

operational business. We brought forward this plan to focus attention on our low carbon recovery in 2021 and through this plan have reviewed them for 2022.

We aim to review this plan in 2022 and also work with other organisations, partners and our communities to strengthen this plan and evolve into a wider Climate Change Strategy for our region. The actions of the plan identified in Appendix 1 will be monitored by the Climate Change Board and progress reported on.

In 2022 with our Community Planning Partners we aim to develop an online Climate Change Directory of what is happening in Argyll and Bute. This will involve working with a range of partners from within the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) including Youth Parliament, Nature Scotland (previously Scottish Natural Heritage) and the National Park. We will also be engaging with community groups working on mitigating climate change through our four Area Community Planning Groups and the Council's Community Planning and Development Team.

We will investigate ways to map all our partner initiatives to show where there is positive action and learning. The expected outputs include:

- A web directory – signposting, to show what is happening.
- Looking at how can we make a directory fun and interesting to view? Animation, videos, links to picture rich and interactive sites.
- Highlight good practice, key initiatives.
- Work to showcase one or two particular Argyll and Bute focused projects.
- Identifying the gaps.
- Links to funding.

COMM2 –Engage with community and partners and deliver Climate Change Directory for our region



The Council is also a member of the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) and this plan has been reviewed by the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation. The SSN gives the Council national reach and helps improve alignment of efforts with SG and other public sector bodies. SSN also represents an opportunity to share good practice, develop common approaches and efficiencies.

COMM3 –Monitor the delivery of actions in the Climate Change Action Plan and review in 2022-2025



## APPENDIX 1 – Climate Change Action Plan

ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
W1 –Develop and Implement Waste Strategy	(L) Roads and Amenity Services, Community, commercial customers	Implementation of the Waste Strategy transitioning to Landfill ban compliant Residual Waste Recovery solutions by 2025.	External funding and support being sought from the Scottish Government	<p>Negotiations with Scottish Government officials continue; a joint Officer/Official Working group has been established to develop proposals further.</p> <p>The Scottish Government Announced a £70m capital funding pot to improve Recycling Infrastructure. We intend to make a joint bid with West Dunbartonshire Council for funding to build a new joint Waste Transfer Station that would serve Helensburgh and Lomond and support landfill ban compliance.</p> <p>A bid to the Recycling infrastructure fund has been made that if successful will improve recycling facilities at</p>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				council operated Civic Amenity Sites. The improvements proposed as part of the application will support recycling and reuse and enhance the experience of site users.
<b>W2 – Promote the Waste Hierarchy through community Education</b>	(L) Roads and Amenity Services	Evidence of community Education	Not secured	New Web content and Education materials for Primary and Secondary Schools were developed and delivered to online Education Environment Summit October 21 and the COP 26 Event on the 6 <sup>th</sup> November 21.
<b>W3 – Reduce Council use of disposable and single use plastics across all departments and settings</b>	(L) Procurement and Commercial Services, all Council Services	Adoption of new working practices and procurement	No specific funding in place, research required to impact on operation costs	<p>A decision would need to be taken at the Council-level on our approach to disposable and single use plastics. Once a decision is taken, procurement can provide support to Council Services in sourcing supplies.</p> <p>Note new legal change likely to come into force in Jan 22 restricting single-use plastic</p>





ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>cutlery, plates, straws, drink stirrers and balloon sticks, expanded polystyrene food containers and expanded polystyrene cups and other beverage containers, as well as all products made of oxo-degradable plastic.</p> <p>Some products already changed and others under review. Contact also established with Scotland Excel. Statement received from Scotland Excel on single use plastics:</p> <p><i>“We have addressed the matter of single use plastics over the last few years in line with Govt. Legislation.</i></p> <p><i>There are a number of areas that have specifically been addressed such as the removal of plastic straws on the school milk cartons,</i></p>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p><i>encouraging suppliers to look at pricing against items such as wooden cutlery as opposed to plastic cutlery and more bio degradable disposables on the catering sundries framework as opposed to plastics.</i></p> <p><i>Zero Waste Scotland have been involved in the recycling of plastic bottles with the return deposit scheme :-</i>  <a href="https://www.gov.scot/news/dep-osit-return-scheme/">https://www.gov.scot/news/dep-osit-return-scheme/</a> which we will be promoting through our suppliers.</p> <p><i>There is also useful info within this link :-</i>  <a href="https://wrap.org.uk/resources/market-situation-reports/plastics-2019">https://wrap.org.uk/resources/market-situation-reports/plastics-2019</a></p> <p><i>As a matter of course, we look at the environmental aspect of specific items that are included within any tendering activity in</i></p>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<i>order to ensure we address the commodity specific concerns.</i>
W4 – Extend and explore pre-ordering for school food to reduce food waste	(L) Commercial Services and Education	Evidence of extension of pre-ordering & food waste reduction	No specific funding in place, research required to impact on operation costs	Being scoped out by ICT.  National solution also being looked at with Scotland Excel and following universal roll out of Free School Meals for primary school children by Aug 22.
E1 – Deliver Renewable Sourcing Strategy 2	(L) Commercial Services	Adoption of Strategy	RSS2 consultancy work funding to be confirmed; expectation is that project implementation will be through combinations of prudential borrowing (subject to business case approvals) and/or external funding.	RSS2 next stage development work includes specification development and preparation of invitation to tender for specialist consultancy support. Current work in progress; tender issue in FQ4 2021/2022 expected.  Whilst this larger procurement exercise is conducted, a Quick Quote was developed in



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>conjunction with Procurement colleagues to secure consultancy support to assist with immediate renewable consultancy requirements (including development of items E2 and E4). This interim contract has now expired but existing commissioned work-streams will be concluded.</p>
<p><b>E2 – Delivery of Non-domestic Energy Efficiency Framework (NDEEF) Projects</b></p>	<p>(L) Commercial Services</p>	<p>Evidence of delivery of projects</p>	<p>Project development work is funded by combinations of the Scottish Government and the procured provider (costs absorbed within the tender process).</p> <p>Funding for project implementation will come from Council approved capital allocations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change 20/21 - £500K</li> <li>• Climate Change 21/22 -</li> </ul>	<p>Current position that the NDEEF Energy Performance Contract was signed on 16 July 2021. Detailed design work has now been completed. Works on site started on 30 August 2021 and all site works are programmed to be completed by the end of the calendar year 2021. Solar PV schemes on the roofs at Kilmory Extension (12kW) and Lochgilphead CEC (25kW) have been replaced by a ground array at Kilmory Gardens (50kW). The following renewable solutions are</p>





ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
			£600K <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asset Sustainability – circa £100K</li> </ul>	<p>also being developed within the NDEEF package:</p> <p><b>Solar PV:</b> Manse Brae Roads Office, Kilmory Gardens, Riverside Leisure Centre, Rothesay Pool, GWIT Centre, Moat Centre, Lochgilphead RC, Kintyre House.</p> <p><b>Air Source Heat Pump:</b> Manse Brae Roads Office, Lochgilphead CEC, Strachur Primary School, Lochgilphead RC, Arrochar Primary School.</p> <p>In addition to the above, the procurement sourcing strategy for the next batch of sites, using designation NDEEF2, is under way.</p>
<b>E3 – Delivery of additional solar installations at Council assets</b>	(L) Commercial Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Consultancy work funding to be confirmed; expectation is that project implementation will be through combinations of prudential borrowing (subject to	Solar pv Options (initial feasibility work completed for circa 9 sites) – some opportunities absorbed within NDEEF (Ref item E3) as project replacements due to



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
			business case approvals) and/or external funding.	accommodation reviews. A ‘mop up’ of remaining project prospects intended to be market tested as a component within an upcoming solar pv maintenance contract (FQ3-4 2021/2022).
E4 – Delivery of Water Efficiency Audits across our Estate	(L) Commercial Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Feasibility work being absorbed within existing approved budgets.  Individual works items are generally small scale and it is proposed to utilise existing approved budgets where possible.	Ongoing Council wide asset verification exercise and ensuring water use minimised. Approx. 80no. works instructions issued to conduct water efficiency audits on a range of sites. Audits now substantially completed and collated report received/reviewed. Investigation continues and there is potentially 8 larger sites where surface water drainage charges could be saved in the 21/22 financial year.



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
E5– Delivery of Energy Efficiency Scotland Programme	(L) Housing Services, Registered Social Landlords	Evidence of delivery of projects	Part for current financial year	<p>Covid lockdown delayed insulation works in 2020/21. However, works were caught up when lockdown ended.</p> <p>The Scottish Government have confirmed an award of £1,742,819 for the 2021/22 Area Based Scheme.</p>
E6 – Complete LED streetlight replacement programme	(L) Roads and Infrastructure Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Fully funded through prudential borrowing	<p>The Project was halted by Covid and some of the Council’s Street Lighting Inventory is still to be upgraded in the Lorn Area where we are still to replace approx. 1100 no. Luminaires. The Council has 14442 streetlights in total so carbon emissions have already been greatly reduced by the LED Upgrade Project.</p> <p>2019/20 figures were CO2 Totals 889 tonnes, this has been reducing year on year, back in</p>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>2015/16 figures were CO2 Totals 3140 tonnes.</p> <p>The last of the projects installation / upgrade phases will be completed in early 2022.</p>
<p><b>E7 – Continue support of ABRA and review Renewable Energy Strategy annually</b></p>	<p>(L) Economic Development</p>	<p>Evidence of delivery of projects</p>	<p>Officer resource to support currently funded</p>	<p>Work to support ABRA ongoing. Meeting planned for December 2021.</p> <p>Current ongoing project by SSE Networks for renewal of powerlines between Inveraray and Crossaig. Possible extension being discussed. Work commenced to prepare outline business case for progressing Islay Energy System work through the Rural Growth Deal.</p>





ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
E8 – Continue support for offshore development of renewables	(L) Economic Development	Evidence of delivery of projects  (expected late 2020s/early 2030s)	Officer resource to support currently funded	Offshore wind allocation off Islay is confirmed in Marine Plan.  Outcome of Scotwind Leasing not yet known.
T1 – Develop a Fleet Replacement Strategy supportive of fuel efficient, electric and hybrid vehicles	(L) Roads and Infrastructure Services	Adoption of Strategy	Part for current financial year	The Strategy is complete, final review will take place to ensure the 2025 legislative changes are included. A brochure will then be designed.
T2 – Develop a vehicle routing system that will reduce road miles for operations	(L) Roads and Infrastructure Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Part for current financial year	The vehicle routing system is currently with procurement for final sign off prior to tender.
T3 – Develop an electric vehicle infrastructure strategy	(L) Roads and Infrastructure Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Part for current financial year  The development of the EV network is funded by external	On track  Cost recovery [stage 1] in place 1 <sup>st</sup> April



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
			<p>grant monies from Transport Scotland, and the costs of developing the strategy in terms of staff time are covered via existing budgets</p> <p>Ultimately the cost recovery model</p>	<p>Ongoing development of future install criteria with a view to sharing a draft for consultation later in the year</p> <p>The strategy isn't about the delivery of projects per se, rather it's about setting up the framework for cost recovery which was agreed at Council and will be in place 1st April; then developing a set of criteria for site selection and funding applications for future development of the network inc. public and council e.g. offices, depots, school estate, coinciding with the vehicle replacement programme.</p>
<p><b>T4 – Support Digital by Default theme Service Review &amp; Recovery Plan to reduce need to travel</b></p>	<p>All Council Departments</p>	<p>Evidence of delivery of projects</p>	<p>Part for current financial year</p>	<p>Council is adopting 'Our Modern Workspace' programme and Digital First approach as services</p>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				change and evolve post pandemic.
T5 – Develop new active travel plans for Council buildings and our towns	(L) Economic Development	Evidence of delivery of projects	Part for current financial year	The purpose of active travel plans, for buildings or towns, is to help direct and implement change to encourage and make it as easy as possible for individuals, businesses and visitors to choose to walk, cycle or take public transport for journeys. Increasing activity and reducing sedentary behaviour has significant health benefits and can increase accessibility to essential services, education, employment, retail and leisure. Walking and cycling are lower cost travel modes and, if they are a viable option, can help households reduce their reliance on private cars,



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>particularly multiple car households.</p> <p>No Council funding is currently expended on genuine Active Travel work, with all costs, including internal staff costs (1.3FTE), having to be funded via successfully securing external challenge funds. As all active travel work is currently reliant on securing external funding, therefore the projects which are progressed are those which can successfully secure external challenge funding.</p> <p><b>Council Staff Travel Plan:</b> The Staff Travel Plan will focus on measures to make it easier and preferable for staff to choose to walk, cycle, use public transport or car share to commute to work or for work</p>





ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>journeys, or use economical Council vehicles for work journeys. The travel plan should encourage staff to choose the most economical and least environmentally damaging travel mode. Some initial work has been undertaken by external consultants, focussing on staff based at the larger offices. Further engagement and development is required with Estates, HR, SMT and building users to create deliverable and effective travel plans for Council staff. It is recommended that work on the Council Staff Travel Plan is recommenced after a decision has been made on future staff working patterns and office rationalisation as these may</p>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>have a significant impact on the Council Staff Travel Plan. There is currently no funding secured to enable this work to be progressed.</p> <p><b>Active Travel Plans for Towns:</b> There are Active Travel Plans in place for the main towns in Argyll and Bute, albeit some are now quite historic. The town Active Travel Plans focus on identifying potential active travel route networks for key towns. These provide a framework for the development of new active travel routes, which will enable and encourage residents, businesses and visitors to choose to travel more actively. No funding is currently secured to enable the</p>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>Active Travel Plans for towns to be updated.</p> <p><b>Argyll and Bute Active Travel Strategy:</b> It is recommended the Committee instruct Officers to develop an Argyll and Bute Active Travel Strategy and present it to full Council for approval by the end of 2022. The Active Travel Strategy would provide the overarching context for the Council to support and promote active travel across the Council area.</p>
PA1 – Review Council Flooding & Coastal Protection Policy	(L) Roads and Infrastructure Services	Review of policy	No specific funding in place, research required to impact on operation costs	Reviews are in process.



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
PA2 – Review Council Sustainable Procurement Policy	(L) Procurement	Review of policy	No specific funding in place, research required to impact on operation costs	This policy is reviewed on an annual basis.
OFF1 – Develop opportunities for Carbon Offsetting with ACT and partners	(L) Climate Change Board, ACT and partners	Delivery of projects	Limited funding via ACT for existing projects	<p>ACT agreement to undertake 30 hectares of native woodland planting at Kilmory as part of SSEN’s compensatory planting condition has been agreed by Policy and Resources Committee. An additional 30 ha of Council owned land has been allocated for ACT to plant and secure Carbon Credits (to be retained by Argyll and Bute Council). Heads of Terms with SSEN now signed off. Planting at Kilmory is due to commence winter 21/22. Heads of Terms with SSEN now signed off.</p> <p>Peatland restoration work on Islay continues for ACT’s CANN project.</p>





ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>569 hectares of peatland has been improved as result of project. Follow on project for peatland restoration piloting private/public finance arrangement under development, working with Argyll and Bute Council Planning Department.</p> <p>Carbon Literacy Training delivered by ACT is progressing with high uptake across agency and community representatives. Plans to expand training opportunity to include offsetting and provision of Argyll-specific resources being explored.</p> <p>ACT Now projects has diverted over 50 bikes from landfill in Bikes Back to Community Scheme and ACTNow's food share scheme has diverted over 3 tonnes of food waste from landfill since its launch in Lochgilphead this year.</p>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
<b>COMM1- Develop and deliver Communications Plan to support Decarbonisation Plan</b>	(L) Climate Change Board and Communications Team	Delivery of Communications Plan	Part of Communications Support	<b>External communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoted first active travel railway carriage.</li> <li>• Outdoor, climate friendly early learning.</li> <li>• Insulation grant promotion to save energy.</li> <li>• Promotion of active travel via Dunoon cycle bothy.</li> <li>• Promotion of planting partnership with ACT.</li> <li>• Promotion of new blue bin service for Kintyre to help encourage more recycling.</li> <li>• Vision for Helensburgh-Garelochhead cycle route press release.</li> <li>• Reinforcement of Climate Friendly brand in social</li> </ul>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>media posts and encouraging others to use it</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed a calendar of promotion for COP26 on social media channels.</li> <li>• Promoted education climate summit over series of 9 social media posts and two press releases including case studies</li> <li>• Promotion of Rothesay walking and cycling safer route</li> <li>• Motivate your workplace to save energy</li> <li>• How to choose a green tariff – free webinar</li> <li>• Hermitage Park Green Flag status</li> <li>• Facts about Cruachan Power Station</li> <li>• Facts about Gigha wind turbines</li> </ul>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion of Zero Waste Scotland COP26 webinars</li> <li>• Promoted Helensburgh and Lomond climate change event over 6 posts and two press releases</li> <li>• Promotion of Zero Waste Scotland blog about energy efficiency</li> <li>• What happens to your recycling in Argyll and Bute</li> <li>• How to become a certified CPD Green Champion</li> <li>• Promotion of more than 800 Argyll and Bute renewable sites</li> <li>• Reduce your food waste</li> </ul>
<b>COMM2 - Engage with community and partners and deliver Climate Change Directory for our region</b>	(L) Community Planning and Development Team	Delivery of engagement map	In place until end of financial year	Web page is active and live  <a href="https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/cpp-climate-change">https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/cpp-climate-change</a>



ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>Community Groups and initiatives mapped and promoted on website. Input to and reporting back from the Community Planning Partnership Climate Change Group.</p> <p>Regular update of webpage directory. Ongoing dialogue with Community Planning Partnership.</p> <p>2 x Meetings have taken place with Argyll and Bute Branch of National Farmers Union (NFU) and workshop currently being scoped out to explore Climate Change opportunists across the Agricultural and Land Use Sector. Headline topics likely to include :- Sustainable Upland Farming, Planting for Carbon Sequestration, Dairy Industry and Suckling Beef.</p>





ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
COMM3 - Monitor the delivery of actions in the Climate Change Action Plan and review in 2021	(L) Climate Change Board	Review of this plan by December 2021		Monitored through Tracker to be submitted quarterly to Policy & Resources Committee.