

**AGENDA ITEM NO: 7** 

Report To: Environment & Regeneration Date: 15 May 2025

Committee

Report By: Director, Environment and Report No: ENV030/25/SJ/EM

Regeneration

Contact Officer: Eddie Montgomery Contact No: 01475 712472

Subject: Energy & Climate Change - Net Zero Action Plan Annual Progress

**Review** 

## 1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 □ For Decision □ For Information/Noting

1.2 This report seeks to update the Committee on the progress made against the approved Net Zero Action Plan 2022/27.

1.3 The Environment & Regeneration Committee of 28 October 2021 approved the Net Zero Strategy 2021-2045 (<a href="https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/assets/attach/14504/net-zero-strategy-web.pdf">https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/assets/attach/14504/net-zero-strategy-web.pdf</a>) which sets out Inverclyde Council's route map to achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045. The Net Zero Action Plan 2022/27 was approved by the Committee in November 2022 with funding allocation agreed in March 2023 as part of the 2023/26 Capital Programme.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the current position and the progress on the specific actions of the 2022/27 Net Zero Action Plan as outlined in the report and Appendix 1.

Stuart Jamieson
Director Environment &
Regeneration

#### 3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 Inverclyde Council's Net Zero Strategy sets out a route map to achieving net zero direct greenhouse gas emissions from its operations by 2045, including an interim 2031 target. The primary focus is reducing emissions from the council's buildings, transport, street lighting, water and waste, before considering options for offsetting emissions that cannot be eliminated.
- 3.2 The Strategy will be implemented through a series of Action Plans, the 2022-2027 Action Plan was approved in November 2022 and provides the objectives and associated actions that will target the carbon reductions over the five years of the initial plan, subject to the limit of available funding. It was also agreed that, where appropriate, the proposed action plan projects will require to be brought back to Committee for approval prior to progression following the completion of detailed technical assessments of the one-off capital costs, revenue cost impacts (negative or positive), and carbon reduction improvements.
- 3.3 The Councils Environment & Regeneration Capital programme reflects the allocation of resources approved by Inverclyde Council including £3.3m in March 2023 to address the progression of the agreed 2022/27 Net Zero Action Plan. The Council has also been successful in securing external funding support for a number of Net Zero related projects including peatland restoration (Peatland ACTION Fund) and LED lighting (Museums Galleries Scotland and the Scottish Football Association) projects. The recent allocation from the Scottish Government £40m Climate Change Emergency funding has also been added to current Net Zero fund.

#### 2022/27 Net Zero Action Plan

- 3.4 The Committee has previously approved the Net Zero Action Plan 2022/27 with the last full update presented to the May 2024 Committee and with interim project updates contained within the regular capital programme progress reports to this Committee.
- 3.5 The Actions within the approved Plan have been reviewed by the various Services and Officers with an update on progress included as Appendix 1.

#### 4.0 PROPOSALS

4.1 The Committee are asked to note the progress on the specific actions of the 2022/27 Net Zero Action Plan included as Appendix 1 and note that relevant reports will be brought back for Committee consideration as and when required.

#### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		Х
Legal/Risk	Х	
Human Resources		Х
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)	Х	
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights		Х
& Wellbeing		
Environmental & Sustainability	Х	
Data Protection		Х

#### 5.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report (£000)	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A	-	-	-	-	-

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact (£000)	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A	-	-	-	-	-

## 5.3 Legal/Risk

The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 set a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050 from a 'baseline' year of 1990. Scotland, in 2019, became one of the first countries in the world to declare a 'climate emergency' and amended the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, to set a new legally binding, national target to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by 75 percent by 2030 and then to reach net zero by 2045.

In April 2024, following advice from the Committee on Climate Change that the 2030 target could not be achieved, the Scottish Government put to the Scottish Parliament the 'Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill. The purpose of this Bill is to amend the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to no longer include the 2030 target. The Scottish Government is instead seeking to establish 'carbon budgets' covering periods of five years. A carbon budget would set a limit on the amount of greenhouse gases emitted in Scotland over a five-year period

The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2020' requires public sector bodies to declare a target date for achieving zero direct emissions of their greenhouse gases and annually report on their progress in achieving this.

## 5.4 Human Resources

There are no human resources issues arising from this report.

#### 5.5 Strategic

There are no direct strategic implications as a result of this report.

## 5.6 Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People

## (a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.							
Х	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqIA is not necessary/screening statement.							
Fairer Sco	tland Duty							
Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?								
	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.							
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty.							
Children a	nd Young People							
Has a Chil	dren's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?							
of the repo	implication is applicable, the CRWIA process must be followed. If the subject matter or requires a CRWIA, it must be referenced as a background paper and if available on e, the link should be provided.							
	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.							
Х	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children's rights.							
Environm	ental/Sustainability							
The Councils Net Zero Strategy will be implemented through the 2022/27 Action Plan, which provides the objectives and associated actions that will target the Carbon Reduction Actions over the five years of the plan.								
Has a Stra	tegic Environmental Assessment been carried out?							
	YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.							

NO-This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if

# 5.8 **Data Protection**

Χ

implemented.

(b)

(c)

5.7

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

Where applicable, the corporate DPIA process must be followed. If the subject matter of the report requires a DPIA, it must be referenced as a background paper and if available on the website, the link should be provided.

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

### 6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 Consultation has been undertaken with the Council Officers who form the Climate Change Working Group. The terms of reference for the group were updated in March 2025 with the membership of the group updated/widened to reflect staffing changes and to better align with the Action Plan leads.

## 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.

## Appendix 1

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy /	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
		Plan						

1.	Carbon Reduction Action	n Area: Gover	rnance					
1.1	Work with all Council Services and key partners including the Scottish Government to improve the quality of our emissions data and reporting mechanisms, and reduce carbon emissions annually, to reach Net Zero by 2045	Net Zero Strategy; Climate Change Reporting	Chief Executive; Partners including Scottish Government	Annual Climate Change Reporting to the Scottish Government: Council's total annual corporate emissions	2012/13 emissions	Continue to reduce carbon emissions annually to reach Net Zero as soon as possible	Annual	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

## Progress update - May 2025:

The climate change reporting data submitted by the Council (and reported to the January 2025 Committee) shows the emissions figure reported for 2023/24 as being higher than that of recent years and is similar to that reported in 2017/18. The reason for this is that from the beginning of 2023/24, the Council became responsible for gas and electricity charges for Inverclyde Leisure properties. Even with the addition of Inverclyde Leisure properties, emissions have still reduced significantly from the baseline year of 2012/13 with 2023/24 emissions being around 34% less at 12,528 tonnes. The Council decided not to re-baseline by including emissions from Inverclyde Leisure properties' electricity and gas consumption from the baseline year but if it had, emissions would have been 45% less. The Council also decided to only report on internal waste for 2023/24 reporting.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.3	Work with partners / ALEO's to encourage them to take action to reduce their own carbon footprint; add this requirement to the terms and conditions associated with grants awarded by the Council, Area Partnerships,	Net Zero Strategy; Procurement Strategy	Climate Change Group; Procurement Manager; Regeneration Manager	N/A	N/A	N/A	2022 / ongoing	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

A training session and discussion was given to Inverclyde Leisure management in August 2024, showing SystemsLink and the reports that it can produce. Access to particular sites has now been given in the online portal to various members of IL staff who are now using the portal to monitor energy consumption from billing and smart metering. Inverclyde Leisure have 22 specific policies within their Quality Management System designed to enhance their Environmental Performance and Awareness - staff are also trained on the Environmental Policies and a specific Managers course for Environment "Environmental Management, Culture and Awareness Course- Managers".

The Council's published LHEES and work in relation to the Local Housing Strategy (Delivery Group 4) involves partnership working with local RSL's.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.5	Inclusion of a new e-learning module on the Climate Emergency, recommended for all Council employees; explore options to make this available to community / third sector organisations, via the wider e-learning platform	Net Zero Strategy	Human Resources & Organisational Development Team	Production of e-learning module on the Climate Emergency		E-learning module on the Climate Emergency in place	2023	3.1; 3.2

Complete - Courses on climate change on E-Learning and were promoted via ICON in June 2024.

1.6	Ensure that training in carbon	Net Zero	Human	Introduction	Induction training in	2023	3.1; 3.2
	efficiency behaviours is	Strategy; Staff	Resources &	of Induction	carbon efficiency		
	provided to all new Council	Induction	Organisational	training in	behaviours is in place		
	employees via the staff	process	Development	carbon			
	Induction process		Team	efficiency			
				behaviours for			
				all new staff			

# Progress update – May 2025:

Complete - 'Caring for our Environment' modules including Net Zero Strategy and Action Plan and Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy incorporated into Council Corporate Induction Course.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links

	Funding							
1.7	Work with our partners including the Scottish Government to focus specific funding, measures and resources to address Climate Change at local level	Net Zero Strategy	IC Budget Strategy; Scottish Government (SG)	Specific funding, measures and resources to address the Climate Change projects at local level	N/A	Dedicated funding, measures and resources to address Climate Change projects at local level	Annual	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

LED lighting upgrades carried out in all areas of Watt Institution other than the Art Gallery at total costs of almost £45k. New design lighting is being considered for the Art Gallery with a private donation available specifically for this and looking to supplement with additional funding from Museums Galleries Scotland. Next round of SALIX Public Sector Heat Decarbonisation Fund launched and projects are being considered. Award of up to £135k grant for a Strategic Heat Network Study earlier this year, and awaiting final report from consultants. Business Stream Water Efficiency Fund for 2025/26 now open for applications, Business Stream was contracted by the Council to carry out a number of water audits and will review reports from these with a view to making an application based on them.

Plan   Plan	Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
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	Procurement							
1.8	Continue to implement and refresh the Procurement strategy, to ensure that goods and services are procured ethically and responsibly, from ethical and sustainable sources, including through the supply chain and subcontractors	Net Zero Strategy; Procurement Strategy	Procurement Manager	Procurement Strategy Action Plan	Limited use of previous policy	Production, adoption and implementation of an updated Sustainable Procurement Policy	Dec 2022	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

The Procurement Strategy for 2025 – 2028 is currently under development. Various sustainability tools are being considered, including the Flexible Framework assessment tool, Prioritisation Tool, and Sustainability Test. Ongoing discussions aim to identify the most relevant tools that will yield meaningful and tangible sustainability outcomes in tender processes. Officers are required to include the standard Fair Work First question in all Inverclyde Council tenders exceeding £50,000 for Goods and Services, and £250,000 for Works. Spend analysis remains a priority, with outcomes reported to the committee and the Scottish Government as part of the annual procurement report.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.9	Produce and implement a new community benefits in procurement procedure, set out in an updated Social Value Strategy	Net Zero Strategy; Procurement Strategy; Social Value Policy	Procurement Manager	Production of an updated Social Value Policy		Production, adoption and implementation of an updated Social Value Policy	Dec 2022	1.1; 1.2; 1.4; 2.1; 2.3; 3.1

An updated Social Value Outcome Menu has been created through collaboration with members from the Education, Employability, Business Development, and Communities teams. The points allocation on the menu is now more closely aligned with the Glasgow City Region model. Cenefits software has been procured and implemented to capture, monitor, and enhance reporting on social values. Additionally, the Glasgow City Region Community Benefits Hub (Community Wish List) portal has been launched, with local community groups and council supplier registration requests being onboarded. Procurement, supported by members from the Communities Team and CVS Inverclyde, delivered information sessions to local community groups and organisations on the use of the portal. All social value outcomes offered will be monitored and reported as part of the annual procurement report.

1	.10	Implement Flexible	Net Zero	Procurement	Procurement	Implementation of	Feb	2.3; 2.5; 3.1
		Framework assessment tool;	Strategy;	Manager	Strategy	flexible framework	2023	
		<ul> <li>Prioritisation Tool;</li> </ul>	Procurement		Action Plan	assessment tool		
		Sustainability Test	Strategy					

# Progress update – May 2025:

Update as outlined in Action 1.8.

Plan   Plan	Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
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	Education and Learning						
1.11	Continue to support school staff to increase their confidence in embedding 'Learning for Sustainability' (LfS) into the curriculum by working with partner agencies to organise opportunities to share practice	LfS as part of Curriculum for Excellence	Education; national education partners; external partners agencies	Net Zero Strategy objectives embedded into 'LfS' element of school curriculum	Net Zero Strategy objectives embedded into 'LfS' element of school curriculum	Ongoing	1.1; 2.1; 2.3; 2.5

The Primary Science Development Officer has been supporting schools to develop practice around embedding learning for sustainability. Primary schools across Inverclyde participated in the Keep Scotland Beautiful Climate Ready Classrooms project at the start of 2025 and pupils were tasked with setting actions for what changes they will make to reduce their impact on the environment. The project was positively received by pupils and staff. One of our schools has achieved the STEM Nation Award and we will share this practice with other schools. Sessions delivered by Education Scotland and WOSDEC continue to be offered to all education staff.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.12	Education establishments to develop a whole setting strategy to the delivery of learning for sustainability	Learning for Sustainability Action Plan – towards 2030 (Education)	Education; external partners	Strategy developed for learning for sustainability for each establishment	Currently 38nr schools / early years facilities registered and 9nr have Green Flags	Education establishments will have a strategy for learning for sustainability	Annual	1.1; 2.1; 2.5

We continue to maintain number of schools with a green flag at nine. One of our schools is delivering the Climate Emergency Training course at SCQF level 4 to senior pupils. 846 P6/7 pupils from 15 schools participated in Climate Ready Classrooms in March 2025, which saw them create an Action Plan for how they will help to reduce the impact of climate change. As part of the Climate Ready Classroom Day, we ordered over 1,000 trees which were planted in school grounds as part of the Clyde Climate Forest initiative. We will now be moving to focus on all establishments implementing a strategy for Learning for Sustainability, as part of the 2030 Action Plan from Scottish Government rather than focusing solely on Eco School Green Flag Awards.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.13	Improve sustainability and recycling in schools including reduction / elimination of single-use plastic packaging, a greater selection of recyclable materials across school catering services, improved recycling in schools		Facilities Management; Education; Cleansing Services	Quantities of single-use plastic packaging purchased; quantities of recyclable materials across school catering services; recycling facilities in schools		No single-use plastic packaging in school canteens; increased quantities of recyclable materials across school catering services; recycling facilities in all schools	Annual	2.5; 3.1

School/Council kitchens no longer use single use plastic food packaging/cutlery. The option of moving to cans/cartons being investigated for water in secondary schools was proving too expensive. Two secondary schools (Clydeview Academy & Inverclyde Academy) have provided all pupils with a re-fillable water bottle to encourage pupils to use these instead. This could be rolled out to all secondary schools in the future but to date has not been done. Cleaning chemical containers are now recycled/reused to cut down on the number of 5 litre containers wasted.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.14	Reduction of food waste within secondary schools through introduction of preordering system		Facilities Management; Education	Quantities of food purchased		Preparation of pre- ordered food only	2023	2.5; 3.1

New system procured and operational as of February 2025.

1.15	Continue to source local food and achieve the Soil Association's Food for Life Served Here award; and promote/ensure more plant-based food options in schools, including 'meat free' days and	Facilities Management; Education	Achieving the Food for Life Served Here award; food options available in school	Food for Life Served Here Bronze award has been achieved by IC for past 4	Achieve Food for Life Served Here Silver award; more plant- based food options are available in schools, including promoted 'meat free' days and	Annual	1.3; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1
	vegan options		canteens	years	vegan options		

# Progress update – May 2025:

We have been awarded our 7<sup>th</sup> year Bronze Food for Life award in March 2025, meat free days are available every day in school. To achieve the Silver Food for Life award, would incur considerable costs as food would all have to be locally sourced and organic. We have now introduced pre-ordering in secondary schools which is cutting down on food waste. Consultation will take place in the coming months as to whether we look at the silver award route.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy /	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
		Plan						

	Sustainable Transport & Active Travel										
1.16	Work in partnership with our communities to identify local travel and transport solutions and to ensure a fair and just transition to a carbon neutral Inverclyde; explore options for shared community transport options, particularly for our rural communities	Local Transport Strategy (LTS)	Roads Services; partners & stakeholders including, Community Councils, Tenants & Residents Associations	Community involvement in decision-making over local transport and travel solutions	Travel and transport actions in LTS	Community approved travel & transport actions	2022 / ongoing	1.3; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1			

The previously available 'Paths for All' funding has been withdrawn, this area of activity is currently on hold.

1.17	Continue the promotion of sustainable transport options in Inverclyde	LTS	Roads Services and other external partners	Awareness levels from Residents' Survey; number of behaviour- change	Increased levels of awareness from Residents' Survey; increased number of behaviour-change interventions produced	Annual	1.3; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1
				interventions			
				produced			

# Progress update – May 2025:

No progress in this area due to funding withdrawal for Community engagement studies.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.18	Continue the roll-out of new Electric Vehicle (EV) chargepoints around the area; develop management and maintenance of existing chargepoints	Electric Vehicle chargepoint (EVCP) strategy; LTS; LDP and relevant Planning Policy	Roads Services; Transport Scotland (ChargePlace Scotland); Planning Service; partners	Number of EV chargepoints installed and in good working order		A Journey (Rapid) charger in each of our 3 largest towns; An increasing number of on- and off-street destination chargers for residential use	2022 / ongoing	2.1; 2.3; 2.5; 3.1

Work on the Glasgow City Region collaboration is progressing with tender documents being prepared for a potential concession contract that will facilitate the expansion of public charge points across Inverciyde and the Glasgow City Region.

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# Progress update – May 2025:

Refer to update for item 1.18 above.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.20	Develop guidance for the specification and installation of EV chargepoints in new developments (including for new flatted/ communal parking in developments)	EV chargepoint Strategy; LTS; LDP / Supp. Planning Guidance	Roads Services; Planning Service; partners	EV Strategy and guidance		Implementation of EV Strategy and guidance	2022 / ongoing	2.1; 2.5

There is current guidance for new developments to support planning applications, however further review of this will take place through the development of the emerging LDP.

1.21	Work with NHS to implement	Roads Services;	Nr of Green	Increasing number of	2023 /	1.3; 2.1;
	Green Travel Plans for staff,	NHS	Travel Plans	Green Travel Plans for	ongoing	2.5; 3.1
	and work up a promotional		for Staff	Staff produced for		
	campaign with rewards e.g.		produced for	businesses /employers;		
	Sustrans' Scottish Workplace		businesses /	increasing number of		
	Journey Challenge		employers; Nr	staff travelling by active		
			of staff	& sustainable modes		
			travelling by			
			active &			
			sustainable			
			Modes			

# Progress update – May 2025:

Paused due to withdrawal of behaviour change funding.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.22	Progress implementation of the Segregated Active Travel Corridor between Greenock & Port Glasgow	LTS; LDP	Planning Service; Roads Services; developers; Sustrans; SPT	Segregated Active Travel Corridor progressing		Segregated Active Travel Corridor being implemented and being used	Ongoing	1.3; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1

Construction of additional sections along the coastal route and new sections have detailed design ready for construction subject to successful external funding bids.

1.23	Implement the actions in the	ATIP	Roads Services;	Community	Community initiated	Ongoing	1.3; 2.1;
	Active Travel Improvement		Sustrans;	initiated	projects are		2.5; 3.1
	Plan (ATIP)		Cycling	projects are	incorporated into future		
			Scotland;	incorporated	LTS and implemented		
			funding	into future LTS			
			partners;	and			
			community	implemented			
			partners				

# Progress update – May 2025:

New Active Travel Strategy to be completed.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.24	Improve management and maintenance of walking routes and the Core Path Network, continue to improve path surfaces to ensure access for all abilities, constructed for climate resilience (e.g. porous surfaces); ensure that our places encourage walking, with well-maintained streets, paths and public spaces that are fully accessible and fit for purpose; pedestrian priority; information on walking routes; walking/ pedestrian infrastructure	Core Paths Plan; ATIP	Ground Services; Property Services; Roads Services; funding partners; Inverclyde Local Access Forum	Core Paths Audits data		Improved management and maintenance of Core Paths Network as per Core Paths Audits	Ongoing	1.3; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1

Progress update – May 2025:
Works to improve accessibility at Lunderston Bay are complete.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.25	Work with partners to improve cycling route connectivity and safety, particularly to connect rural communities to larger settlements and/or public transport hubs and connectivity to local amenities	ATIP	Roads Services; funding partners; local cycle groups	Progressing connecting cycle routes		Connecting cycle routes are being implemented and being used	Ongoing	1.3; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1

Outline and detailed design to connect communities is on-going.

1.26	Work in partnership with our	Green	Roads Service;	Outline	Existing	Reduction in Carbon	2024	1.3; 2.1;
	communities to identify Green	Network	Planning Service	designs	network	Emissions		2.5; 3.1
	Network Connections initially	Connections	and Sustrans					
	between Greenock Town	Project						
	Centre and Lady Octavia and							
	Greenock Cut car park							

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Progress update – May 2025:

Complete.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.27	Ensure connectivity of residential areas with local sustainable transport modes, including buses / bus stops, to reduce reliance on the car; maps of routes available to new residents to encourage active travel	LTS	Roads Services; Transport Services; Planning Service; SPT and other partners	As per LTS		As per LTS	Ongoing	1.3; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1

Outline and detailed design to connect residential areas is on-going.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.28	Ensure that Core Path network, active travel network and wider path network are integrated and connect residential areas (including new developments) with settlement amenities, destinations, parks/open space, transport hubs; path networks in and around settlements should include shorter recreational circuits; paths constructed for climate resilience (e.g. porous surfaces)	Core Paths Plan; LTS / ATIP; LDP	Outdoor Access Forum; Roads Services; Planning Service	Length of Core Paths and length of promoted active travel routes; path and active travel connectivity	Current length of Core Paths and length of promoted active travel routes	Increased length of paths & active travel routes; particularly in urban/semi-urban areas; increased path & active travel connectivity	Ongoing	1.3; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1

Progress update – May 2025:
On-going programme of work detailed in the Active Travel Strategy.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy /	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
		Plan						

	Town and Village Centre Regeneration										
1.29	Continue to support Town and Village Centres to develop and enhance our town and rural centres	LDP; Corporate Plan	Planning Service; Economic Development & Strategic Investment; Roads Service and other partners	As per LDP and Corporate Plan		As per LDP and Corporate Plan	Ongoing	2,1; 2.3; 2.4; 3.1			

Projects within Kilmacolm and West Blackhall Street completed. The LDP will review will consider town and village centre guidance as part of its development.

1.30	Digital Towns – Continue to	LDP;	Economic	As per LDP and	As per LDP and	Ongoing	1.2; 2,1;
	support measures to ensure	Corporate Plan	Development	Town Centre	Corporate Plan		2.3; 2.4; 3.1
	that all town and village		and Strategic	Strategies			
	centres have the appropriate		Investment;				
	future-proofed infrastructure		Planning				
	required to enable Inverclyde		Service; Roads				
	to have the most digitally-		Service and				
	connected local economy and		other partners				
	communities.						

# Progress update – May 2025:

It is anticipated the development plan review will include a policy to support development and installation of required digital interventions.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy /	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
		Plan						

#### 2. Carbon Reduction Action Area: Significant Carbon Emitters **Energy Use in Buildings** Review / manage IC estate Climate Change 2012/13 2.5; 3.1 2.1 Net Zero **Emissions** Reduce carbon Annual and operations to reduce Group – all emissions annually to Strategy; IC reduction emissions emissions towards achieving Climate relevant Service towards Net reach Net Zero as soon Net Zero: energy efficiency, Change as possible Areas: Scottish Zero for electricity, heat Reporting Government energy efficiency

## Progress update - May 2025:

Reviewed policies of a number of Local Authorities and carried out studies in a number of Council properties with respect to heating issues and times of operation. Also engaged with Perth & Kinross Council and South Ayrshire Council in regards its Building Energy Management System to learn how they upgraded and also run their systems efficiently.

2.2	Continue Asset Management	Council Asset	Strategic Asset	Proportion of	N/A	Increased asset office	2022 /	2.4; 2.5; 3.1
	and New Ways of Working	Strategy &	& Capital Plan	staff		rationalisation; Property	ongoing	
	(NWoW) Pilot; review of	Management	Management;	undertaking		Asset Strategy;		
	operational assets and	Plans; New	New Ways of	flexible /		increased proportion of		
	rationalisation; shift towards	Ways of	Working Project	mobile		staff undertaking		
	flexible, mobile working, to	Working Pilot;	Board	working		flexible / mobile		
	reduce energy costs and	Workforce				working; and increased		
	carbon footprint. Maximise	Plan				sharing of assets		
	opportunities presented by							
	digital transformation							

## Progress update – May 2025:

HSCP staff now relocated to James Watt building with remainder of staff to relocate to GMB June 2025 as Hector McNeil House is being demolished as part of Levelling-Up project. The decommissioning of the Inverciyde Centre is also being planned.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.3	Prepare, publish and update a Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) and Delivery Plan	Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (Scotland) Order 2022; Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets; local partners; DNOs; Scottish Government	Production of an Inverclyde Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Delivery Plan	N/A	Production, adoption and implementation of an Inverclyde Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Delivery Plan	Dec 2023	1.2; 1.5; 2.1; 2.3; 2.5; 3.1

Engaging with consultants, Zero Waste Scotland and Scottish Future Trust in regards Heat Networks Support Unit Strategic Heat Network Support. Consultants have also provided a draft 'Heat Network Vision Statement' and awaiting their final report for the strategic study to prioritise the best potential zones for district heating. Zero Waste Scotland provided a number of workshops on the delivery phase of LHEES.

2.4	Continue to consider and work	Corporate	Head of Physical	energy target	N/A	Maximum 67/kWh	2023 /	2.1; 2.5; 3.1
	towards Scottish Government	Asset	Assets; Climate	value per kWh		/sqm/annum for core	ongoing	
	guidance on Net Zero Public	Management	Change Group	/sqm/annum		hour / facilities use		
	Sector Building Standards	Plan; Capital		for core hour /				
	when taking forward any new	Plans; Net		facilities use				
	and substantially refurbished	Zero Strategy						
	building projects							

## Progress update - May 2025:

New Community Hub and King George VI (Port Glasgow Community Hub) refurbishment projects both targeting 67/kWh/sqm/annum. Port Glasgow Community Hub has achieved an EPC rating of 'Carbon Neutral'. Community Hub building under construction to complete April 2026.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.5	Continue to consider energy efficiency improvements and incorporation of low carbon technologies in Council owned buildings as part of capital programme maintenance and lifecycle replacement activity	Corporate Asset Management Plan; Capital Plans; Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets; Climate Change Group	Energy efficiency measures / improvements installed	N/A	Energy efficiency measures installed / improvements made in all Council buildings	2022 / ongoing	2.5; 3.1

Cornalees Visitor Centre, Glenbrae Children's Centre and Greenock Town Hall Re-Roofing and Window Replacement projects complete.

Waterfront Chiller replacement project site commencement imminent. Gibshill Children's Centre project being prepared for tender (window and roof replacement incorporating PV panels). Dalrymple Tower fabric works will also incorporate works to improve fabric performance and 'u' values.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.6	Continue to address upgrade to LED lighting and intelligent lighting controls in our buildings including grounds and outdoor sports facilities (all new assets specify LED as standard)	Corporate Asset Management Plan; Capital Plans; Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets	Number of facilities upgraded to LED	To be established	All facilities upgraded to LED	2022 – 2027 and beyond	2.5; 3.1

Watt Institution and Artificial pitch floodlighting projects completed.

A review of lighting across the school estate is being undertaken to determine lamps still to be replaced with LEDs (circa 50-60% LED currently).

2.7	Identify solar PV opportunities	Net Zero	Head of Physical	Number of PV	16 nr	Increased number of PV	2023 -	2.5; 3.1
	for public buildings where	Strategy	Assets	installations	installations	installations and kW	2027	
	technically feasible and				total	generation capacity		
	payback periods support				capacity			
	investment				211.59 kW			

# Progress update – May 2025:

Detail design and tender information substantially progressed for 6 buildings previously identified in the net Zero Action Plan.

PV panels were incorporated in the Cornalees Visitor Centre, Inverclyde Community Hub, Glenbrae Children's Centre re-roofing, and King George VI retrofit projects.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.8	Identify opportunities for lower emission alternatives to fossil fuel boilers for public buildings where existing boilers are reaching end-of-life, where technically feasible and considering existing building fabric performance	Capital Plans; Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets	Number of low / zero emission installations	5 nr properties with ASHP; 1 nr property with biomass	Increased number of low / zero emission installations	2022 - 2027	2.5; 3.1

Detail design and tender information has been substantially progressed for 3 buildings previously identified in the net Zero Action Plan

2.9	Identify opportunities for	Capital Plans;	Head of Physical	Number of	N/A	No kitchens with gas	2022 –	2.5; 3.1
	replacement of gas catering	Net Zero	Assets; Facilities	kitchens with		equipment	2027	
	equipment with efficient	Strategy	Management	gas equipment			and	
	electric alternatives for public						beyond	
	buildings where existing							
	equipment reaching end-of-							
	life and where technically							
	feasible							

# Progress update – May 2025:

Equipment is being reviewed for alternative electric operation at point of lifecycle replacement. Additional equipment installed to support free school meals was electric.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.10	Review current estate gas AMR provision and invest in additional devices where asset consumption patterns support investment	Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets	Number of assets with gas AMR	52 nr operational (2 nr half- hourly)	Increased number of assets with gas AMR	2023 / ongoing	2.5; 3.1

Target of 95% consumption having AMRs achieved for both electricity and gas. Now focusing on remaining larger sites left that have had issues trying to get these installed.

2.11	Review current estate	Net Zero	Head of Physical	Number of	0 – currently	Increased number of	2023 /	2.5; 3.1
	electrical classification profiles	Strategy	Assets	Profile Class 1-	only Profile	Class 1-4 assets with	ongoing	
	to address non-half hourly			4 assets with	Class O half-	'Smart' or AMR meter		
	metered sites, install 'Smart'			'Smart' or	hourly			
	or AMR meters across Profile			AMR meter	available (32			
	Class 1-4 assets				nr)			

# Progress update – May 2025:

Target of 95% consumption having AMRs achieved.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.12	Investigate the feasibility of a web-based centralised platform to allow facility and energy management staff to monitor, analyse and predict the performance of buildings to minimise energy consumption, reduce costs and work towards net-zero targets	Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets	Number of assets linked to centralised platform	Limited ability to view / control data remotely. Installed equipment not used to full potential	Initial pilot involving 20- 25 education buildings	2023/24	2.5; 3.1

Complete - SystemsLink now showing clear data. Billing and consumption data uploaded and validated on receipt monthly. Changes in consumption/cost highlighted and queried. AMRs providing accurate reads and consistent data. Software has enabled accounts to be brought up to date and credited where estimates have been identified.

and other improvements	2.3	an the co tai inf	ontinue to use benchmarking nd historical data to identify he highest emission / energy consuming assets, commission argeted energy audits to aform programme of controls and other improvements	Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets	Number of targeted audits completed	2 audits completed to date	Increased number of audits completed – prioritising top 10 highest consuming assets	2022 / ongoing	2.5; 3.1
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# Progress update - May 2025:

Data has allowed educational establishments to be monitored for utility consumption over the summer/Christmas holiday periods. Able to identify clear consumption and contact site to query/change settings to reduce accordingly.

Reviewing data to determine which sites vary most from expected consumption to prioritise in the detailed study of Building Management System upgrades and replacements and which sites require a full energy audit.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.14	Continue to investigate the implications of deep retrofit across the estate to identify potential solutions and associated capital costs including technical and logistical barriers to implementation	Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets	Number of detailed retrofit feasibility studies completed	2 studies currently in progress	Increased number of retrofit feasibility studies completed	2022 / ongoing	2.5; 3.1

The hub West Scotland study is now complete and individual council workshops are being set up to determine how whole building retrofits can be programmed into capital programmes. We now have five further detailed audits for our own buildings and another ten audits for a mixture between Renfrewshire Council and East Dunbartonshire Council for buildings similar to ours and we can utilise this knowledge for our own estate. Potential costs and carbon savings are being extrapolated from the studies to form a database from which we can estimate potential costs for estate retrofit.

2.15	Increase resources to assist in	Net Zero	Head of Physical	Number of	Currently 1	Increased number of	2022 /	2.5; 3.1; 3.2
2.13	the development of net zero policy / Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and plans, including the monitoring, control and reduction of	Strategy; Property Services Restructure; LHEES	Assets	Energy / Carbon Management staff	Carbon Reduction Officer	Carbon / Energy Management staff	ongoing	2.3, 3.1, 3.2
	energy use in buildings							

### Progress update - May 2025:

The Projects Officer has not been able to be recruited to at this time, however a Graduate remains employed within the team until the end of 2025. The Project Officer post will be reviewed as part of a review of the Technical Service in 2025/26.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy /	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
		Plan						

	Transport							
2.16	Review / manage each of the following aspects of IC estate and operations to reduce emissions towards achieving Net Zero: our Transport Fleet and Business Mileage	Net Zero Strategy; IC Climate Change Reporting	Climate Change Group – all relevant Service Areas; Scottish Government	Emissions reduction towards Net Zero for Transport Fleet and Business Mileage	2019/20 data – Grey Fleet 318 CO2e	Reduce carbon emissions annually to reach Net Zero as soon as possible	Annual	2.5; 3.1

The majority of high mileage users are now on fleet cars, the service will continue to work with managers to review and refine the use of fleet vehicles. HSCP currently have 13 fleet vehicles utilised by HSCP for Home Help Support which should be considered for replacement with fleet ULEV's.

2.1	.7 Implement an Ultra-Low	Vehicle	Service	ULEV Strategy	N/A	ULEV Strategy	2022	2.5; 3.1
	Emissions Vehicles (ULEV)	Replacement	Manager	implemented		implemented		
	strategy for our Council	Programme;	Grounds &					
	vehicle fleet	ULEV Strategy	Waste					

# Progress update – May 2025:

The Vehicle Replacement programme continues to be reported as part of regular capital programme progress reports to Committee.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.18	Continue to phase out petrol and diesel light commercial vehicles within the Council fleet as part of ULEV strategy and in line with Scottish Government targets	Vehicle Replacement Programme; ULEV Strategy	Service Manager Grounds & Waste	Numbers of ULEV light commercial vehicles in Council Fleet	Annual CO2e 2019/20 base – Car 27 / LCV 279	Replace the Council's light commercial vehicles with ULEV	2022 - 2025	2.5; 3.1

All petrol and diesel cars have been removed from fleet except for one vehicle. Sixteen ULEV's delivered in 2024/25 financial year. A further twenty ULEV's are planned for delivery in 2025/26, fifteen of these are replacing existing ULEV's which have reached their seven-year replacement cycle and five are replacing diesel vehicles.

	2.19	Continue the development of ultra-low emissions vehicles (ULEV) options across the Council, including HGV fleet and utilisation of full electric vehicle (EV) and hybrid technology for pool cars and operational vehicles	VRP; ULEV Strategy	Service Manager Grounds & Waste	Numbers of ULEV vehicles in Council Fleet	Annual CO2e 2019/20 base – HDV 683	Replace the Council's fleet with ULEV wherever feasible	2022 – 2027 and beyond	2.5; 3.1
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# Progress update - May 2025:

Recent changes in implementation of ELVs with the announcement that the UK Government will be relaxing the ban on sales of new petrol and diesel cars and vans and that the ban on hybrids has been pushed back to 2035.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.20	Continue the development of an electric vehicle charging strategy and expansion plan for Glasgow City Region	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy (EVCS)	Head of Physical Assets / Roads Services	Number of EV chargepoints across the City Region area		Increased number of EV chargepoints installed across the City Region area	Annual	2.5; 3.1

Work on the Glasgow City Region collaboration is progressing with tender documents being prepared for a potential concession contract that will facilitate the expansion of public charge points across Inverclyde and the Glasgow City Region.

2.21	Continue the programme of	Local	Head of Physical	Number of EV	Currently	Increased number of EV	2023 -	2.5; 3.1
	installation of electric charging	Transport	Assets / Roads	chargepoints	29nr + 4nr in	chargepoints installed	2025	
	points for electric vehicles at	Strategy (LTS);	Services	installed at	planning.	at all Council buildings		
	all Council offices, depots,	EVCS		Council	The first EV	and public car parks		
	public buildings and car parks			buildings /	chargepoint	wherever possible		
				public car	was installed			
				parks	in 2015			

# Progress update - May 2025:

Refer to 2.20 above and Glasgow City region workstream. Charge points have been installed at the Council's Children's Homes and the Fitzgerald Centre with further points to be considered to support fleet ULEV phasing.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
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	Streetlighting and Water									
2.22	Continue the programme of replacement of remaining white light / non-LED streetlights, signs and bollards	RAMP; Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets / Roads Services	Percentage of assets LED	Currently 97.5%	100% - difficult locations, delayed projects etc.	Aug 2023	2.5; 3.1		

LED provision over 99% with small number of remaining difficult locations being progressed.

2.23	Review traffic signals for LED	RAMP; Net	Head of Physical	Percentage of	Currently	100%	Dec	2.5; 3.1
	conversion and implement	Zero Strategy	Assets / Roads	assets LED	60%		2023	
	programme of conversion /		Services					
	replacement							

# Progress update – May 2025:

The review traffic signals for LED conversion and implementation is on-going. Opportunity for upgrades being progressed e.g. recent Patrick Street / Union Street signal upgrades. All new installations LED as standard.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.24	Continue the regular review and monitoring of automatic meter reading (AMR) data showing water usage and correct for consumption anomalies and identified leaks	Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets	N/A	N/A	N/A	2022 / ongoing	2.5; 3.1

Ongoing action that all big users/sites that have had issues have been corrected and are working well.

2.25	Review current estate water	Net Zero	Head of Physical	Number of	15 nr	Increased number of	2023 /	2.5; 3.1
	AMR provision and invest in	Strategy	Assets	assets with	operational	assets with water AMR	ongoing	
	additional devices where asset			water AMR				
	consumption patterns support							
	investment							

## Progress update – May 2025:

Complete – meters installed where sufficient consumption or where there have been issues.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.26	Continue to consider water saving devices and improvements in Council owned buildings as part of capital programme maintenance and lifecycle replacement activity	Corporate Asset Management Plan; Capital Plans; Net Zero Strategy	Head of Physical Assets; Climate Change Group	Water saving devices / measures installed	N/A	Water saving devices / measures installed in all Council buildings	2022 / ongoing	2.5; 3.1

Business Stream Water Efficiency Fund for 2025/26 now open for applications. Business Stream has carried out a number of water audits giving recommendations for water savings. Water audit reports will be reviewed for consideration of recommendations for Water Efficiency Fund.

	Waste							
2.27	Review of the impacts of our garden waste and food waste services	Waste Services	Service Manager Grounds & Waste	N/A	Pre service change years	Assessment of the carbon impact of service changes	Dec 2024	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

## Progress update – May 2025:

A full waste compositional analysis was undertaken in 2024/25, future analysis will form part of our ongoing waste management strategy. The findings have been positively assessed by SEPA.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.28	Review our fortnightly co- mingled can, paper, plastic and card collection services in light of anticipated changes in material throughput	Waste Services	Service Manager Grounds & Waste	N/A	Current service delivery model	Following the introduction of Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) and emerging packaging interventions the review will assess the fit for purpose status of existing services	Mar 2025	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

A roll out of 3,500 containers is planned for May/June 2025. Funding for new bins has been made available from Zero Waste Scotland Recycling Improvement Fund.

2.29	Improving the quality of our recyclable materials through targeted marketing and communications campaigns	Waste Services	Service Manager Grounds & Waste	% of household waste recycled	17%	12% - Identify and reduce contamination and offer additional improve materials quality	Mar 2024	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

## Progress update – May 2025:

A revised and updated communications strategy has been developed and is approved by Zero Waste Scotland.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.30	Increasing consumer options to enhance recycling at our main recycling centres	Waste Services	Service Manager Grounds & Waste	Increased facilities and routes for disposal	N/A	Identify materials streams for additional recycling not currently offered including reuse options where possible	Mar 2023	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

The service has identified a new service provider for POPs and WUDs, an early- stage trial has shown positive outcomes in terms of loads and reducing vehicle travel.

2.31	Dedicated commercial waste collection services and associated food and recyclate collections	Waste Services	Service Manager Grounds & Waste	N/A	Current service levels	Review commercial waste service and	Mar 2023	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

## Progress update – May 2025:

The new prices are now adopted and in place and will be increased annually as appropriate.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
2.32	Improve our recycling targets and work with SG to identify more relevant targets in the face of moving waste up the hierarchy	Waste Services	Service Manager Grounds & Waste	% of household waste recycled	48%	70% - With a reduction in traditionally recycled materials as a result of SG interventions work with ZWS and SEPA to identify long term target metrics	Dec 2027	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

Our new residual Waste Contract ensures that no waste now goes to landfill. Some pre-sorting of the material has generated increased recycling tonnages. The new implementation of recycling to 3,500 properties will further generate increased recycling performance.

2.33	Review existing waste contract	Waste	Service	Compliant	N/A	No more than 5% of	Dec	2.1; 2.5; 3.1
	arrangements to meet Landfill	Services	Manager	Contract	New target	Biodegradable	2025	
	Diversion ban		Grounds &		from 2025	Municipal Waste to be		
			Waste /			sent to landfill		
			Procurement					
			Manager					

## Progress update – May 2025:

Contract now in place no waste now going to Landfill.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy /	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
		Plan						

## 3. Carbon Reduction Action Area: Awareness and Behaviour Change

	Natural Environment							
3.1	The Council's Ranger Service to interpret / educate / raise awareness of climate change mitigation, adaptation and sequestration as part of their remit	IC Ranger Service Roles and Remit	Service Manager Grounds & Waste / IC Ranger Service	Engagement statistics	200 people per annum	Inclusion of interpretation / education / awareness-raising about climate change mitigation, adaptation and sequestration in ICRS remit and being implemented	Ongoing	1.1; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1

## Progress update – May 2025:

Natural Environment

New member of staff in place, options for support within the wider Grounds Team are being explored.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
3.2	Work in partnership with local community to look after the marine environment, including Inverclyde coast and beaches (e.g. beach cleans), including the responsible use and enjoyment of the coast	IC Ranger Service Roles and Remit	Service Manager Grounds & Waste / IC Ranger Service; Partners; Volunteers	Number of beach cleans / promotional events etc.	N/A	Maintain & increase numbers of beach clean events / promotional events etc. as appropriate	Ongoing	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

The Service will continue to explore support however service users are generally very supportive of the services provided.

Plan   Plan	Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
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	Circular Economy							
3.3	Work with Partners to support the establishment of Circular Economy Facilities including the provision of storage facilities	Forward: Public Library Strategy 2021- 25	Inverclyde Libraries	Number of circular economy facilities	Toy / gardening equipment Library established in Central Library; Funding procured for Pilot hub in SW Library	Increased Number of circular economy facilities across the Council area	2025	1.2; 1.3; 1.5; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1

Lend and Mend Hub at South West Library continues to be well used by the community. Sewing classes taught by tutors included a textiles course linked to West College Scotland, a beginner's group, and a New Scots group. People attending the classes are now regularly using the facilities. Examples of workshops delivered: Repairing wool and knitted items; Selling clothes online; Sew Your Own Book Jackets.

The Drying Green Garden at South West Library received funding from the Invergrow Fund to provide a polytunnel for winter growing and garden meetings and also resources to support the tending of the Seed Library.

Through a small grant from the Inverciyde Climate Action Network (ICAN) the library service has extended its Community Fridge provision following a successful pilot at Greenock Central Library. A freezer is also being utilized at Central Library. A second fridge has now been installed at Port Glasgow Library and will be filled with assistance from Branchton Community Centre's food sharing network. This initiative at once represents a necessary resource for the communities of Greenock and Port Glasgow, whilst also helping to address the environmental challenge of food waste.

The clothing rail at Greenock Central Library promotes the circular economy through donation of warm winter coats and other items from library staff and members of the public. The School Library at St Columba's High School is providing a casual clothes swap shop for pupils where they can take or donate items of clothing.

Establishment of tool library under review pending advice from health & safety and insurance colleagues. Advice is also being sought from partners in the Lend and Mend network.

Plan   Plan	Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
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	Active Travel							
3.4	Support schools to develop Bikeability Scotland training, to teach skills needed to cycle safely on roads, and 'Play on Pedals' (which aims to give all children the chance to learn to ride a pedal bike before they start Primary 1)	Active Travel Strategy; Active Inverclyde	Education; Community Safety and Resilience	Nr pupils undertaking Bikeability Scotland Level 1, 2 & 3 training, and 'Play on Pedals'	Nr pupils undertaking Bikeability training 2021-22: Level 1: 67 Level 2 (on road): 60 Level 2 (playground) : 326 Level 3: 0 Play on pedals: 0	Increased uptake of Bikeability Scotland [In 2023-24 Increased uptake of 'Play on Pedals' [In 2023-24]	Annual	1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 1.5; 2.1; 2.5

The 2023-24 Bikeability Return shows 10 primary schools overall taking part in the level 2 programme which is an increase from 9 primary schools previously in 2022-23. A more notable increase was in the proportion of these schools going 'on-road' with 7 primary schools making the transition, which resulted in a pupil increase from 65 to 156, a 140% rise.

Level 1 training numbers fell slightly in 2023-24, with 3 schools taking part compared to 4 in 2022-23.

In 2023 -24, the Bikeability programme within primary schools was the priority for the Service, however, the Play on Pedals programme will be progressed further in the next academic session.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
3.5	Active Travel to School campaign and promotion, including parking management around schools, and supporting modal shift from school buses to active travel wherever feasible	Active Travel Strategy; Active Inverclyde	Environmental Services; Education; Community Safety and Resilience	Nr pupils travelling to school by active travel modes (Sustrans Hands Up Scotland Survey data)	49.7% of pupils travelling actively to school in 2021 (Sustrans Hands Up Scotland Survey data)	Increased % of pupils travelling to school by active* travel modes (Sustrans Hands Up Scotland Survey data)  *All school types and travel mode = walk, cycle, scooter/skate, park & stride	Annual	1.1; 1.3; 2.1; 2.5

The Road Safety Officer has provided support to 6 primary schools with their Junior Road Safety Officer (JRSO) programme and continues to encourage active travel and road safety education within their school communities.

The Community Safety & Resilience Team continue to Chair the Road Safety (Schools) Working Group. This includes Education, Property, Roads, Environmental and Public Protection, Health and Safety Services and partners including Police Scotland. The group discuss safety improvements around local schools with inconsiderate parking continuing to be a priority.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
3.6	Support Bikeability cycle training for secondary school pupils throughout Inverclyde	Active Travel Strategy; Active Inverclyde	Roads Services: Sustrans; Cycling Scotland	Nr of Bikeability training sessions for secondary school pupils and number of participants	None at present	Increased numbers of Bikeability training sessions and participants	Annual	1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 1.5; 2.1; 2.5

In partnership with Scottish cycling a block of cycling was delivered for local care experience young people. Through the programme they developed their cycling skills while experiencing the mountain bike facility at Rankin park. At the end of the programme each young person got a new bike and cycling equipment to keep, the value was £500 per participant. As a follow on from the programme we secured 12 bikes which have been issued to residential care homes.

Discussions are in place to shape the work for the coming year to secure further funding to upskill coaches and explore the capacity to develop a local cycling network.

The funding from Sportscotland to develop cycling has now reached its 3rd and final year. This saw the purchase of a fleet of 17 bikes and equipment for Notre Dame High School. This will enable the school to deliver SQA level 1 &2 cycling safety and level 3 & 4 cycle maintenance.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy /	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
		Plan						

	Awareness Raising & Engager	nent					
3.7	Support and expand the "Kind Climate" Collections and related programming for Schools as part of Libraries Inspire Schools programming	Inverclyde Libraries Education	Levels of participation in the Libraries Inspire kind climate collections and programming with schools	8 Primary schools in 2020/21; 16 schools registered 2021/22.	Increased levels of participation in the "Kind Climate" Libraries Inspire programme in Inverclyde Schools	Annual	1.1; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1

Collections continued to be used in primary and secondary schools. Kind climate collections will be refreshed for the launch of the 2025/26 Libraries Inspire School Programme. In the next academic year reading for wellbeing sessions will be delivered in all the secondary school libraries focussing on climate anxiety, and supporting resources will be purchased for the school libraries.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
3.8	Support Community initiatives such as cooking classes, community kitchens, food growing including collaboration with the Inverclyde Food Network, community entertainment to reduce the need to travel and support vibrant and sustainable communities	Locality Plans; Inverclyde Food Growing Strategy	CLD; Cultural Services; ICDT Area Partnerships; Dandelion Connected Communities	Number of Community initiatives supported by the council	Harvest festival; Community Pantries; Invergrow project	Increased number of community Initiatives supported by the council and the food growing network; Roll out of Invergrow project and the Food Growing Strategy	Ongoing	1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 1.5; 2.1; 2.3; 2.5; 3.1

The Invergrow project launched its funding initiative from 22nd January to 18th February 2024, supporting community growing spaces in Inverclyde. A total of 14 applications were received, with 11 projects successfully securing funding amounting to £31,000. These projects aimed to align with the priorities of the Food Growing Strategy. In total, an estimated 695 individuals engaged with Invergrow activities, benefiting from its positive community impact. The initiative contributed significantly to food-growing efforts, fostering local engagement and strengthening community-led sustainability in Inverclyde.

In its second year, the Invergrow project continued to provide vital support to community groups, allocating £27,000 to 11 community groups in March 2025 to further enhance local growing spaces. This funding specifically aimed to strengthen volunteer initiatives, ensuring they had the necessary resources to sustain their efforts.

ICFN members have introduced cooking classes that utilise surplus food, helping to reduce waste while promoting sustainability. These classes encourage locals to grow their own produce and use it for personal consumption. The Invercive Pantry projects have seen remarkable growth, with strong membership numbers at both locations—John Wood Street (JWS) now has 885 members, while Grieve Road boasts 1,221 members. Additionally, 49 learners have participated in cooking classes through the Multiply project, further supporting community engagement and food education.

For more information visit <a href="https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/assets/attach/18001/10-Inverclyde-Food-Growing-Strategy-Update-Paper-Year-Two-2025.pdf">https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/assets/attach/18001/10-Inverclyde-Food-Growing-Strategy-Update-Paper-Year-Two-2025.pdf</a>

The Watt Institution recently delivered a pigment-making workshop with the Drying Green Volunteers at South West Library, as part of the Drying Green Herbarium project. Participants learned how to create pigment and paint from botanical sources, producing a unique sage-based watercolour from plants grown in the drying green. The group used this alongside other pigments from the Chromatic Cartography project to create a vibrant series of artworks.

Plan   Plan	Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
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Chromatic Cartography connects Inverciyde communities through a locally sourced colour palette inspired by The Watt Institution's natural sciences collection, exploring climate change, biodiversity, and our relationship with nature.

During Green Libraries Week during October, Inverclyde Libraries programmed a series of events and creative workshops that brought focus to sustainable practice and biodiversity, encouraging exploration of the natural world. Activities on offer included foraging and how to identify and use wild plants; photography, drawing and painting workshops; cyanotype and linocut printing; heritage cooking; and creative writing. All activities sought to engage participants in issues associated with climate and sustainability. Green Libraries Week is coordinated by CILIP (the Chartered Institution of Libraries and Information Professionals).

3.9	Set up a network of "Green	Across	Network of	Many	Network of Community	2025	1.3; 2.1;
	Teams" to help promote	Directorates	Green teams	individual	Green teams set up		2.5; 3.1;.3.2
	sustainability, raise awareness	Cultural services	set up	departments			
	and encourage engagement			already			
	with the move to a low carbon			engaged			
	lifestyle						

#### Progress update – May 2025:

Green Team operational in Inverclyde Libraries – delivering initiatives internally and externally. One example was the popular "Crafternoon" family sessions in libraries during the summer holidays becoming completely sustainable, only using existing materials with no new materials purchased. "How to" guides for staff were distributed with ideas for sustainable craft sessions. The Make Do sessions involve low-cost activities involving recycling cardboard boxes to build and design objects. The library service is a signatory to the CILIP Green Libraries Manifesto, to bring environmental sustainability to the heart of decision making.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
3.10	Work with Communities to encourage and support the formation of local volunteer groups, such as Blooms and Biccies / Chatty Café @SW to support the enhancement of specific open space	Forward _ Public Library strategy 21-25	Cultural services; Local Groups; Partners	Number of Local Chatty cafes underway	Currently 4 focussed chatty cafes up and running	Increased number of Climate focussed Chatty cafes underway and supported	Ongoing	1.2: 1.3; 1.5; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1

The Inverciyde Community Food Network continues to serve as a vital platform for local volunteers, enabling collaboration, resource-sharing, and access to training. Groups such as the Inverciyde Shed have successfully repurposed open spaces, transforming Gourock Park into the thriving Walled Garden. Further progress has been made in Greenock's East End through the St. Laurence Orchard project, where 22 fruit trees will be planted with support from Unpaid Work and West College Scotland.

Additionally, a newly formed community group has revitalized a dormant piece of land in Larkfield, converting it into a flourishing community garden. The group holds a license to occupy the space and is in discussions about securing a formal lease for long-term use.

The Greening Officer from RIG Arts at the Drying Green at South West Library provides guidance and support to a team of volunteers who have come who regularly meet to work together to develop and nurture the garden.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
3.11	Continue to use our collections to explore and respond to aspirations around climate change and planetary limits		Cultural services Inverclyde	Nr of objects / resources linked to the climate crisis, sustainability and the environment		Increase in investment in climate focussed collections / programming	Ongoing	1.1; 1.3; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1

Over the last twelve months, the Watt Institution has delivered a Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS) funded project under the banner 'Re-animating the Past'. This project has focused on utilising the Watt's Natural Sciences collections (a core founding collection) to engage new and existing audiences with collections-based narratives linked to the climate crisis; biodiversity in Inverclyde; and the history of collecting. The project has begun the process of digitising the Natural Science collection to increase accessibility and has used digital technologies to deliver innovative interpretation solutions, including 3D scanning, 3D printing, animation, virtual reality, and augmented reality. Workshops have been delivered with school groups, adult support groups, and community groups, alongside family drop-in sessions, variously exploring our understanding of the natural world with reference to the Watt's historic collections.

A new display has been developed within the Watt Institution's Natural Science Gallery looking at extinction level events, both natural and those potentially driven by human activity, as reflected within our collections – this is also supported by a display and film telling the story of the project itself.

This work feeds into an ongoing programme of improvements to the displays within the galleries, using collection objects to engage audiences with narratives around climate change, loss of biodiversity, empire and colonialisation.

To date, a series of resources have been developed to complement work ongoing at the Watt, focusing on the climate crisis, sustainability and the environment:

- HerbARium, an augmented reality resource that blends digital engagement with sustainability. By scanning a QR code, users can see historic herbarium specimens come to life with butterflies visiting their food plants. The AR prints are made from handmade paper using recycled museum waste, each embedded with wildflower seeds. After exploring the digital resource, users can plant the prints, helping create pollinator-friendly habitats. This resource has been trailed with Inverclyde primary schools who following using the digital aspect of the sheets will plant the sheets in their school garden to promote biodiversity.
- Peatland VR is a virtual reality experience that brings Inverclyde's peatlands to life, linking The Watt Institution's natural sciences collection to Inverclyde's ongoing peatland restoration project led by NatureScot Peatland Action. Visitors can interact with 3D-scanned specimens handling

Ref	Action	Relevant	Lead Person /	Service	Baseline	Target (where	Target	Council
		Strategy /	Service	Indicator		applicable)	date	Plan Links
		Plan						

butterflies, insects, birds, and plants while exploring detailed facts through audio descriptions. A portal transports users from the museum to the Inverclyde peatlands, immersing them in the sights and sounds of this vital ecosystem. Experience native bird calls, interact with insects, and discover the unique plant life thriving in these habitats. An online resource has also been created utilising digitised collection of interactive 3D scans and high-resolution photography. https://sway.cloud.microsoft/OgHMEeVmaPMOTtfl?ref=Link

• Chromatic Cartography was a community-driven project where locals created handmade pigments from locally sourced materials across Inverciyde. Inspired by The Watt Institution's natural sciences collection, participants foraged for materials both organic and inorganic, transforming them into a set of wholly unique colours that reflected the local environment. The project sparked conversations about climate change, biodiversity, and invasive species. Combining foraging, identification, chemistry, art history, and paint making, each participant also created a personal artwork using their custom pigment palette.

Looking ahead, the Watt team has successfully secured £1,300 in funding from ART Fund UK to be part of the Global Herds Project in spring / early summer 2025. This is a community-driven programming inspired by *THE HERDS*, an act of public art and climate action on a global scale which will see an ever-growing procession of life size puppets of endangered species make a journey from Central Africa to the Arctic Circle. As part of the project, and in partnership with local schools and the community, the Watt will collect ocean plastic from River Clyde beaches and transform it into 3D-printed puppets representing the local marine animals impacted by plastic pollution.

Three Invercive schools—Inverkip Primary, Moorfoot Primary, and St John's Primary—will participate in workshops learning about plastic pollution inspired by The Watt Institution's natural sciences collection. Each school will contribute by creating a large puppet (either a dolphin, gull or lobster) alongside smaller individual puppets. These puppets will come together in a vibrant procession along Lunderston Bay to raise awareness of ocean pollution and its effects on marine life. The procession will take place on Saturday 7th June during Great Big Green Week and will mark the beginning of Invercive STEAM Festival 2025.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy /	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
		Plan						

#### 4. Carbon Reduction Action Area: Offsetting **Natural Environment** 4.1 Review existing tree/flora to **OSAMP** Service Production of To be Increase tree / 2022 -2.5 establish current carbon established hedgerow planting 2024 Manager Management sequestration / carbon Grounds & Plan storage levels Waste

#### Progress update - May 2025:

Tree strategy developed and now online, successfully delivered Coves Reservoir project and recipient of CoSLA and Scottish government awards.

4	4.2	Develop and incorporate into	LDP	Planning	Planning	To be	Development of	2022 -	2.1; 2.5
		LDP and implement measures		Service; Service	Guidance	established	adaptation measures.	2023	
		for new developments e.g.		Manager					
		landscaping species list to		Grounds &					
		optimise biodiversity		Waste					

#### Progress update - May 2025:

To be considered through the LDP review and related strategic environmental assessment.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links	
4.3	Continue to control invasive species	OSAMP, Council Policy	Service Manager Grounds & Waste	Eradication of non-native invasive plant species	As per management of invasive species	Work towards eradication of non- native invasive plant species	Ongoing - 2027	2.5	
Progress update – May 2025: Works continue to control and mitigate invasive species									

Works continue to control and mitigate invasive species.

4.4	Undertake projects to naturalise amenity grassland to enhance local biodiversity, improve natural habitats and support wildlife through wildflower meadow planting	OSAMP	Service Manager Grounds & Waste	% of amenity grassland naturalised	Current level is under 5% (to include survey work of newly introduced species)	20% of amenity grassland naturalised (insect/species count)	2022 - 2027	2.5

Progress update – May 2025:

Further expansion and continuation of meadow and naturalised planting in place for 2025/26.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
4.5	Undertake projects for woodland creation / enhancement, native tree planting and hedgerow planting in and around our communities (in appropriate locations) to offset the carbon emissions, including mitigation of impact of tree diseases (e.g. Ash dieback)		Service Manager Grounds & Waste	Areas of native woodland planted; number of native urban / street trees planted	To be established	Increased areas of woodland in and around urban areas; increased numbers of urban / street trees	2022 - 2027	2.5

The reintroduction of Nature Restoration Funding in 2025/26 will allow for further tree planting.

4.6	Undertake projects to	OSAMP	Service	Implement	As per	Restoration of up to	2022 -	2.5
	maximise carbon storage		Manager	projects	national	1100 hectares of	2027	
	potential of land through		Grounds &	working in	indicators	compromised		
	peatland restoration and		Waste	partnership		peatland at Hardridge		
	conservation.					and Dowries Farms		

#### Progress update – May 2025:

Two schemes (Dowries and Hardridge) have been identified and externally funded, Dowries works consisting of 140ha have been completed and Hardridge at 790ha is ongoing and due for completion in 2026.

Ref	Action	Relevant	Lead Person /	Service	Baseline	Target (where	Target	Council
		Strategy / Plan	Service	Indicator		applicable)	date	Plan Links

# **COMPLETED ACTIONS**

1. Carbon Reduction Action Area: Governance											
	Leadership										
1.2	Embed our aims to tackle Climate Change and to achieve emission reductions within our Council Corporate Plan and Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan (IOIP)	Council Corporate Plan; IOIP	Corporate Policy & Performance Team	Council Corporate Plan and IOIP	Outcomes within IOIP 2017–2022	Key objectives and organisational priorities within the Council Corporate Plan	2023	1.2; 2.1; 2.5; 3.1			

#### Progress update - June 2023:

New Inverciyde Council Plan 2023-28 and Inverciyde Alliance Partnership Plan 2023-33 approved April 2023. The Partnership Plan includes the outcome "Our natural capital is looked after, and we are effectively adapting and mitigating the effects of climate change" with the Council Plan including "Our natural environment is protected" as a key outcome. A strengthened performance management approach for the Council Plan will include regular updates on progress against our carbon reduction aims. The Council Plan links column has been updated to reflect the new plan themes and outcomes.

#### Progress Update – May 2024:

Action complete, with 5-year action plan requiring refresh within the life of current Council and Partnership Plans.

Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
1.4	Review Council standard committee report format to introduce Environmental / Sustainability implications section to ensure elected members and other readers of reports are alerted to any carbon, climate change or sustainability impacts	Net Zero Strategy	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services	Production of new report template and guidance		New templates and guidance is in place	2022	2.1; 2.5; 3.1

## Progress update – June 2023:

New Committee report format in place and approved by June 2022 Policy & Resources Committee (minor changes agreed May 2023).

	Climate Adaptation								
1.31	Implementation of Glen Mosston Wildlife Reserve Flood Attenuation	Flood Risk Management Strategy	Roads Services	Progress Flood Protection Scheme		Reduce flooding incidences	Ongoing to 2023	2.5	

## Progress update – June 2023:

Works are complete.

Plan   Plan	Ref	Action	Relevant Strategy / Plan	Lead Person / Service	Service Indicator	Baseline	Target (where applicable)	Target date	Council Plan Links
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1	L.32	Implementation of Gotters	Flood Risk	Roads Services	Progress Flood	Reduce flooding	Ongoing	2.5
		Water Flood Prevention	Management		Protection	incidences	to 2023	
		Scheme	Strategy		Scheme			

## Progress update – June 2023:

Works are on-going and programmed to be complete in 2023.

## Progress update – May 2024:

Gotter Water Flood Protection scheme is complete.