

Date: 28th November 2023

Agenda Item No.

Enterprise and Environment Directorate: Performance Report

Report by: Ken Gourlay, Chief Executive

Wards Affected: All

Purpose

To present the performance scorecard for Enterprise and Environment Directorate Services for 2022/23.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to: -

1. Note the arrangements set out in **Section 1.0** to fulfil the Council's obligation to comply with Audit Scotland's 2021 SPI Direction.
2. Consider the performance information in **Section 2.0**, including current challenges/priorities and Risks. A high-level overview of services KPIs is attached in Appendix 1 – 6 covering 4 lenses: Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) / Plan for Fife (P4F), Customer, Resources and Service Operations.

Resource Implications

None

Legal & Risk Implications

There are legal requirements highlighted within this report, linked to a risk of regulatory intervention if the Council does not adhere to the standards and expectations set by Audit Scotland.

Impact Assessment

An EqIA is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation

None required.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Audit Scotland published an update on Statutory Performance Direction in December 2021. The Council is required to report a range of information setting out:
- i. Its performance in improving local public services, provided by both (i) the council itself and (ii) by the council in conjunction with its partners and communities
 - ii. Its progress against the desired outcomes agreed with its partners and communities
 - iii. Its performance in comparison (i) over time and (ii) with other similar bodies including information drawn down from LGBF in particular and from other benchmarking activities.
 - iv. Its assessment of how it is performing against its duty of Best Value, and how it plans to improve against this assessment.

Below is a Link to the Direction Statutory Performance Indicators (revised) published in December 2021: -

[The Publication of Information \(Standards of Performance\) Direction 2021 Statutory Performance Indicators \(audit-scotland.gov.uk\)](https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/publication-of-information-standards-of-performance-direction-2021-statutory-performance-indicators)

2.0 Performance Reporting

- 2.1 Appendices to this report are presented in the form of a balanced scorecard covering the areas of LGBF/P4F, Customer, Resources and Service Operations. A current snapshot of Service Challenges is included along with a section on Risks.
- 2.2 Planning Service reports across two Scrutiny Committees, with wider Planning functions reporting to the Finance, Economy & Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee. This report focusses on those climate activities specific to the Planning Service.
- 2.3 Planning Service also produce the annual corporate Climate Change Public Bodies Duties Report. This report was submitted to Cabinet Committee (2nd November 2023) for approval before submission to the Scottish Government.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 This report highlights the key challenges, risks and performance in relation to the items that the Enterprise and Environment Directorate oversees. Overall, performance is good, and the Services continue to make improvements.

List of Appendices

Appendix 2 – Planning Services (Climate Change) Performance Report

Report Contact: Ken Gourlay, Chief Executive

Appendix 2 - Planning Services (Climate Change) Performance Report

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CLIMATE CHANGE Appendix 2

Current Challenges & Priorities

Addressing Climate Emergency is critical for Fife. The Service leads with the Addressing the Climate Emergency Reform and Recovery board. Further work is being progressed to ensure that actions are worked up to have a lead, costed, and timescales clarified.

Key climate challenges over the past year include:

- Development of a refresh Climate Fife Delivery Plan (which will be presented to Cabinet on 30th November 2023) covering the themes of:
 - Buildings
 - Low Carbon Energy
 - Zero Waste
 - Transport and Travel
 - Nature and Land
 - Protecting and supporting our communities
- Managing the strategic climate risks.
- Delivering Climate literacy across Fife Council – achieving Bronze level Carbon Literate Organisation for Fife Council and working towards Gold for Planning Service.
- Early work to the review of the Local Development Plan. This review provides the Council the opportunity for the Local Development Plan to be the spatial expression of both Plan4Fife and Climate Fife and embed Place Leadership.

Priorities for Planning Services in Addressing the Climate Emergency Action include:

- Buildings
 - Led on the preparing the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) – which will be presented to Cabinet on 30th November.
 - Act as Net Zero Carbon Champion for Dunfermline Learning Campus Schools (DLC) and the replacement Inverkeithing High School on compliance with the Net Zero Carbon Public Sector Building Standard.
- Low Carbon Energy
 - Support H100 Project in Levenmouth
 - Support the development of community solar co-operative approach, using vacant & derelict land.
- Zero Waste
 - Undertook a bike re-use project with Cycling Scotland and Community Organisations, repairing 275 bicycles collected through Recycling Centres and redistributing to communities in need.
- Nature and Land
 - Wildlife Site Assessments
 - Development of the Food4Fife Strategy
- Protecting and supporting our communities
 - Undertake a Climate risk and vulnerability assessment (See Risk section below)
 - Developing a regional approach to Climate Risk with the Edinburgh & Southeast Scotland Regional Prosperity Framework.
 - Support the update of Local Community Plans to include climate action.

- Being a partner in Climate Action Fife, a community led capacity building approach to climate action, and delivering Climate Literacy for the public sector in Fife.

RISKS/EMERGING RISKS

- The Service contributes in particular to strategic risks EE003 Climate Change and EE002 Risk to the Fife Economy.
- There is increasing risk from climate impacts. The initial climate risk & vulnerability assessment undertaken as part of Climate Fife (Strategy and Action Plan 2020) noting key risks including:
 - Risks to business sites, infrastructure and housing from river, surface water and coastal flooding, erosion, and sea level rise.
 - Risk of sewer flooding due to heavy rainfall.
 - Risks to energy, transport and ICT infrastructure from windstorms, electrical storms, storm surges and high waves and from extreme temperatures.
 - Risk of water scarcity impact on rural water supplies especially where reliant on private boreholes in Fife, and a risk of strain on private water supplies could increase biodiversity loss.
 - Risks to business from disruption to supply chains and distribution networks.
 - Risk of 'climate blight' as land or properties become unsellable as a result of climate change.
 - Risk of concurrent climate impacts escalating risks higher than can be foreseen.

The Risk & Vulnerability Assessment was updated in June 2023. An action plan will be developed by March 2024.

The Council's 'maturity' in tackling climate adaptation was benchmarked in May 2023 using the Adaptation Scotland tool, demonstrating that Fife Council currently fall in category 1 of 4 levels of maturity across:

- Organisational culture and assets preparedness for climate adaptation
 - Understanding the challenge of climate adaptation
 - Planning and implementation for climate adaptation
 - Working together for climate adaptation
- Emerging economic risks relate to climate include:
 - Increase in costs to deliver low-carbon infrastructure and development. In respect of infrastructure this impacts on the Council's capital programme and is linked to facilitating development growth as set out in the Local Development Plan, to assist Fife's economic growth.
 - The cost-of-living crisis, including the cost of fuel and its wider climate impact related to food and transportation.
 - Risks to businesses supply chains, resources and distribution from climate impacts.
 - Risks to town centres / business units from flooding and extreme weather could decline footfall/ traffic, increase void units and decrease investment.
 - Emerging legislative and policy risks related to climate include:
 - Environmental Standards Scotland are undertaking an investigation to consider "*the duties placed on public bodies and Scottish Ministers in respect of the delivery of climate legislation; the support that is available to this end; and the reporting and monitoring of performance.*" The outcomes of that report may have implications for local government.

Appendix 2

- The Scottish Government is also preparing “Statutory Guidance” in relation to Public Bodies duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act. This has the potential for substantive impact on Fife Council.
- The *Scottish Government and Scottish Green Party: shared policy programme* – which includes consultation on phased targets for decarbonising publicly-owned buildings to meet zero emission heating requirements by 2038.
- Planning Services are undertaking a review of Service risks in 2024 and will implement any changes, also arising from the Directorate risk management maturity assessment once undertaken.

KEY OUTCOMES (LGBF/P4F)

A RAG has been added to the following sections of the Template: -

Key to Council Scorecard Results Tables					
Green (G)	Performance improved, or above target and no action required	Amber (A)	Performance static, slightly below target and action in place	Red (R)	Performance significantly worse and requires immediate action
N/A	Not Available to report	DIV/0	Zero response		

LGBF	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
CO2 emissions area wide per capita (LGBF)	7.47	6.58	6.7	N/A	N/A

P4F	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Area Wide Emissions (thousand tonnes of Carbon)	3,174.7	2,821.3	2,919.8	2,840 (G)	N/A
Total Fife Council Carbon Footprint – tCO ₂ e	62,484	55,784	48,943	53,709	49,106 (G)
CO2 emissions area wide: within scope of LA per capita Fife (LGBF)	4.77	4.36	4.23	4.23	4.23 (A)

The indicators as shown above reflect that trend of a reducing footprint both for Fife as a whole, and Fife Council's own estate. This is the result of broad decarbonisation of the national grid as well as improvements to energy efficiency.

CUSTOMER

- Planning Service leads the delivery of Climate Literacy across Fife Council and public sector partners. The table below notes the number of staff and councillors having undertaken the training.

Indicator	2021/22	2022/23	Q1 2023/24
Number of Fife Council Staff and Councillors completed Climate Literacy Course	71	90 (G)	10
Number of Climate Literacy events, including wider engagement sessions and courses	16	9 (A)	11