

More severe rainfall events
More variable weather
Increasing sea levels

This creates challenges in safeguarding our buildings, assets, transport infrastructure and ensuring the Council can continue to deliver essential services when and where these are needed. In recognition of this, Argyll and Bute Council identified climate change adaptation as one of the six themes within its Decarbonisation Plan 2022 - 2025.

5.3 In October 2023, Argyll and Bute Council was accepted to join the Public Sector Climate Adaptation Network, facilitated by Adaptation Scotland. Through participation with the Network, the Council will benefit from:

Training and skills development covering topics such as risk assessment, public engagement and project planning
Advice and support on using the Adaptation Scotland Capability Framework and Benchmarking Tool
Opportunities to network and receive peer support
Space to reflect on learning and share experience with others

5.4

5.8 With regards to continuous improvement, the Council has shared its 2022/23

Generation of Initial Delivery Areas and the Building Level Assessment, are partially complete and the remainder is expected to be concluded by mid-January. Stage 6 is currently in the planning phase, and stakeholder workshops will take place in February, these workshops will assist us to finalise the delivery areas. The final two stages are anticipated to be completed late /spring early summer.

D - Scottish Government Energy Efficient Scotland: Area Based Scheme

- 5.12 To date, since 1st July 2023, Argyll and Bute Council has spent £870,000 of a £1,979,827 budget awarded by the Scottish Government Energy Efficient Scotland Area Based Scheme (ABS), insulating privately owned and privately rented properties in mainland and island addresses.
- 5.13 Non-means tested grants of between £9,000 and £21,000 are available to all eligible households for the application of insulation, significantly reducing and contributing towards the Scottish Government carbon reduction targets. Additionally, a joint project in conjunction with Argyll Community Housing Association in Bute and Tarbert was awarded a grant of £633,600.

E - Carbon Neutral Islands Programme

- 5.14 The Scottish Government

G ± Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT) Climate Change Projects Update

- 5.18 Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT) has established two new projects complementing ongoing work on climate change:

Argyll and Bute Climate Action Community Planning Partnership
Climate Change Strategy

ABCAN (Argyll & Bute Climate Action Network) Hub, funded by the
Scottish Government

- 5.19 The purpose of the Argyll and Bute Climate Action Community Planning Partnership Climate Change Strategy project is to undertake a climate risk assessment for Argyll & Bute as a region and to develop a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan comprising an integrated set of adaptation, mitigation and engagement actions. Argyll & Bute Council with other Community Planning Partnership partners have provided funding for a Project Manager for two years, with a Steering Group drawn from the Climate Change Working Group of the Community Planning Partnership. The Project Manager is employed by Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT), and started in post on 30 October 2023.

- 5.20 The emphasis of early phase activity has been to learn from existing initiatives to inform development of a methodology appropriate to the specific needs of Argyll and Bute and the timescale for the exercise. This will build upon and add value to existing climate-related work and duties across the region rather than replicate or replace activity. Next steps include an engagement programme, continuation of audit and gap analysis, mitigation and adaptation risk and opportunity methodology development. This project will continue to report in detail to the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership.

- 5.21 The new ABCAN Hub project will give a voice to community-led climate action, help to co-ordinate activities and support communities in progressing towards a net zero Argyll and Bute. Additionally, it will raise awareness of carbon impacts, and mitigate key climate themes. With Scottish Government funding, the ABCAN Hub project will establish a network of hubs based in each locality, providing staff resource to co-ordinate and build on current climate activities, deliver carbon literacy training, facilitate climate conversations, provide seed funding for climate mitigation, engage with hard-to-reach groups and identify opportunities for partnership working. The project is overseen by a collaboration between ACT, Argyll & Bute Third Sector Interface and Time for Change Argyll
- The ABCAN Hub project will ensure that Argyll & Bute has a cohesive approach to tackling climate change in its communities.

APPENDICES

Appendix A Climate Change Decarbonisation Tracker February 2024

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ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>or if there is a potential alternative that would meet the Service requirements, prior to orders being placed via PECOS or contacting the Procurement, Commercial and Contract Management Team (PCCMT) for a procurement process to be carried out.</p> <p>Note and consider that the Sustainable Procurement Policy will be updated to reflect the Climate Change Board desire to limit SUP where possible. wording has been included in the Annual Review 2023/2024 version of the Procurement Strategy 2022/2025 as follows: "The Council will provide procurement support to any strategic decisions taken by the Council in relation to the usage of Single Use Plastic products and their alternatives."</p> <p>Note and consider that the Commodity Sourcing Strategy templates used for Regulated Procurements have been updated to include a question regarding SUP.</p>

ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				Changes in legislation were brought into force by the Scottish Government on the 1st June 2022 restricting single use plastic cutlery, plates, straws, drink stirrers and balloon sticks, expanded polystyrene food containers and expanded polystyrene cups and other beverage containers, as well as all products made of oxodegradable plastic. Some products already changed and others under review.
W4 t Extend and explore pre ordering for school food to reduce food waste	(L) Commercial Services and Education	Evidence of extension of pre ordering & food waste reduction	Project funded and solution procured	Full implementation of Cashless Catering and Pre ordering system is completed.
E1 t Deliver Renewable Sourcing Strategy 2	(L) Commercial Services	Adoption of Strategy	RSS2 consultancy work funding to be confirmed; expectation is that project implementation will be through combinations of prudential borrowing (subject to business case approvals) and/or external funding.	RSS2 next stage development work includes specification development and preparation of invitation to tender for specialist consultancy support. Current work in progress; intended to be market tested early 2024.
E2 t Delivery of Non Domestic Energy Efficiency Framework (NDEEF) Project	(L) Commercial Services	Evidence of delivery of projects	Project development work is funded by combinations of the Scottish Government and the procured provider (costs absorbed within the tender process). Funding for project implementation will come from Council approved capital allocations: Climate Change 20/21 £500K	Non Domestic Energy Efficiency Fund (NDEEF) Energy Performance Contract was signed on 16 July 2021 (circa £1.25m investment with 10 year payback). The originally ally

ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
			Climate Change 21/22 £600K Asset Sustainability £175K	<p>which were added as contract variations, remained to be implemented. Tarbert School LED lighting was installed in the 2023 school summer recess; Kilmory Nursery solar pwas was installed in September 2023; the intended low carbon heating solution and pv installation at Cardross PS have been intentionally delayed whilst we try to access a recently launched funding scheme: ^ } š o v [• W μ o] Heat Decarbonisation Fund Salt Finance A bid was submitted by the 5/12/23 fund deadline (value £460K with the Council needing to contribute 20% of that). Bid outcomes will be communicated February 2024.</p> <p>In addition to the above, the procurement sourcing strategy for</p>

ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>The potential for a large solar pv ground array at the Kilmory Estate is currently being limited due to electricity grid constraints engagement with SSEN is ongoing to try to identify solutions.</p> <p>The Council now has 27 no solar pv installations in operation amounting to over 1.3MW capacity.</p>
<p>E4 t Delivery of Water Efficiency Audits across our Estate</p>	<p>(L) Commercial Services</p>	<p>Evidence of delivery of projects</p>	<p>Works items are generally small scale and are being funded through existing approved budgets where possible; otherwise costs will be met from savings generated.</p>	<p>Significant Council wide asset verification exercise and ensuring water use minimised.</p> <p>The asset verification element of this project is substantially complete and substantial savings have been identified and recovered. A case study is being prepared to demonstrate the range of tasks undertaken and to convey the scale of savings made and refunds received. The final stage of work involves an exercise to reduce water consumption (with carbon emissions reduction) over a number of sites and is underway.</p>
<p>E5t Delivery of Energy Efficiency Scotland Programme</p>	<p>(L) Housing Services, Registered Social Land 2 T* n BT /</p>			

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<p>E7 t Continue support of ABRA and review Renewable Energy Strategy annually</p>	<p>(L) Economic Development</p>	<p>Evidence of delivery of projects</p>	<p>Officer resource to support currently funded</p>	<p>Work to support ABRA ongoing the next meeting is planned for March 2024. Current ongoing project by SSS Networks for renewal of powerlines between Inveraray and Crossaig further works to follow to increase capacity to 275kv. The outline business case for Islay Energy System</p>

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				<p>secondment and staff time having been taken up with the October weather event and the RIS service review. The project manager is now back in post and looking to restart progress meetings etc and revise the project plan. The data gathering around our routes and the cleansing and verification of the data is proving more onerous than originally thought but this is a key step to provide the system with the correct foundations. The work to cleanse the data with the support of the contracted supplier is ongoing, and the second workstream to bring in the hardware for RCVs is about to begin.</p>
<p>T3 t Develop an electric vehicle infrastructure strategy</p>	<p>(L)Roads and Infrastructure Services</p>	<p>Evidence of delivery of projects</p>		

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			<p>requiring 22 separate competitive challenge funding applications to 8 separate funds.</p> <p>Projects funded via the active travel team within Strategic Transportation in 2022/23 included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First two sections of high quality segregated cycleway in Argyll and Bute constructed at Helensburgh Waterfront and Ralston Road, Campbeltown in 2022/23. Significant upgrade to path network in Castle Gardens, Dunoon. New cycle and scooter storage and access at Castlehill School, Campbeltown. New cycle parking at the community owned Port Ellen Playing Fields Community Development, Islay. Funded Cycling UK to run the Dunoon Cycle Bothy Funded ACT to upcycle 65 bikes to return to the local Mid Argyll Community and to assist children of refugees in Oban to have opportunity to cycle. Funded ACT to deliver Carbon Literacy training to over 30 people Creation of new Smartphone App for Tobermory and Bowmore (adding to the existing popular 	<p>challenge fundsAs all active travel work is currently reliant on securing external funding, therefore the projects which are progressed are those which can successfully secure external challenge funding.</p> <p>Argyll and Bute Active Travel Strategy. Officers are working to develop an Argyll and Bute Active Travel Strategy and present it for Council by summer 2024. The Active Travel Strategy would provide the overarching context for the Council to support and promote active travel across the Council area. Having an adopted and current Active Travel</p>

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ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>ACT is hosting the Community W o v v] v P W Œ š v Œ • Z] Action Manager who will be developing a Climate Action Strategy and Action Plan over the next 2 years. In addition, ACT has partnered with the Third Sector Interface and Time for Change to become the ABAN (Argyll and Bute Climate Action Network) Hub. The Hub team will engage with communities and organisations to</p>

ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
				<p>Hermitage Park green flag status</p> <p>Funding for additional EV charging points</p> <p>Increased funding announcement for Energy Efficiency Scheme</p> <p>Green Summer campaign series of posts encouraging people to adopt small changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School uniform recycling scheme - Plastic free picnics - International plastic free bag day - Shop Local - Reduce fast fashion - Active travel maps - National Marine Week - World Conservation Day <p>New Campbeltown cycle path</p> <p>Dunoon active travel route consultation</p> <p>Helensburgh active travel route consultation</p> <p>Supporting Communities Fund.</p>

ACTION	LEAD (L) AND PARTNERS	TARGET or MILESTONE	FUNDING	COMMENTS
<p>COMM2- Engage with community and</p>				<p>Transport Scotland funding for cleaner, greener council fleet</p> <p>Lochgilphead Active Travel consultation and reminders</p> <p>Installation of solar panels at council offices</p> <p>Net zero target commitments</p> <p>Improvements at household waste recycling centres</p> <p>Council agrees projects to address biodiversity loss</p> <p>Better journeys campaign to encourage more people to mix and match journeys</p> <p>teasers before official launch in January 2024</p> <p>Christmas recycling tips</p> <p>Cascadet have a greener Christmas</p> <p>Cascadet tips for leftovers</p>

