

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 25 February 2020

Sustainability Programme Progress Update

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Policy and Sustainability Committee.
 - 1.1.1 Note the sustainability programme update and the programme plan for delivery of the City Sustainability Strategy 2030
 - 1.1.2 Note the appointment of the Climate Commission Chair and the confirmed Commission membership
 - 1.1.3 Note the update on the Edinburgh Conference
 - 1.1.4 Note the resource arrangements to support the programme
 - 1.1.5 Note the update on the Sustainable Energy Action Plan and the positive progress made on current city emissions target
 - 1.1.6 Agree that moving forward any continuing SEAP projects are brought into the wider Sustainability Programme and future reporting on city emissions will reflect the new council target for 2030

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Paula McLeay, Senior Manager

E-mail: paula.mcleay@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 6258

Sustainability Programme Progress Update

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This paper provides a summary of ongoing activity being undertaken across the Council and as part of the corporate sustainability programme activity. It provides
 - 2.1.1 an overview of the Council's engagement and consultation activities including the youth summit and plans for the city conference.
 - 2.1.2 an outline of the planned approach to the next 12 months of activity culminating in the publication of the City Sustainability Strategy 2030.
 - 2.1.3 a summary of the Sustainable Energy Action Plan and proposes that remaining projects and future reporting be subsumed into the Sustainability Programme.
- 2.2 The work involved in supporting a coordinated approach to activity across the Council and the scale of the challenge facing the Council and our partners in delivering the 2030 City Sustainability Strategy is significant. As such, this report also addresses the plan for resourcing corporate activity with support from the EIT Climate-KIC deep demonstrator funding.
- 2.3 Finally, the report confirms the appointment of the Independent Chair to the Edinburgh Climate Commission which has been co-sponsored by the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation and the Council with funding support from the Place-based Climate Action network. The report also provides an update on the confirmed Commission membership and planned next steps.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council has set a target for the City of Edinburgh to be carbon neutral by 2030. This commitment has resulted in the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee being re-established as the Council Policy and Sustainability Committee. An All Party Oversight Group on Sustainability and Climate Emergency was also established to provide ongoing cross party political leadership to the agenda. The Chief Executive chairs a newly established officers Sustainability and Climate Emergency Programme Board comprising key senior officers, supported by a

working group of officers from service areas across the Council. A corporate sustainability team has been established to support this council activity.

- 3.2 The Policy and Sustainability Committee agreed a council short window improvement plan that looked across 14 areas of council business to identify immediate actions, reprioritisation, increased scale and speed of current commitments that could be progressed within current politically agreed parameters with limited financial impact to the Council. Business cases are to be developed where action may result in a financial decision for the Council.
- 3.3 The Council also began its city engagement process around climate change with the Edinburgh Talks Climate survey which was launched in November. This was supported by a number of focus groups with representation of citizens from across the city. The issue of Citizens Assemblies and the potential role that they may play in supporting citizen engagement in the challenges around climate change were previously considered at Committee and it was agreed that this issue would be fully explored once the Poverty Commission had made its recommendations in March regarding future citizen engagement and collaboration. The Council also committed to delivering a youth summit and designing a city conference to promote and galvanise activity in Edinburgh.
- 3.4 In looking at the wider challenge presented by the Council carbon target, Leeds and Edinburgh University were commissioned to produce a research paper on city carbon emissions which reported its early findings to Committee in October 2019.
- 3.5 The research found that:
 - 3.5.1 Edinburgh had made good progress on reducing carbon emissions to date but that if current approaches were sustained that progress was likely to flatten out.
 - 3.5.2 Key drivers of city emissions are transport; domestic energy; commercial and industry.
 - 3.5.3 The Council directly contributes about 3% of city emissions with the main public bodies (Council, further and higher education, NHS) amounting to 12% of city emissions.
 - 3.5.4 Maintaining the status quo will incur increasing costs year on year for businesses, public bodies and citizens for example through the increasing cost of energy consumption.
 - 3.5.5 To meet the 2030 carbon target would require a significant step change in city activity that has the support and active contribution of private sector partners and citizens.
 - 3.5.6 The city could get 56% of the way towards its carbon neutral target with current technology and innovation. While costs were estimated at £4.0 billion, the research suggested this investment would yield a £550 million annual saving, paying for itself within 7.5 years. This investment would likely include spending decisions already planned as well as some additional investment.

- 3.5.7 The city could get 67% of the way with cost-neutral and technically possible interventions but the return on investment for these would currently be neutral or over a longer payback period.
- 3.5.8 This showed that there was currently a technological, legal and/or regulatory gap in current capacity and ability to deliver carbon emission reductions that can meet the 2030 target. This is partially due to the scope of the research being city emissions, meaning future national actions on areas such as decarbonising the national grid are not reflected. While it is expected the city's emission reductions will be augmented by such actions, it is also expected that some development of current technologies will also be required within the 10 year window of the target.
- 3.5.9 The report augmented this economic analysis with reference to wider economic benefits of the investment in activity to progress towards becoming carbon neutral such as job creation and less economically quantifiable but important impacts on air quality, health and biodiversity.
- 3.6 In recognising the importance of climate action being a city-wide effort, and the importance of civic activism and private sector commitment and innovation, the Council agreed to co-sponsor with ECCI the establishment of an Edinburgh Climate Commission, with funding and other support from the P-CAN network. The Committee agreed the scope of the Commission, the establishment of an independent chair and the broad parameters of the Commission remit.

4. Main report

Progress to date: Short Window Improvement Plan

- 4.1 A full report on progress delivering on the Short Window Improvement Plan will be made at the next Policy and Sustainability Committee meeting. Key programme management mechanisms have been put in place to support monitoring and evaluation of performance and progress. These have been given early consideration by the All Party Oversight Group. This will include an analysis of current council owned emissions as a baseline for future performance monitoring and will be supported by a carbon scenario tool being developed in partnership with ECCI. This will ensure future business case development that takes account of the estimated carbon impact of a decision or project.
- 4.2 However, it is worth noting in this report that a significant number of key strategic documents referenced within the SWIP have already been published with significant and enhanced focus on and prioritisation of the Council's carbon target. These include
- 4.2.1 The Choices document for the Local Development Plan;
 - 4.2.2 The City Mobility Plan;
 - 4.2.3 The Strategic Housing Investment Plan;

4.2.4 Edinburgh Design Guidance; and

4.2.5 The City Tourism Strategy.

4.3 Further activity is underway across all of the commitments made in the plan but for illustration:

4.3.1 processes to look at youth engagement are making significant progress, the sustainable procurement strategy has been consulted upon and is expected at Committee in March.

4.3.2 Council procurement team is representing all local authorities on the Scottish Government Procurement Climate Change Group.

4.3.3 The fleet review is progressing with aim to deliver a 100% electric car fleet by the end of 2020, and a 100% electric van fleet by 2022/23. Research on options for electric vehicle charging infrastructure is underway and a business case for accelerating and/or expanding the planned EV programme will then be developed. The research will also outline options for stimulating the demand for electric vehicle use in Edinburgh.

4.3.4 A new green infrastructure working group has been established to identify opportunities for the use of green infrastructure and nature-based solutions within new and existing infrastructure projects; this will include opportunities within school grounds where infrastructure changes are planned.

4.3.5 To support wider work with schools, a new sustainability steering group has been established to drive support for schools to work with pupils and parents on tackling climate change. The group's remit spans strategic and operational activity, including the Edinburgh Learns Framework for Sustainability in the Learning Estate; leadership, challenge and accountability for action; and professional learning, organisational cultures and behaviours needed to drive change.

Citizen Engagement

4.4 Phase 1 of citizen engagement began in November with a survey of citizens views and attitudes to climate action. Responses continue to be submitted but to date over 1,255 citizens have responded. Early analysis of citizen attitudes suggest that those responding to the survey have a high awareness of climate issues, believe local action is a priority, and that people are, or will, act to address the climate change challenge.

4.5 One of the most important aspects of the survey was beginning to understand what barriers may exist that prevent citizens from taking immediate action to address climate change.

4.6 Barriers to action identified by respondents included:

4.6.1 Current circumstances around housing or employment status;

4.6.2 Costs of making change – a minority of changes actually more expensive, but strong concern about immediate costs;

4.6.3 Time involved in making change; and

4.6.4 Persuading others.

4.7 It is clear that those proactively responding to the climate survey tend to be citizens with good knowledge and a relatively strong commitment to climate action. However, to get a fuller picture of the views of all citizens, the council also conducted focus groups with attendees recruited from across the social and demographic makeup of the city. These sessions had a more widespread debate and discussion about climate change and climate action. Respondents:

4.7.1 Felt that climate change is a serious issue, which held a greater value and importance to attendees than education and was equally as important as addressing homelessness.

4.7.2 However, respondents also articulated a universal enjoyment of holidays abroad with nearly all attendees having flown for pleasure in the last year.

4.7.3 There was a willingness to consider reducing meat, reducing dairy was felt to be 'too hard'. Similarly saving energy was seen as easy but saving water had less support.

4.7.4 The question of whether and why to make the effort was raised, reflecting a perceived futility in individual action, which may be negated by a neighbour's unwillingness to adopt similar actions or behaviours.

4.7.5 Respondents held an overall acceptance of shared responsibility for climate action but believed that (all) governments have a role to enforce or make everyone act.

4.7.6 Respondents were also concerned that low-impact actions can be dismissed as 'greenwashing', despite their power in signalling a shift in culture – this was particularly aimed at private business practice.

4.8 A deeper analysis and next steps in community and citizen engagement will be developed once the Climate-KIC European monies are in place.

4.9 In the meantime, the Council had committed to delivering a youth summit to begin an ongoing process of engaging and collaborating with the city's young people on climate change. The first event will take place on 28 February at Dynamic Earth with around 150 young people. The event is being co-produced with young people and the day will be led by young people. As well as hearing their concerns, views and priorities about climate action, the intention is to co-design the future approach to an ongoing engagement and collaboration with young people.

4.10 The Council had a stronger than expected response from across Edinburgh with over 400 young people from a wide range of schools wanting to be involved in the event. This exceeded initial expectation and event capacity. Responding positively to this demand, the summit planning team refocused the event on the 28 February to engage with young people from secondary schools only, with a further date set for the 28 April for a second event with younger age school children. The intention is to work with schools and teachers to inform and develop a deeper conversation

about climate action that younger school children can work on and develop as part of curriculum for excellence. Council officers are working on collating a school 'pack' of resources to support this engagement.

Phase 2 engagement

- 4.11 The October policy and sustainability report laid out a broad approach to an ongoing conversation with citizens about climate change and climate action through social media and other innovative approaches, rather than solely through the more traditional online surveys that are the basis for more formal council consultations. While resources remain an issue, progress has been made to support this phase of engagement to begin shortly.
- 4.12 Five short video clips have been created demonstrating how residents have made simple changes to their lives which deliver a range of benefits, including contributing to sustainability. These videos will be promoted through Council social media channels and shared on our online Dialogue site. The site will be developed as a place where citizens can share ideas and join an ongoing conversation/debate/exchange about what people in Edinburgh can do about the climate emergency.
- 4.13 The Council will draw insight into citizens views as well as learning around civic activism and citizen action that will support the ongoing development of the sustainability programme. It is envisaged that the dialogue will over time become a self-sustaining forum for engagement, collaboration and debate about climate change that will support the city and citizens to work toward the ambitious targets that have been set.
- 4.14 The Edinburgh Talks Climate Dialogue will launch in early March, following the first Youth Summit, and content will be uploaded weekly through March and April. The effectiveness of this approach to engagement will be monitored and reported to the APOG.
- 4.15 The recruitment of communication and engagement capacity as part of the deep demonstrator programme will support this activity to grow and develop over the next 12 months. As mentioned in the background section of this report, the option of a citizen jury/citizen assembly, or other ongoing approaches to citizen collaboration will be fully explored in a paper to the next Policy and Sustainability Committee meeting.

City Conference update

- 4.16 In light of other resource pressures and the significant milestone represented by COP26, officers have revised the date of the Edinburgh Conference to the Autumn of 2020. A further update will be given to the APOG and depending upon the scale of the event and appetite from partners to support and engage in a shared activity, Council will be asked to approve the plan and its resourcing at a future date.

Climate Commission update

- 4.17 Dr Sam Gardner has now been appointed as the independent Chair of the Edinburgh Climate Commission. Dr Gardner is the Head of Climate Change & Sustainability at Scottish Power where he is driving forward a program of work

designed to ensure Scottish Power plays its full part in tackling climate change. He previously worked for WWF Scotland for 12 years, most recently as Deputy Director. At WWF Scotland Sam led a team focused on securing lasting solutions to the environmental and climate change crises. His work has covered the introduction of the first Climate Change Scotland in 2009 and its implementation over the last ten years.

- 4.18 He has worked closely with stakeholder from across industry, academia and the public sector on the transition to net zero, in particular on electric vehicles, low carbon infrastructure, renewable heat and the power sector. Sam previously worked for SEPA and the RSPB in Scotland. In 2017 he was seconded into the Climate Change division of the Scottish Government to work on the monitoring framework for the Climate Change Plan.
- 4.19 As Independent Chair of the Commission and in addition to Cllr Adam McVey as Vice Chair, Dr Gardner has invited and can confirm the following sector leaders as members of the Commission -
- 4.19.1 Andrew Kerr – Chief Executive of City of Edinburgh Council
 - 4.19.2 Dave Reay – Director of Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation at the University of Edinburgh
 - 4.19.3 Clare Foster – Partner, Shepherd and Wedderburn
 - 4.19.4 Daisy Narayanan – Director of Urbanism, SUSTRANS
 - 4.19.5 Bridie Ashrowan – Chief Executive, Broomhouse Space
 - 4.19.6 Teresa Bray – Chief Executive, Changeworks
 - 4.19.7 Kaisie Rayner – Responsible Investment Manager - Scottish Widows
 - 4.19.8 Calum Murray – Director CCG Scotland
 - 4.19.9 Diarmaid Lawlor – Associate Director, Scottish Futures Trust
 - 4.19.10 Alex Hilliam – Behaviour Change Expert Consultant
 - 4.19.11 Andrea Nicholas - Chief Executive, Green Tourism
- 4.20 Posts relating to civil society and the inclusion of young people are also due to be announced shortly. A complete list of members will be circulated to the committee as soon as possible. The intention is for the Commission to hold its first formal meeting at the end of the month.

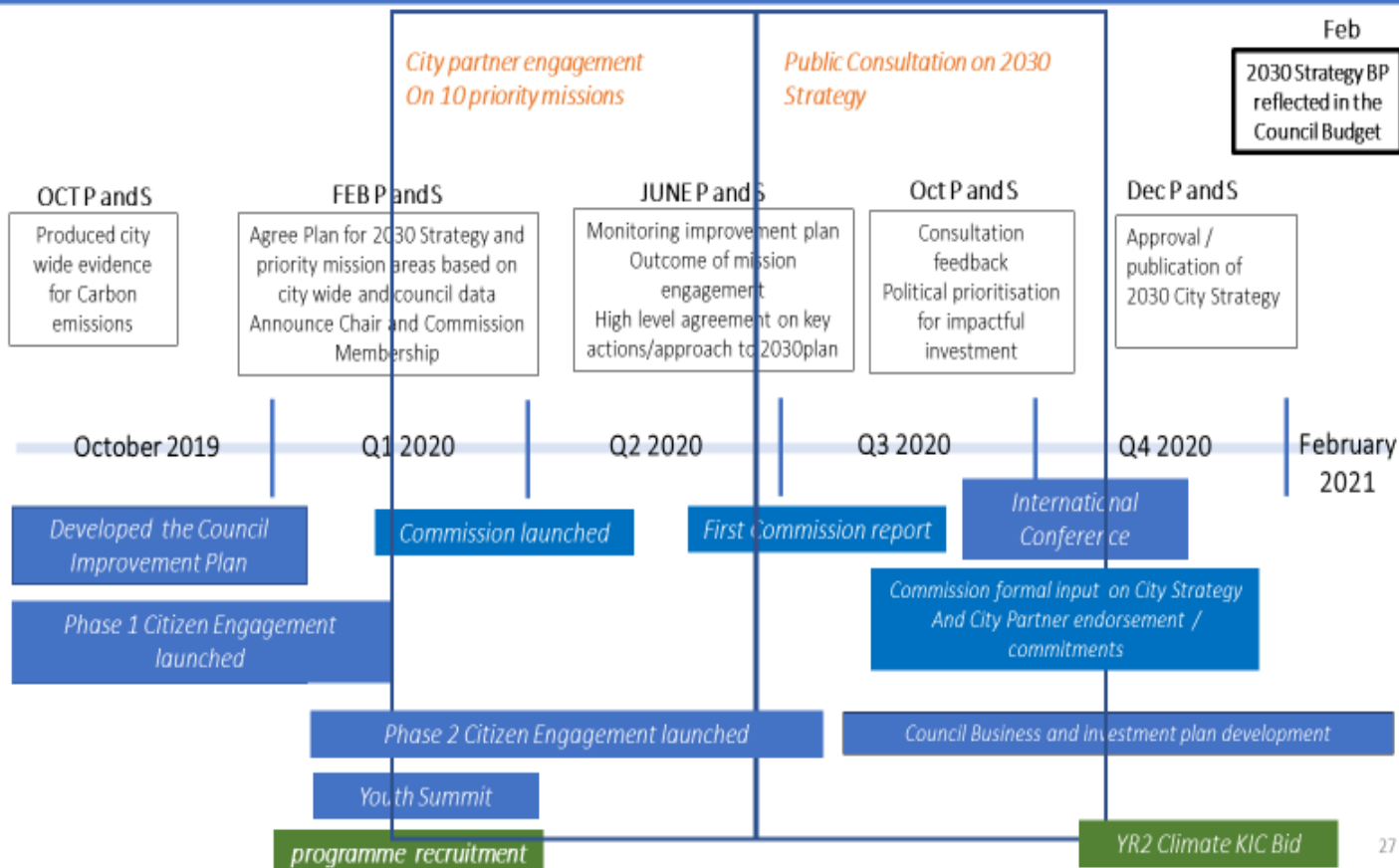
City Sustainability Strategy 2030: Approach and timeline

- 4.21 The Climate Commission will play an integral part in leading the city to consider the key most impactful actions that can be taken to ensure that the city is carbon neutral by 2030. The Commission will provide focus, challenge, expertise and leadership to the overall agenda, but it will be for the Council to publish the City Sustainability Strategy.
- 4.22 The programme outline below lays out the key tasks and timescales involved in delivering a City Sustainability Strategy that can be published by December 2020.

However, the focus of this work and the strategy will need to be on impactful action if Edinburgh is to lay strong foundations and develop specific change proposals and projects to reach the 2030 target. This is why the proposed outline continues past the strategy publication to the setting of the next Council budget in 2021. This reflects the reality of needing to proactively invest in action to tackle climate change and the overarching commitment of the Council that its budget will deliver on the policy priorities of sustainability, poverty and wellbeing.

- 4.23 In addition, as outlined in earlier council reports, in such a pressing and dynamic context it will be essential that the strategy moves away from traditional strategy development to a mission led approach. As such, with the support of ECCI and Climate KIC, 9 priority missions have been identified so far.
- 4.23.1 New build housing becoming zero carbon
 - 4.23.2 Transforming future city energy generation
 - 4.23.3 Transforming city waste recycling
 - 4.23.4 Retrofit of heritage, commercial and public buildings
 - 4.23.5 Retrofit of domestic housing
 - 4.23.6 Decarbonisation of city transport
 - 4.23.7 Readyng Edinburgh for climate impact
 - 4.23.8 Citizen behaviour change and civil society innovation and activism
 - 4.23.9 Ensuring a just transition to a low-carbon Edinburgh
- 4.24 The Climate Commission will have more and potentially different things to add in the debate around key city priorities and key missions for the city, but it is intended as far as possible for the Council, the Commission, and the Strategy, to take a dynamic and agile approach to climate action across the complex landscape of this city. As a first step in this process the Chief Executive of the Council has invited Chief Executives from key partners and organisations across the city to a round table on climate action. The Council will also work with partners including Transition Edinburgh to host a workshop of civil society and community action groups to consider the key challenges and consider how best to engage with and support community action moving forward.
- 4.25 Elected members are invited to note the timeline outlined below

Plan to delivery of 2030 Strategy



Resourcing

- 4.26 This programme of activity is responding to an issue which impacts all areas of business for the Council and stakeholders from across the city. It is also being conducted at significant speed and can only be delivered with the right resources in place. Brexit was predicted to have some impact on the EIT Climate KIC resources and indeed there was a reduction of 20% applied to the initial grant which the Council and ECCI successfully bid for. However, the Climate KIC resources agreed for this year remain a significant €1 million, albeit with a delay in contractual confirmation of the release of resources.
- 4.27 Strategy and Communications intends to augment current capacity over the coming month by recruiting 4 fixed term and 1 permanent grade 8 posts into the team. These would include a programme and partnership manager, a project and investment manager, a communications and engagement manager, a policy manager and a carbon data analyst. These posts are due to be advertised by the end of February. To ensure progress the Council will bear the risk of any budget slippage in the recruitment of these posts for a full 1 year term.
- 4.28 The Council relationship with Climate KIC is intended to be a 5-year strategic partnership to deliver significant impactful change. However, it is highly likely that the UK leaving the EU will have an ongoing impact and the Council will need to consider this in future reports. In the meantime, the Council will use the next year to

work in collaboration with Climate KIC and ECCL to source and secure wider support for the city sustainability activity.

Sustainable Energy Action Plan

- 4.29 This report also provides an update on progress towards achieving the target of reducing carbon emissions by 42% by 2020. Last year's report showed that we had reached a 33% reduction in emissions. This year, the data demonstrates that it has increased to 34.9%. Based on current figures, the Council is on a trajectory to exceed the target of 42% by 2020.
- 4.30 Progress towards this target is driven by the totality of the Council's efforts to reduce carbon emissions. However, in previous years a small number of specific sustainability projects have been monitored through a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP).
- 4.31 A full description of projects included under the SEAP are listed in Appendix 2. By way of summary, the status of the projects can be allocated into three categories:
- 4.31.1 **COMPLETED:** Some projects have been completed since the SEAP was first published, these have now been removed from the plan and will not appear in any future reports to Committee.
- 4.31.2 **NOT PROGRESSED:** Some projects were identified for exploration and have either not been progressed or did not prove viable and the action has been closed.
- 4.31.3 **ONGOING:** Some projects are ongoing activities that can now be classed as mainstreamed or best practice activity of the Council. These will not be reported as individual projects into the future, as the strategic aims of the SEAP will be taken forward through the Council's wider sustainability programme and as such, will inform regular monitoring and reporting of the 2030 target. Where ongoing projects remain, they will be included into the corporate sustainability programme.
- 4.32 Although the Council has now set the more challenging target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030, we will also report on the 2020 target until its completion date to ensure appropriate accountability and transparency. As there is a two year lag in the data underpinning this target, it is intended to monitor and report progress until the final 2020 dataset becomes available in 2022. Thereafter reporting will focus on our 2030 target only.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The next programme of activity is laid out in paragraph 4.25.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 Current resource implications for the programme resulting from Brexit and delays in the Climate KIC resourcing are addressed in the report.
- 6.2 Financial implications for key activities within the short window improvement plan will be brought back to committee for consideration in June.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Details of stakeholder and community engagement are detailed in the paper above.
- 7.2 This report has been assessed in respect of the three elements of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Public Bodies Duties. In summary, the proposals in this report will help improve social justice, economic wellbeing and environmental good stewardship.

8. Background reading/external references

[Achieving Net Zero - Policy and Sustainability Committee 25 October 2019](#)

[Climate Commission - Policy and Sustainability Committee 25 October 2019](#)

[Update Short Window Improvement Plan - Policy and Sustainability Committee 25 October 2019](#)

9. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Edinburgh Talk Climate engagement

Appendix 2 - SEAP log

Appendix 1

Edinburgh Talks Climate – Briefing on citizen engagement activity and outputs

1. Background

- 1.1 Engagement with citizens on the climate crisis has two main purposes for the City of Edinburgh Council. These are:
 - Ensuring that citizens are aware, informed and, to a reasonable extent, are involved in designing and consent to changes in the planning and delivery of local government services, which the Council provides or commissions; and
 - Ensuring citizens have appropriate, actionable information which both allows them to make more sustainable choices and encourages them to do so.
- 1.2 Engagement in these ways will, necessarily, continue throughout the lifetime of any sustainability programme. However, initial engagement activity to begin to deliver on these is being performed in two phases.
 - Phase one engagement takes the form of initial research to help the Council better understand citizens views;
 - Phase two engagement seeks to build an active and informed community which will drive change independently of the Council, and will be more informed, supportive and able to usefully contribute to service change across the public sector and elsewhere.
- 1.3 This briefing note covers some outputs of engagement activity to date, but is not complete or comprehensive since most of these activities are ongoing at the time of writing.

2. Main report

Phase One Engagement

- 2.1 Phase one of citizen engagement began in November with a survey of citizens views and attitudes to climate action. This survey was based on the approach taken by Leeds to monitor the attitudes of its citizens towards climate action and was developed with input from the team at Leeds University, which is supporting that city's climate research and action.

2.2 The Edinburgh Talks Climate Survey is still open and to date around 1,650 citizens have responded. This interest was generated through network communications and social media advertising. Advertising was designed to appeal to a broad set of attitudes, to enable the Council to understand the breadth of Edinburgh resident views, and more effectively design and target future communications. The Council expects to drive more, and more diverse, participants to the survey as phase two engagement is launched.

Survey Responses

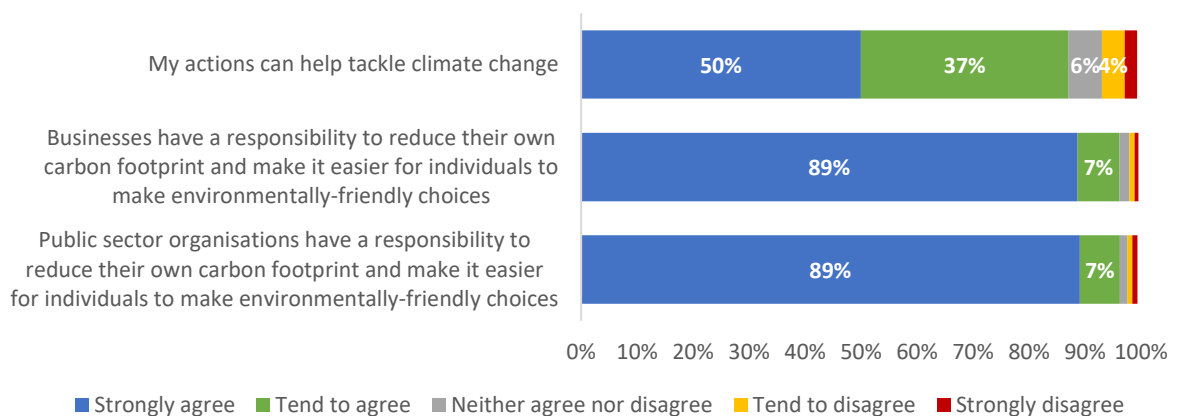
2.3 Final reported results of the survey will be weighted to better match the demographics of the City of Edinburgh as a whole. Results shown below are for all participants to date and are unweighted. This is important to note because participants to date are unrepresentative of the city – 76% are home owners, too few respondents are under 24 or over 55, and more women have responded than men.

2.4 Analysis of citizen attitudes suggests that those responding to the survey have a high awareness of climate issues, believe local action is a priority, and that people are or will act to address the climate change challenge.

- 80% were concerned about the effects of climate change on them personally
- 95% were concerned about the effects of climate change on future generations

2.5 There was strong consensus that the private sector and the public sector have responsibility for reducing their own carbon footprint as well as helping citizens make more sustainable choices. Encouragingly, 87% of participants agreed that actions by individuals could help tackle climate change.

Figure 1 – Responsibility for tackling climate change (base 1,648)



2.6 Participants generally felt that they were currently displaying sustainable behaviours and were often willing to undertake further activity.

- 2.7 Behaviours individuals felt they were already doing included:
- 94% recycle their rubbish
 - 91% turn off lights and appliances when not in use
 - 90% use re-useable bags, cups and water bottles instead of disposable versions
 - 88% eat leftover food instead of throwing it away
 - 83% walk or cycle journeys less than a mile
 - 77% avoid using pesticides and herbicides in the garden
 - 74% have reduce their consumption of red meat
- 2.8 Participants generally felt that they were currently displaying sustainable behaviours and were often willing to undertake further activity.
- 2.9 Behaviours individuals felt they would undertake included:
- 31% would collect deliveries from local collection points instead of receiving home delivery
 - 27% would consider adding insect, bird or animal habitats to their garden
 - 24% would buy the most energy-efficient models when replacing appliances
 - 23% would switch to an electric or hybrid car in the next five years
 - 19% would turn down their central heating to 18 degrees
- 2.10 One of the most important aspects of the survey was beginning to understand what barriers may exist that prevent citizens from taking immediate action to address climate change. Results from the survey highlight the main barriers as:
- 2.11 **Current circumstances around housing or employment status.** Where an individual lives and where (and if) an individual works can provide structural barriers to change, and these also reinforce psychological barriers to change. For example, an employer who does not promote working from home likely has fewer staff who work from home. 26% of participants felt that barriers would prevent them from working from home.
- 2.12 **Costs of making change.** While many changes to more sustainable lifestyles are actually more affordable, there are concerns about the affordability of both large one-off decisions (e.g. swapping to an electric vehicle from diesel or petrol) and everyday choices. While substituting meat in a diet for non-meat protein can be affordable, direct substitutes which imitate the look and taste of meat (e.g. textured soy) are usually more expensive than pre-packed supermarket meat and are less widely available. 46% of participants who identified barriers to change said that the cost of making a change would prevent them from changing their behaviour.
- 2.13 **Time involved in making change.** These concerns included an investment in a routine which was perceived as being efficient or otherwise beneficial, as well as the belief that some changes were fundamentally less efficient for little or no personal benefit. Travel choices often fell into this latter category – for example: train travel is perceived as less time efficient than flying; bus travel takes longer than car travel; and residents felt there weren't direct cycle routes from point-to-point unlike ordinary roads.

- 2.14 **Persuading others.** Individuals were conscious that many choices they might want to make had implications for others in their household, family, friend group or workplace, and that they were not completely free to make these choices for financial or social reasons and the direct impact of these choices on others. This has significant implications for behaviour change, since most of the individual behaviours which will reduce carbon emissions are decisions which affect entire households and not just individuals. Behaviour change approaches which target (or enable) only individuals are likely to be less effective than approaches that target whole households.
- 2.15 A relatively small number of participants identified health or disability (13%) as the reason why changes would be impossible, while 10% felt that their preferences or habits were too strongly embedded to allow them to change.

Focus group feedback

- 2.16 The results of the survey are not intended to provide any kind of “whole city” or representative view of citizen opinion, but instead to function as a baseline from which to allow better targeting of communications and behaviour change amongst different segments of society.
- 2.17 To attempt to provide a more complete and representative assessment of attitudes to sustainability, the Council undertook a qualitative research approach. In December, the Council ran the first four focus groups with a sample who were proportionately similar to Edinburgh residents in terms of age, sex and income and were from a range of ethnic and national backgrounds and drawn from across the city. The focus groups revealed:
- 2.18 **Awareness of common terms was high** – for example climate change and carbon footprint. However deeper discussions identified that participants had no awareness of what their own carbon footprint was, or how national footprints compared, did not know what a “good” or “bad” carbon footprint was, and did not know whether their behaviours were relatively better or worse in terms of carbon emissions. The unit of measurement “a tonne of carbon dioxide” was particularly unhelpful for understanding impacts, since carbon dioxide is a gas which participants do not experience having weight, and a tonne is not a weight most people deal with often. This has significant implications for persuading people to change their behaviour or convincing citizens that structural changes to the city or the economy are worthwhile.
- 2.19 **Participants felt climate change was a serious issue.** Relative to other issues of significance it was around as important for Edinburgh to address climate change as to address homelessness, which was considered a more important issue than the quality of education.
- 2.20 However, **participants also articulated a universal enjoyment of holidays abroad** with all attendees having flown in the last year. Most participants had not considered any alternative to flying, and of those who had most found it took too long or was too expensive. Only one participant reported having travelled internationally by train for work.

- 2.21 **Meat consumption was not high** amongst participants – most felt that they were eating meat at or around twice a week. They were sceptical of the benefits of any further reductions, but not opposed to making further reductions.
- 2.22 By contrast to meat consumption, **there was considerably less willingness to consider a reduction in dairy consumption** (including eggs). Participants were unconvinced of the relative benefits of non-dairy substitutes, generally enjoyed milk and cheese, and for some eggs were an essential dietary component because of intolerance to a range of other staples. Dairy is, perhaps literally but at least psychologically, a much larger component of the average person’s diet than meat.
- 2.23 **Reducing energy consumption was seen as a universal good.** Electricity and heat are services people readily identify the costs of, and can easily discuss the real impacts on them of varying consumption and supplier. Unlike the carbon footprint of a banana, some participants know the cost of heating their home for a day, and how much difference a degree on their thermostat means in cash terms. The sense that suppliers are powerful relative to individuals creates a motivation to seek the best deals regardless of income levels.
- 2.24 **Attitudes to water conservation in Edinburgh are markedly different to attitudes to energy consumption.** Participants felt that there was an abundance of water, usage had no real costs for them and the introduction of devices to save water (e.g. low-flow shower heads or taps) was felt to annoy users without providing them with any visible benefit. Participants generally did not have any information about how much a ten minute shower costs them relative to one half as long.
- 2.25 **Participants had an overall acceptance of shared responsibility for climate action** – “it’s everyone’s responsibility” was a commonly-used phrase. However, there was a clear desire for ‘government’ to act in two ways – to reduce the structural barriers to making sustainable shifts in behaviour; and to do more to compel positive behaviours. While social pressure appears to have been generally effective in persuading people to recycle, there is significant bad feeling around the neighbours who refuse to recycle, and low-level concerns that Councils do very little to ‘make’ people recycle.
- 2.26 **Low-impact, high-awareness actions may have an important role to play in shifting behaviours.** It was suggested that the Council could change Festival fireworks for light shows, though participants had no idea how much carbon would be saved through this, they believed the symbol of making the change was powerful. However, the risk of “greenwashing” was high, and participants felt it was essential that any symbolic action would have to accompany significant and substantial / meaningful change elsewhere.
- 2.27 Further research to identify next steps in community and citizen engagement will be developed once the ClimateKIC European monies are in place.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 The Edinburgh Talks Climate Survey will run until at least the end of March.

3.2 Future engagement options are being explored, including from the Democratic Society on more deliberative approaches to citizen engagement. These will be reported to Corporate Policy and Sustainability in June.

APPENDIX 2

SEAP Log – January 2020

Lead	Project	Comment	Status as at May '18	Status as at Nov '18	Status Jan 2020
SEAP Programme 1: Energy Efficiency					
CE Sustainable Development (SD)/Property	RE:FIT Project	Energy retrofit programme for the largest energy consuming properties in the Council. Eight properties now completed with measures installed in seven schools: St Thomas HS, Sciennes Primary, Leith and Trinity Academies, Balerno and Currie HS and Wester Hailes Education Centre and the City Chambers. Four CHP units have been installed in Leith, Balerno, Currie and Wester Hailes. The last building for works is the Usher Hall. WORKS NOW COMPLETE	Completes in July 2018	PROJECT COMPLETED	n/a
CEC Property/SD	RE:FIT Phase 2	Progressing of a second phase of the energy retrofit programme for non- domestic buildings has been placed on hold given the expansion of investment in the non-domestic estate under Asset Management works.	Need review of Phase 1 before Phase 2 begins.	Reviewing outcomes of Phase 1	Ongoing, linked to Sustainability Short Window Improvement Plan
CEC Roads Services	Street Lighting Retrofit	In January 2018, a three-year contract was awarded to Amey for the replacement of approximately 54,000 street lights across the city with Low Emissions Diodes (LED) making the whole estate more energy efficient.	Due for completion in 2020	Status unchanged	Some delays but ongoing
Edinburgh Leisure	Carbon Management Programme	Ongoing programme from Edinburgh Leisure for energy efficiency across its estate including the installation of pumps, upgrading of handling units and LEDs and working with the Edinburgh Solar Co-operative. Edinburgh Leisure were finalists in the 2019 VIBES Scottish Environment Business Awards.	Ongoing Programme	Status Unchanged	Ongoing, linked to Sustainability Short Window Improvement Plan
CEC - Property	CEC – Properties Energy Efficiency Upgrades	Large scale BMS upgrades with BEMS in over 100 operational properties now upgraded in line with the Council's BEMS Specification.	Ongoing Programme	Ongoing	Ongoing

CEC - Property	CEC – Properties Energy Efficiency Upgrades	Oil to gas boiler conversion. Fox Covert Primary School and Sciennes Primary School have converted from oil to gas heating. A couple of smaller properties that are fuelled from oil remain but these will be phased as part of asset management.	Completed	PROJECT COMPLETED	n/a
CEC - Property	CEC – Properties Energy Efficiency Upgrades	Heating conversion electric to ASHP. Nether Currie Primary School has now been converted from all electric heating to air source heat pumps.	Completed	PROJECT COMPLETED	n/a
CEC - Property	CEC – Properties Energy Efficiency Upgrades	Lighting conversions. The advantages in LEDs, both in terms of energy and maintenance, have resulted in them being the fitting of choice for lighting refit. A number of large scale LED projects have been completed under both RE:FIT and SEEP, as well as independently through both SALIX, Capital and maintenance programmes.	Ongoing programme	Status unchanged	Ongoing
CEC - Property	Knowledge Transfer Partnership	The three year Knowledge Transfer Partnership project with Napier University is due to finish in summer 2018. Work is currently underway to finalise outputs that will inform future energy strategy.	Due to complete in summer 2018	COMPLETED. Findings being assessed.	COMPLETE
CEC/University of Edinburgh	ENHANCE project	The Council has been involved in a research project with the University of Edinburgh to help analyse and better understand its energy use. The project has been running since 2016 in the Assembly Rooms on George Street. Funded by Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), the project used a ‘living lab’ approach and modern data collection and visualisation techniques to engage with staff on site.	Ongoing due to complete in 2019.	Status Unchanged.	COMPLETE
Heriot Watt University	LED street lighting	Programme to replace the street lighting across the University’s campus estate at Riccarton.	Ongoing		Ongoing and included in wider city strategy
CEC – Property/SD	SEEP Phase 2 - Duncan Place Retrofit	SEEP Phase 2 funding secured for energy efficiency upgrades to Duncan Place Resource Centre. This will include an air source heat pump system, LED lighting and an advanced building energy management system	NEW project – completes in March 2019	Project well underway.	COMPLETE and awaiting community asset transfer.

CEC – Property/SD	SEEP Phase 2 – CEC non-domestic programme	SEEP Phase 2 funding secured for energy efficiency upgrades to museums on the Royal Mile, the Assembly Rooms, Royal Mile Primary School and Edinburgh Bus Station. The upgrade measures will include a mixture of advanced building energy management system upgrades and LED lighting replacement.	NEW. Completes in March 2019	Project well underway.	COMPLETE
CEC Property/SD	SEEP Phase 1 – CEC non-domestic programme	A combination of advanced building energy management systems and LED lighting upgrades were installed across 8 Primary Schools, 1 Community Centre, 1 neighbourhood Office, and 1 equipment store as part of the SEEP Phase 1 non-domestic programme.	Completed	PROJECT COMPLETED	COMPLETE
CEC – Housing	Stair lighting	Programme to replace all Council communal stair lighting areas with LEDs.	Completed	COMPLETED.	COMPLETE
CEC - Housing	Capital Investment Programme - Council homes	Improve Council homes through the HRA Capital Investment Programme. Over 10,000 energy related measures have been installed in Council homes over the last 5 years to ensure they are easier and cheaper to heat. Measures include new energy efficient heating systems, boilers, windows and insulation. Over 70% of homes already meet EESSH, progress is reported annually to HH&FW cttee as part of the budget setting process.	Ongoing programme to 2020	Status unchanged.	ONGOING
CEC - Housing	Future investment in Council homes	Future investment in Council homes to meet the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing by 2020 and EESSH2 by 2030, in line with the Councils net zero carbon target, have been factored into the 30-year HRA Business Plan. Progress towards these targets will be reported to HH&FW cttee as part of the annual budget process.	Ongoing programme to 2020	Status Unchanged.	ONGOING
CEC - Housing	CEC HEEPS: ABS programmes 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17	The Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland, Area Based Scheme (HEEPS:ABS) funds local authorities to develop and deliver energy efficiency programmes (insulation measures) in areas with high levels of fuel poverty. This funding is blended with Energy Company Obligation funding, owners contributions and funding from registered social landlords. (approx 6000 homes received measures)	Completed	PROJECT COMPLETED	N/A
CEC - Housing	HEEPS: ABS for private owners (2017 – 2020)	The HEEPS:ABS programme for 2019-20 is currently underway and will target approximately 1210 homes for external, internal and cavity wall insulation across 9 project areas in Edinburgh.	Ongoing programme through to 2020	Status unchanged.	COMPLETE

CEC – Sustainable Development / Housing / Changeworks	SEEP Phase 1 – Domestic programme	Funding was secured through phase 1 of SEEP for domestic energy efficiency upgrades across a number of hard to treat cavity properties in the Leith area. In total 241 domestic properties received upgrades and 9 additional properties had internal wall insulation works carried out.	Completed	PROJECT COMPLETED	COMPLETE
EWHT/Sustainable Development (CEC)	SEEP Phase 2 - Basil Spence Building (Canongate)	Funding was secured through phase 2 of SEEP for energy efficiency upgrades to domestic and non-domestic properties at the Basil Spence Building in Canongate. The lead partner on this project is the Edinburgh World Heritage Trust (EWHT).	NEW Ongoing programme to March 2019	Project underway. Extension to Dec 2019	Project underway extension to March 2020
CEC – Housing	Energy Advice Initiatives	The Council funds the Energy Advice Service which is delivered by Changeworks to empower and support Council tenants to reduce their heating and electricity costs and live in warmer, more comfortable homes. The service will support 2,100 tenants during the two-year contract. Through HEEPS:ABS and the Energy Advice Service the Council also promotes and raises awareness of Home Energy Scotland who can then make referrals to trusted schemes such as Warmer Homes Scotland.	Ongoing programme	Status unchanged.	Ongoing
SEAP Programme 2: District Heating					
CEC – number of service areas	India Quay District Heating Scheme	A Business Case has been developed for a district heat network at India Quay for a gas CHP scheme. Work is ongoing to assess other alternative technologies such as heat from waste.	Still a commitment to take forward.	Work now progressing on the delivery options.	Ongoing. Recommended future reporting on district heating to go to Housing, Homelessness & Fair Work Committee
BioQuarter Partners	BioQuarter District Heating Scheme	Work progressed over the last year to identify the possible procurement route, resource and expertise needed to deliver the district heating network. Partners remain committed to taking the project further. Funding sources being evaluated.	Still a commitment to take forward.	Status unchanged	NEVER PROGRESSSED

SEAP Programme 3: Renewables					
Edinburgh Community Solar Co-op	Solar Energy from buildings	Project up and running. Solar PV installed across 24 buildings generating around 1.3MW of energy per annum. A community benefits scheme has also been created. Edinburgh Community Solar Co-operative are in the process of progressing a project to install more panels on up to 11 Council owned properties.	Completed	COMPLETED	COMPLETE
CEC – SD and Greenspace	Saughton Park Micro Hydro Scheme	Funding was secured in 2019 through the SPEN Green Economy Fund to build a micro-hydro scheme on the Water of Leith Saughton Weir to provide electricity to run the newly installed GSHP's and power the building and lights for Saughton Park. Construction has just completed and the system has been commission; it is due to become operational on 5 February and annual monitoring will be undertaken to determine carbon saved due to this newly installed micro-hydro technology. Interpretation is being prepared, and the data will feed through to the digital displays which are being installed as part of the GSHP project. A launch event is due to held in March.	New project from 2019	New project from 2019	COMPLETE
Harlaw Hydro	Micro Hydro Scheme	The Harlaw Hydro Scheme now generating electricity currently 61 KW enough for the average consumption of 127 homes.	Completed	PROJECT COMPLETED	COMPLETE
CEC – SD / Parks and Greenspace	SEEP Phase 2 - Saughton Park	Funding was secured in 2017 through phase 2 of SEEP for the installation of two separate Ground Source Heat Pump systems at Saughton Park as part of the restoration project. This project is now complete, with one vertical (64kW) GSHP providing heat to the Winter Garden and two horizontal 12.5kW GSHP systems providing heat to the new build developments and existing buildings at the site. The new build development has only recently been handed over by the construction contractors and a new café is due to open this Spring. At that point, we will commence annual monitoring of energy generation and use data to determine carbon saved due to the newly installed GHSP's. In addition interpretation is being developed including the installation of digital displays which will show the public what the GSHP's are generating.	Completed Pumps now installed	PROJECT COMPLETED	COMPLETE

CEC – Sustainable Development	Park and Ride - Solar Car Ports	An updated outline feasibility study exploring solar PV car port opportunities at Hermiston and Ingliston Park and Ride sites has been completed, which shows significant generation potential at both sites.	NEW	Atkins appointed. Business Case now being developed.	Initial study complete as part of 2030 Strategy and City Mobility Plan
SEAP Programme 4: Resource Efficiency					
CEC Procurement	WARP:IT reuse network	The WARP:IT scheme is set up for organisations and is an on line reuse network that allows staff to redistribute unwanted and underused items. The scheme also allows donations to charities. The Council is currently in “silver” place in the League with staff having donated £192,843 to charity. A total of 208 tonnes of carbon has been saved but these are indirect emissions (part of the supply chain) so not included in the total reductions. This is a part of core business and the greening of the Council estate.	Ongoing	Status unchanged.	
	Residual Waste Treatment Project.	Work was undertaken to assess the carbon savings from the new Residual Waste Treatment. This is part of the Council's ongoing consideration of the opportunity to utilise waste heat as part of the Sustainability Programme.	Operational in 2019	Work underway to assess potential waste heat opportunities.	COMPLETE
SEAP Programme 5: Sustainable Transport					
CEC	EV charging	The EV charging programme is ongoing. The Council is working with Scottish Power Energy Network to advise on the feasibility and cost of providing power at proposed sites. The Council currently has 45 chargers available to the public, within Council operated facilities, and it is about to install another 35 across the city which should be delivered by late spring 2020. The Council is also working with some pioneering research and development firms to introduce grid charging and wireless charging which will see an additional 22 chargers installed over the coming year which will free up publicly accessible charge points further.	To be reviewed once EV Business Case completed	Business Case approved. Project moving to implementation	ONGOING
CEC – Registration Services	ECOSTARS fleet	The Council joined the ECO stars programme in August 2011, which is a voluntary, free to join fleet recognition scheme providing guidance on environmental best practice to operators of goods vehicles, buses	Ongoing	Status unchanged.	Ongoing

	recognition scheme	and coaches operating in Edinburgh. In 2012 there were 14 operators in the scheme and a total 1,684 vehicles by 2017 this had increased to 154 operators in the scheme and a total of 7,061 vehicles.			
CEC	Delivery of the Local Transport Strategy	The Local Transport Strategy 2014-19 is now under review.	Ongoing	New City Mobility Plan in development	Ongoing
CEC - Fleet	CEC Fleet upgrades	The Council is about to invest in a fleet renewal programme which by the end of 2020 will have at least 90% of the fleet at EURO 6 or better.	Ongoing	Status Unchanged	Ongoing - New commentary added as such large changes made to fleet
CEC - Fleet	CEC Fleet diesel to electric upgrades	The Council continues to increase the number of electric vehicles within its fleet. 2020 will see all diesel cars replaced with electric cars (just over 100). Electric vans continue to grow with 35 in fleet and an ambition to at least double this in the near future. We are also in discussions for match funding in regards to electric welfare buses and have purchased (with match funding) the first electric sweeper.	Ongoing	Recent funding application to procure a further 16 electric vans.	Ongoing - New commentary added as such large changes made to fleet
CEC – Sustainable Development / Fleet	Switched on Fleets Funding	The Council has received considerable support from Switched on Fleet Funding, and we foresee this as an ongoing partnership until funds dry up	Completed	Ongoing Programme	Ongoing
SEAP Other Projects					
	Carbon Sequestration	Edinburgh's Tree Cover project in an ongoing programme for tree planting. Trees can absorb carbon dioxide emission thus contributing to climate change mitigation.	Ongoing	Status unchanged.	Ongoing and monitored in future as part of offsetting opportunities to reach carbon neutral by 2030
Policy Measures					

	CRC	The Council is working with Edinburgh and Leeds Universities to provide data and feedback in support of their P-CAN research project examining Edinburgh's potential for reducing carbon emissions. The research focuses on the city as a whole and determines the emissions pathways and decarbonisation interventions that the city could institute at a high level, under various intervention scenarios. Future city emissions monitoring will be conducted as part of the Sustainability Programme.	
--	-----	--	--