COSLA

Local Government for Global Citizens

Aberdeen Hydrogen Hub

The Aberdeen Hydrogen Hub is an exciting project for Aberdeen City Council, which is very close to becoming a reality and will create Scotland's first commercially scalable and investable hydrogen production site.

This £215 million project is part of a hydrogen infrastructure development programme, focused initially on clean power for transport, which will help realise Aberdeen's ambition to become a leader in hydrogen. It builds on the city's existing hydrogen infrastructure and transport projects, including a fleet of hydrogen-powered buses, public sector vehicles and waste trucks, to help the region achieve its net zero vision by 2045.

Currently in its initial phase of investment, Aberdeen City Council is searching for a joint venture partner for the city, marking an important step in implementing Aberdeen's Net Zero Vision.

The first phase of the project sees the creation of a facility to supply green hydrogen to existing and proposed transport projects, which is expected to start in 2024. Phase 2 is expected to see the capability to provide even larger volumes supplied for future applications such as rail and marine transport where technically viable, while Phase 3 has the potential to provide hydrogen for large scale applications such as heat systems and industrial processes.

£215m

investment

"...help realise Aberdeen's ambition to become a leader in hydrogen."

FIND OUT MORE:

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

ECONOMY, BUSINESS & EMPLOYABILITY

ENERGY

TRANSPORT

COSLA

Education & Children's Services Climate Change & Sustainability Strategy

Education and Children's Services at Aberdeenshire Council continues to develop a Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy. The Service recognises that we have an impact on the environment and is working to reduce its impact locally and globally through responsible waste, energy and water management.

As part of its commitment to safeguarding the local environment, the council is developing an approach to protect local natural surroundings and work collaboratively across services and local communities to increase and protect the biodiversity on the sites where the council is a custodian.

A Sustainability and Climate Change Team has been established with staff from across the Directorate working together to develop the Strategy, focusing on their own areas of operation to support all colleagues with their understanding of the impact of climate change and the measures needed to develop solutions to reducing the carbon budget.

Pupils are important members of the school community, and the Council Directorate recognises that climate change will have a considerable impact on all aspects of their lives. Pupil groups are also to be consulted and their views will be a valuable inclusion in the Strategy and to inform the development of a school policy. Pupils will also be represented on the Sustainability and Climate Change Team.

Work is being undertaken for a new land management regime to be established. Surveying all school sites is starting, with a goal of supporting discussions with school staff and pupils to identify areas for utility cutting for sports and play, biodiversity areas and re-wilding areas to form carbon sinks.

Support is being offered by Landscape Services to allow schools to develop areas for food growing, orchard planting and polytunnels. A program of surveying schools is being undertaken to establish school requirements for the development of these spaces.

One key element of the carbon reduction Strategy is the development and implementation of a Sustainability Policy for Schools. This is being designed with pupils and staff from schools with the support of Elected Members and colleagues from across the Authority.

The Sustainability Policy for Schools will include developing strategies for energy budget management in schools, food recycling in all school areas, general waste recycling, reduction in the volume of paper used (schools consume approximately 75% of all paper utilised within the Council), litter management, use of sustainable resources, green space management and pupil projects in this area. There is already excellent work being undertaken by individual schools and existing good practice will be included in the development of the policy. This will require a mixture of process change but equally, and possibly more importantly, cultural change. Training has been undertaken with the Scottish Government-funded Royal Sottish Geographical Society Climate Solutions course to support this area of work.

“This will require a mixture of process change but equally, and possibly more importantly, cultural change.”

“Pupil groups are also to be consulted and their views will be a valuable inclusion in the strategy...”

Aberdeenshire COUNCIL

CHILDREN & YOUTH

COSLA

Biodiversity Challenge Fund – 2020 Source to Sea Challenge

The Biodiversity Challenge Fund – 2020 Source to Sea Challenge's aim was to enable riverbank restoration and wetland habitat creation at five sites in Glen Clova and native broadleaf expansion in riparian and mountainous zones in Glen Doll, Angus.

The project contributes to local, regional and national climate and biodiversity targets outlined in the Tayside Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2016-26 and the Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme.

The collaboration between the River South Esk Catchment Partnership, Esk Rivers & Fisheries Trust, Forestry & Land Scotland, Abertay University and Angus Council contributes to carbon storage, ecological enhancement and connectivity and natural flood management. The project is included alongside other adaptation schemes in the annual Public Bodies Duty Report.

FIND OUT MORE:

5000
native trees planted

5
river restoration sites

Increase in locally rare Aspen by
490%

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

COSLA

The Islay Local Energy System project

Islay Local Energy Systems will support the development of an innovative and integrated energy system which could deliver sustainable and inclusive growth across the islands. The project, supported by Argyll and Bute Council, Scottish Government, and other partners, will support the development of a pathway to net zero emissions for Islay, Jura and Colonsay which are currently heavy users of fossil fuels due to the distilleries operating on the islands.

"Islay, as with other island communities in Scotland, has unique opportunities to develop an innovative and integrated local energy system that can deliver sustainable and inclusive economic growth."

A number of partners, including Scottish Government, Argyll and Bute Council and Highlands and Islands Energy, recognised the benefit of a collective approach to looking at energy use on the Islands of Islay, Jura and Colonsay. The work was also supported by Local Energy Scotland.

Islay and Jura are heavy users of fossil fuels given the number of distilleries operating on the islands. This all needs to be imported onto the islands. The partners were keen to support the development of an innovative and integrated energy system which could deliver sustainable and inclusive growth across the islands and seek to address issues associated with fuel poverty, energy efficiency etc.

The approach taken looks at how energy is generated, supplied and consumed on Islay and the surrounding islands of Jura and Colonsay, and how this can benefit the local community.

Taking a holistic and collaborative cross-sector approach (electricity, heat and transport) to the challenges faced on the islands, the output from the phase of work completed during 2020-21 provides an Options Appraisal Report which seeks to understand current and future energy requirements and opportunities across the islands.

The output will inform stakeholder consultation, development of activities and the Rural Growth Deal. Argyll and Bute Council Rural Growth Deal includes the 'Creating a Low Carbon Economy for Islay' project. The proposed project seeks to support the creation of local energy systems that will support the development of a pathway to net zero emissions.

FIND OUT MORE:

Argyll Bute COUNCIL

ECONOMY, BUSINESS & EMPLOYABILITY

ENERGY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

Edinburgh City Centre Transformation

Led by the City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh City Centre Transformation is an ambitious plan for a vibrant and people-focused capital city centre which improves community, economic and cultural life. The plan outlines a programme to enhance public spaces to better support life in the city, by prioritising movement on foot, by wheelchair, by bike and by public transport.

Project aims:

- A walkable city centre core right at the heart of the World Heritage Site, enabled by a pedestrian priority zone and a network of connected, high quality, car-free streets.
- High-quality streets and public spaces where improvements allow for people to be inspired by the city's unique heritage while they interact, relax or play.
- A city centre that is inclusive and accessible for people of all ages and abilities, including provision of blue badge parking.
- A connected network across the city centre of new segregated and safe cycle routes to link communities and destinations.
- A strategy to review and coordinate buses and taxis, making it easier to switch between public transport, shared mobility and active travel.

City Centre Transformation is aligned with the Council's City Mobility Plan, Low Emission Zone proposals, and City Plan 2030.

Why is the Edinburgh City Centre Transformation taking place?

The need for a change to Edinburgh's City Centre covers a range of social, economic and environmental factors:

- A changing climate with the City's target to reach net zero by 2030.
- Rising health concerns from inactive lifestyles and poor air quality.
- A growing and ageing population, alongside high numbers of visitors.
- Keeping the city centre as a liveable place for residents.
- Making it easier to move around for older people, those with physical and sensory impairments and young children.
- Supporting the economy and our outstanding heritage through sustainable travel and high-quality public spaces .

Timeline and next steps:

- **Open Streets:** In 2019 Edinburgh trialled a monthly car-free Sunday in the Old Town
- **Pedestrian Priority Zone:** A study to improve conditions for walking, cycling and wheeling across the city centre is underway
- **George Street and First New Town:** Concept design finalised through extensive consultation, progressing to detailed designs, statutory consents and build between 2023-25
- **City Centre West -East Link:** A step change in cycle connectivity across the city centre due to start construction in early 2022
- **Meadows to George Street:** Developed design agreed to transform cycling, walking, public space and accessibility on iconic streets such as George IV Bridge.

Key stats:

- 26,000 people live in Edinburgh city centre
- 2/3 of commuters into Edinburgh travel by car
- £310m benefit to wellbeing could be brought about by Edinburgh City Centre Transformation through impacts such as a decrease in congestion, air pollution and increase in people visiting greenspaces.
- £100m economic benefit could be brought about by the Edinburgh City Centre Transformation through impacts such as increase in spending, walking and cycling, and accident prevention.

FIND OUT MORE:

EDINBVRGH
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

TRANSPORT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

Fuel Poverty and Energy Efficiency Forum

Clackmannanshire Council has established a local forum to share good practice amongst local stakeholders and to improve partnership working with energy providers and national energy advice services. This work has helped householders who are in fuel poverty, increased uptake in Energy Efficient Scotland Area Based Schemes and joint working on Scottish Government initiatives to help tackle climate change and carbon reduction.

The Council's Home Energy Advice Team provide training for staff and external agencies on home energy efficiency and link with Home Energy Scotland to deliver presentations on saving water, food waste and renewables to reduce emissions and alleviate fuel poverty. During 2020/21, £475,956 of energy efficiency savings were provided within the community bringing the total of savings since to £2,525,288 which equates to 37,345.45 tonnes of CO2.

FIND OUT MORE:

Delivered total savings of over

£2.5m

The forum has helped cut the equivalent of

37,345

tonnes of CO2

Clackmannanshire Council

ENERGY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

Dumfries & Galloway Youth Council - Climate Group

Dumfries and Galloway Youth Council were elected in April 2019 and have 35 positions for young people aged 12-25. The group continued to meet from April 2020 – March 2021 digitally and on average they have met every 3 weeks over this period and have worked on a number of projects, initiatives, consultations and events.

During 2020, the group split into three committees, all focused on issues that affect young people in the Dumfries & Galloway area: Environment & Climate; Mental Health & Wellbeing; Rights & Inequalities. The Youth Councillors developed their own action plan for what they and other young people in their Ward areas can do on a local level to combat climate change.

The Action Plan contains small actions that young people can do easily within their own communities and as individuals, and all Youth Councillors have pledged to get their carbon footprints down to the UK National average (or lower if possible) by the end of 2021.

The group have also delivered workshops on Climate Activism for Beginners to other young people across the region, in order to have "Climate Champions" across the region who can continue to spread the message of climate change to their peers and families.

Looking ahead, the group have designed a project which will see Climate Change Toolkits being given to young people in communities across the region, where they will receive useful information on climate change, and recycled products that are useful for everyday life such as reusable water bottles, recycled notebooks for school/ college, and much more.

The Climate & Environment sub-group of the Youth Council have also been involved in the very early stages of designing Climate Change events that will be taking place in Dumfries and Galloway in 2021 to tie in with COP26.

FIND OUT MORE:

"The Action Plan contains small actions that young people can do easily within their own communities"

"The group have also delivered workshops on Climate Activism for Beginners to other young people across the region..."

Dumfries & Galloway Council

CHILDREN & YOUTH

COSLA

Dundee's EV Journey

Dundee City Council's fleet is one of the largest Electric Vehicle fleets of any local authority in the UK. It's estimated the switch to EVs has seen the council travel over 5.6million miles on pure electric, saving an estimated 250,000 tonnes of CO2. Dundee City Council's goal is to have all council ran cars, small and medium vans all electric by the end of 2022.

Dundee City Council first launched 100% electric vehicles (EV) into its Fleet in 2011 with the introduction of the first 4 cars and chargers at one of its depots.

Since the successful launch of the electric vehicles into the council's fleet, it has grown to be one of the largest EV fleets of any Local Authority in the UK. Their goal is to have all council ran cars, small and medium vans all electric by the end of 2022.

The council have recently introduced 6 electric RCV's from their current supplier, Dennis Eagle, 2 Orion E Mellor minibuses and 1 pure electric Johnston Sweeper. These will form part of the ongoing replacement program which is carried out on a cost and condition basis as described in the council's Asset Management Plan. These vehicles will predominantly be used in the city centre and main population hubs. Analysis of the duty cycles and battery capacity will be carried out during the first 6-12 months of operation, which will help develop business cases, both for Dundee and for other areas.

Dundee City Council looks to support local partners in utilising this infrastructure and supporting further HGV transitions to Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEV) in the region. This upcoming project represents a significant advancement of the EV uptake in Scotland, which is shifting the emphasis away from cars and small vans into the larger and more polluting HGVs. This pilot project will provide vital information to support local authorities and businesses across Scotland making the transition to fully electric fleets.

These changes and adaptations allow Dundee City Council to have a sustainable fleet, that is not just economical valid but also environmentally friendly.

The switch to electric vehicles has now seen the Council travel over 5.6 million miles on pure electric making a significant impact on both the air quality in the city and the carbon impact of the Council's transport, saving an estimated over 250,000 tonnes of CO2.

In June 2018, the multi-storey EV charging hub project was awarded funding as part of the Low Carbon Travel and Transport Challenge Fund established by Transport Scotland. The project will see the installation of EV charging hubs in Dundee's 3 main multi-storey car parks: Olympia, Green Market and Gellatly Street. Each hub will see the installation of 10 posts with 2 connectors, doubling the number of public charging points in the city. The project trials "controller receiver" configurations to reduce equipment and communications costs, while still providing intelligence to support billing and managed charging. To provide additional environmental benefits each hub will also integrate solar energy and battery storage to reduce operational costs and provide clean electricity. The project evaluates the concept of providing workplace charging during the day and off-peak charging to local residents of many nearby tenements and flats. It will also help meet the expected increase in demand from local businesses, tourists, shoppers, and visitors in the city. The central location of these hubs will also support the introduction of a Low Emission Zone in Dundee.

FIND OUT MORE:

"...grown to be one of the largest EV fleets of any Local Authority in the UK"

The fleet has travelled

5,600,000

miles on pure electric

Saved an estimated

250,000

tonnes of CO2

Dundee City Council

TRANSPORT

ENERGY

COSLA

Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop

The Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop is at detailed design stage. The proposal is a for 'figure of eight' network of pathways comprising a 26km circular route around the town with a Spinal Route from North to South through the town centre, linking into the circular route. The spinal route will be used to celebrate the unique heritage of Kilmarnock, encouraging users of the route to visit and explore some significant sites and places of interest.

The development of the Spinal Route will provide direct access to public transport facilities, the Kilmarnock Active Travel Hub, all of the major parks and the facilities associated with the town centre. It will also allow for a 'figure of eight' route providing greater choice for locals and visitors using the Green Infrastructure network. The spinal route will be used to celebrate the unique heritage of Kilmarnock, encouraging users of the route to visit and explore some significant sites and places of interest.

Throughout the proposed route, greenspace improvements will create more attractive areas, encouraging the use of active travel as a main mode of transport.

FIND OUT MORE:

The goals of the Green Infinity Loop are to:

- Provide safe pedestrian and cycle access throughout Kilmarnock
- Increase the use of sustainable transport modes in line with the aims of the East Ayrshire Local Transport Strategy
- Reduce congestion on trunk and distributor roads in Kilmarnock
- Provide active travel connections from residential areas to key retail, leisure and employment areas around Kilmarnock
- Futureproof for new residential and employment developments by integrating the East Ayrshire Local Development Plan in the designing process
- Promote health and wellbeing for residents and visitors of Kilmarnock
- Provide active travel connections to local businesses

Subject to successful funding applications, the project will be delivered on the ground by 2025.

"The Spinal Route will provide direct access to public transport facilities, the Kilmarnock Active Travel Hub and major parks "

To be delivered by

2025

"...greenspace improvements will create more attractive areas, encouraging the use of active travel"

East Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir an Ear

TRANSPORT

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

East Dunbartonshire Council Climate Change Challenge

Education and Technical Services at East Dunbartonshire Council have joined forces to develop a Climate Change Challenge to engage learners from P6-S3. Classes are investigating, researching, and leading their own learning in how to transition to net zero emissions, while needing to adapt to the evident effects of local climate change.

Teachers are working alongside drainage engineers, flood risk engineers, and sustainability and biodiversity officers to shine a spotlight on the causes and risks of local flooding and the possibility of diverting floodwater to create areas of natural beauty.

They are also working with housing and transport policy officers to investigate renewable energy sources, developing sustainable homes for the future, and low carbon transport network solutions.

Through the use of real-life examples, they are making their school curriculum relevant to 21st century living.

The challenge was launched on the 6th September 2021 and classes are competing for the chance to share their learning and present at the Council's online conference on the last day of COP 26. The aim of this project is to engage and educate children and young people in the challenges that climate change poses to life in East Dunbartonshire, and how the Council is mitigating these, and working towards developing a sustainable future.

As the Council develops its Climate Action Plan, young people, residents and communities are actively engaging in local consultations such as the active travel strategy, climate conversations and climate ready parks initiative.

Challenge launched on the 6th September 2021

Using real-life examples to make the curriculum relevant to 21st century living.

East Dunbartonshire Council

CHILDREN & YOUTH

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

ENERGY

COSLA

Street Lighting Replacement Strategy

Street lighting has been included in East Lothian Council's Carbon Reduction Commitment tax since April 2014 to reduce the spiralling electricity costs associated with the Council's street lighting while also addressing the environmental pressures of light pollution and CO2 emissions. Thanks to changes made since 2014, energy use has been reduced by 40% and carbon emissions reduced by 70%.

Street lighting has been included in the Carbon Reduction Commitment tax since April 2014. At the time, East Lothian Council paid over £16 a tonne for lighting emissions (approximately £50,000 for 14/15 financial year). The Council wanted to reduce the spiralling electricity costs associated with street lighting while also addressing the environmental pressures of light pollution and CO2 emissions. At the same time, it was estimated that street lighting across the whole of the UK results in more than a million tonnes of CO2 emissions annually. To achieve savings and reduce CO2 emissions, one of the strategies was the gradual replacement of existing less efficient and traditional forms of 'orange light' (Low Pressure Sodium lights or SOX) with new white light LED technology.

The table below shows the number of street lighting units we had in 2015/16 and percentage of LED up to 2020/21.

Year	Total kWh	CO2 (tonnes p.a.)	Total lights	Total LED	% LED
2020/21	3,185,339	799	19098	17098	90%
2019/20	3,953,721	1,088	19223	15200	79%
2018/19	4,308,437	1,313	9217	11801	61%
2017/18	4,414,605	1,684	19198	8541	44%
2016/17	4,503,768	2,011	17712	5667	32%
2015/16	5,349,270	2,655	17712	2244	12%

FIND OUT MORE:

Energy reduced by 40% (with 10% increase of inventory units)

Carbon Emissions reduced by

70%

90%

of all units changed to LED

East Lothian Council

ENERGY

TRANSPORT

COSLA

Balcurvie Primary Eco-School

Balcurvie Primary School in Fife has been an Eco-School since 2008 with all ten Green Flag topics firmly embedded in the ethos and life of the school. At the start of each academic year, pupils and staff make an individual Eco Pledge which forms the Eco Pledge and Global Goals Tree displayed in the school gym hall.

Whole school initiatives are scheduled throughout each session and are linked to all areas of the curriculum including recycling, active travel week and fundraising events.

All Eco-initiatives intersect with the different Pupil Voice groups: Eco Committee, Rights Respecting, Pupil Council, Social Enterprise, Events and Charities and Junior Road Safety Officers. At the start of each academic year, pupils and staff make an individual Eco Pledge which forms the Eco Pledge and Global Goals Tree displayed in the school gym hall.

Weather and Climate is a topic bundle studied by all learners at second level in Balcurvie. Resources such as Oxfam case studies are used to raise awareness and empathise with people living in different countries across the globe (e.g. Bangladesh, Malawi and Uganda) experiencing the impact of Climate Change.

New cluster Connecting Classrooms resources and lesson materials focusing on Sustainable Development Goals have also been made available by Levenmouth Academy to further support Climate Change education. On the 9th of March 2021, Balcurvie was awarded their 7th Green Flag.

Whole school initiatives are scheduled throughout each session and are linked to all areas of the curriculum including:

- Litter picking
- Recycling
- Wake Up Shake Up
- Fruity Friday
- Fairtrade Fortnight
- Earth Hour
- Health Week
- Active Travel Week and the Big Pedal
- Dog fouling and anti-littering campaigns
- Fundraising events to support countries impacted by Climate Change.

“Resources such as Oxfam case studies are used to raise awareness and empathise with people living in different countries...”

Balcurvie has been awarded their 7th Green Flag

Fife Council

CHILDREN & YOUTH

COSLA

Glasgow Recycling and Renewable Energy Centre (GRREC) – Process Improvements

Glasgow City Council has upgraded its waste management processes by creating a new multi-million-pound oversize processing line. This upgrade works to transform oversize material into a useable fuel source for renewable energy. Waste material is repurposed for the generation of low carbon energy to power homes throughout the country. Benefits also include circa 35-40 tonnes diverted from landfill each year, improving the council's landfill diversion performance and reducing carbon emissions.

Modifications made to the residual waste treatment plant, the GRREC, to improve the management of larger items of waste, to increase diversion of waste from landfill.

As part of the contractual commitment to ongoing improvement, the partnership has recently upgraded the Materials Recovery Facilities system to improve plant operation by reducing the amount of oversized ("waste") material collected in the reception hall by creating a new multi-million-pound oversize processing line. This upgrade ultimately works to transform oversize material into a fuel source for the generation of renewable energy.

The modifications allow collection of the oversize waste, comprising mainly of plastic bags, wood and textiles to be routed to a new series of conveyors and direct to the refuse derived fuel bunker for treatment within the advanced conversion facility, which produces energy for export to the national grid.

The benefits achieved by the oversize processing line include:

- Circa 35 - 40k tonnes diverted from landfill each year, improving the council's landfill diversion performance and reducing carbon emissions
- Waste material re-purposed for the generation of low carbon energy via the ACF and used to power homes throughout the country
- A reduction of approximately 1,875 vehicle movements each year, previously associated with the transfer of material to landfill

FIND OUT MORE:

Glasgow CITY COUNCIL

WASTE, RECYCLING & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

COSLA

Inverclyde Climate Beacon

The Inverclyde Beacon is formed of a partnership between Inverclyde Libraries, the Beacon Arts Centre, Belville Community Garden Trust, RIG Arts, and Inverclyde Men's Shed, among others. The Beacon will include 'Eco Exchanges' to raise awareness of the impact of climate change and inspire people, young and old, within Inverclyde, to take positive action to address the issue it presents.

The Inverclyde Beacon will focus on the roles of climate change mitigation and adaption as part of one of Scotland's most economically deprived areas' recovery from COVID-19. Inverclyde's 'Chatty Café' network are offering two new six-week Cafes entitled 'Make it up' and 'Chat and Change' and three 'Eco Exchanges' to raise awareness of the impact of climate change and inspire people, young and old, within Inverclyde to take positive action to address the issues it presents.

Inverclyde Libraries believe, through previous successful programming, that the most effective way to spark conversations is through books, reading, activities and sessions so concentrating on content from climate-focused writers will provide valuable support for Environmental Literacy and that Eco Exchange. They will also focus on the relevant climate issues that are pertinent to Inverclyde such as rising water levels, flooding and sources of alternative energy. Local speakers will be invited each week to cover topics such as growing your own vegetables, environmental issues, nature-based solutions, the importance of bees for the environment, nature focused mindfulness session, sustainable fashion and junk journaling.

"The Inverclyde Beacon will focus on the roles of climate change mitigation and adaption as part of one of Scotland's most economically deprived areas' recovery from COVID-19."

Inverclyde council

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

Midlothian Business Carbon Charter & Green Pledge

Businesses in Midlothian are encouraged to sign a new Midlothian Business Green Pledge designed by Midlothian Council to support businesses in their endeavours to be more environmentally friendly. In return, businesses get the opportunity to connect with a Business Gateway Adviser to help develop green action plans, to achieve a reduction in carbon emissions and achieve cost savings.

The newly launched Carbon Charter and Green Pledge are designed to support businesses in the transition to being a green business, demonstrating their commitment to the Scottish Government and Midlothian Council's Net Zero ambitions.

In return, businesses receive dedicated adviser support to help create their own green action plan with referrals to partner organisations to access expertise, check ins every 6 months with the Business Gateway Midlothian team and promotion of their business and green actions on Locate in Midlothian.

FIND OUT MORE:

By committing to the Midlothian Business Green Pledge businesses agree to:

- Switch to a 100% renewable energy supplier at contract renewal or earlier
- Review and reduce energy use such as switching off IT at the end of the day, using energy efficient LED light bulbs, switching heating down a degree.
- Encourage employees to use active transport such as walking or cycling to work
- Review work practices – encourage work from home where possible
- Switch to green products – paper instead of plastic wherever possible
- Re-use and recycle equipment, waste and products

"Businesses receive dedicated support to create their own green action plan"

Midlothian

ECONOMY, BUSINESS & EMPLOYABILITY

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

WASTE, RECYCLING & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

COSLA

District Heating Scheme, Flatt Road

North Ayrshire Council is currently delivering its fourth and largest district heating scheme powered by a renewable heat source. The biomass district heating network at Flatt Road in Largs will serve 122 new homes (54 general needs homes, 22 supported accommodation units, 18 amenity bungalows and a 28-unit sheltered housing complex).

The properties have been constructed to be thermally efficient, all achieving Building Regulations Aspect Gold Level 1 for Carbon Dioxide Emissions and some achieving Level 2 for space heating energy.

District network of

122

new homes

Building Regulations Aspect

Gold Level 1

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

ENERGY

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

COSLA

Clyde Valley Residual Waste Project

North Lanarkshire Council are the lead authority of a consortium of five local authorities - East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire Councils to deliver improved landfill diversion and residual waste treatment. Following a competitive tendering process, the Councils signed a £700million, 25-year contract with Viridor Waste Management in 2016. The contract will deliver long-term, sustainable waste management of 190,000 tonnes of residual household waste annually, which cannot be recycled and would otherwise be sent to landfill.

Following a competitive tendering process, the five Councils signed a £700million, 25-year contract with Viridor Waste Management in 2016. The contract will deliver long-term, sustainable waste management of 190,000 tonnes of residual household waste annually, which cannot be recycled and would otherwise be sent to landfill. This will help the councils comply with the Scottish Government Zero Waste Plan and Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

The waste is collected by each Council and taken to their Authority Transfer Station (ATS) site run by Viridor where the waste is bulked and taken to the Primary Treatment Facility where metals and plastics are extracted. The waste is then transported to Viridor's Energy Recovery Facility.

Through this contract, the waste produces renewable energy and reduces the Councils' carbon footprints year on year as well as extracting valuable recyclable materials such as plastics and metals, should they remain in the residual waste stream.

This front end recycling facility will contribute to the Councils' overall recycling rates. The contract is estimated to deliver nearly 20,000t CO2e carbon saving compared to NLC's previous landfill contract. Actual figures will be calculated and reported once Viridor have full access to their own electrical meter services for an entire Contract Year (2022/23 Carbon management is a Key Performance Indicator in the contract and is measured annually.

The contract requires annual carbon emissions targets to be achieved. Viridor have committed to become the first UK net negative emissions waste company. Viridor aim to be carbon neutral by 2040 and carbon negative by 2045 which is the equivalent of 1.6MT of CO2 per year by 2040, equivalent to removing 783,846 cars from UK roads.

FIND OUT MORE:

est. 20,000t
CO2e carbon saving compared to previous contract

25-year
contract worth
£700m

sustainable management of
190,000t
household waste per year

WASTE, RECYCLING & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

ENERGY

Islands Centre for Net Zero

Through the wider £335M Islands Deal, Orkney, Shetland and the Outer Hebrides will create the Islands Centre for Net Zero. The project will address the need for fundamental change in how we approach energy transition and create 300 direct jobs in the islands, including skills transitioning from declining industries.

Known as the Islands Centre for Net Zero, the project will address the need for fundamental change in how we approach energy transition. The 72,000 islands inhabitants represent a microcosm of the wider country, with high levels of renewable generation, issues of grid and energy security and 75% of the heat, power and transport system is fossil fuel based. Led by an experienced team, the Centre will enable the islands' transition journey through participation in top calibre interdisciplinary support, research, development and action.

Transition activities will span heat, power and transport and this will be grouped across three levels:

- Large top-down industrial and major infrastructure projects
- Cross cutting initiatives tackling ‘wicked problems’ in the energy transition
- bottom-up activities working with communities and local organisations on innovative adaptive and regenerative development

Key objectives

- Accelerating Orkney, Shetland & the Outer Hebrides transition to Net Zero
- Integrated innovation hub - the Centre will grow and bring together a £100M+ portfolio of transition projects
- Creating sustainable green jobs - 300 direct jobs in the islands, including skills transitioning from declining industries
- Delivering international impact - the outputs from the Centre’s activities will provide leadership, attract global interest and pave the way for others to follow. The Centre will have operational bases in all three island groups, with headquarters in the Orkney Research & Innovation Campus (ORIC)

300

jobs to be created

£100M+

of transition projects

“...the outputs from the Centre’s activities will provide leadership, attract global interest and pave the way for others to follow.”

ORKNEY ISLANDS COUNCIL

ECONOMY, BUSINESS & EMPLOYABILITY

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

Scotland's first Biodiversity Villages

Through its Tayside Biodiversity Partnership (TBP), Perth and Kinross Council have worked with communities to establish Scotland's first two biodiversity villages in St. Madoes & Glencarse and Guildtown. This is an exciting project led primarily by the local communities with guidance from the Council with a focus on practical projects and citizen science surveys that fit the specific settlement.

St Madoes and Glencarse had its launch in February 2020, at which 93 people undertook a mapping exercise, choosing projects, training sessions, reviewing funding obtained. Guildtown was the second in 2021. The Council is aiming for at least 25 Biodiversity Villages across Perth & Kinross. Some projects will not cost anything or can be linked to existing initiatives; otherwise, funding can be discussed as well as phasing of the work. It is bigger than the village – the Council also wants to help neighbouring landowners and farmers create B-Lines for pollinators, plan tree and hedge planting.

Launched in Feb. 2020

"...aiming for 25 Biodiversity Villages across Perth & Kinross."

FIND OUT MORE:

PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

Team Up to Clean Up

Almost 3.5k members engage in Renfrewshire's award-winning Team Up to Clean Up Campaign, with between 10 and 40 litter picks occurring each day. Renfrewshire's army of committed, community-spirited litter pickers have now been awarded £40k to adopt community spaces which they wish to wild, encouraging biodiversity and wildlife. The knowledge to ensure effective project delivery, ground preparation, tools and seeds will all be available to support volunteers' efforts to turn Renfrewshire into a colourful haven of thriving biodiversity.

£2.5m was awarded at the outset in 2017 to cement this community-council partnership over 5 years, with Renfrewshire Council committing to ensure every gulley operates efficiently and enhancing its street cleaning services. The Council made an honest plea to communities – "we're doing our bit, but we need your help".

Scotland's benchmarking framework for street cleanliness (LEAMS) has seen Renfrewshire leap from 31st place in 2017 to 12th in 2020. Renfrewshire's army of committed, community-spirited litterpickers have now been awarded £40k to adopt community spaces which they wish to wild, encouraging biodiversity and wildlife. The knowledge to ensure effective project delivery, ground preparation, tools and seeds will all be available to support volunteers' efforts to turn Renfrewshire into a colourful haven of thriving biodiversity.

FIND OUT MORE:

£40k
to adopt community spaces for wilding

10-40
litter picks every day

Renfrewshire Council

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

Destination Tweed: Tweed Trail Project

The Destination Tweed Trail Project is being developed by Tweed Forum in collaboration with Scottish Borders Council and other partners. The project aims to provide a shared-use trail stretching from beyond the source of the Tweed above Moffat to the river mouth at Berwick-upon-Tweed. The vision is for the trail and visitor experience to include a digital smart phone audio trail which would include tours, music, images, video, augmented reality and geo-mapping.

Development work has started on the first phase of the scoping survey. The project is far bigger than just the trail itself – partners are also going to be looking to restore woodland, rivers and designed landscapes; interpret key archaeological sites, create cultural activities and involve and educate children and people about the importance of the river to the region and how it is managed. There will be a strong sustainability element to the work.

The vision is for the trail and visitor experience to include a digital smart phone audio trail which would include tours, music, images, video, augmented reality and geo-mapping. It is estimated that the total project cost could be £20m, funding has been granted and is also being sought from a number of sources, including The National Lottery Heritage Fund and it is hoped that the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal with the project being identified as its key tourism project in the deal.

est. £20m
total project cost

“The vision is for the trail and visitor experience to include... music, images, video, augmented reality and geo-mapping.”

FIND OUT MORE:

Scottish Borders Council

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

ECONOMY, BUSINESS & EMPLOYABILITY

COSLA

The Provost's Carbon Footprint Challenge

The Provost, Cllr Helen Moonie, started the Footprint Challenge 5 years ago and it runs each year with a final and judging by the Provost and a panel. Each of the secondary schools lead various projects aimed at cutting their carbon footprint over the course of the year and then present their work at the finals.

South Ayrshire Council's Provost, Cllr Helen Moonie, started the Footprint Challenge 5 years ago and it runs each year with a final and judging by the Provost and a panel.

Each of the secondary schools lead various projects aimed at cutting their carbon footprint over the course of the year and then present their work at the finals. The pupils are questioned by the panel with a winner being decided and presented with the Provost's trophy which was made by a local artist from reclaimed wood.

Schools are also involved in the Eco Schools Scotland Award, but the Provost's Carbon Footprint Challenge brings together the secondary schools and special schools in a way that results in them sharing good ideas and good practice. Last session the awards took place online as the pupils had continued their work through various lockdowns.

FIND OUT MORE:

Award established 5 years ago

"The pupils are... presented with the Provost's trophy which was made by a local artist from reclaimed wood."

South Ayrshire Council

CHILDREN & YOUTH

COSLA

Restoration of peatland at Langlands Moss, East Kilbride, South Lanarkshire: a 25-year journey so far

South Lanarkshire Council is contributing to the peatland restoration at Langland Moss Nature Reserve, East Kilbride. The programme began back in 1995. The 20-hectare raised bog is estimated to contain 300,000m3 of peat, equating to 106,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalence. Rewetting the bog surface helps to improve the sequestration of today's CO2 and to lock it away as peat.

This is an ongoing peatland restoration project at Langlands Moss, East Kilbride. Langlands Moss is a Local Nature Reserve, owned and managed by South Lanarkshire Council.

The 20-hectare raised bog is estimated to contain 300,000 m3 of peat, equating to 106,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalence. About half of the bog had been afforested, but this was removed in 1995. Restoration involves hydrological repair to safeguard the carbon store accumulated here over 6000 years. The programme began in 1995 and continues to this day.

Rewetting of the bog surface helps to improve the sequestration of today's CO2 and to lock it away as peat. A local community group, the Friends of Langlands Moss, formed in 2005. They became a strong advocate and catalyst for the restoration works, accessing a wide range of financial support and mobilising volunteers over the years.

Their work has been widely recognised by South Lanarkshire Council and Scottish Government, as an example of good practice, and a pioneer in community-led peat restoration.

FIND OUT MORE:

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

PUBLIC HEALTH

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

Castleview Low Carbon Hub

A project was developed by Stirling Council which integrated solar canopies with battery storage and electric vehicle (EV) charging. The Council was successful in securing 70% match funding (£1m) through the Low Carbon Travel and Transport (LCTT) Challenge Fund - a joint Transport Scotland and European Regional Development Fund capital funding programme.

The main aim of the project is to provide commuters, residents and visitors increased opportunities for active and low carbon travel in line with carbon reduction targets, through integrating renewable energy and sustainable transport and also offering improved active travel opportunities.

The construction element of the project is made up of:

1. **Solar Canopies:** These are covering 132 parking spaces (1,400m^2) and will generate ~200,000kWh renewable energy annually. Energy generated charges the battery and powers the EV charging as well as the streetlighting on site.
2. **Battery Storage:** Energy storage has been sized and designed to make up any shortfall of the total load requirements of the site and maximise the renewable energy available as well as smoothing the energy demand profile. The battery system has a storage capacity of 352kWh (which is 30% of the daily peak renewable energy generated) and discharges at a rate that allows all of the car chargers on site to be operational at the same time.
3. **EV Chargers:** The renewable energy will power the 64 new integrated EV charger points which have been installed:
   - 6 additional rapid (43/50kW) charger points: for those on long journeys needing a quick top up.
   - 18 additional fast (22kW) charger points: for tourists and shoppers topping up over a few hours.
   - 40 additional slow (7kW) charger points: for commuters or those who are leaving cars for long periods of the day.

FIND OUT MORE:

Stirling Council

ENERGY

TRANSPORT

COSLA

School catering

Moray Council has been working to reduce the carbon impact of school catering in line with the Council's Climate Change and Food Growing Strategies and has recently signed the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration.

School catering has already:

- Reduced plastic waste by promoting reusable tableware. Where Covid considerations have made this impractical, all disposables have been swapped to compostable vegware. All water bottles are now made from recycled plastic.
- Begun to use local suppliers for meat, veg and dairy
- Reduced meat consumption in education settings:
  - Nursery – full vegetarian menu and one meat free day a week.
  - Primary – one meat free day a week and 37 out of 68 dishes are vegetarian or vegan.
  - Secondary – one meat free day a week at the main meal counter.

Reducing plastic waste and meat consumption

Promoting local food suppliers

the moray Council

PUBLIC HEALTH

CHILDREN & YOUTH

WASTE, RECYCLING & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

COSLA

West Dunbartonshire Council

ENERGY

Queens Quay District Heating Network & Net Zero Ambitions

West Dunbartonshire Council have built and commissioned a new District Heating Network in Clydebank. A first large-scale scheme of its kind in Scotland, it takes heat from the nearby River Clyde, pumping it to customers through a system of buried pipe infrastructure. This brings wider community benefit and supports local regeneration.

Part of the Council's ambitions to decarbonise heat, reduce emissions and help tackle fuel poverty, West Dunbartonshire Council has built and commissioned a new District Heating Network (DHN) in Queens Quay based in Clydebank. This will help support the Council's Climate Change Strategy & Action Plan, detailing its ambitions to be a net zero Local Authority by 2045.

The development is ground-breaking in many ways because it is the first large-scale Water-Source Heat Pump (WSHP) scheme of its kind in Scotland, taking heat from the nearby River Clyde and pumping it to customers through a system of buried pipe infrastructure. This has also allowed for the planned regeneration of an area that has struggled to recover from its industrial past.

The development of the DHN has allowed for the following benefits:

- The generation of renewable heat is regularly less than 5% of CO2 for burning gas.
- It proves that any coastal adjacent part of the UK could deploy similar techniques (80% of Scotland's heat demand).
- It proves that thermal storage allows grid demand to be modulated which allows more grid demand to be from variable output techniques (wind farms) this helping grid overall to decarbonise.
- It proves that jobs can be created in our drive to decarbonise thus raising tax revenue.
- It is an example of a Just Transition that can be deployed at scale as soon as possible.

The Council has three core ambitions for the energy infrastructure:

- Lower bills for residents offering a reduced tariff and no costs for servicing or repairs.
- Reducing carbon emissions - the eventual savings after building will be equal to the total carbon footprint of over 1,240 local residents; and
- Increased security of supply ensuring a minimum of down time and constant access to heat.

FIND OUT MORE:

COSLA

Hydrogen Waste Collection Vehicles in North West Europe (HECTOR)

The HECTOR project aims to demonstrate that fuel cell waste trucks provide an effective solution to reduce emissions from road transport in Northwest Europe. The project is designed to enable a smooth introduction of zero-emission technology in otherwise conventionally fuelled fleets. It will lay the groundwork for upscaling and further deployment of fuel cell heavy vehicles in these fleets in the near future. As part of the H2 Aberdeen initiative, Aberdeen City Council will deploy the UK's first entirely hydrogen-powered waste truck, one of only seven across Europe.

The effects of high levels of GHG emissions from the transport sector on health and quality of life are now widely recognised.

Decarbonisation of road transport has become a major topic for cities and regions, which are developing and implementing ambitious emission reduction policies. Fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs), using hydrogen produced from 'green' energy as a fuel, are one of the solutions which enable a complete decarbonisation of the transport system. However, they remain a costly option and only a few zero emission waste trucks have been deployed and developed in Europe.

The HECTOR project aims to demonstrate that fuel cell waste trucks provide an effective solution to reduce emissions from road transport in Northwest Europe. The project is designed to enable a smooth introduction of zero-emission technology in otherwise conventionally fuelled fleets.

It will lay the groundwork for upscaling and further deployment of fuel cell heavy vehicles in these fleets in the near future.

As part of the H2 Aberdeen initiative, the city will deploy the UK's first entirely hydrogen-powered waste truck, one of only seven across Europe.

The six other trucks are being dispatched to Groningen (Netherlands), Arnhem (Netherlands), Duisburg (Germany), Herten (Germany), Touraine Vallee de l'Indre (France) and Brussels (Belgium)

Each deployment site will aim to continue the operation of the trucks after the end of the project and, as the vehicles are operationally proved and funding is secured, gradually replace conventionally fuelled trucks with fuel cell trucks. This project will be launched in Aberdeen in 2021, with a press release announcement and digital campaign to celebrate and raise awareness of the waste truck.

FIND OUT MORE:

"...the UK's first entirely hydrogen-powered waste truck"

Launching in

2021

BON ACCORD
ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

TRANSPORT

WASTE, RECYCLING & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

COSLA

Road Map to 2030

Aberdeenshire Council's first Carbon Budget was set on 9 February 2017. Each year the process has been developed further and it has also become more embedded within services.

However, the Carbon Budget has never been fully integrated into the financial budgets and this is required if the Council is to fully understand the financial impact of reaching a 75% reduction in emissions by 2030. A new revised process will look to support the Council in developing a methodology which costs out a Road Map to 2030 and fully integrates the Carbon Budget within the financial budgets.

On 24 June 2021, Aberdeenshire Council agreed a one-off allocation of £100,000 to support the next phase of developing its current Carbon Budget setting process.

Work will begin shortly with a consultant to achieve the following:

- Identify what needs to happen across the Council to meet a 75% reduction in its own emissions by 2030
- Develop a toolkit which will create a cost abatement curve and demonstrate which projects get the most carbon savings for the least cost so the Council can prioritise
- Reflect all identified projects within the Revenue and Capital budgets

FIND OUT MORE:

£100k

To support Carbon Budget setting

"Identify what needs to happen across the Council to meet a 75% reduction in its own emissions by 2030"

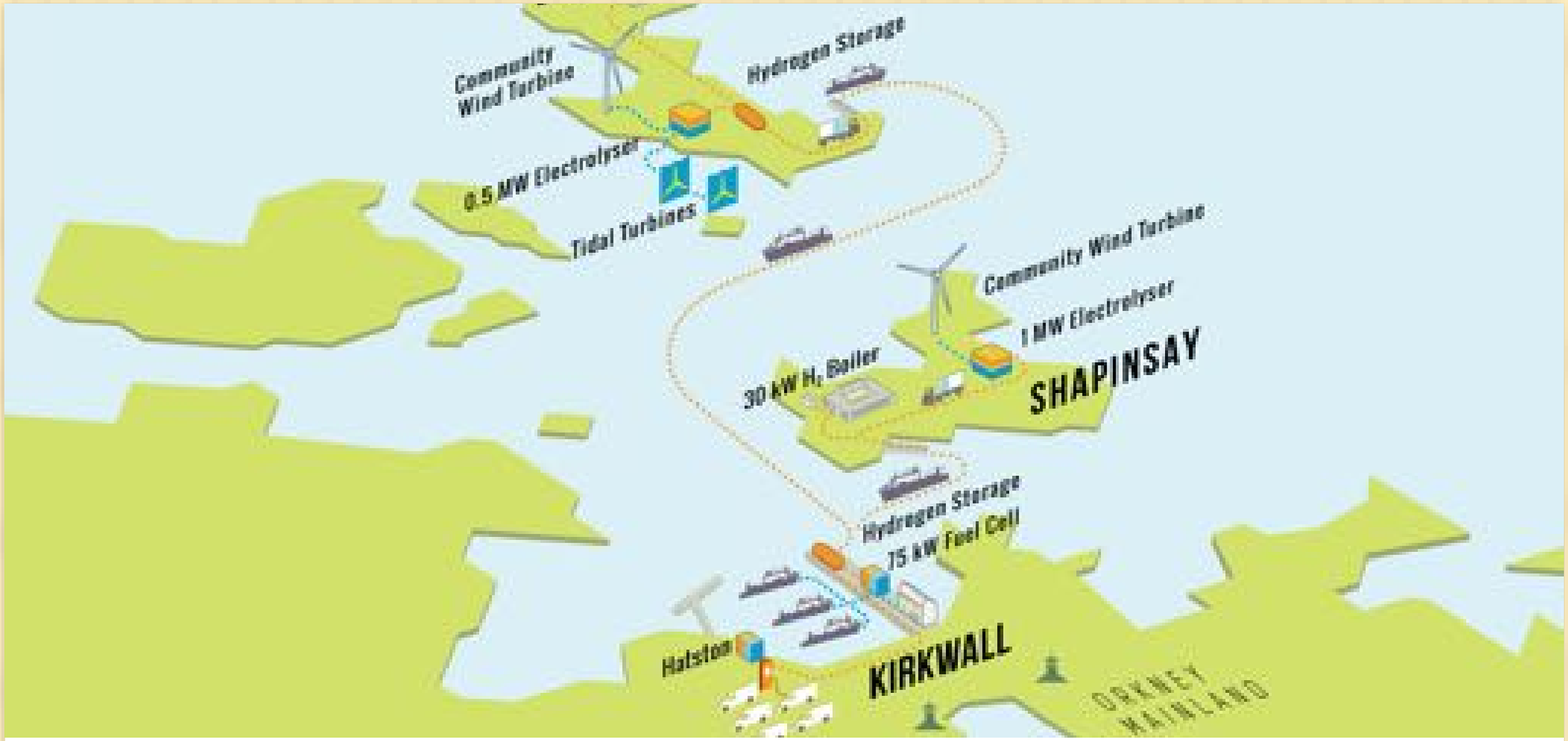
Aberdeenshire COUNCIL

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA



BIG HIT (Building Innovative Green Hydrogen Systems in Isolated Territory)

BIG HIT is a pilot project funded through the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCHJU) and expands on the work delivered through the Orkney Surf 'N' Turf initiative.

The project involves 12 organisations based in six European countries and is funded by the EU. BIG HIT aims to demonstrate that Orkney can use curtailed renewable electricity generated locally to produce hydrogen to be used as clean energy for heat and transport.

A major benefit of the project is to show how hydrogen technology could be used in other isolated or constrained territories.

Hydrogen has been produced in Shapinsay by a hydrogen electrolyser using the curtailed energy generated from the Shapinsay Community Development Trusts (SDT) community wind turbine. It is intended that some of the hydrogen will be used to heat the Shapinsay primary school, reducing the reliance on fossil fuels.

BIG HIT will also demonstrate that hydrogen has a wider value to the local economy. Hydrogen is being transported to the mainland of Orkney on the inter-isles ferries through the use of specially designed tube trailers, which can be transported by local hauliers.

The uses for the hydrogen will include auxiliary power and heat for ferries at Kirkwall, fuelling a fleet of electric/hydrogen hybrid vehicles through a purpose-built hydrogen refuelling station (HRS) and potentially heating buildings in Kirkwall.

Orkney Islands Council (OIC) is involved in this project from several angles:

- Purchased five electric vans, replacing diesel vans, which have each been fitted with a BIG HIT-funded hydrogen fuel cell, doubling their normal operational range.
- Hosting a hydrogen boiler and H2 storage tank at Shapinsay School, providing auxiliary heating. OIC has upgraded to the boiler house to accommodate this.
- Leasing land in Halston to ITM Power where a hydrogen refuelling station is sited.
- Provides support – through its roles in Orkney Ferries, from a health and safety perspective, in education and in promoting Orkney's clean energy opportunities.
- BIG HIT funds a Project Officer for the Council to manage their involvement.

FIND OUT MORE:

ORKNEY ISLANDS COUNCIL

ENERGY

TRANSPORT

COSLA

Edinburgh Solar Co-op

One of the largest community-owned, urban renewable energy projects in the UK, the Edinburgh Solar Co-operative owns and operates 30 solar panel installations across the city – generating clean, renewable electricity for these buildings and the wider grid.

Run in partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council and Energy4All, the scheme is funded through investments made by organisations or individuals, with priority allocation given to Edinburgh residents.

Energy generated from the panels is used to power the buildings with surplus energy sold to the National Grid. Investors are then provided with a fixed return on their investors with additional profits reinvested locally through a Community Benefit Fund into local projects that promote sustainability and renewable energy.

Community energy co-operatives allow local people to play a part in building a greener, more sustainable environment whilst raising awareness more generally about the importance of being energy efficient.

Edinburgh Solar Cooperative panels can be found on local schools, community centres and leisure facilities across the city as well as on public buildings such as the Council's headquarters, Waverly Court.

The first 24 installations generated enough renewable energy to power 282 homes for a year and the installation on the roof of Waverley Court is expected to generate enough to power 41 homes for a year

Key stats:

- Approximately 1.1GWh of clean, renewable electricity generated for buildings and the wider grid. 1 gigawatt of solar is enough to power 300,000 homes in Edinburgh
- 19 schools, 2 community centres, 3 Edinburgh Leisure buildings and 6 public buildings all fitted with solar panels.

FIND OUT MORE:

1.1GWh

of renewable electricity

Generating enough additional power for

300+

homes in the city

EDINBVRGH
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

ENERGY

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

New Build Housing Programme

North Lanarkshire Council's New Build Housing seeks to deliver 5,000 new homes by 2035. The New Build programme integrates requirements relating to energy ranging from low energy usage for street lighting and within the home. It also includes the provision of EV charging points to properties with driveways and where parking courts exist, the incorporation of EV charging points with ducting and connection points for future expansion of provision

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The delivery of this includes Open Market Purchase but the core element relates to direct delivery of new-build housing projects and the acquisition of 'Off-The-Shelf' (OTS) properties.

New-Build and OTS include detailed specifications for design standards including:

- Housing for Varying Needs
- Dementia Design
- Secured by Design
- Fabric First approach to Design
- Low Energy use in and around the home
- Use of PV as standard to all homes
- Piloting the combined use of Heat Pumps, Battery Storage and PV energy generation to integrate actions to reduce / prevent occurrence of Fuel Poverty when transitioning to non-gas heating.

The New-build programme integrates requirements relating to energy ranging from low energy usage for street lighting and within the home, inter-related requirements for Thermal Efficiency (maximum E-Values) and Renewable Energy (minimum requirements for PV provision) to prevent an increase in one causing a reduction in standards to the other.

The Programme also includes the provision of EV charging points to properties with driveways and where parking courts exist, the incorporation of EV charging points with ducting and connection points for future expansion of provision. There has also been close co-operation with the councils Roads and Transportation Service to achieve best considerations for design.

Consultation with local communities occurs for all development proposals regardless of the size or scale of proposals (i.e. not just for Major Applications).

5,000
new homes

"The programme integrates... low energy usage for street lighting... to Thermal Efficiency and Renewable Energy..."

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

ENERGY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & JUST TRANSITION

COSLA

Regional Strategic Woodland Creation Project

The Regional Strategic Woodland Creation Project helps land managers to consider opportunities for new woodlands in the context of future land use. The project is being undertaken in partnership with 4 local authorities in the south of Scotland: Dumfries and Galloway, East Ayrshire, Scottish Borders, South Lanarkshire.

Yearly planting targets (set by Scottish Government) were set to 12,000 hectares in 2020 and will rise to 18,000 hectares by 2025.

At present, the project is focused on a limited number of pilot areas, using these areas to help develop useful solutions for any similar work done in rural Scotland in the future. Through this project, the Councils hope to help land managers better understand the potential opportunities for new woodlands and, in turn, seek to deliver wider benefits for the environment and communities in these areas.

FIND OUT MORE:

4 local authorities

Planting targets of

12,000ha

in 2020, rising to

18,000ha

by 2025

Scottish Borders COUNCIL

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

COSLA

Using Building Management Systems to Drive Energy Reduction

Since 2019, Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) has been rolling out a leading Building Management System (BMS) with over 80 sites with heating, hot water and ventilation controlled remotely via Siemens Desigo CC.

With the BMS, the Council is able to set internal temperatures and time schedules. The Council also runs heating schedules seasonally, allowing substantial savings through the colder seasons and summer seasons. The Council plans to have over 100 sites connected remotely by 2024.

The benefits of this include:

1. Full remote control reducing the need for site visits
2. Amended software at sites helps plants run more efficiently
3. Provides support maintenance and compliance teams with reports and alarm functions
4. Easier upgrade sites

100

sites connected remotely by 2024

Controlling heating, hot water and ventilation remotely

PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

ENERGY

COSLA

Connecting Nature Impact Assessment Guide

The Connecting Nature Impact Assessment Framework, developed by the University of A. Coruña and Glasgow City Council, is a process aimed at supporting cities in developing and successfully implementing robust monitoring and evaluation plans that can deliver systematic and comparable evidence as to the effectiveness of Nature-based solutions (NBS).

This framework represents an essential tool for adapting NBS design and implementation in real time.

The Connecting Nature dashboard in Glasgow has been created to visualise and increase the access of colleagues to data in order to help with decision-making and project planning work.

A framework for assessing nature-based solutions (NBS)

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

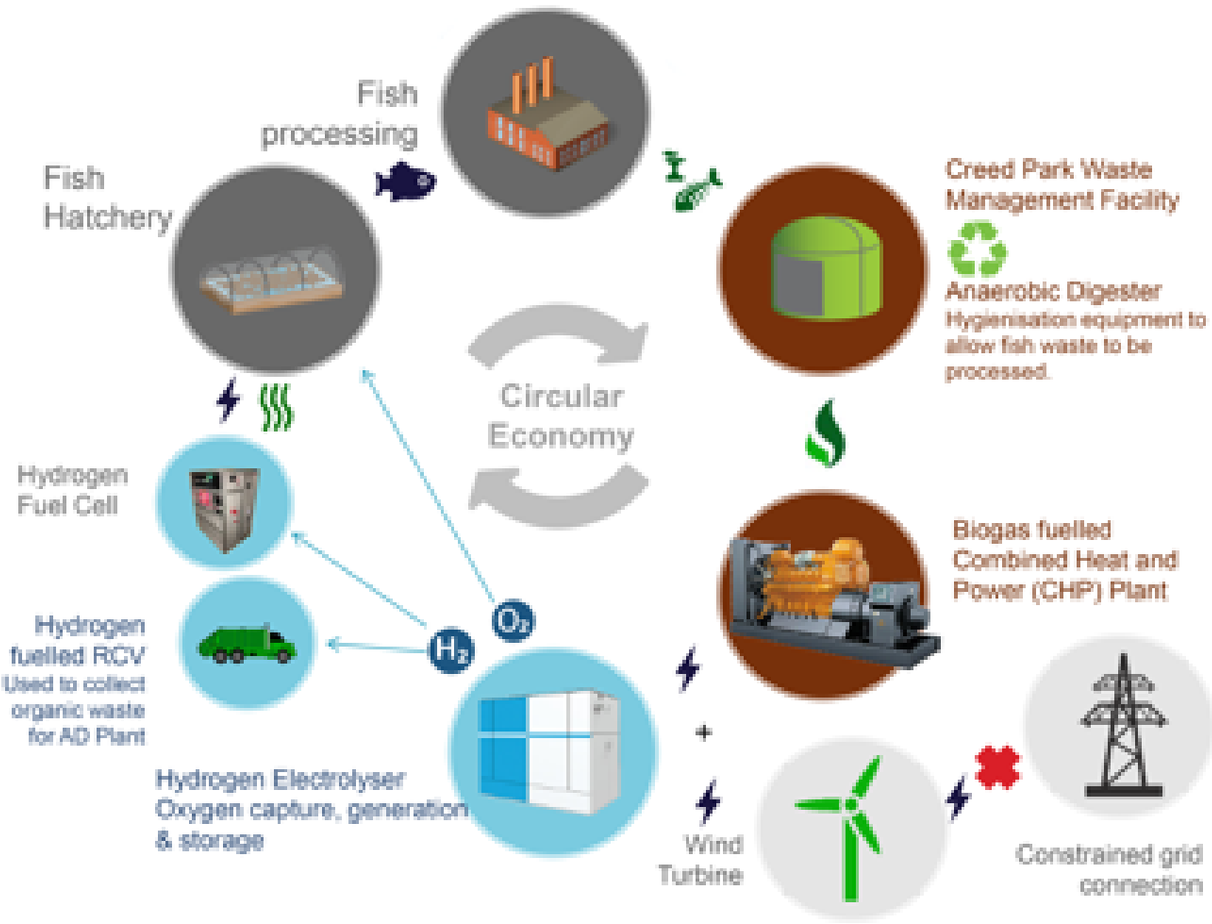
PUBLIC HEALTH

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

FIND OUT MORE:

Glasgow CITY COUNCIL

COSLA



Outer Hebrides Local Energy Hub

The Outer Hebrides Local Energy Hub is a circular economy project which brings together local authority waste treatment, green energy and hydrogen resources and biodegradable wastes from Salmon production.

By treating fish wastes using anaerobic digestion, more biogas is produced. When combined with access to a wind turbine and a hydrogen electrolyser with refueller, this can result in a hydrogen powered bin lorry being used to transport biodegradable waste to the facility where the hydrogen is produced. As a by-product, the oxygen from the electrolysis process can also be captured and used at salmon hatcheries.

FIND OUT MORE:

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar

WASTE, RECYCLING & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

COSLA

Wee Woods

The council is planting 26 'Wee Woods' across the council area as a legacy project to mark COP26.

A 'Wee Wood' is a plot of land about this size of a tennis court, in which 400 trees are planted – so approximately 10,500 new trees will be planted in total. The Council are planting 6 Wee Woods during COP 26, with the remaining 20 sites to be planted between mid-November and March next year.

Each site will be planted by local schools, residents, community groups and Councillors.

FIND OUT MORE:

26

'Wee Woods' Planted

East Renfrewshire Council

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

COSLA

Forth Valley for Net Zero

Forth Valley for Net Zero is a partnership of industry, Local Government and communities working together to become Net Zero by 2045.

Coordinated by the Falkirk Economic Partnership Communications Group, which is chaired by Falkirk Council, this initiative has an area-based approach to the climate emergency in an area of high emissions.

Key features include:

- Announcements from partners and others. This includes the announcement of the Ineos Roadmap to Net Zero, and the opening of Celtic Renewables UK's first biorefinery at Caledon Green Grangemouth.
- We also feature small businesses that are doing big things and go beyond the borders of Falkirk Council to highlight businesses and initiatives across the Forth Valley.
- We also supported a number of events on the run up to COP26 including with the Human Swan, Sacha Dench, the Hydrogen Challenge, the 1851 Women in STEM event wit Ineos, The Net Zero Community Scotland SME event, Shop26 with Storm, The Road to Renewables with Alexander Dennis, the Fuel Change Grangemouth Challenge and many others.

This campaign is looking at what we can do now and supports the COP26 approach of "Beyond the Rhetoric". The campaign also features small businesses that are doing big things and go beyond the borders of Falkirk Council to highlight businesses and initiatives across the Forth Valley.

We support the UN Race for Zero and the 'Conservation without Borders Count Us In Campaign'.

Aiming for Net Zero by 2045

A partnership across public, private and third sectors

Falkirk Council

ECONOMY, BUSINESS & EMPLOYABILITY

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

WASTE, RECYCLING & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

COSLA

Shetland Islands Council

ENERGY

ORION Clean Energy Project

ORION – Opportunity for Renewable Integration with Offshore Networks – is a strategic framework that aims to transform Shetland into a world leading green energy island. ORION's goal is to make Shetland the home of secure and affordable clean energy by harnessing the island's abundant natural resources to generate green hydrogen through onshore and offshore wind, tidal and wave energy.

Why Shetland?

Capitalising on the island's prime location for renewable energy generation, its extensive energy infrastructure and supply chain coupled with the community's desire and ambition to become a world-leader in clean energy production makes Shetland the perfect place to develop the blueprint for a clean energy island.

ORION's Partners

Shetland Islands Council (SIC), Net Zero Technology Centre, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and the University of Strathclyde.

ORION'S aims

- Reduce Shetland's emissions and aim to be net zero by 2030.
- Produce green hydrogen through wind, wave and tidal energy for use locally, nationally and for export to Europe.
- Generate affordable and secure clean energy for use on Shetland, helping to alleviate fuel poverty and moving away from a current dependency on fossil fuels.
- Develop and sustain high-quality jobs on the island and deliver diverse economic growth.

FIND OUT MORE:

COSLA

West Lothian's Contribution to Net Zero

West Lothian Council is driving forward progress on a Just Transition to Net Zero across a range of services and policy areas, from investing in energy efficiency across the Council's non-domestic building stock, to building the first public sector Passivhaus early years facility.

Overview of activities:

- Housing Services progressing work with heat pumps and solar PV in off-gas grid areas
- There has been significant investment in energy efficiency of the Council's non-domestic building stock (2 phases of Non-Domestic Energy Efficiency Framework with a total investment of over £2million)
- Community Planning Partnership (CPP) engagement with partners in relation to the Climate Emergency back in 2019, resulting in a draft CPP Action Plan which will be progressed soon
- Development of the first public sector Passivhaus early years facility at Blackridge
- Education Services held a Learning for Sustainability Conference for schools in September 2021 which had a wide range of speakers from the Council and the private sector
- Habitat/peatland restoration projects led by Neighbourhood Environment Teams at various sites
- Publication of the new West Lothian Climate Change Strategy 2021-28, approved by Committee in October 2021
- The Council has an £800,000 Climate Emergency fund specifically to carry out restoration work and significant tree planting as a component of its wider activities towards achieving net carbon zero
- Recently appointed three Ecology and Biodiversity Officers
- The Council signed the Edinburgh Declaration on post-2020 global biodiversity framework on 21 October 2021
- Engagement work is being carried out by Waste Services, including on proposals for implementation of new recycling measures

£800,000
climate emergency fund established

£2 million
invested in energy efficiency in non-domestic buildings

Climate change strategy for
2021-28

West Lothian Council

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

PLANNING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

ENERGY

COSLA

Green Growth Accelerator – Climate Action Coastlines

The Highland Council has been successful in securing one of five pathfinder projects under the Green Growth Accelerator (GGA) programme. The GGA is being delivered by The Scottish Government and supported by The Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) and has the ultimate aim of unlocking £200m of low carbon capital investment underpinned by government funding.

The successful Highland bid – Climate Action Coastlines – was for an innovative research programme, alongside some holistic nature-based solutions, along the east coast of Highland, which is recognised as being at risk from the changing climate and rising sea levels. Our ambition is to work closely with communities and a range of local and national partners to deliver an impactful, scalable project which could help Highland to adapt to the changing climate at the same time as sequestering carbon and providing multiple ecosystem services.

Highland Council will develop a full business case for Climate Action Coastlines in 2022, in close collaboration with the SFT and Scottish Government.

FIND OUT MORE:

Part of the Green Growth Accelerator programme

"...an innovative research programme... along the east coast of Highland..."

The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

ECONOMY, BUSINESS & EMPLOYABILITY

NATURE, CLIMATE ADAPTATION & BIODIVERSITY

COSLA