



### Climate Ready Clyde

**Committee** Strategy and Programmes

**Date of meeting** 17 March 2017

**Date of report** 21 February 2017

**Report by Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)**

#### 1. Object of report

To recommend SPT accept an invitation from the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform to join Climate Ready Clyde, the climate change adaptation initiative being established within the Glasgow city region area<sup>1</sup>.

#### 2. Background

- 2.1 Climate change adaptation means anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking appropriate action to prevent or minimise the damage they can cause, or taking advantage of opportunities that may arise. Examples of adaptation measures include: using scarce water resources more efficiently; adapting building codes to future climate conditions and extreme weather events; building flood defences and raising the levels of dykes; developing drought-tolerant crops; choosing tree species and forestry practices less vulnerable to storms and fires; and setting aside land corridors to help species migrate.
- 2.2 Climate change mitigation consists of actions to limit the magnitude or rate of long-term climate change, generally involving reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases. Examples of mitigation include phasing out fossil fuels by switching to low-carbon energy sources, and expanding forests to remove greater amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Energy efficiency also plays a role, for example, through improving the insulation of buildings.
- 2.3 As Scotland's climate continues to change, it will face a range of risks to infrastructure, including transport infrastructure, the built environment, business, communities, and the natural environment if left unchecked. We increasingly understand what these risks will be. Cities are likely to be disproportionately exposed to climate risks, as a result of a range of factors including locations, population growth, urbanisation and the complex nature of city systems. Around 54% of the world's population live in cities, and this is forecast to grow to 66% by 2050.
- 2.4 Members will be aware that SPT has been working innovatively to adapt our systems including through examining the scope to use Subway ground water as a heat source,

---

<sup>1</sup> Glasgow city region encompasses the following council areas: East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Inverclyde, North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, South Lanarkshire, West Dunbartonshire

ensuring our Subway and bus stations have effective heating and lighting systems and working to minimise energy usage. SPT is in the process of refreshing its Carbon Management Plan and a paper will be brought to a future Committee detailing a new target and actions in this regard.

### 3. Outline of proposals

- 3.1 Climate Ready Clyde is an initiative aimed at creating a shared vision, strategy and action plan to help Glasgow city region adapt to the challenges and opportunities brought about by climate change. Public bodies have a duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009<sup>2</sup> to contribute to Scotland's climate change targets and programmes and to carry out their functions in a sustainable manner<sup>3</sup>. Public bodies named as major players, including Regional Transport Partnerships (RTP) such as SPT, have a duty to report on their emissions and climate change action. A separate paper to this Committee includes a joint RTP response to the Scottish Governments Draft Climate Change Plan.
- 3.2 SPT, along with local authorities and other partners, has previously endorsed the "Vision for a Climate Ready Clyde" in 2013 and we have now been invited to formally join the Climate Ready Clyde Partnership, the first such city region approach in Scotland.
- 3.3 Achieving reductions in emissions requires a concerted and collaborative approach, and only through working with a range of partners and stakeholders can SPT help to meet national targets for carbon and air quality. Joining Climate Ready Clyde provides an ideal opportunity to facilitate this partnership approach.
- 3.4 Climate Ready Clyde is a three year initiative and funding will be used to support a dedicated secretariat who are experts in adaptation planning and delivery. Working with the organisations involved the secretariat will deliver<sup>4</sup>
  - A climate risk and vulnerability assessment identifying the climate change risks opportunities that Glasgow City Region needs to prioritise and where action is needed;
  - An adaptation Strategy incorporating the vision context and policy drivers and strategies for each sector including transport;
  - An adaptation action plan which sets out existing and new actions to adapt to climate change with supporting Strategic Environmental Assessment and cost Benefit Analysis; and
  - An annual Report demonstrating the value the initiative is delivering on behalf of the city region.

Attached at Appendix 1 is the proposed Climate Ready Clyde work programme 2017-2020.

#### 3.5 The key benefits of membership include:

- Addressing the strategic needs of the city region through collaboration to address challenges that no one partner is responsible for;

---

<sup>2</sup> Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, part 4, section 44 - 46

<sup>3</sup> Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland ) Order 2015

<sup>4</sup> Further information is available at [www.sniffer.org.uk/climatechangeclyde](http://www.sniffer.org.uk/climatechangeclyde)

# Agenda 8

- Securing economic competitiveness and inward investment. Failure to adapt to climate change, along with extreme weather events brings significant economic risks. Investors and insurers are increasingly looking at how places are adapting to climate change when choosing where to do business;
  - Increasing the attractiveness of the city region as a place to live, work and visit. A city region resilient to extreme weather with an effective transport network, adapted housing and resilient energy makes the city region an attractive choice;
  - Making the most of collective resources through coordination. The ability to address multiple risks and realise opportunities relies on effective partnership working. A coordinated approach minimises the efforts of partners, proving a mechanism for targeted discussion and engagement; and
  - Opportunities for the Glasgow City Region to be part of other regional, national and international networking and learning.
- 3.6 Other partners invited to join include the eight city region local authorities, two NHS Boards, Scottish Water, Scottish Canals, and the Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde. Ongoing discussions are continuing with others including Transport Scotland, Network Rail and SEPA, and private sector organisations such as Scottish Power Energy Networks. Climate Ready Clyde is seeking an initial contribution from each partner of £7,250 a year for three years to March 2020 to cover the secretariat function of the organisation.
- 3.7 Climate Ready Clyde will be established as an incorporated association, with participants collectively responsible for delivering its programme. The governance arrangement will include:
- A Board of representatives from each contributing organisation, with an independent publicly appointed chair. The Board, which will include an SPT senior officer-level representative should it be agreed to join, will have collective responsibility for the initiative's activities, set the strategic direction and make financial decisions (in relation to Climate Ready Clyde) associated with the work programme;
  - A Secretariat including a Manager and support officer with significant expertise in delivering adaptation. The Secretariat will lead development and delivery of outputs and will work alongside other partnerships such as the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network and Clydeplan;
  - Task groups drawn from partner organisations will be established to support the secretariat to deliver specific parts of the work programme; and
  - A Stakeholder Forum will be established comprising wider organisations from the city regional and beyond who will comment on and inform the regional strategy and action plan, exchange knowledge, ideas and opinion and take wider action to adapt.

## 4. Conclusions

- 4.1 SPT continues to support efforts to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change through its investment in the transport network and we are a key partner the west of Scotland in helping to tackle climate change. SPT has been invited to becoming a member of the Climate Ready Clyde Partnership Board. The cost of membership covering a three year period is £7,250 (ex VAT) until March 2020.

# Agenda 8

4.2 Working collaboratively with partners through Climate Ready Clyde provides a good way to help deliver SPT's responsibilities and to help make the west of Scotland an environmentally sustainable, socially just, economically prosperous and attractive place to live. Officers will liaise with councils in Ayrshire and Argyll and Bute to ascertain similar initiatives there and the opportunity for partnering with them in regards to Climate Change adaptation.

## 5. Committee action

The Committee is recommended to approve SPT's membership of Climate Ready Clyde and the associated contribution of £7,250 towards its secretariat costs.

## 6. Consequences

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Policy consequences     | <i>Supports SPT's RTS outcome of Reduced Emissions.</i>  |
| Legal consequences      | <i>SPT has statutory responsibilities under the Climate Change (Scotland) 2009 Act and The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2015.</i>   |
| Financial consequences  | <i>Contribution of £7,250 (ex VAT) per annum over three years to March 2020.</i>   |
| Personnel consequences  | <i>None directly.</i>  |
| Equalities consequences | <i>Tackling climate change helps support the most vulnerable members of society whose reliance on reliable public transport systems is greatest.</i>   |
| Risk consequences       | <i>Failure to work collaboratively with other partners will undermine efforts to tackle climate change.</i><br><i>In addition, SPT will require to undertake a review to fully identify climate change risks to SPT services, operations and infrastructure.</i> |

**Name** Eric Stewart  
**Title** Assistant Chief Executive  
(Operations)

**Name** Gordon MacIannan  
**Title** Chief Executive

For further information, please contact *Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy and Planning* on 0141 333 3740.

# Appendix 1



## Climate Ready Clyde work programme 2017-2020

The programme sets out an indicative three year programme of activity with greater detail provided for year one. The work programme is subject to formal approval by the Climate Ready Clyde Board.

### Programme of activities led by the secretariat (in conjunction with partners):

| GLASGOW CITY REGION IS ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS, IN LINE WITH THE VISION FOR A CLIMATE READY CLYDE                            |           |   |
|---|-----------|---|
| Action  | Due       | Outputs/Indicators                      |
| <b>Outcome: Glasgow City Region has a shared understanding of climate change risks and opportunities, and is taking action to adapt to them</b> |           |   |
| Review evidence to identify gaps on how climate change will affect the City Region  | Jun 2017  | Evidence gaps for the City Region       |
| Use Workshops /expert evidence to identify relative vulnerability of sectors to climate change  | Dec 2017  | Sectoral synthesis reports              |
| Develop and publish a Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment to inform strategy and action plan  | Sep 2018  | Climate risk & vulnerability assessment |
| Commission research to address evidence gaps highlighted by Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment   | Sep 2018  | Datasets, evidence reports              |
| Agree monitoring and evaluation through high-level objectives and metrics for the target sectors  | Oct 2018  | Metrics for strategy and action plan    |
| Undertake Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and revise strategy objectives   | Dec 2018  | SEA                                     |
| Scope actions to be included in a regional adaptation strategy and action plan  | Mar 2019  | list of potential adaptation actions    |
| Assess whether the actions offer value for money through a cost-benefit- analysis   | Sep 2019  | Cost benefit analysis actions           |
| Consult organisations and individuals to ensure the strategy and action plan meet local priorities  | Jun 2019  | Action Plan – consultation draft        |
| Revise the regional strategy and action plan  | Dec 2019  | Action Plan – final draft               |
| Publish and launch the strategy and action plan   | Mar 2020  | Launch event                            |
| <b>Outcome: Decision makers in the City Region make climate just, climate friendly and climate-ready decisions</b>                              |           |   |
| Embed adaptation into Governance/ Assurance Framework of City Deal Land Use & Sustainability Portfolio  | Quarterly |   |
| Raise awareness of climate change issues within the City Region through an ongoing media presence   | Ongoing   | Press releases, media coverage          |
| Plan and launch Climate Ready Clyde at European Climate Change Adaptation Conference  | June 2017 | Launch event                            |
| <b>Outcome: Organisations and individuals have access to the skills, tools, and guidance to support them to adapt</b>                           |           |   |
| Provide support on best practice approaches to development and implementation of adaptation to partners   | Ongoing   | N/A                                     |
| Produce a toolkit to support partners identify climate adaptation issues in major projects and developments                                     | Dec 2017  | Toolkit for use across City Region      |
| Compile a database of Tools and Guidance to support adaptation in different sectors and share with partners                                     | Sep 2017  | Tools database                          |
| <b>Outcome: The governance for adaptation in the city region is co-ordinated</b>  |           |   |
| Ensure co-ordination and oversight of ongoing work through quarterly board meetings   | Quarterly | Approved work programme                 |
| Raise awareness and co-ordinate activity with others by attending partnerships and meetings   | Ongoing   |   |
| Ensure the activity is visible, accountable and transparent by producing and publishing an annual report.                                       | Mar 2018  | Annual report                           |



## Influencing the work of others across the City Region:

| Glasgow City Region is adapting to climate change and its impacts, in line with the vision for a Climate Ready Clyde   |   |               |  |
|--|---|---------------|--|
| Action   | Potential lead  | Due           | Outputs/Indicators   |
| <b>Outcome: The City Region has a shared understanding of climate change risks and opportunities, and is taking action to adapt to them</b>  |   |               |  |
| Identify options to address projected sea level rise in the firth of Clyde, by bringing stakeholders together and using an 'adaptation pathways' approach  | Glasgow University Clyde Marine Planning Partnership          | From May 2018 | Adaptation pathways report for sea level rise  |
| Position Glasgow City Region as a demonstrator for research into implementation of Climate Adaptation, including through the Research Council's UK Living With Environmental Change fellowships such as the Water Resilient Cities project | Heriot Watt University, Newcastle University, CRC Secretariat | Ongoing       | Evidence, datasets   |
| Understand current and future exposure of Glasgow City Region's infrastructure to flooding to inform the risk and vulnerability assessment, and future spatial land use strategies   | Clydeplan   | October 2017  | Data on current and future exposure of infrastructure to flooding                    |
| <b>Outcome: Decision makers in the City Region make climate just, climate friendly and climate-ready decisions</b>   |   |               |  |
| Provide consultation responses to regional, national and international plans and strategies that support Glasgow City Region to become more resilient, on behalf of local partners   | Others, or secretariat as appropriate                         | TBC           | Ad-hoc consultation responses  |
| Adequately account for sea level rise impacts in the Regional Marine Plan  | Clyde Marine Planning Partnership                             | TBC           | Regional Marine Plan   |
| <b>Outcome: Organisations and individuals have access to the skills, tools, and guidance to support them to adapt</b>  |   |               |  |
| Train key individuals from ten organisations to better adapt to climate change, through the Adaptation Learning Exchange programme   | Adaptation Scotland   | May 2017      | Partner outputs, Local Climate Impact Profiles, briefing notes, project assessments) |
| Ensure a comprehensive baseline of climate impacts for the City Region by producing updated Local Climate Impacts profiles   | Local organisations, Adaptation Scotland                      | May 2017      | Local Climate Impacts Profiles   |
| Provide further capacity to organisations, and improve the climate change evidence base and give real world experience to students, by developing a programme of placements  | CRC Secretariat, Universities                                 | Dec 2017      | Student placements into other organisations  |

Draft work programme February 2017

