

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Minute of hybrid meeting of the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee held in the Council Chambers on 27 November 2023 at 9.30am.

Present: Councillors R Watters, L Barrett, H Anderson, Bailie R Brock (substituting for Councillor D Cuthbert), N Khogali, A Forbes, D Illingworth, G Laing, T McEwan, G Stewart and J Welch; and Mr R Oram and Mr N Jamieson.

In Attendance: B Renton, Executive Director (Communities), F Crofts, M Butterworth, J Dick (for Item 4 only), E Kourtesi, S Merone (up to and including Item 6), P Dickson, G Bissett and R Stuart (all Communities); S Hendry, A Taylor, A Brown and M Pasternak (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies: Councillor D Cuthbert.

Councillor R Watters, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led the discussion on Items 1-5 and 8, with Vice-Convener L Barrett on Item 7.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Councillor R Watters welcomed everyone to the meeting and an apology was noted above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE OF 23 AUGUST 2023

The minute of meeting of Climate Change and Sustainability Committee of 23 August 2023 was submitted and approved as correct record.

4. STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY DUTY: REPORT ON DELIVERY - JANUARY 2021 TO DECEMBER 2023

There was submitted a report by Strategic Lead – Economy, Development and Planning (23/328) demonstrating how Perth and Kinross Council has performed regarding the biodiversity duty for the three-year period covering 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2023.

Resolved:

- (i) The significant positive work undertaken over the period 2021-2023, be noted.
- (ii) The Biodiversity Duty Report as detailed in Appendix A to Report 23/328, be approved.

- (iii) The approved report be uploaded to the Perth and Kinross Council website and submitted to the Scottish Government prior to the 31 December 2023 deadline.

5. PUBLIC BODIES CLIMATE CHANGE DUTIES REPORTING 2023 – CARBON EMISSIONS

There was submitted a report by Executive Director (Communities) (23/329) providing an overview of the Council's annual Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Reporting (PPCCDR) submission and including an update on the Council's carbon footprint and emissions trends for the reporting year 2022/23 along with wider actions the Council is taking to address the Climate Emergency.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 23/329, along with the updated report to the Scottish Government as detailed in Appendix A, be noted.
- (ii) The progress in developing benchmarking information and the need to use it to provide an evidence-based platform to inform decisions and monitor performance, be noted.
- (iii) An officer briefing note on high carbon within Perth and Kinross Council's purchased goods and services once the outputs from consultants are finalised and include an action in the Climate Change Action Plan to develop a plan for addressing these areas, be circulated.

6. LOCAL HEAT & ENERGY EFFICIENCY STRATEGY 2024-2045

There was submitted a report by Strategic Lead – Economy, Development and Planning (23/330) seeking approval of the first Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) 2024-2045 and Delivery Plan (2024-2029) for Perth and Kinross to meet the requirements of legislation and Scottish Government guidance.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of the first Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) for the period 2024-2045 as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 23/330, be approved.
- (ii) The contents of the LHEES 2024-2029 Delivery Plan as detailed in Appendix 2, be approved.
- (iii) The submission of the LHEES 2024-2045 and Delivery Plan to the Scottish Government and to the publication when finalised, be approved.
- (iv) The Executive Director (Communities) be authorised to make minor changes to provide easy access for further engagement and reviews, prior to publication.

7. CRAIGIE BURN FLOOD STUDY

There was submitted a report by Head of Environmental and Consumer Services (23/331) setting out the outcome of the Council's flood study on the Craigie Burn, Perth. The report recommends that a small flood protection scheme is taken forward as it has been found to be economically viable. As such, the proposed scheme will be submitted to SEPA for national prioritisation and inclusion in the next

Tay Flood Risk Management Plan and Local Flood Risk Management Plan, to be published in 2028.

Motion by Councillor L Barrett and R Watters

- (i) The completion of the Craigie Burn Flood Study, as required by the Tay Flood Risk Management Plan and Local Flood Risk Management Plan, be noted.
- (ii) It be noted that public engagement events have been held to disseminate the findings of the flood study.
- (iii) The recommendations of the study, including the proposals for a small flood protection scheme on the Craigie Burn, be approved.
- (iv) It be noted that details of the recommended flood protection scheme will be submitted to SEPA for national prioritisation and inclusion in the Cycle 3 (2027-2033) Tay Flood Risk Management Plan, to be published in December 2027, and Tay Local Flood Risk Management Plan, due for publication in 2028.

Amendment by Councillor G Laing

Insert the following as an additional resolution:

Officers be instructed to investigate the potential for this project to be funded through the budget process to report back to the next meeting of this Committee.

Note: The Mover and Seconder of the Motion agreed to incorporate the proposed Amendment into the Revised Motion as follows:

- (i) The completion of the Craigie Burn Flood Study, as required by the Tay Flood Risk Management Plan and Local Flood Risk Management Plan, be noted.**
- (ii) It be noted that public engagement events have been held to disseminate the findings of the flood study.**
- (iii) The recommendations of the study, including the proposals for a small flood protection scheme on the Craigie Burn, be approved.**
- (iv) It be noted that details of the recommended flood protection scheme will be submitted to SEPA for national prioritisation and inclusion in the Cycle 3 (2027-2033) Tay Flood Risk Management Plan, to be published in December 2027, and Tay Local Flood Risk Management Plan, due for publication in 2028.**
- (v) Officers be instructed to investigate the potential for this project to be funded through the budget process to report back to the next meeting of this Committee**

Resolved:

In accordance with the Revised Motion.

8. SOUTH KINROSS FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME

There was submitted a report by Head of Environmental and Consumer Services (23/332) (1) providing an update on the progress of the Council's

investigations into a potential flood protection scheme in Kinross, and (2) proposes that the Committee approves the preferred scheme, and that it is developed further through the statutory process, detailed design and eventual construction.

Resolved:

- (i) The development of a flood protection scheme for South Kinross is consistent with the published Forth Estuary Flood Risk Management Plan and Local Flood Risk Management Plan, be noted.
- (ii) The progress on the development of the proposed South Kinross Flood Protection Scheme, be noted.
- (iii) It be noted that the flood scheme proposals were put to public consultation in September and October 2023.
- (iv) It be approved that the recommended proposals as detailed in Report 23/332, be adopted as the Council's preferred flood scheme.
- (v) It be approved that the recommended scheme be published under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act and, subject to obtaining statutory approval and funding remaining in place, progress to detailed design and construction.
- (vi) The 31 March 2024 deadline for the publication of the South Kinross Flood Protection Scheme under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act, to comply with current capital flood grant requirements, be noted.
- (vii) It be noted that, subject to the scheme being confirmed under the 2009 Act, the same legislation ensures that planning consent will be deemed to have been granted.