

Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Compliance Reporting Financial Year Template 2023/24

1. Overview

This template is provided for public bodies required to report annually in accordance with the Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2015, as amended by the Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2020 which took effect for reporting periods commencing on or after 1 April 2021.

Reports must be submitted to ccreporting@ed.ac.uk by 30th November. Late submissions will not be accepted for analysis and may be deemed non-compliant with Public Bodies Duties reporting requirements.

2. Guidance

1. Please **do not delete any cells, rows or columns**. This may corrupt the template/data and compromise analysis. You can hide any extra rows within tables.
2. Please complete the new "Boundary Info" tab. This will enable improved assessment of data coverage and inform SSN analysis.
3. The "Profile of Body" tab must be completed before proceeding to add any other data.
4. To ensure that the correct emission factors are applied please ensure that you are using the correct template for the reporting year type under Q1f. If your organisation reports according to the academic year, usually August to July, you must use the Academic Year template.
5. If you need to add more rows in any table please email the file to ccreporting@ed.ac.uk
6. In Q3b emissions sources can be filtered by type in Column C. The list of available factors is visible on the Emission Factors tab. Please do not edit this list, use "other" if an EF is not available.
7. Only use the "other" rows when there is no relevant emission source available in the dropdown list or if you have bespoke data/emission factors. Please provide a brief explanation in the comment.
8. Water supply and treatment (sewage) emission factors are based on Scottish Water's carbon intensities for service supply. If you wish to use UK factors you need to enter manually in an "Other" row.
9. More detailed guidance is available on the SSN website

3. Colour Coding used in the template

	Dropdown box - select from list of options
	Uneditable/fixed entry cell
	Editable cell



Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Compliance Reporting Template 2023/24 FY

Please answer all questions below with respect to the public body's reporting boundary for the reporting period. The information is intended to improve data coverage and inform analysis, in particular, to help identify data gaps. There are 3 response options:

- YES - where data is available and is reported
- NA - where a category is relevant but no data is available
- NO - the category is not relevant

Any points of clarification can be added in the comments field for the corresponding emission source(s) in Table 3b on the Emissions tab.

Category		Select from dropdown list
Owned estate	Are any buildings owned by the public body?	Yes
Managed services	Are building services managed on behalf of another public body that shares or leases space?	Yes
Leased premises -public	Are building services managed and provided by another public body?	Yes
Leased premises - private	Are building services managed and provided by a private landlord?	Yes
Streetlighting	Are streetlights owned or operated?	Yes
Fleet and equipment	Are any vehicles or fossil-fueled machinery or equipment owned or leased, excludes short-term or infrequent hires?	Yes
Refrigerants/F-gases	Are there any air conditioning or refrigeration systems that require refrigerant gas top-ups?	Yes
Medical gases	Are medical gases used?	Yes
Business travel - private	Do staff undertake business travel by private car?	Yes
Business travel - flights	Do staff undertake any business travel by plane?	Yes
Homeworking	Do staff work from home - including hybrid?	Yes
Supply chain	Are any goods or services purchased?	Yes
Land use	Are more than 10 hectares of land owned or managed for public services provision, including for research or recreation?	Yes
Waste services	Is the public body responsible for collecting household or municipal waste?	Yes

Public Sector Report on Compliance with Climate Change Duties 2024 Template FY

PART 1 Profile of Reporting Body

1a Name of reporting body
Provide the name of the listed body (the "body") which prepared this report.

NHS Ayrshire and Arran

1b Type of body
Select from the options below

National Health Service

1c Highest number of full-time equivalent staff in the body during the report year

9564.35

1d Metrics used by the body
Specify the metrics that the body uses to assess its performance in relation to climate change and sustainability.

Metric	Units	Value	Comments
Floor area	m2	243198.00	
Please select from drop down box			
Please select from drop down box			
Please select from drop down box			
Please select from drop down box			
Please select from drop down box			
Please select from drop down box			
Please select from drop down box			
Other (please specify in comments)			
Other (please specify in comments)			
Other (please specify in comments)			
Other (please specify in comments)			
Other (please specify in comments)			
Other (please specify in comments)			
Other (please specify in comments)			

1e Overall budget of the body
Specify approximate £/annum for the report year.

Budget	Budget Comments
£1,069,465,000	

1f Report type
Check the report year type is correct. The alternative template must be used for academic year reporting.

Reporting type	Report year comments
Financial/Calendar/Other	Financial

1g Context
Provide a summary of the body's nature and functions that are relevant to climate change reporting.

Climate change is the biggest threat to human health so the actions we take now are directly related to public health. Improvements in air quality can help reduce pulmonary disease, heart attacks and strokes. Creating higher quality homes making houses warmer through insulation measures and energy efficiency has cost savings on admissions to hospitals mental health services and provides better outcomes. There is a paradoxical relationship between health care and the environment. The delivery of care within facilities and the services it provides generates an environmental footprint. This takes the form of greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere, medicines into water ways, clinical waste generation, and food from unsustainable sources. Medical waste is burned producing dioxins which are linked to cancers, birth defects, neurological damage, and reproductive toxicity. Cancer rates are rising, babies born today have microplastics in their blood. Chemical exposure in the womb can flip on or off hormones and affect the development of the systems of the body at that moment. Eliminating pharmaceutical waste from our water systems will help prevent harm to the ecosystems around us and help limit growth of anti-microbial resistant bacteria, one of the most serious threats to our ability to treat

Public Sector Report on Compliance with Climate Change Duties 2024 Template

PART 4 Adaptation - please do not include information in this part on measures that solely reduce emissions with no implications for climate adaptation. These are climate mitigation measures which should be reported in the Emissions tab.

Assessing and managing risk

4a Has the body assessed current and future climate-related risks?
If yes, provide a reference or link to any such risk assessment(s).

We have completed a first draft of our climate change risk assessment with adaptation plan. We have a current NHS Scotland template to use for this exercise which guides us to address various aspects of climate change on our built environment providing a risk score for each. Current and future risks are assessed including buildings which are to be built in the future. As part of the assessment an adaptation plan is created with estimated costs to carry out the works.

4b What arrangements does the body have in place to manage climate-related risks?

Provide details of any climate change adaptation strategies, action plans and risk management procedures, and any climate change adaptation policies which apply across the body.

Our current risk assessment sits within the operational group and requires to be presented to the Risk and Resilience Committee, where oversight of the plan will be assessed. Potentially the top risks from the assessed will then be placed onto the boards corporate risk register.
At present we use the NHS CCRA and adaptation plan tool which highlights the climate change risks. As an organisation we use a system called DATX to record all operational and corporate risks to the board. We have a board Climate Change Adaptation policy which covers some aspects and will be updated in the coming year ahead.
Our assessment has only been undertaken locally and we need to review the assessment with a wide group of stakeholders across the organisation and involvement with our public sector partners and wider organisations such as SEPA. We are planning to create an adaptation group which would incorporate a much wider stakeholder pool including public health and clinical leads, who would meet regularly and address the risk assessment and action plans that come out of this.

Taking action

4c What action has the body taken to adapt to climate change?

Include details of work to increase awareness of the need to adapt to climate change and build the capacity of staff and stakeholders to assess risk and implement action. The body may wish to make reference to the Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme ("the Programme").

The risks have been scored in our assessment with mitigation actions put against each, and then re-scored. High level costs have been put against each mitigation action; however wider stakeholder input is required to help us build up a more site specific costed plan. Some of our sites are at risk of coastal flooding where other sites are in risk of fluvial flooding, so there is a large variety between these. This needs to be addressed in more depth to allow detailed planning.
The formation of an adaptation group with key stakeholders will assist spreading and widening out of the planning requirement and actions, which we can share with our public sector colleges in the council, fire and ambulance services, along with wider stakeholders like SEPA and the Ayrshire Resilience group.
The board has an adaptation policy in place, which we will update as part of the groups work stream. This will form part of the board's annual delivery planning process and feedback on progress on this to government will take place. Adaptation is one of the aspects where we have to develop short- and medium-term plans and report on our progress.
Tracking progress of our progress on actions through identified from our risk assessment is not currently in place. Where this plan sits, and who is responsible for this, needs to be worked through and ownership assigned.
This year we addressed tree infrastructure as part of our new Greenspace and biodiversity group and looked at the newly formed tree map. This will help us develop future plans for planting to help not only our own buildings but the local community. We will be working with the councils on this work to address future planting projects to assist with rain, wind, shading, and a place for relaxation and wellbeing with all links with health improvement, increasing biodiversity and adaptation measures for climate change.

4d Where applicable, what contribution has the body made to helping deliver the Programme?

Provide any other relevant supporting information

Outcome 1
1.1.2 As part of our planning process, we are mandated to use the place standard as part of this work for any new build or refurbishment project. This allows us as an organisation to communicate with the community, local building owners, planning departments, future developers, and the wider society.
1.2.1 Currently we have been using the Place Standard with a climate lens for this work when engagement has taken place. A place-based approach must take place prior to any design work so that the place can be evaluated, and the service delivery needs to assess whether it needs a new building or not. Adaptation is now built into our planning process and the place standard with climate lens enables this work. This facilitates conversations with both members of the public but also professionals working across a variety of sectors and open discussions on place and climate take place.
1.2.3 Communities and under-represented communities are a focus of our planning stages and invited to take part and inform the organisation of their needs and future needs with a climate lens. Place based co-benefits are recognised through this work, and these are put into the board's delivery planning for a given project. Biodiversity targets are put in place along with flood management, wellbeing, and the active

Review, monitoring and evaluation

4e What arrangements does the body have in place to review current and future climate risks?

Provide details of arrangements to review current and future climate risks, for example, what timescales are in place to review the climate change risk assessments referred to in Question 4(a) and adaptation strategies, action plans, procedures and policies in Question 4(b).

The risks identified from the Climate Change Risk Assessment will be addressed mainly through a list of mitigation measures which will help overcome these risks. Anything out with this will be down to how the board operate during times of crisis through operational planning.
Resources are very limited, and we have no current capacity to undertake regular reviews of the adaptation planning work. Project level climate change risks are still to be developed; however an energy decarbonisation risk assessment has been undertaken this year with mitigation actions and used to help populate the wider NHS Scotland risks.

4f What arrangements does the body have in place to monitor and evaluate the impact of the adaptation actions?

Please provide details of monitoring and evaluation criteria and adaptation indicators used to assess the effectiveness of actions detailed under Question 4(c) and Question 4(d).

The Board use a variety of tools to monitor and check progress towards adaptation workstream. The CCRA (Climate Change Risk Assessment) tool is used to monitor, mitigate, and provide adaptation measures the climate change risks to the board providing an action plan. We have still to set out monitoring and evaluation criteria for adaptation and require to widen our stakeholder group to carry out the assessment work. We have still to undertake the benchmarking tool to help us with our monitoring and evaluation however we have no resource to take this work forward.

Future priorities for adaptation

4g What are the body's top 5 climate change adaptation priorities for the year ahead?

Provide a summary of the areas and activities of focus for the year ahead.

1. Define where our climate change risk assessment and adaptation plan should reside within the organisation, and who takes ownership for its monitoring.
2. Set up a wider adaptation risk and planning, monitoring and evaluation group to take forward the work in this area including our primary care partners, public health, resilience teams, clinical leads, procurement and wider public sector partners.
3. Resources to be identified to lead this area of work
4. Review climate change risk assessment and action plan with a view to inclusion of the wider organisation and not just the built estate.
5. Development of the boards risks and project risks and escalate these onto the risk register.

Further information

4h Supporting information and best practice

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to adaptation.

NHS Ayrshire & Arran are part of a multi-agency group called the Ayrshire Local Resilience Partnership (ALRP). The ALRP has a disruptive weather plan, and this outlines the actions to be taken depending on level of warning received. The ALRP will also co-ordinate volunteer groups if required during the severe weather, for example the 4x4 vehicle volunteer groups. West of Scotland Regional Resilience Partnership (WORSRP) would delegate priority of these services to those with the greatest need. The Civil Contingency Act (CCA) 2004 designates agencies as category 1 or 2 responders. NHS territorial Boards are designated as a Category 1 Responders as responding to emergency situations is part of our day-to-day business. The National Risk Assessment which is a UK Government document is used as the basis for the Community Risk Register. NHSAA as part of the Ayrshire Local Resilience Partnership. This work addresses flooding risks, high temperatures, heat wave planning, major flood and fluvial risks, storms and high winds, failure of water, severe weather warning by the MET office, local coastal and tidal flooding, and flash flooding. SEPA feeds into the Community Risk Register as they are the agency that leads on the flooding risks. SEPA provides daily updates on flooding / drought risks. In addition, we sit in the council climate change groups across Ayrshire feeding into local delivery plans. NHS Ayrshire and Arran is part of the Ayrshire Local Resilience Partnership which is a group composed of agencies designated under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 as a Category 1 and 2 responders who based within Ayrshire including Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, SEPA, MET office, Scottish Water and Transport operators such as CalMac and Glasgow Prestwick International Airport. The impact of climate change are issues that the group reviews on a periodic basis through the Risk Preparedness Assessment.

Public Sector Report on Compliance with Climate Change Duties 2024 Template

PART 5 Procurement

5a How have procurement policies contributed to compliance with climate change duties?

Provide information relating to how the procurement policies of the body have contributed to its compliance with climate change duties.

The NHS A&A Sustainability Policy contains 12 actions for the Board to implement around Procurement. These actions are aligned to the Board's climate change duties and progress against these actions are being reviewed by the Climate Emergency and Sustainability Operational Group (CESOG). Importantly we have committed to increase our spend with local suppliers, and to proactively engage with potential suppliers to support and facilitate their involvement in our contracts.

5b How has procurement activity contributed to compliance with climate change duties?

Provide information relating to how procurement activity by the body has contributed to its compliance with climate change duties.

The 2014 Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act introduced the Sustainable Procurement Duty requiring public bodies to consider how they can improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of their constituency, and act in a way to secure improvements identified. All contracts which require an Open Tender and are over the Threshold (£138,760 for supplies and services and £5,336,93 for works) and are tendered by the Procurement Team are continuing to consider how each procurement process can improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing, by completing a Procurement Strategy Document prior to each Procurement. This Document ensures appropriate consideration and management approval of each Tender prior to the publication. Increased use of Sustainability led questions on Quick Quote and Tenders.

Further information

5c Supporting information and best practice

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to procurement.

The Sustainable Procurement Tools are being embedded within the Procurement Team processes and the Contract & Compliance Manager and Procurement & Systems Manager have completed the Sustainable Procurement training provided by the Scottish Government. Further deployment of the Sustainable Procurement E-learning module on Climate Change has also been undertaken following the mandating of this training for all procurement staff by National Procurement.

NHS Ayrshire and Arran's approach is also informed by participation in monthly National Procurement Sustainability Group meetings. Current workstreams around circular economy are being undertaken as part of the board's annual delivery plan activities in sustainable procurement and actions arising from the board's sustainable procurement group. These include:

- Trial was undertaken of a local supplier on the National Procurement framework for upcycling and repairing of goods. Several chairs were sent off for repair and returned back to the board. Having a local company to upcycle our equipment will be of benefit helping us to reduce waste, save carbon and upcycle our purchased goods.
- A reduction in deliveries from one of our top suppliers for stationary has been undertaken, reducing our current daily deliveries down to three times a week. This will see reductions in air pollution and carbon from the transportation and delivery of goods under scope 3 reporting.
- As part of the single use plastic reduction, we have started replacing the single use plastic medicine cups over to paper versions in all areas through changes in the ordering system, creating a 70/30% split. Monitoring on progress is required to embed these changes and nursing practices adapted for the shift.
- Progress is being made in the single use plastic cups in wards, where tea and coffee is served 6 times a day to patients. A transition over to reusable porcelain/stoneware cups is underway to remove the

Public Sector Report on Compliance with Climate Change Duties 2024 Template

PART 6 Validation and Declaration

6a Internal validation process

Briefly describe the body's internal validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

The Energy Manager compiled the data for this report. Data is gathered using standard processes for data gathering and developed through a carbon management system (14046) under 14001 Environment Standard which is based on the standard 9001 quality management approach.

6b Peer validation process

Briefly describe the body's peer validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

The report has been reviewed through our Climate Change and Sustainability Operational Group team

6c External validation process

Briefly describe the body's external validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

Externally validation is carried out by NHS Assure

6d No Validation Process

If any information provided in this report has not been validated, identify the information in question and explain why it has not been validated.

--

6e Declaration

I confirm that the information in this report is accurate and provides a fair representation of the body's performance in relation to climate change.

Name:	
Role in the body:	
Date:	

Date in format (dd/mm/yyyy)

Public Sector Report on Compliance with Climate Change Duties 2024 Template

PART 1: Profile of Reporting Body

1a Name of reporting body

East Ayrshire Council

1b Type of body

Local Government

1c Highest number of full-time equivalent staff in the body during the report year : 5,854.6

1d Metrics used by the body

Metric	Units	Value
Population size served	population	120,390

1e Overall budget of the body

Budget	Budget Comments
£392.832m	Source - Unaudited annual accounts 2023/24

1f Report type

Report type	Report year comments
Financial	1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024

1g East Ayrshire covers an area of 490 square miles from Lugton in the north to Loch Doon in the south. It has a population of 120,390 who live in a mixture of urban, rural and isolated communities. Kilmarnock is the major urban area with a population of around 43,500. The remainder of the population lives in smaller communities ranging from a few hundred people to around 9,000 people in Cumnock. As the largest single employer in East Ayrshire, the Council recognises the importance of climate change. Leading by example we have ensured that our policies in terms of managing our assets, infrastructure and people take account of the need to reduce our carbon footprint and put in place plans to mitigate against the damaging effects of climate change. We have a large property estate and through effective energy management, we aim to reduce energy usage in our buildings. In terms of assets, the Council operates

more than 500 vehicles and a number of initiatives are being taken forward, including the electrification of our car and small van fleet, together with the use of HVO instead of diesel to reduce emissions from the larger vehicles in our fleet. Our procurement policies are also designed to ensure that the goods and services we buy are energy efficient and sustainably produced. The Council is also responsible for a large and varied range of services, including waste management, street lighting, housing and flood prevention; these are just some of the areas where our policies and programmes are designed to ensure that account is taken of climate change issues, with the recent change in arrangements for disposal of our waste shifting from landfill to RDF significantly reducing the Council's carbon emissions.

The Council's Climate Change Strategy, which is supported by a £1m Climate Change Investment fund and associated action plan sets the ambition for the Council to be net zero by 2030 and for the wider East Ayrshire Area to be net zero by 2045. In terms of the wider community, East Ayrshire Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) was adopted on 8 April 2024 and then on 26 June 2024, East Ayrshire Council Cabinet approved the Local Development Plan 2 - Delivery Programme. These are supported by the Minerals Local Development Plan adopted in January 2020, taken together with associated documents including the Environmental Report, Planning for Wind Energy, and supplemental guidance on Heat Generation, these ensure that new development occurs in the most sustainable locations, taking into account the need to mitigate against climate change. East Ayrshire Council are currently developing the Community Renewable Energy Project (CoRE) project which is part of the Ayrshire Growth Deal. The CoRE project will act as a catalyst to accelerate the low carbon transition by aiming to transition a typical Scottish town to low carbon by looking at a whole systems approach (power, heat and transport). This project, funded from UK government, Scottish government, partners and East Ayrshire Council, will significantly reduce East Ayrshire's carbon emissions.

Governance and management

2a How is climate change governed in the body?

Provide a summary of the roles performed by the body's governance bodies and members in relation to climate change. If any of the body's activities in relation to climate change sit outside its own governance arrangements (in relation to, for example, land use, adaptation, transport, business travel, waste, information and communication technology, procurement or behaviour change), identify these activities and the governance arrangements. Provide a diagram / chart to outline the governance structure within the body.

In approving our Climate Change Strategy, Council agreed to appoint a Cabinet member with specific responsibility for oversight of Net Zero, Environment and Climate Change, to champion our net zero ambitions. At Officer level corporate responsibility for climate change rests with the Council Management Team with the Head of Facilities and Property Management as lead. To ensure strategic oversight and facilitate the delivery and co-ordination of our climate change response, as well as drive the pace and ambition of change at both a corporate and community level, a Climate Change Lead Officer post, supported by a small Climate Change Team has been established to support services. A network of service leads across the Council has also been established and these are brought together in two Climate Change Officer Working Groups, one covering the themes of Energy and Transport, and the other covering the Waste and Natural Environment themes. These Groups oversee development and delivery of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan and ensure strategic oversight and governance of the Council's climate change response.

2b How is climate change action managed and embedded in the body?

Provide a summary of how decision-making in relation to climate change action by the body is managed and how responsibility is allocated to the body's senior staff, departmental heads etc. If any such decision-making sits outside the body's own governance arrangements (in relation to, for example, land use, adaptation, transport, business travel, waste, information and communication technology, procurement or behaviour change), identify how this is managed and how responsibility is allocated outside the body. Provide a diagram to show how responsibility is allocated to the body's senior staff, departmental heads etc.

Our Strategic Plan sets out our refreshed arrangements for creating change and builds on our previous two transformation strategies, coronavirus (COVID-19) recovery and renewal work, and has been informed by a comprehensive programme of engagement with our communities which takes account of the issues that they raised. A commitment to deliver a Clean Green East Ayrshire is one of the 6 key themes of our Strategic plan.

It will continue to inform Service Improvement Plans, embed transformation across the Council and support improved performance management and reporting. Delivery of our Clean Green East Ayrshire ambition is supported by our first Climate Change Strategy and associated Action Plan, which was approved by Council on 24 June 2021. In agreeing our Strategy and in recognition of the Global Climate Change emergency, Council also agreed to join the UK100 and endorse their Net Zero Local Leadership Pledge, which commits the Council to the aim of reducing our own carbon emissions to Net Zero by 2030; and to work with our residents and businesses to bring our wider communities' emissions in line with Net Zero as soon as possible (and by 2045 at the latest).

The Climate Change Strategy sets out the ambition and direction of travel for the Council over the next 10 years to support local, national and international action on climate change and promote behaviour changes that we can all make to reduce our carbon footprint. Structured around the four key themes of Energy, Transport, Waste and Natural Environment, our Strategy recognises the challenges and benefits of moving away from fossil fuels in terms of

economic and wellbeing opportunities and sets out a range of actions which seek to ensure a just transition as we move towards net zero. To further develop our local Climate Change response, an extensive programme of engagement, timed to coincide with COP26, was undertaken with our young people, communities, businesses and employees on our Climate Change Strategy. The outcome of this engagement activity was reported to Cabinet on 23 February 2022 as part of our 2022/23 Budget and led to the establishment of a £1M Climate Change Investment Fund. The report set out a range of additional actions with lead officer responsibility, many of which have now been implemented. These actions have accelerated our progress towards net zero and seen the Council's Carbon emissions reduce by in excess of 50% over the last 3 reporting years. This includes the allocation of £5M capital funding to support infrastructure investment in climate change related projects. These actions are embedded in service plans and progress is reported and monitored through the Climate Change Officer Working Groups and by exception through East Ayrshire Performs report to Cabinet. Members also receive an annual Climate Change Update report, which includes this submission and outlines progress against our net zero targets. This report is considered by both Cabinet and our Governance and Scrutiny Committee in advance of submission to the Scottish Government.

Strategy

2c Does the body have specific climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives in its corporate plan or similar document?

Wording of objective	Name of document	Document Link
East Ayrshire is a place with strong, safe and vibrant communities where everyone has a good quality of life and access to opportunities, choices and high quality services which are sustainable, accessible and meet people's needs.	East Ayrshire Council Strategic Plan 2022-2027	https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/CouncilAndGovernment/strategic-framework/five-year-strategic-plan/overview.aspx#:~:text=Our%20new%20Strategic%20Plan%202022,2030%20ambitions%20and%20Local%20Outcomes
East Ayrshire will be a low carbon place with a thriving and diverse environment. We will have strong, healthy, resilient and vibrant communities that benefit from high quality places, multi-functional green spaces and access to high quality services that are well located to maximise sustainable travel choices. Our economy will have recovered and be fairer, greener and more inclusive, with all East Ayrshire citizens able to benefit from greater economic opportunities.	Clean Green East Ayrshire Climate Change Strategy	https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/Resources/PDF/C/Climate-Change-Strategy.pdf

2d Does the body have a climate change plan or strategy?

East Ayrshire Council approved our first Clean Green East Ayrshire Climate Change Strategy and associated Action Plan on 24 June 2021. <https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/Resources/PDF/C/Climate-Change-Strategy.pdf>

2e Does the body have any plans or strategies covering the following areas that include climate change?

Topic area	Name of document	Link	Time period covered	Comments
Adaptation	Clean Green East Ayrshire Climate Change Strategy supported by the Ayrshire Local Flood Risk Management Plan	https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/r/?f=https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/CRPADMMIN/2012%20AGENDAS/COUNCIL/24%20JUNE%202021/east%20ayrshire%20climate%20change%20strategy.pdf	2021-2031 with Annual review of progress and actions 2022-2028 for Flood Risk Management Plan	The Climate Change Strategy sets out the ambition and direction of travel for the Council over the next 10 years to support local, national and international action on climate change and promote behaviour changes that we can all make to reduce our carbon footprint. Structured around the four key themes of Energy, Transport, Waste and Natural Environment, our Strategy recognises the challenges and potential benefits of moving away from fossil fuels in terms of economic and wellbeing opportunities and sets out a range of actions which seek to ensure a just transition as we move towards net zero. The SEPA Flood Risk Management Plan was published in December 2021 and sets out the long-term ambitions for flood risk management across the Ayrshire Local Plan District.
Business travel	Active Travel Strategy	https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/crpadmmin/2012%20agendas/cabinet/15%20JUNE%202022/East%20Ayrshire%20Council%20Active%20Travel%20Strategy.pdf	10 year Plan 2022-2032	The Active Travel Strategy will provide a holistic approach to the promotion of active travel in East Ayrshire through a combination of behaviour change initiatives and new or enhanced infrastructure. A review our travel, subsistence and grey fleet mileage policy, which will recognise and respond to climate change is currently being undertaken by the Head of People and Culture.
Staff Travel	Active Travel Strategy	https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/crpadmmin/2012%20agendas/cabinet/15%20JUNE%202022/East%20Ayrshire%20Council%20Active%20Travel%20Strategy.pdf	10 year Plan 2022-2032	The Active Travel Strategy will provide a holistic approach to the promotion of active travel in East Ayrshire through a combination of behaviour change initiatives and new or enhanced infrastructure. A review our travel, subsistence and grey fleet mileage policy, which will recognise and respond to climate change is currently being undertaken by the Head of People and Culture.
Energy efficiency	Energy Strategy and Carbon Management Programme	https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/crpadmmin/2007%20agendas/cabinet/25%20january%202012/Energy%20Strategy.pdf		Our Asset Management Framework and Capital Report of 2019, included the aim 'to provide a clear rationale for future Capital investment, building in financial and operational sustainability while working towards being carbon neutral' as a strategic objective.

		y%20and%20Carbon%20Management%20Programme%20-%20Cabinet%20Jan%202012.pdf		
Fleet transport	Ayrshire Roads Alliance Fleet Management Service Plan 2023/24	https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/r/?f=https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/CRPADMMIN/2012%20AGENDAS/CABINET/23%20AUGUST%202023/Fleet%20Management%20Service%20Plan%2023-24%20.pdf	2023/24	The Service Plan provides detail on the Council's Fleet Management current operating position and sets out the vision, challenges, aims and objectives for the 2023/24 financial year, and covers arrangements for the continuing decarbonisation of our fleet.
ICT	East Ayrshire Council Our Digital Strategy	https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/Resources/PDF/D/digital-strategy.pdf	2022-2027	Our digital vision is: 'to reimagine our public services and digital infrastructures; to deliver data driven digital services which are innovative, accessible, adaptable and customer-centric; to be better integrated and better connected; providing better outcomes for everyone within a thriving digital workforce, economy and community'.
Renewable energy	Asset Management Framework that incorporates the Capital Investment Strategy	https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/r/?f=https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/CRPADMMIN/2012%20AGENDAS/CABINET/1%20MAY%202019/asset%20management%20framework%20and%20capital%20report.pdf		
Sustainable /renewable heat	Building a Future East Ayrshire Capital Investment Programme Update	https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/r/?f=https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/CRPADMMIN/2012%20AGENDAS/CABINET/29%20MAY%202024/Building%20a%20Future%20East%20Ayrshire%20Capital%20Investment%20Programme%20Review%20Update.pdf	Ongoing	Our Building a Future East Ayrshire Capital Investment Programme Update of 2024, included updates on current work utilising Passivhaus and Enerphit approaches to Capital building and refurbishment projects with a specific 'Sustainable / Zero Carbon Fund' in place to financially support Capital project sustainability and zero emission design."
Waste management	Transformational Service Redesign of Waste Management	https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/crpadmmin/2012%20agendas/cabinet/4%20Mar		

		ch%202020/Transformational%20Service%20Redesign%20-%20Waste%20Management.pdf		
Water and sewerage	Integrated Asset Management Framework that incorporates the Capital Investment Strategy	https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/r/?f=https://docs.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/CRPADMMIN/2012%20AGENDAS/CABINET/1%20MAY%202019/asset%20management%20framework%20and%20capital%20report.pdf%20	Ongoing	Increased coverage of Automatic Meter Reading technologies, in particular to that of our water estate, provides valuable intelligence of building performance and consumption, allowing more careful and effective management of energy and water use to reduce our carbon footprint.
Land Use	Local Development Plan 2 2024	LDP2 - Proposed Plan - Volume 1 - April 2024 (east-ayrshire.gov.uk)	Ongoing	The Local Development Plan 2 2024

2f What are the body's top 5 priorities for climate change governance, management and strategy for the year ahead?

1. Take every opportunity to reduce energy use in our estate, prioritising behaviour change and a data driven approach, which targets real reductions in energy consumption in our buildings, including reducing the estate where possible and through our capital programme, invest in energy saving initiatives such as an LED replacement programme and delivery of low carbon new builds and refurbishments.
2. Finalise the Ayrshire Energy Master Plan and LHEES and associated delivery plan to inform local placed paced solutions for the decarbonisation of our buildings across East Ayrshire.
3. Support operational services to shift their car and van fleets to EVs, introduce EV Pool Car plans and further target overall mileage reductions across services and in grey fleet.
4. Further develop and start to implement a series of pathfinder projects to provide a testing ground for demonstrator projects associated with CoRE (Community Renewable Energy). The CoRE project aims to showcase how a green recovery can transform our rural towns and villages and make our communities better connected, healthier and improve the standard of living through a just transition, whilst supporting the creation of long-term sustainable jobs.
5. Continued to implement the Council's Active Travel Strategy to improve walking and cycling, infrastructure, including a local cycle network and Kilmarnock Infinity Loop targeting behaviour change, through promotional and training activities and support this through Safer Streets Programme and continuation of the Shoot to Saturn initiatives in our schools.

2g Has the body used the Climate Change Assessment Tool (a) or equivalent tool to self-assess its capability / performance?

No

Further information

2h Supporting information and best practice

St Sophia's Primary Enerphit Retrofit.

Climate Change Clean Green Education Awards and behaviour change initiatives in relation to Energy, Active Travel and Recycling in our Schools.

Implementation of Communal bins in flats to ensure all residents in East Ayrshire have access to recycling.

3a Emissions

Emissions from the start of the year which the body uses as a baseline (for its carbon footprint) to the end of the report year

Reference year	Year	Year type	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total	Units	Comments
Baseline Year	2012/13	Financial	15,261.00	14,531.00	13,438.00	43,230.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 1 carbon footprint	2013/14	Financial	13,620.00	14,286.00	11,113.00	39,019.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 2 carbon footprint	2014/15	Financial	12,897.00	13,671.00	8,370.00	34,938.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 3 carbon footprint	2015/16	Financial	13,296.00	12,219.00	13,587.00	39,102.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 4 carbon footprint	2016/17	Financial	12,690.00	10,866.00	13,551.00	37,107.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 5 carbon footprint	2017/18	Financial	12,653.00	8,603.00	17,466.00	38,722.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 6 carbon footprint	2018/19	Financial	12,394.00	6,889.00	14,020.00	33,303.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 7 carbon footprint	2019/20	Financial	11,679.00	6,131.00	14,140.00	31,950.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 8 carbon footprint	2020/21	Financial	13,805.00	4,936.00	15,091.00	33,832.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 9 carbon footprint	2021/22	Financial	11,273.00	4,731.00	16,688.00	32,692.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 10 carbon footprint	2022/23	Financial	9,681.89	4,585.17	6,780.78	21,047.83	tCO ₂ e	
Year 11 carbon footprint	2023/24	Financial	8,138.63	5,160.21	1,564.54	14,863.38	tCO ₂ e	

3b Breakdown of emissions sources

Emission Type	Emission source	Scope	Consumption data	Units	Emission factor	Units	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Waste	Organic: food and drink waste - Anaerobic digestion	Scope 3	2,973.74	tonnes	8.91242	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	26.50322	
Waste	Metal: aluminium cans and foil (excl. forming) - Recycled	Scope 3	83.78	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	1.78291	
Waste	Batteries - Recycled	Scope 3	17.03	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	0.36241	New Category
Waste	Batteries - Recycled	Scope 3	0.88	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	0.01873	
Waste	Metal: scrap metal - Recycled	Scope 3	18.68	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	0.39753	
Waste	Metal: scrap metal - Recycled	Scope 3	642.76	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	13.67845	
Waste	Mineral oil - Recycled	Scope 3	14.38	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	0.30602	
Waste	Mineral oil - Recycled	Scope 3	4.62	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	0.09832	
Waste	Organic: garden waste - Composting	Scope 3	4,269.46	tonnes	8.91242	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	38.05123	
Waste	Metals - Recycled	Scope 3	4.38	tonnes	0.98491	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	0.00431	
Waste	Glass - Recycled	Scope 3	3,157.96	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	67.20394	
Waste	Plastics: PET (incl. forming) - Recycled	Scope 3	2,046.22	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	43.54521	
Waste	Paper and board: mixed - Recycled	Scope 3	3,947.15	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	83.99854	
Waste	Plasterboard - Recycled	Scope 3	83.73	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	1.78184	
Waste	Plastics: average plastic rigid - Recycled	Scope 3	467.21	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	9.94261	
Waste	Household/Municipal/Domestic waste - Combustion	Scope 3	32,764.40	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	697.25288	Increase as a result of landfill stopping.
Waste	Soils - Recycled	Scope 3	3,245.93	tonnes	0.98491	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	3.19695	
Waste	Metal: steel cans - Recycled	Scope 3	143.24	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	3.04826	

Waste	Average construction - Recycled	Scope 3	1,208.98	tonnes	0.98491	kg CO2e/tonnes	1.19074	
Waste	Clothing - Recycled	Scope 3	44.88	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.95508	
Waste	Wood - Recycled	Scope 3	2,844.04	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO2e/tonnes	60.52347	
Waste	Wood - Recycled	Scope 3	8.88	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.18897	
Waste	Tyres - Recycled	Scope 3	58.48	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO2e/tonnes	1.24450	
Waste	WEEE - mixed - Combustion	Scope 3	75.92	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO2e/tonnes	1.61564	
Waste	WEEE - fridges and freezers - Landfill	Scope 3	176.88	tonnes	8.88413	kg CO2e/tonnes	1.57142	
Waste	WEEE - large - Combustion	Scope 3	176.20	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO2e/tonnes	3.74968	
Waste	WEEE - small - Combustion	Scope 3	0.54	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.01149	
Waste	WEEE - small - Combustion	Scope 3	199.56	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO2e/tonnes	4.24680	
Waste	Household/Municipal/Domestic waste - Combustion	Scope 3	128.74	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO2e/tonnes	2.73969	
Waste	Mixed dry recyclates - Recycled	Scope 3	1.90	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.04043	
Waste	Asbestos - Landfill	Scope 3	2.84	tonnes	5.91332	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.01679	1069.27 tCO2 from Waste total
Transport - car	Average car - Petrol	Scope 1	832,232	miles	0.26379	kg CO2e/miles	219.53196	Grey Fleet - Petrol
Fuels	Petrol (100% mineral petrol)	Scope 1	28,143	litres	2.34503	kg CO2e/litres	65.99579	
Transport - car	Average car - Hybrid	Scope 1	20,990	miles	0.19147	kg CO2e/miles	4.01890	
Transport - car	Average fleet car - Battery Electric Vehicle	Scope 1	663,044	miles	0.00000	kg CO2e/miles	0.00000	
Transport - van/HGV	Fleet Van - Class III (1.74 to 3.5 tonnes) - Battery Electric Vehicle	Scope 1	284,587	miles	0.00000	kg CO2e/miles	0.00000	

Fuels	Diesel (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	228,955	litres	2.51206	kg CO2e/litres	575.14959	
Electricity	Electricity: UK	Scope 2	4,873,767	kWh	0.20707	kg CO2e/kWh	1009.23183	Scope 2 street lighting kWh
Transport - car	Average car - Diesel	Scope 1	721,893	miles	0.27332	kg CO2e/miles	197.30466	Grey Fleet - Diesel
Fuels	Gas oil	Scope 1	7,992	litres	2.75541	kg CO2e/litres	22.02123	
Fuels	Gas oil	Scope 1	12,056	litres	2.75541	kg CO2e/litres	33.21921	
Fuels	Natural gas	Scope 1	38,084,384	kWh	0.18293	kg CO2e/kWh	6966.73547	
Electricity	Transmission and distribution - Electricity: UK	Scope 3	16,367,108	kWh	0.01792	kg CO2e/kWh	293.21856	Scope 3 -Estate Electricity minus Street Lights
Electricity	Electricity: UK	Scope 2	3,678,747	kWh	0.20707	kg CO2e/kWh	761.77392	EV charging points
Electricity	Transmission and distribution - Electricity: UK	Scope 3	3,678,747	kWh	0.01792	kg CO2e/kWh	65.90516	EV charging points
Water	Water supply	Scope 3	174,092	cubic metres	0.10000	kg CO2e/cubic metres	17.40920	
Water	Water treatment	Scope 3	165,387	cubic metres	0.19000	kg CO2e/cubic metres	31.42353	
Electricity	Transmission and distribution - Electricity: UK	Scope 3	4,873,767	kWh	0.01792	kg CO2e/kWh	87.31408	Scope 3 street lighting
Bioenergy	Wood chips	Scope 1	435	tonnes	40.58114	kg CO2e/tonnes	17.65280	Biomass total tonnes
Electricity	Electricity: UK	Scope 2	16,367,108	kWh	0.20707	kg CO2e/kWh	3389.20725	Scope 2 -Estate Electricity minus Street Lights
HVO	Fuel	Scope 1	1,040,062	litres	0.3558	kg CO2e/litres	37.1	HVO Factor is 0.3558. Resulting in 37 tCO2.

Manually added to scope.

3c Generation, consumption and export of renewable energy

Technology	Renewable Electricity		Renewable Heat		Comments
	Total consumed by the body (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	Total consumed by the body (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	
Biomass			1,145,409	-	
Solar PV	181,967				

Targets

3d Organisational targets

Name of target	Target	Boundary/ scope of target	Year used as baseline	Baseline figure	Target completion year	Progress against target	Comments
Percentage of household waste that was recycled or composted	70%	Waste	2012/13	45%	2029/30	50.20 %	<p>EAC Cleaner Communities started a new general waste and bulky waste contract which now sees all of our general waste being diverted to Energy from Waste Facility. This delivered a dramatic fall in our emissions from waste in the reporting year. In 2023/24 - Recycling rates are continuing to rise. EAC Cleaner Communities has completed targeted campaigns to encourage the public to recycle more. Waste Data flow records show an increase in recycling as a result, and this will continue to be monitored and discussed at our monthly Food Waste Campaign Working Group. EAC Cleaner Communities has also introduced a Reclamation Area at Western Road and a similar facility has now been introduced at Garlaff. Taken together, these new facilities have diverted over 400 tonnes from residual waste to recycling, contributing positively to the circular economy and our net zero ambitions.</p> <p>Future Projects to report on in 2024/5 submission include works scheduled to deliver a new re-use facility at Western Road HWRC and discussions are ongoing with third sector charitable organisations to operate this facility on behalf of the Council. Planning permission has also been granted for a similar facility at Garlaff</p>

							<p>HWRC. These new facilities will allow members of the public to drop off items that can be re-used or repaired and sold by the charities who operate them on behalf of the Council and are anticipated to not only divert a substantial amount of waste from RDF but also stimulate a reuse and repair economy in East Ayrshire. In addition, a number of our flatted properties in Cumnock and Kilmarnock did not have access to recycling bins and external funding of £290k from zero waste Scotland has now been secured to implement communal recycling facilities within 675 flats. The first phase of the communal bins roll out started in March 2024 and will see 481 gain access to recycling for the first time. These new arrangements are anticipated to have a positive impact on future recycling rates.</p> <p>The Council on 29 August agreed the Strategic Waste Review. This has set out the long term direction for the waste service with the aim of drive down cost, continue to promote the waste hierarchy and reduce the overall carbon footprint. This will include the new larger wheelie bin configuration, coupled with the shift to a 4 weekly collection cycle for residual waste to reduce capacity and promote positive behaviour change around recycling.</p>
Year on year reduction in energy consumption	2%	Energy use in buildings	2012/13	83,188,836	2023/24	35% reduction over 10 years	We have delivered a 35% reduction in our building energy use since the baseline year in 2012/13. This equates to a 3.5% year on year reduction over a 10 year period. In 2023/24 we achieved a 4.4% reduction in the total energy use within our buildings.

3da How will the body align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emission reduction targets?

East Ayrshire Council has agreed to the increase our Energy Efficiency Fund by £4m and rename as a Sustainability/Carbon Zero Fund to be utilised to support the implementation of actions to mitigate climate change.

3db How will the body publish, or otherwise make available, it's progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets?

Our annual performance is presented to Cabinet in November each year to ensure compliance with the Scottish Climate Change reporting obligations. Meetings are held in public and attended by local press and all papers are available online.

We also prepare relevant PR materials to highlight our progress around our Net Zero (NZ) targets and encourage the behaviour changes that we know will be needed to meet both the Council's and the wider East Ayrshire's area NZ targets.

Projects and changes

3e Estimated total annual carbon savings from all projects implemented by the body in the report year

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity		
Natural gas	1009	600 + 306 + 103
Other heating fuels		
Waste	5262.3	5260 + 1 + 1.3
Water and sewerage		
Travel		
Fleet transport	1129	
Other (please specify in comments)		

3f Detail the top 10 carbon reduction projects carried out by the body in the report year

Project name	Funding source	First full year of CO ₂ e savings	Capital cost (£)	Operational cost (£/annum)	Estimated carbon savings per year (tCO ₂ e/annum)	Estimated costs savings (£/annum)	Comments
1. Temperature reduction set-point in operational buildings by 1C	N/A	2023/24		N/A	600	220,000	Temperature reduction set-point in operational buildings by 1C.
2. Holiday 'Switch-Off' of heating systems across school estate	Revenue	2022/23	Nil	2700	306	49672	
3. Active Monitoring of Building Energy Consumption and corrective / Improvement actions	Capital	2022/23	Nil	7500	103	132750	

4. Street Lighting LED Conversion Project	Capital	2022/23	400,000	0	623	420000	The project is being implemented on an area by area basis over 4 years. As each area has varying quantities and ratings of lamp types the saving figures will vary year on year until the project is completed. (Note, the estimated costs savings (£/annum) are estimated figures after completion). Whilst Internal issues and delays owing to lockdown have delayed the programme we anticipate that the programme will be completed in 2024/25. Carbon emissions adjusted downwards to reflect increase in this year's emissions factor.
5. HVO Fuel	Department Revenue Budgets	2022/23		600,000	1,129	0	The operating cost is the difference between diesel and HVO. This project resulted in the majority of the fleet running on HVO in 23/24. Only hire vehicles continued to use fossil fuels. Increasing costs of HVO have resulted in the decision to revert back to fossil fuels and focus on electrification of our small car and van fleet.
6. All waste now diverted from Landfill to RDF	Revenue	2022/23	0		5,260	0	As stats above show virtually all non-recyclable waste has now been diverted from landfill to RDF. 2023/24 saw the full year impact of this initiative significantly reduce the council's carbon emissions from waste disposal.
7. Reclamation Sites In Garlaff & Western Road	Climate Change	2022/23	0	50,000	1	65,000	Reclamation areas to reclaim recycling materials from bulky uplifts prior to disposing in general waste bay. Since Sept 2022 we have diverted 400 tonnes of recyclable material within the reclamation area.
8 Food Waste Working Group Campaigns	Food Waste Campaign Funding	2022/23	0	0	1.3	5,700	Whilst we continue to drive increases in participation rates within our food waste campaign, Our focus on reducing and food waste through portion control and freezing excess food for reuse is delivering a positive impact on reducing the volumes of food waste collected. In 2023/24, this resulted in a 5% decrease in the food waste produced.
9. Communal Bin Project	Zero Waste Scotland's Recycling Improve	2024/25		139,000	TBC once full year figures are available	TBC once full year figures are available	Phase 1 fully completed in March 2023/24 - 66 Communal Block that has had no recycling previously have had Paper, Plastic, Glass and food recycling introduced at the end of the financial year. As paper, plastic and glass have the same emissions as General waste then the only CO2 saving is from food waste. Phase 2 funding of 150,000 has been secured to

	ment Fund (RIF)						extend this approach to a further 61 Communal blocks. This will ensure that every household in East Ayrshire has access to recycling.
10. Dinnae Forget Your Caddie	Climate Change	2024/25		--	--	2,160	A collaboration with Education to promote the use of Food Waste recycling within pupils households, had over 250 direct sign ups during the project. This was a very successful project not just in the short term but for long lasting impact on pupil (next generation) behaviour. This with be continued into 24/25 school year.

3g Estimated decrease or increase in the body's emissions attributed to factors (not reported elsewhere in this form) in the report year

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO₂e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate changes	66	Increase	Additions to our estate
Staff numbers	168	Increase	Increase in FTE staff numbers to 5854 (+51 FTE) from previous year. Estimated tCO ₂ e is based on 3.3tCO ₂ per staff member.

3h Anticipated annual carbon savings from all projects implemented by the body in the year ahead

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO₂e)	Comments
Fluorescent Lighting - LED Replacement Programme	45	Assumes 2 secondary and 2 Primary schools completed in 2024/25
Natural Gas	140	Assumes 2% reduction in gas consumption as a result of estate rationalisation and new capital programme net zero projects.
The Strategic Waste of Review sets out the long term direction for the waste service with the aim of drive down cost, continue to promote the waste hierarchy and reduce the overall carbon footprint. This will include a new larger wheelie bin configuration, coupled with the shift to a 4 weekly collection cycle for residual waste to reduce capacity and promote positive behaviour change around recycling. The review of the collection methodology is also anticipated to deliver net reduction in our carbon emissions arising from collection and disposal of waste.	351	Note this includes transport and increased recycling.
Fleet Transport	105	Assumes the electrification of 50 diesel vehicles driving 10k miles per annum.

3i. Estimated decrease or increase in emissions from other sources in the year ahead

Total increase/decrease	Total estimated emissions increase/decrease (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Decision to revert to Diesel instead of HVO will significantly increase our emissions	2,613 tCOe	1,040,062 (HVO litres) x 2.51206(Diesel conversion factor) /1,000
Decrease in public use of EV Chargers following introduction of fees	232 tCO ₂	828 (44% fleet use) = 464 / 2 to reflect 50% drop in public use of chargers since fees introduced = 232

3j. Total carbon reduction project savings since the start of the year which the body used as a baseline for its carbon footprint

If the body has data available, estimate the total emissions savings made from projects since the start of that year ("the baseline year").

<p>Total carbon reduction project savings since the start of the year which the body used as a baseline for its carbon footprint</p>		
<p>If the body has data available, estimate the total emissions savings made from projects since the start of that year ("the baseline year").</p>		
Total savings	Total estimated emissions savings (tCO₂e)	Comments
Total project savings since baseline year		

3k Supporting information and best practice

Vehicle fleet – the size and shape of the fleet remains continually under review to ensure that fleet costs are optimised and that performance/ air quality is improved. A fleet replacement strategy is currently being looked at that sets out optimum time frames for fleet replacement and includes increased uptake of alternatively fuelled vehicles, and best in class for emissions where diesel vehicles continue to be a requirement.

The focus is now on further reduction of vehicle emissions, where this is possible through vehicle replacement and where this is not an option ensuring that diesel vehicles run on HVO fuel. Transport Services continues to engage with services to improve fuel efficiency, green fleet options and recommendations.

Energy Management – It is worth highlighting the specific impact of a single measure implemented by the Energy Team in the last year which has had a significant effect on lowering our gas consumption. By simply reducing the operating temperature parameters in our buildings by 1oC from 20oC to 19oC, it is estimated that we have saved the Council around £220,000 in gas and reduced our emissions by 600 tCO₂e.

A range of actions to maximise the efficiency and benefits of existing Building Energy Management Systems have been undertaken to effect greater control over the heating and hot water systems in our estate. Using our data driven approach, we have also taken advantage of the opportunity to work with our term contractor Dalkia who have undertaken detailed energy audits at 3 of our high use buildings, namely Loudoun Academy, Gargieston Primary School and London Road HQ. These audits have identified a range of interventions that will deliver significant savings for limited investment and their recommendations will be followed up and implemented. Taken together, it is estimated that this work alone could significantly reduce the energy costs within these buildings. Once we have established and measured the impact of this activity, it would be our intention to undertake similar audits across the remaining high use premises within our estate.

Work continues to upgrade our street lighting, which accounts for around a quarter of our electricity consumption. Work to replace Street Lighting continued to progress with a phased replacement of street lighting lanterns across East Ayrshire to reduce energy usage and emissions through LED 'white light' technology. In the reporting year, this delivered around a 6% reduction in our consumption. Our East Ayrshire replacement programme is presently around 93.5% complete and is expected to be substantially complete by end of March 2025.

Part 4 Adaptation -

please do not include information in this part on measures that solely reduce emissions with no implications for climate adaptation. These are climate mitigation measures which should be reported in the Emissions tab.

Assessing and managing risk

4a Has the body assessed current and future climate-related risks?

An Environmental Report was carried out as part of the Local Development Plan. The key stages of the SEA for a Local Development Plan are scoping, interim environmental report, environmental report and the post-adoption statement. This assessed each site and allocation against its impact on the environment, including specifically on climate change as well as considering cumulative impacts <https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/PlanningAndTheEnvironment/development-plans-and-policies/ldp2/environmental-report.aspx>

Flooding is one of the most visible and serious implications of climate change that has been experienced at local level. New Cumnock is the community which has undoubtedly suffered most from flooding in recent years, with major floods experienced in December 2013 and December 2015. The Solway Local Risk Management Plan (Cycles 1 and 2) estimates that 300 properties in New Cumnock are located in a potentially vulnerable area for flooding. In response, the Council formulated a flood prevention scheme for New Cumnock which was delivered in two parts; the Phase 1 is at the Leggate, whilst Phase 2, was throughout the main town of New Cumnock on the Afton Water. The work consists of embankments constructed, on either side of the Connel burn and the Afton Water, and where the access is too restrictive to allow embankments reinforced concrete walls were built. The scheme takes water and channels it down until it meets the River Nith Flood Plain, for both Phases, effectively directing any flood water away from communities. New Cumnock Flood Protection Scheme Phase 1 (Leggate) was completed in 2018 with Phase 2 (Afton Water) completed in April 2023.

Kilmarnock experiences flooding from the River Irvine and Kilmarnock Water and the flooding has been intensifying over the years due to climate change. The Council therefore commissioned the Irvin Valley flood study which was completed in 2018 and included River Irvine, Glen Water, Back Burn, Caffle Burn, Burn Anne, Cessnock Water, Simons Burn and Kilmarnock Water catchments. Sustainable. Options for the mitigation of the flooding of properties in Priestland, Darvel, Newmilns, Galston, Crookedholm, and Kilmarnock and the A71, A76, A77 and Queens Drive Kilmarnock were identified. Options that meet the then required cost benefit ratio are being considered by the Scottish Government for possible funding. Please note future Scottish Government Funding is under ongoing review and no decision on any possible funding for this scheme will be known until this has been completed. Review of current Submitted Scheme and its current prioritisation and lack of available funding available from the Scottish Government for any Cycle 2 Scheme, made almost certain that the scheme as submitted would not attract Funding. EAC Planning and Ayrshire Roads Alliance received confirmation from Cabinet (Feb 2024) that the flood Study is to be reviewed using current Climate Change information and options previously identified are to be reviewed with the intent of identifying a smaller scheme which is likely to attract funding.

In order to understand the fluvial flood risk in Doon Valley and River Ayr, the Council commissioned flood studies in the two catchments. The extent of the studies were informed by the council flood register and established potential vulnerable areas (PVA) objectives set by SEPA in consultation with council. The River Ayr study has recently been completed and the study included Annbank, Failford, Catrine, Sorn and Muirkirk, Drongan, Ochiltree, Auchinleck and Cumnock. The River Doon Valley study was

completed in 2022 and included Dalmellington, Waterside, Patna, Dalrymple and Ayr. Flooding occurs in Dalmellington and previously caused closure of the B741 and B713. Flooding also occurs in Dalrymple and previously caused closure of A713.

The River Ayr Flood study identified no works or scheme that could be economically perused due to the infrequency of the Flooding predicted and relatively lower risk identified.

The River Doon Flood study again evidenced the excellent natural flood storage capacity of the Doon Valley which mitigated most flooding risks, with only small potential works being identified in Dalrymple and Dalmellington and these are being investigated, Note; neither would likely attract any Scottish Government funding.

Furthermore, East Ayrshire Council has addressed the issue of flood risk through the Proposed Local Development Plan 2 (PLDP2) which was approved by Council on the 5th December 2022 for submission to Scottish Ministers for Examination. The Plan was submitted to the Scottish Government's Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) on the 24th February 2023. Examination of the PLDP2 commenced on the 11th May 2023. Within the Proposed LDP2, addressing flood risk and climate resilience is embedded into the spatial strategy with the view to protect our communities from the risk of flooding and to seek creative ways to alleviate flood risk. The Council is currently working with the Key Agencies Group to consider innovative ways in which to deal with the impacts of flooding within Kilmarnock to unlock development sites, including river and stream management techniques as well as enhancing peatland restoration. This has been aided by the adoption of National Planning Framework 4 in February 2023 which has brought about a shift in national policy to a more flexible approach that can support development in flood risk areas where it will regenerate brownfield sites. The PLDP2 generally outlines a precautionary approach to flood risk directing development and site allocations away from the functional flood plain. The PLDP2 outlines support and a commitment to work with partners, to actively explore opportunities for natural flood management techniques, which both alleviate flood risk and bring wider benefits to the natural environment.

The PLDP2 contains a suite of policies which seek to address flood risk, including:

- CR1: Flood Risk Management;
- SS1: Climate Change;
- DES1: Development Design;
- OS1: Green and Blue Infrastructure; and
- NE12: Water, air, light and noise pollution

A report was considered and approved by the Council's Cabinet in September 2020, which set out the implications of flooding on development in East Ayrshire and set out a range of actions to be taken forward. This included a commitment to open dialogue with SEPA and Scottish Government at Chief Executive level, with the ambition of preparing a strategic flood mitigation strategy for East Ayrshire. This dialogue has continued through the Key Agencies Group, in particular working with SEPA and Architecture and Design Scotland, to explore solutions with a focus on Kilmarnock.

4b What arrangements does the body have in place to manage climate-related risks?

An Environmental Report was carried out as part of the Local Development Plan. The key stages of the SEA for a Local Development Plan are scoping, interim environmental report, environmental report and the post-adoption statement. This assessed each site and allocation against its impact on the environment, including specifically on climate change as well as considering cumulative impacts <https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/PlanningAndTheEnvironment/development-plans-and-policies/ldp2/environmental-report.aspx>

Flooding is one of the most visible and serious implications of climate change that has been experienced at local level. New Cumnock is the community which has undoubtedly suffered most from flooding in recent years, with major floods experienced in December 2013 and December 2015. The Solway Local Risk Management Plan (Cycles 1 and 2) estimates that 300 properties in New Cumnock are located in a potentially vulnerable area for flooding. In response, the Council formulated a flood prevention scheme for New Cumnock which was delivered in two parts; the Phase 1 is at the Leggate, whilst Phase 2, was throughout the main town of New Cumnock on the Afton Water. The work consists of embankments constructed, on either side of the Connel burn and the Afton Water, and where the access is too restrictive to allow embankments reinforced concrete walls were built. The scheme takes water and channels it down until it meets the River Nith Flood Plain, for both Phases, effectively directing any flood water away from communities. New Cumnock Flood Protection Scheme Phase 1 (Leggate) was completed in 2018 with Phase 2 (Afton Water) completed in April 2023.

Kilmarnock experiences flooding from the River Irvine and Kilmarnock Water and the flooding has been intensifying over the years due to climate change. The Council therefore commissioned the Irvin Valley flood study which was completed in 2018 and included River Irvine, Glen Water, Back Burn, Caffle Burn, Burn Anne, Cessnock Water, Simons Burn and Kilmarnock Water catchments. Sustainable Options for the mitigation of the flooding of properties in Priestland, Darvel, Newmilns, Galston, Crookedholm, and Kilmarnock and the A71, A76, A77 and Queens Drive Kilmarnock were identified. Options that meet the then required cost benefit ratio are being considered by the Scottish Government for possible funding. Please note future Scottish Government Funding is under ongoing review and no decision on any possible funding for this scheme will be known until this has been completed.

In order to understand the fluvial flood risk in Doon Valley and River Ayr, the Council commissioned flood studies in the two catchments. The extent of the studies were informed by the council flood register and established potential vulnerable areas (PVA) objectives set by SEPA in consultation with council. The River Ayr study has recently been completed and the study included Annbank, Failford, Catrine, Sorn and Muirkirk, Drongan, Ochiltree, Auchinleck and Cumnock. The River Doon Valley study was completed in 2022 and included Dalmellington, Waterside, Patna, Dalrymple and Ayr. Flooding occurs in Dalmellington and previously caused closure of the B741 and B713. Flooding also occurs in Dalrymple and previously caused closure of A713.

The River Ayr Flood study identified no works or scheme that could be economically perused due to the infrequency of the Flooding predicted and relatively lower risk identified.

The River Doon Flood study again evidenced the excellent natural flood storage capacity of the Doon Valley which mitigated most flooding risks, with only small potential works being identified in Dalrymple and Dalmellington and these are being investigated, Note; neither would likely attract any Scottish Government funding.

Furthermore, East Ayrshire Council has addressed the issue of flood risk through the Proposed Local Development Plan 2 (PLDP2) which was approved by Council on the 5th December 2022 for submission to Scottish Ministers for Examination. The Plan was submitted to the Scottish Government's Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) on the 24th February 2023. Examination of the PLDP2 commenced on the 11th May 2023. Within the Proposed LDP2, addressing flood risk and climate resilience is embedded into the spatial strategy with the view to protect our communities from the risk of flooding and to seek creative ways to alleviate flood risk. The Council is currently working with the Key Agencies Group to consider innovative ways in which to deal with the impacts of flooding within Kilmarnock to unlock development sites, including river and stream management techniques as well as enhancing peatland restoration. This has been aided by the adoption of National Planning Framework 4 in February 2023 which has brought about a shift in national policy to a more flexible approach that can support development in flood risk areas where it will regenerate brownfield sites. The PLDP2 generally outlines a precautionary approach to flood risk directing development and site allocations away from the functional flood plain. The PLDP2 outlines support and a commitment to work with partners, to actively explore opportunities for natural flood management techniques, which both alleviate flood

risk and bring wider benefits to the natural environment.

The PLDP2 contains a suite of policies which seek to address flood risk, including:

- CR1: Flood Risk Management;
- SS1: Climate Change;
- DES1: Development Design;
- OS1: Green and Blue Infrastructure; and
- NE12: Water, air, light and noise pollution

A report was considered and approved by the Council's Cabinet in September 2020, which set out the implications of flooding on development in East Ayrshire and set out a range of actions to be taken forward. This included a commitment to open dialogue with SEPA and Scottish Government at Chief Executive level, with the ambition of preparing a strategic flood mitigation strategy for East Ayrshire. This dialogue has continued through the Key Agencies Group, in particular working with SEPA and Architecture and Design Scotland, to explore solutions with a focus on Kilmarnock.

Taking action

4c What action has the body taken to adapt to climate change?

Local Development Plan 2 allows Planning to take measures to ensure development adapts to climate change. In overarching terms, our strategy is as follows: • When considering all development proposals, significant weight will be given to the Global Climate Emergency; • Requiring developments to be adaptable to the future impacts of climate change; and • Not supporting developments which produce significant emissions, on their own or when combined with other development, unless evidence is supplied which shows that the level of emissions is the minimum that can be achieved for the development to be viable and it is also demonstrated that the proposed development is in the long-term public interest. A number of policies allow officers to assess the risk of a development proposal and to refuse accordingly or to suggest mitigation and action. Regular communication continues to be undertaken with Premises Managers and Onsite staff in properties where energy use is identified as being out with normal anticipated levels, or higher than average. These instances are identified through regular analysis of energy consumption data and have proved successful in reducing the instances where energy is being used unnecessarily. Meetings and discussions continue to be undertaken with key Facilities Management & Property staff, including at Janitorial Seminars in addition to Premises Managers, where appropriate, in support of good practice measures and related key messages as part of the overall Climate Change awareness raising and Energy Efficiency work stream.

In respect of new Capital building and infrastructure projects we are utilising the policy of the new National Planning Framework (NPF4) to strengthen resilience to flood risk by reducing the vulnerability of existing and future development to flooding, whilst encouraging the use of natural flood risk management to provide wider benefits for people and nature. In respect of new Capital building projects we are also considering and calculating future levels of summer overheating within buildings and incorporating mitigation in the form of eaves overhangs, brise-soleil shading and ventilation strategies. Recognising changes to rainfall, we are also designing roof drainage and general surface water draining in larger sizes to take future increased volumes of rainwater, and utilising SUDS systems as hydro-brakes to slow water run off into waterways and municipal draining systems. During 2022/23 the Energy Team, in partnership with The Energy Agency, provided energy and transport advice to 9,485 enquires. Awareness raising of climate change issues for employees takes a variety of forms, including the Intranet, E-words (the staff publication) and through the work of the Energy Team and Council partners. The Council is an active member of the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN). SSN supports public sector action on sustainable

development. Energy Conservation, Waste Management and Business Support are areas of the Council involved in the work of the SSN.

Green network objectives such as urban woodland and forestry expansion are also an important part of mitigating against and adapting to the threats faced by climate change. The Sustainability and Green Recovery section of the Spatial Strategy of the Local Development Plan 2 (2024) highlights key opportunities for improving the green network. The Ayrshire and Arran Forestry and Woodland Strategy, adopted as Planning Guidance, sets out where woodland planting and expansion is encouraged. Linked to the LDP2, approval was secured for £2.6 million from the National Lottery Heritage Fund in March 2020 for the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership. The partnership is undertaking a number of environmental projects including the restoration of peatlands, a project with clear climate change benefits and which is being undertaken with community volunteers, raising awareness of the importance of peatlands to climate change.

4d Where applicable, what contribution has the body made to helping deliver the Programme?

Outcome 1 – “Our communities are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe in response to the changing climate”.

East Ayrshire’s approach to tackling Climate Change is set out in our Climate Change Strategy and its supporting Action Plan, which was approved following an extensive period of consultation and engagement with our young people, local businesses and wider communities. Our Children and Young People have been at the forefront of driving our climate change response here in East Ayrshire. They play an integral role in our annual Youth Climate Change Conferences and we have now embedded our climate change response in our education establishments by encouraging our young people to develop their own climate change action plans for their schools and wider communities. Success and best practice is shared and recognised through our Clean Green Education Awards, which have been on boarded by Keep Scotland Beautiful, who have now accredited 38 of our education establishments with EcoSchools Green Flag status, the highest number of schools in all of Scotland.

Outcome 2 - “The people in Scotland who are most vulnerable to climate change are able to adapt and climate justice is embedded in climate change adaptation policy”.

Much of the early work with our communities around climate change has focused on assistance with the cost of living crisis. Whilst the crisis is having a negative impact on family budgets, it has focused our minds on how we can reduce our energy consumption and perversely, this may actually lead to some positive lifestyle changes, which will benefit the planet. Energy is one of the key themes of our cost of living campaign and we have signposted and promoted the availability of support for home energy saving measures and promoted information and advice on energy saving tips. We have developed an ECO Cookbook which included a series of simple ‘Recipes to Save the Planet and your Wallet’ which included tips on the most energy efficient and cost effective ways to cook copies of which were distributed widely across the authority through our network of Community Food Larders, schools and other community groups.

As a major provider of Social Housing we have focused on improving our housing stock - external envelope enhancement programme as part of whole house approach to include:

- Renewal of energy efficient windows and doors
- Maximise loft insulation
- Insulate room-in-roof details
- Installation of low energy light bulbs
- Renew obsolete or inefficient heating systems.

As at 31 March 2024, almost 100% of East Ayrshire Council's housing stock met EESSH1 (Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing)

ECOFLEX4 – Is now operational and to date 108 applications have been approved. Decarbonisation and green energy works have now been completed at 67 properties at an average cost to the energy companies of just under £21,000 and this has secured a total investment approaching £1.4 million since the scheme went live in April 2023. It is estimated that these works will save householders on average just over £2,000 per annum and deliver an area wide reduction in our carbon emissions of 420 tCO₂e. We have also extended Eco to cover the Great British Insulation Scheme and it is anticipated that this will extend the number of vulnerable local households able to access support.

Outcome 3 – “Our inclusive and sustainable economy is flexible, adaptable and responsive to the changing climate”.

Whilst our longer term plans for supporting local businesses to decarbonise will evolve and be informed by both the Ayrshire Energy Master Plan and LHEES, our engagement with local business indicated that there was a willingness to work collaboratively with the Council to support our Net Zero ambitions. This ambition was accelerated by increasing energy costs and the cost of living crisis which remains a challenge for small to medium sized businesses in East Ayrshire and the Council's Business Support team continue to provide tailored support to businesses to support their transition to Net Zero, while helping them become more resilient and successful organisations, This support includes:

- Energy Audit Grant – a £2,500 grant towards a bespoke Energy Audit of the business processes and practices, leading to a reduced energy consumption and a smaller carbon footprint;
- Mini Capex Grant – a match-funded capital expenditure grant of up to £1,000 to support immediate costs towards reducing energy consumption;
- Net Zero Grant – a match funded grant of up to £3,000 to help the longer term transition to net zero. The grant can be used for capital costs and also costs associated training and consultancy to advance the business on its net zero journey. To date 31 applications for funding to support decarbonisation and alleviate challenges faced by the rise in energy costs have been approved to a value of £156,518;
- Net Zero Recruitment Incentive – an initiative in collaboration with Ayrshire College to allow students to be recruited into a business to help inbed net zero principles. This programme allows a business to employ a candidate for up to 10 hours per month for a minimum of 3 months.

Outcome 4 - “Our society's supporting systems are resilient to climate change”.

We have published and are implementing the Ayrshire/Solway Local Flood Risk Management Plans (Cycle 2). This plan identifies responsible authorities' committed actions to reduce flood risk within Ayrshire over the 6-year Cycle 2 local plan period (2022-2028);

Outcome 5 – “Our natural environment is valued, enjoyed, protected and enhanced and has increased resilience to climate change”.

Within East Ayrshire there is significant opportunity to use our rich and diverse natural environment to mitigate the impact of climate change and offset our carbon emissions. Whilst our primary focus remains on reducing our carbon emissions, it is now widely recognised that biodiversity and nature-based solutions will be critical to achieving our Net Zero ambitions.

Biodiversity and Land use - Within the overall land use considerations peatlands are one of the most important ecosystems on Earth for carbon storage. They cover only 3% of the land surface, but store twice as much carbon as all the world's forests combined. This is because peatlands are made up of layers of dead plant material, which has been partially decomposed and compacted over thousands of years. This peat is rich in carbon, and when it is kept wet, it remains stable. However, when peatlands are drained or disturbed, the peat begins to decompose and release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. This is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, and it is estimated that damaged peatlands are responsible for about 5% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Tree planting is another important way to sequester carbon from the atmosphere. Trees absorb carbon dioxide from the air and store it in their wood and leaves. The best way to maximize the carbon sequestration potential of tree planting is to plant trees on land that is suitable for them, and to avoid planting trees on peatlands. It is also important to plant native trees, as they are better adapted to the local climate and conditions. Our approach combines peat restoration and tree planting in a way that maximizes the carbon sequestration potential of the land to create a more sustainable landscape that will help to mitigate the effects of climate change. A summary of some key projects being implemented through the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership is summarised below:

- Sense of Place (Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere) - This project supports local people to identify and celebrate the various qualities that make their part of the Biosphere unique and special. It will, in particular, explore the natural and cultural heritage in and around East Ayrshire's towns and villages that are located within the Biosphere. The project will use the Biosphere's 'Sense of Place' toolkit which incorporates a participatory workshop approach.
- Hedgerow Habitats (Netherthird Community Action Trust) - This project is implementing a planting programme across the Netherthird community garden area and the community woodland area at Holmburn Road in Netherthird. The community woodland is an area designated as Ancient Woodlands and has a right of way running through it. This is not well known in the local area. Part of the project will raise awareness of the heritage of the area leaving a legacy for the local residents. People will also be trained in planting and maintenance of hedgerows and wooded areas. The skills learned will be at varying levels from the hobbyists to those looking to gain employment.
- Tower Street Pocket Park (Cumnock Action Plan and Green Action Trust): This project has transformed an undeveloped, vacant site in the centre of Cumnock into an attractive, accessible greenspace. It includes raised beds for community growing, a social space for sitting / gathering, improved planting for biodiversity and wildlife, storage space for tools/ games, as well as some interpretation boards to tell the story of Tower Street.
- North Kyle Masterplan (Forestry and Land Scotland): This project will bring forward (from the anticipated start date of 2024) the revised North Kyle Land Management Plan. The visual appeal of the forest will be significantly enhanced by increasing conifer and broadleaf diversity. The aim is to create a new, lasting and positive inheritance for the area whilst tackling the legacy of an industrialised landscape.
- Coalfields to Wildwoods (EADAH Ltd) - This project is empowering local people and give them a direct stake in their local landscape. It will train them in the propagation of key native pioneer plant species (aspen, juniper and montane willow) and set up a network of small local plant nurseries located in a range of venues to provide the resources required to initiate community growing. The aim would be to assist the restoration of open cast sites and improve overall woodland cover within the CCLP area.
- EA Woodlands – EA Woodlands Trust work is supporting woodlands creation and management; and have organised four separate tree planting events/operations in the past year. 6,800 of mostly mixed native trees and shrubs, and a smaller mixture of native conifers have also been planted across 4 different locations within East Ayrshire in the last year.
- People and Peatlands is a community peatland restoration project which will use the restoration of an area of degraded raised bog to meet community needs and to promote the long term viability of the area. The project will be based around the restoration of part of the Glaisnock bog complex on land which forms part of the former Nethererton open cast coal mine.

Looking to the future, it is worth noting that the Scottish Government has recently published the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and Delivery Plan, this commits us to be nature positive, halt biodiversity loss by 2030 and to have restored and regenerated biodiversity across the country by 2045 and to ensure that our natural environment, habitats, ecosystems and species, will be diverse, thriving, resilient and adapting to climate change. Among a range of duties is a commitment to make climate adaptation and sustainability plans at local authority level compulsory.

Given the emphasis laid on tree planting and woodland creation expressed at the recent Climate Literacy Training we have been exploring opportunities and identified a potential funding mechanism to support this ambition. The Forestry Grant Scheme (FGS) administered by Scottish Forestry covers most of the costs involved in the planting of trees, cultivation, stock/deer fencing or/individual tree protection. In order to keep stocking densities, as part of the contract, maintenance payments are included over a five-year period. All contractual obligations are to be met by the owner of the land in question and not the applicant. EA Woodlands is already well placed to apply for rural grants, administer payments. As and manage the implementation of woodland creation, EA Woodlands is also ideally positioned as they can utilise their Modern Apprenticeship programme to implement all capital requirements and undertake subsequent annual maintenance. Having identified this funding opportunity, we are now looking to identify appropriate sites for tree planting in order to submit an application to the fund.

Review, monitoring and evaluation

4e What arrangements does the body have in place to review current and future climate risks?

Local Development Plan 2 and associated documents including the Strategic Environmental Assessment are reviewed at regular intervals throughout plan making and (Main issues report, proposed plan, adopted plan stages) and thereafter the success of the measures contained in the Plan is assessed through the delivery programme and ongoing monitoring to inform future policy. Local Development Plans are now produced on a 10 year basis. A range of council services respond on a regular basis to weather impacts, and consider climactic risks and subsequent actions through Winter Contingency Plans. These include consideration through building and infrastructure design and construction, winter maintenance, road and path treatment, flood protection actions. Routine maintenance, such as maintenance of culverts, helps to lessen future impacts. The Business Continuity Plans within all Services of the organisation are reviewed at least once a year, ensuring that they are kept up to date in light of structural changes and staffing movements within the organisation, and all plans consider impacts of climatic events on Service delivery, and mitigation and recovery actions.

In terms of the Local Flood Risk Management Plan (LFRMP), an Ayrshire-wide Flood Steering Group has been established to oversee and support the development of the LFRMP and is a member of the Solway group. These groups meet on a quarterly basis.

The Council also maintains service and council risk registers. These are regularly reviewed by CMT and Cabinet to ensure they are current and reflect any changing or emerging risks.

4f What arrangements does the body have in place to monitor and evaluate the impact of the adaptation actions?

The Local Development Plan 2 is accompanied by a Delivery Programme in line with new Planning Legislation. The purpose of this document is to support delivery of the Local Development Plan and serve as a project management tool to implement the strategy of the plan. The delivery programme identifies what is required to deliver the policies and proposals within the plan, the stakeholders responsible for the delivery of the identified actions and timescales involved. The delivery programme is a live document to reflect the continuous process of implementation, monitoring an evaluation. As the Local Development Plan cycle continues, the Evidence Report take many

forms including research, early engagement and technical reports on particular topics including climate change. The Council's Energy Strategy and Carbon Management Programme contains a linked action plan which allows the organisation to monitor and review progress against the aims and objectives set out therein. Specific performance indicators, such as waste recycling and street lighting replacement, are contained within operational performance scorecards, which are monitored and reviewed regularly at senior management level within the organisation. The Local Flood Risk Management Plan (LFRMP), in conjunction with partners at North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway Councils, Scottish Water and SEP runs for six years from 2022-2028. Over this period the Ayrshire Local Plan District partnership will continue to meet periodically to monitor progress towards implementing the actions detailed the Plan. Between years 2 and 3 of the FRM cycle (i.e. before the end of 2024), the interim report will be published on the conclusions of a review of the Plan, including information on the progress that has been made towards implementing the measures identified in the implementation part of the Plan. Between years 5 and 6 of the FRM cycle (i.e. before June 2028), a final report will be produced containing an assessment of the progress made towards implementing the current measures, a summary of the current measures which were not implemented, with reasons for their non implementation, and a description of any other measures implemented since the plan was finalised which the lead authority considers have contributed to the achievement of the objectives summarised in the Plan.

Future priorities for adaptation

4g What are the body's top 5 climate change adaptation priorities for the year ahead?

1. Continue to work to increase awareness of climate change issues and the need to adapt and change behaviours, through further awareness events. Engage with key stakeholders through the Ayrshire Energy Master Plan and the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) and our Vibrant Communities Service, to develop a greater understanding of climate change and explore wider place based solutions, which exploit opportunities for local energy generation and the wealth of natural solutions to decarbonise our buildings and transport.
2. Continue to realise the actions identified in Local Flood Risk Management Plan (LFRMP), in conjunction with partners at North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway Councils, Scottish Water and SEPA, with a particular focus on timetable for interim review and reporting of conclusions of plan implementation, due between years 2 & 3 of the plan.
3. Finalise our Green Infrastructure Framework to inform our community greening action plans, strategic greenspace priorities and a biodiversity action programme
4. Implement the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership Project ensuring links to strategic nature conservation projects within the Biosphere Reserve, Galloway Forest Park and community action plans.
5. Continue to engage with the Scottish Government in relation to the New Statutory Guidance on Public Bodies' Climate Change Duties to ensure that Council's remain at the forefront of Climate Change Adaptation and lead on the delivery of our Net Zero ambitions.

Further information

4h Supporting information and best practice

The Scottish Government includes the 20-minute neighbourhoods concept in its new spatial strategy in the National Planning Framework (NPF4). It highlights the application of the 20-minute neighbourhoods to 'our cities, towns, and rural areas so that places where we live, and work are more resilient and sustainable.' In one of our towns, Stewarton, we have been working with Architecture and Design Scotland, community planning partners and planning professionals from Ryden, Austin Smith Lord to prepare a Development Framework for Stewarton which includes a greater emphasis on living locally and how the town could embody the 20 minute neighbourhood concept. This has involved using the place standard tool with a Climate lens as a pilot project <https://www.adaptationscotland.org.uk/news-events/stories/place-standard-tool-climate-lens-cocreating-local-climate-so>. By using this whole-place approach, the Council is now better able to identify appropriate sites for facilities and services based on distances, experiences, and the community's needs for walkable and cyclable places. The success of our approach to involving our young people and placing them at the very heart of our climate change response here in East Ayrshire, through the preparation of their own establishment and community based Climate Action Plans, supported by our Clean Green Education Awards and Annual Youth Climate Change Conference to share best practice gained national recognition for Working Together at the iESE Public Sector Transformation Awards earlier this year.

5a How have procurement policies contributed to compliance with climate change duties?

The Council's Corporate Procurement Strategy 2024-2025 sets out our procurement priorities over this period with the strategy being reviewed and updated accordingly on an annual basis thereafter. The Council has made a commitment to embedding sustainable procurement into the procurement process. This includes giving consideration to environmental, social, and economic benefits in all our procurement activity. In response to the requirements of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014, the Council is committed to complying with the Sustainable Procurement Duty and consideration of the provisions within the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 will be addressed when preparing individual commodity strategies for all regulated procurement activity (Goods and Service Contracts >£50k and Works Contracts >£2m). Sustainable public procurement aims to make the best use of public money, helping the government achieve its overarching purpose and strategic objectives. The Scottish Government's purpose is to focus government and public services on creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish through increasing sustainable economic growth. The Sustainable Procurement Duty requires that before a contracting authority buys anything, it must think about how it can improve the social, environmental and economic wellbeing of the area in which it operates, with a particular focus on reducing inequality. It also requires a contracting authority to consider how its procurement processes can facilitate the involvement of SMEs, third sector bodies and supported business and how public procurement can be used to promote innovation. It will require a contracting authority to be aware of how its procurement activity can be used to contribute to national and local priorities and to act in a way to secure this. To achieve this, procurement spend should be thought of in this context by all those involved including: external stakeholders, budget holders, commissioners and policy leads, in advance of the start of the formal procurement process (development of the commodity strategy). Community Benefits are now included within all 'regulated' procurement projects. The Council has an obligation to manage its' spend effectively to bring social, environmental and economic regeneration to the communities we serve. The local challenge is huge in terms of balancing and promoting open, fair and transparent procurement whilst ensuring that the local communities benefit. The Council will actively support local businesses to help them bid for work with the Council, seeking to ensure that the most appropriate route to market is taken each time. Due consideration will be given to sustainable alternatives, carbon reduction and community benefits during the procurement process to support the Councils priorities in relation to social, environmental and development.

One of our Procurement Strategic Aims and Objectives is:

'to manage our spend effectively to bring social, environmental and economic regeneration to the communities we serve. The local challenge is huge in terms of balancing and promoting open, fair and transparent procurement whilst ensuring that the local communities benefit. The Council will actively support local businesses to help them bid for work with the Council, seeking to ensure that the most appropriate route to market is taken each time. Due consideration will be given to sustainable alternatives, carbon reduction, community benefits and Fair Work First practices during the procurement process to support the Councils priorities in relation to social, environmental and sustainable development.'

Our Strategic Aims are:

- To ensure compliance with the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 in relation to the Sustainable Procurement Duty.
- To embed sustainability in all regulated procurement activity, including consideration of Fair Work First Principles, Promotion of Equalities, Community Benefits, Health and Wellbeing, Ethically Traded Goods and Services, Promoting Payment of the Living Wage, Whole Life Costing, Environmental (Waste Management and Recycling), Net Zero, Carbon Reduction, Biodiversity, Built Environment and Heritage. Excluding companies actively engaged in Blacklisting activities.
- SME's, third sector, social enterprises, supported businesses and the local business community will be encouraged and supported in their efforts to engage commercially with the Council.
- The Council will demonstrate leadership and corporate social responsibility by procuring sustainably and ethically whilst encouraging and influencing our suppliers, contractors and service providers to do the same.
- The Council will use its contract and supplier relationship management processes to improve social, economic, environmental and sustainable arrangements within current and future contract opportunities.
- We are committed to sustainable procurement by ensuring social, economic and environmental issues are considered during all stages of the procurement process.
- Promote sustainable procurement by utilising the Sustainability Toolkit.
- To maximise the opportunities for securing training and employment, business start-ups and business growth through the inclusion of Community Benefits within our tender processes.
- To support Inclusive Growth by working more closely with Economic Development, the Supplier Development Programme and other 'anchor' organisations such as Hospitals, Universities and Colleges and Large Commercial Employers by harnessing our spending power in terms of buying from local and or socially progressive businesses within the supply chain.
- Engaging and liaising with these organisations regarding the wider Community Wealth Building (CWB) pledges including employment opportunities, use of land and property assets to benefit the local economy.
- To provide any additional procurement support, advice and guidance to businesses to support their economic recovery.
- Commitment to continue to support the national meet the buyer events and to hold at least annual one Council meet the buyer session and relevant tender talk session in conjunction with the SDP.

5b How has procurement activity contributed to compliance with climate change duties?

- Our procurement activity has made a significant contribution to compliance with climate change duties across a wide range of Council service areas, although they are not specifically being measured in terms of quantity of CO2 saved. Such projects include (but are not limited to):
 - The purchase of Council Vehicles (including electric fleet)
 - The supply, delivery & installation of electric vehicle charging points
 - Carbon Literacy Training for Councillors and Senior Managers
 - Provision of Multiple Active Travel Routes
 - Implementation of Ecoflex 4 scheme
 - Recycling of Coffee Pods
 - Waste Treatment Framework
 - Recycling of Plastics
 - Feasibility Study for Urban Farm at Dean Country Park
 - Recycling of paper, card, cans, cullet
 - Purchase of bikes and ebikes to support Active Travel
 - External Envelope Enhancement Programme (Building Fabric – render, roofing, windows)
 - Half Hourly/Non Half Hourly Meter Operator

Numerous social and economic benefits are currently being delivered across multiple contracts.

Further information

5c Supporting information and best practice

As part of the Council's commodity strategy development (mandatory requirement for all Regulated procurement activity), the appointed contract Administrator (CA) is required to register on the Scottish Government site and complete the Sustainability Test Toolkit for each individual project, a copy of the toolkit output is required to be submitted along with the commodity strategy. The outputs from the Sustainability test are then discussed and incorporated into the ITT (if relevant), these will then form part of a scored tender evaluation process with a % weighting applied. This % weighting can differ tender by tender eg: residual and recyclable waste contract will be weighted higher as this is influenced by numerous factors eg: political drivers.

The Councils contract and supplier management processes also ensure compliance by both the contract administrator and the main supplier, contractor or service provider through contract lifecycle management, structured information gathering and contract milestone assessment (balanced scorecard approach in line with contract KPI's). It also means that the contract can be actively managed to mitigate risk through quarterly reviews, monitoring of the risk register, documenting of lessons learned and by recording any contract changes/variations.

The Council has also implemented e-invoicing technologies which has enabled the Council to automate the invoice process. E-invoicing enables a company to automate their invoice processing. As a result, buyers, suppliers and other managers gain a number of operational and strategic benefits. In addition to cost savings, the ability to

automate the invoicing process and integrate with other business systems provides business efficiency we also gain a number of operational and strategic benefits namely: Council Benefits - Reduced Costs, Increased Invoice Accuracy, Increased AP Activity, Faster Processing and Payment Cycles, Improved Cash Management, Reduced Fraud, Improved Compliance, Improved Visibility, Meeting 'Sustainability' Initiatives – less paper.

Supplier Benefits - Faster Payments, Reduced Costs, Fewer Rejected Invoices, Improved Cash Flow, Improved Customer Relationships, Paper and Postage Reduction. In terms of individual contracts our contract with local milk producer Mossgeil Organic farm is of particular note, not only does this contract reduce food miles but our milk is delivered by a fully electric fleet and distributed to school children through vending machines. These new arrangements have now saved over 4 million single use plastic bottles from being produced.

Public Sector Report on Compliance with Climate Change Duties 2023 Template

PART 6 Validation and Declaration

6a Internal validation process

This report has been prepared jointly by the Council's Energy and Climate Change Teams in conjunction with service-based colleagues. The completed document was reviewed and signed off by the Council's Executive Management Team and both Cabinet and the Governance and Scrutiny Committee (consisting of elected members) prior to final submission.

The electricity and gas energy data provided in support of this submission has been subject to an appropriate verification and validation process. The data provided in this report in relation to Fleet, Waste, water, IT and Procurement has been provided by relevant client departments and external utility companies.

6b Peer validation process

The suggested approach to the completion of this report was considered and agreed by the Council's Corporate Management Team. The individual service submissions were reviewed by the responsible Heads of Service and the Climate Change Lead Officer. The Climate Change Officer Working Group Members comprising officers from a range of services, including Cleaner communities, Transport, Property Management, the Ayrshire Roads Alliance and the Climate Change Team also reviewed the data and supporting narrative. Prior to submission, the report was subject to challenge, review and approval by the Council's Cabinet and Governance and Scrutiny Committee. This provided our Elected Members with an opportunity to discuss the contents of the submission.

6c External validation process

Energy consumption is validated by Inspired Energy's external bureau service. The service offered by Inspired Energy ensures that their clients only pay for the energy that is actually used, and has resulted in considerable cost savings for the Council. In a previous audit of the Council's Carbon Reduction Commitment submissions, undertaken by SEPA, the Council's submissions were found to be accurate and robust.

A large number of separate pieces of performance information have been used within this report. Most of these are subject to external scrutiny by bodies such as Audit Scotland (Statutory Performance Indicators), Zero Waste Scotland (Cleaner Communities) and the Scottish Government/SEPA (Waste and Flood Prevention).

6d No Validation Process

The data provided in this report is data derived from existing mandatory and performance information reporting protocols which are subject to external scrutiny by bodies such as Audit Scotland (Statutory Performance Indicators), Zero Waste Scotland (Cleaner communities) and the Scottish Government/SEPA.

Public Sector Report on Compliance with Climate Change Duties 2023 Template

Wider Impact and Influence on GHG Emissions

Q1) Historic Emissions (Local Authorities Only)

Source	Sector	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Units	Comments
DESNZ Sectors	Total Emissions	1,145.24	1,087.32	1,068.31	1,029.33	978.62	986.69	919.96	912.25	883.02	864.80	782.19	855.05	ktCO2e	National statistics - UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005 to 2021
	Industry and Commercial	194.36	174.98	173.05	167.50	152.35	138.24	119.79	110.85	105.28	90.88	78.09	94.87	ktCO2e	National statistics - UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005 to 2021
	Domestic	309.17	271.25	286.42	281.43	237.92	236.89	218.05	211.38	205.96	202.38	191.75	200.01	ktCO2e	National statistics - UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005 to 2021
	Transport total	252.25	245.62	239.80	236.86	242.25	244.84	246.05	251.36	249.06	241.85	194.91	229.44	ktCO2e	National statistics - UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005 to 2021
	Per Capita	9.36	8.86	8.70	8.40	8.00	8.07	7.51	7.46	7.23	7.07	6.41	7.01	ktCO2e	National statistics - UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005 to 2021

2a) Targets

Please detail your wider influence targets

2b) Does the organisation have an overall mission statement, strategies, plans or policies outlining ambition to influence emissions beyond your corporate boundaries? If so, please detail this in the box below.

Yes, Our Climate Change Strategy

Q3) Policies and Actions to Reduce Emissions

Sector	Annual CO ₂ saving once fully implemented (tCO ₂)	Latest Year measured	Saving in latest year measured (tCO ₂)	Metric/indicators for monitoring progress	Delivery Role	Please give further details of this behaviour change activity.	Value of Investment (£)	Comments
Transport	70.0	2024	70.0	Fuel saved as a result of active travel alternative	Influencing	<p>A key aim of the Climate Change Strategy is to promote behaviour change and encourage active travel, particularly for short journeys. To promote this within our schools, we invested in a Principal Teacher to develop an in-house active travel initiative – ‘Mission to the Moon’ which ran during the 2022/23 school year. A new mission, Journey to Jupiter was launched in our Early Years Centres and schools in September 2023. The aim of this 33 week campaign was to get young people walking to school, in a bid to further reduce our carbon emissions here in East Ayrshire, while also reducing congestion at our school gates and promoting active travel. 31 centres and schools signed up to participate and help gather the combined total of 444,000 s-miles needed to send our Clean Green rocket all the way to Jupiter, by making active travel journeys to and from nursery/school. Parents and carers also supported our campaign by logging active travel journeys made out with the morning drop off and afternoon pick up times adding over 150 extra journeys over the course of the year. At the end of the initiative, young people, staff and families exceeded the s-miles target achieving a combined total of 724,724 s-miles.</p> <p>We are already introduced the next iteration of our active travel initiative 2024/25 with Shoot to Saturn already taken off. For the same investment we were about to commit to in a single 6 week schools active travel initiative, we have now delivered a whole programme of schools’ climate related initiatives covering energy saving, food waste/recycling and 3 year successive active travel initiatives.</p>	£110k	To be mainstreamed into curriculum

Active Travel	1	2024	1	Fuel saved as a result of active travel alternative		ARA have funded 'Love to Ride' initiative which is designed to encourage cycling. "Cycle September" attracted 111 participants cycling almost 8k miles saving 0.2 tCO2 and they are now gearing up for "Winter Wheelers.		
Business Industry and Public Sector	15	2023	15	Energy savings as a result of decarbonisation measures implemented by businesses	Enabling	<p>The Council's Business Support team continue to provide tailored support businesses to support their transition to Net Zero, while helping them become more resilient and successful organisations, This support includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Audit Grant – a £2,500 grant towards a bespoke Energy Audit of the business processes and practices, leading to a reduced energy consumption and a smaller carbon footprint; • Mini Capex Grant – a match-funded capital expenditure grant of up to £1,000 to support immediate costs towards reducing energy consumption; • Net Zero Grant – a match funded grant of up to £3,000 to help the longer term transition to net zero. The grant can be used for capital costs and also costs associated training and consultancy to advance the business on its net zero journey. To date 31 applications for funding to support decarbonisation and alleviate challenges faced by the rise in energy costs have been approved to a value of £156,518; • Net Zero Recruitment Incentive – an initiative in collaboration with Ayrshire College to allow students to be recruited into a business to help embed net zero principles. This programme allows a business to employ a candidate for up to 10 hours per month for a minimum of 3 months. <p>Building on the pioneering Net Zero Accelerator pilot programme, supported by a contribution from the Climate Change Business Support Fund, the Net Zero Accelerator programme has supported 50 businesses to date. Cumulative value of contracts won/bid for by participating businesses the first year is c.£37m with 100+ jobs created by businesses on the programme. In addition across the 50 businesses there has been a reduction of 14,563 tCO2e of carbon emissions.</p>	100K	Funded from £1m Climate Change Revenue Funding approved by Council in February 2022
Homes and Communities	420	2023	420	Carbon savings arising from home improvements funded by ECOFLEX4	Enabling	The Eco4 Scheme is now operational and being managed by the Climate Change Team and the Energy Agency on a self-funding basis. An approved list of contractors is in place and to date 108 applications have been approved, 61 of these have supported residents via the low income route, with the remaining 47 supporting residents with qualifying health issues. Decarbonisation and green energy works have now been completed at 67 properties at an average cost to the energy companies of just under £21,000 and this has secured a total investment approaching £1.4 million since the scheme went live in April 2023. It is estimated that these works will save householders on	20k setup funding	Funded from £1m Climate Change Revenue Funding approved by Council in February 2022

						average just over £2,000 per annum and deliver an area wide reduction in our carbon emissions of 420 tCO2e. With works to a further 27 properties already programmed, it is anticipated that this will bring the total investment secured within East Ayrshire to over £2 million by the end of this year.		
Homes and Communities	TBC	2023	TBC	Carbon Savings arising from improvements to Community Buildings funded by CARES and Council Funding	Enabling	Cabinet in June this year agreed to support the decarbonisation of community buildings, by using the £100k Community Climate Change Fund, as part of a package of Council funding to incentivise local community groups to access the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme. This funding was recently withdrawn, however, following some intensive work to support local groups, 5 applications were approved and are currently being implemented. A further 5 applications were submitted and approved but not in time to access this year's funding. It is expected that over £200,000 will be invested into East Ayrshire through this scheme in the form of decarbonised heating systems and building fabric upgrades. We are hopeful that funding will reopen in the next financial year and we will continue to encourage and support local community groups to access this funding.	100K Community Climate Change Fund	Primary funded by Scottish Government CARES Scheme with top up funding to enable and incentivise local uptake of this scheme.
All Sectors	TBC	2022	TBC	Carbon savings arising from implementation of Clean Green Education Action Plans both within the school and the wider community	Influencing	<p>Our Children and Young People have been at the forefront of driving our climate change response here in East Ayrshire and they continue to make a real difference through their participation in the now well established Clean Green Education Awards and by sharing best practice and learning at the annual Youth Climate Change Conference.</p> <p>There is no mandate for schools to incorporate climate change in their daily activities, however, with the appealing content and fun, interactive climate change initiatives such as Mission to the Moon, Journey to Jupiter, Shoot to Saturn, Powerdown, Dinnae forget your caddy and Harriet the Hedgehog, coupled with the recognition received at our Clean Green School awards, the climate change team has now successfully engaged with 98% of our schools and our early years establishments.</p> <p>Our young people hosted the 5th annual Climate Conference in September 2024. During the annual conference Elected Members, officers and partners heard from East Ayrshire young people about what they are doing within their own schools and local communities to tackle Climate Change. The conference gave us the opportunity to celebrate the success of Powerdown and Hurlford Primary School on their work to reduce energy consumption within their school and in particular, their energy free days, which showed the impact of switching</p>	£100K Schools Climate Change Fund	Funded from £1m Climate Change Revenue Funding approved by Council in February 2022

					<p>off all lights and electrical appliances in the school. The strength of this approach which brings together colleagues from education and the climate change and energy teams is that data can be used to inform and demonstrate the results of the initiatives undertaken by pupils. Powerdown2 will build upon the successes this year and see pupils participating in self directed initiatives to reduce energy consumption.</p> <p>As part of our commitment to Climate Change, 37 education establishments created Climate Actions Plans and started their journey to support the wider NetZero journey. During 23/24, led by young people and reflecting on their school and local community, over 867 Climate actions points were actioned. These plans are written and led by young people and reflect their role in changing behaviours within their school, their homes and local community. Working in partnership with local communities and business is key to achieving the Gold award and it is encouraging to see key business partners now in place to sponsor the awards.</p> <p>In June we held our third Climate Change Education Awards. These recognise and celebrate the positive climate actions taking place across our schools, centres and local communities towards our journey to NetZero. During this event we celebrated the efforts of 35 establishments and recognised special contributions from staff. In recognition of the robust climate action work within East Ayrshire Council, Keep Scotland Beautiful have on-boarded the EAC Clean Green Award which means establishments can now use our accreditation process to also apply for EcoSchools Green Flag. With 38 establishments accredited, we have the highest number of schools within Scotland who have received their EcoSchools Green Flag.</p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--