

South Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership Board



Report by Sustainability SDP to
Community Planning Partnership Board Meeting of 18th April 2024

Subject: Sustainability SDP Update

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update the Community Planning Board on the recent work of the Sustainability SDP.

2 The Board is recommended to:

- 2.1 support the ongoing work of the Sustainability SDP**

3 Background

- 3.1 The Sustainability Partnership met on 28 February. The focus of the meeting was the ongoing development of delivery groups for the 4 previously agreed LOIP priorities (energy, travel, food and nature). Updates were also provided on development of a programme of events for earth hour and successful award of further coastal change adaptation funding.

4 Progress

- 4.1 Energy stakeholders met in mid-February to discuss the key deliverables to be pursued against the energy priority. Topics discussed included Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES), Ayrshire Energy Masterplan (AEMP), organisational energy management, key local projects, the interplay between fuel poverty and attainment, renewables, planning and energy resilience. It was agreed that the group would meet again in late March with a view to cementing membership and terms of reference.
- 4.2 Officer level discussions took place with ARA to consider how the Active Travel Member Officer Working Group and Community Action Group could link to the Sustainability SDP to support delivery of this priority. The SDP also discussed how wider travel issues could be addressed if this model is taken forward, for example public and community transport issues.

- 4.3 Further discussions relating to the food priority are scheduled to take place in coming months following on from the initial meeting last year joint with Population Health and Financial Inclusion SDP members. In the interim officers have attended Scottish Government events regarding Good Food Nation and requirements the council and NHS will have to delivery a plan. This will inform ongoing discussions, with key issues relating to scope and resourcing.
- 4.4 Nature stakeholders met in early March to discuss delivery nature networks in South Ayrshire, the development of the South Ayrshire Biodiversity Strategy and meeting the LOIP priority, including the group formally becoming a subgroup to the Sustainability SDP. The inclusion of Natural Capital as a RES priority was also highlighted. Partner input was used to develop a set of additional nodes for input to the AECOM mapping exercise which concluded mid-March.
- 4.5 South Ayrshire Council has been successful in being awarded £180,000 of Scottish Government coastal change adaptation funding to develop a Coastal Change Adaptation Plan for Ayrshire together with North Ayrshire who have also received an award of funding for their part of the project. This will follow on from the current work at Ballantrae which has been supported by previous years coastal change adaptation awards from Scottish Government. It will build on the existing 2018 Ayrshire Shoreline Management Plan and output will also include a decision makers toolkit and an education pack.
- 4.6 A programme of Earth Hour events and promotions are being prepared for South Ayrshire by the Rangers Service. These will run on 23 March and in the run up to his date. This year this will include the official launch of the Green Health Calendar which is now available online and in paper format and is proving very popular. The 'Unfurl Your Wings' event will take place run by Under Sky and the Rangers Service at Corsehill Park during the day on 23 March with a range of activities suitable for all age groups and abilities. It will be followed in the evening by 'Wildwood' at the education garden at Belleisle. This event again will be suitable for all.

5 Next Steps

- 5.1 Work will continue to establish the priority delivery groups, including membership, terms of reference and key actions, over the coming months. The SDP will meet again in early June.