

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET25 November 2021Report by Director of EnvironmentGET TO ZERO AMBITION STATEMENT AND ACTION PLANNING APPROACH**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of the report is to seek Cabinet approval for the proposed approach for 'Get to Zero' in relation to greenhouse gas emissions, including a new ambition statement and how we intend to move from a high level action plan to a detailed route-map to 'net zero' for East Renfrewshire.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. The Cabinet is asked to approve:
- a) The proposed Get to Zero Ambition Statement and high level action plan; and
  - b) The proposed next steps to move from a high-level action plan to detailed actions and to develop a route map to 'net zero' for East Renfrewshire.

**BACKGROUND**

3. The United Nations Conference of Parties (COP21) Agreement (Paris Agreement), to which the UK and Scottish Governments subscribe, binds nations to hold global temperature rise to under 2 degrees Celsius. At the time of writing this report, the latest round of talks (COP26) are imminent and tougher direct action is expected in recognition of the climate crisis.

4. Reducing emission is a legal requirement. The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 sets legally binding emissions reduction targets for Scotland as a whole. The legislation covers a range of greenhouse gases (including carbon dioxide) which need to be net zero by 2045 at the latest. There are interim targets of a 75% reduction in emissions by 2030, and 90% by 2040 (compared to a 1990 baseline). All councils have a role in helping Scottish Government meet these national targets.

5. Emissions come from the Council and also from its residents and businesses. In March 2021, a paper was brought to Cabinet which recognized that the Council's existing policy framework and activities would not achieve the Scottish Government's target. A decision was taken to focus on council emissions initially. This was because resources are finite and some of the wider challenges and policy ambitions do not yet have solutions. For example, the Scottish Government's intention to cut car use by 20% by 2030 is yet to be fully defined and details of how this might be achieved have not yet been discussed. As we had to start somewhere, council operations and activities have been our focus in the past 6 months.

6. A number of workshops have been undertaken with key officers, asking the question 'what does good look like?'. Fifteen workshops took place between April and September. Along with key statutory requirements, the outputs from the workshop have helped to shape the Get to Zero Ambition Statement and high level action plan. (Appendix 1). It should be noted that these workshops did not cover all council emissions sources - just those with the highest emissions and/or a significant 'enabling' function, with the intention that other sources of emissions would be addressed at a later date.

7. More recently, on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021, East Renfrewshire Council formally declared a 'climate emergency'. This action has placed a number of further requirements and commitments. These include the need to:

- Assess resource requirements for tackling climate change as part of the Budget Strategy process for 2022/23 and to investigate all possible sources of external funding and match funding to support necessary action to be undertaken;
- Set up a Climate Change Partnership Group, involving Councillors, residents, young citizens, businesses and other relevant parties;
- Consider the development of climate change impact assessments to ensure that all proposed policies and actions taken by the Council assist towards reaching the goal of zero emissions;
- Emphasise the importance of our biodiversity and natural environment and encourage and support practices to enhance and sustain the farmed and natural world;
- Embed throughout our entire organisational culture the pursuit of measures to tackle climate change;
- Review all policy and practice across our council directorates to identify ways in which we can move further and faster on carbon reduction measures; and
- Acknowledge that climate change impacts are already being felt within the local area. Due to past decades of carbon emissions, more frequent extreme weather events are inevitable. The Council must plan for resilience and continue to work with partners across the City Region to ensure that we can flourish in our future climate.

8. These additional requirements and commitments will be the subject of a future report to Cabinet but members should note that a number of initiatives are already in the pipeline.

## REPORT

9. The Get to Zero (GTZ) Ambition Statement is underpinned by a number of guiding principles, values and areas of focus as follows:

- **Pace-** This means it's not a race to zero- it's GET to zero
- **Carbon Reduction-** This means reduce emissions through elimination of carbon producing activities e.g. use of petrol/diesel vehicles and gas boilers, waste reduction and through procurement and supply chain decisions
- **Carbon Offset-** This means balancing carbon emissions with removals i.e. if we emit 10 tonnes of carbon dioxide then we want 10 tonnes to be absorbed into natural sinks i.e. by trees or peatland.

- **Climate Preparedness-** This means to deliver programmes (preparedness) to increase resilience against the inevitable impacts of climate change, e.g. flood prevention measures, building adaptations such as wider downpipes, increased street shade in heat-waves.
- **Communities-** This acknowledges that we cannot tackle climate change alone and will engage with local residents and businesses on how we can enable and support carbon reduction activities beyond the Council's own operations.
- **Partnerships-** This acknowledges the need to work across the Glasgow City region and with community planning partners to meet our targets.
- **Green recovery-** This has the goal of lifting East Renfrewshire out of economic recession in a way that combats climate change as well.
- **Reduce inequality-** Similarly this means that the goal of net zero should not be at the expense of increased poverty and a reduction in the quality of life for our residents.
- **Global responsibility-** This means that we recognize the impact of climate change is felt disproportionately around the world and as such we have a responsibility to people in other countries.

10. The full Ambition Statement and rationale for each of the above is found at Appendix 1.

11. The high level action plan, developed by the workshop participants, is shared under the "*How we will do it?*" section within the Ambition Statement. The next step is to consider these actions in greater depth and identify what is missing, with the objective that a detailed action plan and route-map to net zero can be developed. This will also include other sources of council emissions and those arising from the wider area i.e. our residents and businesses.

12. A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is also required. This is a statutory obligation that aims to increase environmental awareness during the decision-making process and considers the impact of actions against a number of criteria e.g. biodiversity, flora and fauna, population & human health; air, soil & water quality; transport; waste; landscape etc. The SEA screening, scoping and assessment processes is resource intensive and requires a level of technical expertise. It is proposed that external consultancy is engaged to support this process.

13. It is proposed that the GTZ Action Plan will be reviewed annually and progress reported to Cabinet. It should also be noted that progress on actions may alter as new issues emerge and more statutory requirements and targets are set.

14. The identified actions would be reflected in the renewal of the council's Outcome Development Plan (ODP) with progress tracked via the council's existing performance management framework.

15. It should also be noted that Cabinet will also be updated on the Council's carbon baseline and emissions for 2020/21, as required by the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Reporting. The deadline for submission is 30 November. It is expected that once figures are verified, we will be in a position to bring forward a paper in to Cabinet in January 2022. This paper will detail current carbon emissions and sources and will clearly quantify the scale of the challenge ahead of us.

## **FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY**

16. Funding of £30,000 will be required in 2022/23 to appoint consultancy to undertake the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the GTZ Action Plan and to support the subsequent public consultation exercise.

17. Beyond this, the delivery of the GTZ Action Plan will require further internal funding (both capital and revenue) and support from all service areas when considering any procurement activity and how this will contribute towards net-zero. However this is not required at this stage.

## **CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

18. Engagement with key officers from services across the Council including Planning, Procurement, Fleet, Cleansing, Roads and Transportation, Housing and Property Services has taken place. Through participation in the 'what does good looks like' workshops, officers helped to shape thinking and actions as presented in the GTZ Ambition Statement.

19. Further consultation took place with senior officers from the Chief Executive, Environment, Education and Corporate and Community Services departments via a newly established Get to Zero Senior Officers' Working Group.

20. Educational establishments are committed to ensuring that Learning for Sustainability is at the heart of the curriculum. Most of our schools hold Green Flag accreditation through Keep Scotland Beautiful, which recognises their commitment to excellence in sustainable education. Pupil leadership is a key element of this work, with initiatives led by learners including Wrapper Free Friday and Recycling Rangers.

21. Externally, East Renfrewshire Council continues to engage with partners in the City Region through various portfolio groups and the Climate Ready Clyde partnership and other councils across Scotland via the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN). In so doing, the Council ensures that the proposals are aligned with broader thinking and complimentary to wider climate action.

## **IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS**

22. There are no equalities or IT implications associated with this report.

23. In terms of staffing implications, it is prudent to note that development of the detailed action plan will be time-consuming and key, relevant officers would be required to fully engage with the process in order for it to be successful. Given that many are already busy and operating to full capacity, the demands of the detailed GTZ action planning and SEA process would require a reprioritization of workload.

24. In order to successfully implement some of the identified actions, it is anticipated that additional staffing will be required but a fuller understanding of exact requirements will evolve as part of the detailed planning process.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

25. Steady progress has been made to date on the climate change policy agenda within East Renfrewshire. The ambition statement attached at Appendix 1 provides the rationale

for the approach that the council intends to take in the next 12 months and details what actions will be undertaken. Tackling climate change will have huge implications for the council, its local businesses and residents. The consequences of these implications will become increasingly apparent in the next 12 months.

26. We are already experiencing the impacts of climate change, with more extreme and frequent weather events. We know that these changes will continue due to the 'locked-in' effect of carbon in the atmosphere. Significant financial and non-financial resources in the future will be required in the future to meet these challenges, prevent further adverse impacts and to protect our communities in the future.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

27. The Cabinet is asked to approve:

- a) The proposed Get to Zero Ambition Statement and high level action plan; and
- b) The proposed next steps to move from a high-level action plan to detailed actions and to develop a route map to 'net zero' for East Renfrewshire.

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**East Renfrewshire Council**  
**'Get to Zero' Ambition Statement**

## **Introduction**

1. This document details East Renfrewshire Council's ambition in relation to meeting its legislative requirements under Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019.

This legislation sets the following targets to reduce Scotland's emissions of all greenhouse gases (GHGs):

- 2030 – to achieve a 75% reduction
- 2040 – to achieve a 90% reduction
- 2045 – to achieve Net Zero.

\*Progress towards the targets is measured against 1990 levels. There are seven GHGs, but the main ones are carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O). Measurement is by carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e). When discussing 'carbon emissions' in this strategy we are referring to all GHGs.

## **Guiding Principles, Values and Key Areas of Focus**

2. East Renfrewshire Council recognises its critical role in supporting the Scottish Government to achieve these targets. In order to do so, the Council has identified a number of guiding principles, values and key areas of focus in order to deliver on its ambition. These are as follows:

### **2.1. Pace**

It's not a race to zero – it's GET TO ZERO.

This means that we will ensure:

- All our decisions are carefully considered and evidence-based. i.e. We should not rush into building and buying until we fully understand the life-cycle implications in terms of carbon outputs.
- This may also mean being prudent and waiting to see what happens in terms of markets and technology. This may mean that we are 'behind' but then well-placed to make step changes/great advances i.e. we have not invested in the wrong technology.
- We will continue to work collaboratively with other local authorities and other third party organisations to share knowledge and best practice, learn lessons, and make best use of available resource.

### **2.2. Carbon Reduction**

To get to net-zero we will undertake activities that reduce carbon emissions compared to the baseline scenario, and encourage and support behaviour change.

This means that we will:

- Understand our current carbon emission sources.
- Map pathways to net-zero in order that the Council can measure its actions and spending against the requirement to reduce carbon.
- Communicate with employees, businesses and citizens what our actions equate to in terms of carbon reduction and climate impacts.

### **2.3. Carbon offset**

To get to net zero we will offset carbon emissions. Offsetting means balancing carbon emissions with removals, i.e. if we emit 10 tonnes carbon dioxide then we want 10 tonnes to be absorbed = net-zero. The most obvious carbon removal method is to increase natural 'sinks' i.e. trees and peatland that will absorb carbon in the atmosphere. This is known as sequestration.

This means that we will:

- Measure proposed actions in terms of carbon emissions and offset requirements e.g. should we choose to increase carbon emissions by building additional houses, we would quantify the carbon impact and understand what would be required to off-set this i.e. through increasing planting or peatland restoration.
- Only take decisions or act when it can be demonstrated that any carbon emitted can be both reduced and offset i.e. carbon neutral.

### **2.4 Climate Preparedness**

We want East Renfrewshire to flourish in its future climate which means that we will need to adapt to more frequent and intense rainfall and heat-waves.

This means that we will:

- Design and adapt our buildings, infrastructure, networks (physical and digital) to help us to cope with downpours (such as bigger downpipes) and sustained high temperatures.
- Support our communities to be less reliant e.g. more of what we need day-to-day will be available locally or nationally.
- Lead by example to influence behaviour change to shorten supply chains in order that we are less dependent on uncertain markets or production in distant areas of the world that are susceptible to severe climate impacts.
- Continue to actively participate in Climate Ready Clyde – a network of local authorities and key stakeholders in the Glasgow City Region, working together on a cross-border basis to share best practice and collaborate on mutually-beneficial climate adaptation projects.

### **2.5. Communities**

As a Council we cannot tackle this alone. Our emissions as council only constitute about 2-5% of the emissions coming from within East Renfrewshire's borders. Residents, local businesses and our partners have a vital role to play in achieving the net-zero target. However, we can play a significant role in terms of enabling and supporting our communities.



This means that we will:

- Set up a Climate Change Partnership Group, involving councillors, residents, young citizens, businesses and other relevant parties.
- Explore further mechanisms to ask our residents and local businesses what they need us to do and how can we help them to do what they need to do.
- Fully engage with our citizens' through the local development planning process to engage on key issues i.e. active travel (cycling, walking), community transport, biodiversity and greenspace protection, access to amenities locally etc.

## 2.6. Partnerships

We will work across the Glasgow City Region and with our Community Planning Partners. The boundary of our environment does not stop at the boundary of East Renfrewshire so we must endeavour to work collaboratively with our regional partners and beyond.

This means we will engage with:

- Neighbouring local authorities
- Climate Ready Clyde
- Strathclyde Passenger Transport
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- Scottish Gas Network (SGN)
- Scottish Water
- Nature Scot
- NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
- Scottish Enterprise\*

*\*This list is not exhaustive and will include other organisations and will evolve over time.*

## 2.7 Green recovery

East Renfrewshire Council will support environmental, statutory and fiscal reforms to recover prosperity following the Covid -19 pandemic. A green recovery has the goal of lifting East Renfrewshire out of economic recession in a way that combats climate change, including the reduction in use of burning fossil fuels (coal, oil and gas) and investment in clean transport, renewable energy and sustainable building and practices.

This means that we will:

- Produce budget plans that will support green businesses and job creation, with investment in local green infrastructure projects, i.e. parks and nature based solutions, energy efficiency, sustainable transport and renewable energy
- Help citizens into training programmes which help the national transition away from fossil fuel dependency.

- Attach strict climate conditions to all recovery funding to ensure that businesses' emissions are reduced in line with our targets

## **2.8. Reduce inequality**

Wealth inequality has highlighted the unequal impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. Our green recovery from recession must likewise ensure that action targets poverty reduction and improves the quality of life for many of our citizens. This includes access to good housing, greenspace and transport links.

This means that we will act to ensure that:

- Fuel poverty does not increase as a result of the decarbonisation of heat and power.
- Social and employment mobility is not adversely impacted by decarbonisation of transport
- All citizens have access to greenspace- with equality in mind in terms of proximity and quality.
- the transition to a net-zero future delivers fairness and tackles inequality and injustice

## **2.9. Global responsibility**

As a Council we recognise that the impact of climate change is felt disproportionately around the world.

This means that we will:

- Explore methods of highlighting the impact of climate change on the populations of others countries and seek to minimise our impact.
- Try to make the link between the choices we make and actions we take here and the impact this has elsewhere

## **How we will do it**

3. There are 23 years to “Get to Zero” by 2045. While this target may seem a long way off, it is important that we take action now and build on the foundations already laid. It is East Renfrewshire Council’s intention to get its own house in order as a priority. Therefore, in 2022 we will seek to implement rapid transformation in terms of how we operate.

This requires:

- A broad education campaign amongst all employees in order that they can view respective services through a ‘climate conscious’ lens
- More detailed action planning and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to include additional themes of Biodiversity, Greenspace & Air Quality, Schools & Education and Communities
- Implementation of a climate change impact screening tool to be used against all new plans, projects and strategies
- Development of a carbon reduction route-map and implementation of carbon budgeting, whereby we reduce our carbon emissions allowance over the period of time and work to keep within budget

- Carbon assessment of council buildings (starting with office buildings)
- Begin to meaningfully engage local residents and businesses in this transformation at the earliest to ensure that tackling climate change is something we do *with* them, not *to* them. In doing so, we will be in a better position to support our local communities, suppliers and contractors (the people we do business with).

5. The table below provides an initial high level action plan resulting from a number of workshops held with officers in Spring/Summer 2021. This focuses on whole Council actions and services with high emission sources and/or 'enabling' functions.

Whole Council		
What will we do?		Who will do it?
We will be net zero by 2045 and will set appropriate interim targets		Council
Commit to annual progress reporting on the actions as set out in the action plan, and on the levels of carbon reduction achieved. A performance scorecard to underpin this process will be implemented.		GTZ Manager
We will engage in external partnerships as part of our knowledge share and decision making processes – for example, Glasgow City Region and Community Planning Partnerships		GTZ Manager
We will deliver carbon literacy training to relevant key officers in order that they can understand the role they and their service has to play in term of GTZ		GTZ Manager
We will prioritise carbon reduction emissions in our decision-making processes through implementation of climate impact assessments for any new and existing plans, policies and procedures.		GTZ Manager
We will establish effective governance mechanisms to devolve responsibility for climate change action to relevant services		GTZ Manager
All new employees will receive carbon literacy training as part of the corporate induction process.		GTZ Manager; HR
Develop and sustain an engaging awareness campaign across the council to inspire change towards reducing climate change/carbon impacts		GTZ Manager; Corp Comms
We will support educational establishments to further embed learning experiences related to climate change across the curriculum. We will support a further increase in the number of educational establishments achieving the Green Flag award.		GTZ Manager; Education
Procurement & Finance		
What will we do?		Who will do it?
Strengthen sustainable procurement duty on services and provide related training, where appropriate		Procurement
Engage with the Council's largest suppliers and contractors to better understand scope 3 (indirect		Procurement; relevant service areas

emissions)		
Match all spend categories to emissions factors to better account for scope 3 (indirect emissions) in carbon accounting		GTZ Manager; Finance; External consultancy
Encourage suppliers and contractors to perform their own carbon baselines		Procurement
Explore options to make carbon reporting a requirement of supplier contracts		GTZ Manager; Procurement
Where feasible, consider audits of supply chains for goods and services		Procurement; Relevant services
Where feasible, ensure appliances/equipment purchased for council and its staff are energy efficient and sustainably sourced		Procurement relevant services
<b>Planning &amp; Place</b>		
What will we do?		Who will do it?
Ensure that LPD3 strengthens framework for zero carbon future including policies on sustainable design, renewables, enhanced green network and nature based solutions to carbon mitigation and adaptation.		Planning;
Contribute to and support the Glasgow City region Adaptation Strategy and Plan		GTZ Manager; Planning
Develop a Climate Change Risk Assessment for buildings and infrastructure across the area i.e. flood, heat resilience.		Planning & Buildings Standards
Support the delivery of the Clyde Climate Forest and improve existing tree planting regimes		Planning; Economic Development;
Support the delivery of the Glasgow & Clyde Valley Green Network		Planning; Economic Development;
Develop a biodiversity protection action plan		Planning;
Develop a local food growing strategy		Planning; Economic Development;
Plan 20 minute neighbourhood concept to support less carbon emissions from transport and encourage active travel		GTZ Manager; Planning; Economic Development; Roads; Neighbourhood Services, Education
Explore potential for council and public renewable projects		Planning; Property & Technical Services
Support local business to reduce carbon impacts through education, knowledge sharing, capturing job and funding opportunities through the transition from carbon dependency to net-zero.		GTZ Manager; Economic Development
<b>Transportation</b>		
What will we do?		Who will do it?
Ensure that Local Transport Strategy prioritises sustainable travel hierarchy, promoting walking, cycling, public transport, shared transport and then private vehicles as its guiding principle		Planning; Roads
Enhance active travel opportunities through new links, network and development and maintenance of existing routes.		Planning; Roads, Neighbourhood Services
Continue to expand and improve ICT technologies to reduce need for staff travel i.e.		ICT

video calls/remote access, field and mobile working		
Where feasible, expand EV charging points across estate and public infrastructure		Planning; Roads; Property & Technical Services
Improve communications, information and advice relating to sustainable transport and active travel options for staff and the public		Roads; Corp Comms
Create and maintain database of 'good to go' projects for when funding is made available		Planning; Roads
Implement a pilot initiative for solar powered lighting columns on active travel routes to enhance safety		Planning; Roads
Where feasible, implement school streets to discourage the car run to local schools (also to improve air quality and health and wellbeing)		Roads; Education
Continue engagement with City Region partners re: development of the Glasgow Metro		Planning; Roads
Increase infrastructure to support active travel to/in work		Property & Technical Services; Planning; Roads
Promote cycle to work scheme/lift-sharing amongst staff		GTZ Manager; HR
<b>Estates &amp; Property</b>		
What will we do?		Who will do it?
Develop Local Heat & Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) which will set the framework for heat decarbonisation and reducing energy demand.		Property & Technical Services; Housing Services;
Introduce an energy consumption behaviour change campaign across our estate (including schools)		Property & technical Services; Corp Comms
Continue to improve/expand efforts for energy reduction at all sites through fabric improvements, installation of low-energy systems (e.g. lighting & heating), improved controls and insulation etc.		Property & Technical Services;
Explore implications of working to the voluntary Net Zero Public Buildings Standard from 2025 onwards.		Property & Technical Services;
Develop an asset management and carbon reduction plan for all assets within Council portfolio		Property & Technical Services;
Create and maintain database of 'good to go' projects for when funding is made available.		Property & Technical Services;
Establish training budget to increase staff knowledge of energy efficiency innovations and standards (i.e. Passivhaus)		
<b>Housing</b>		
What will we do?		Who will do it?
Develop the Local Housing Strategy 2022-27 to include key targets to deliver Energy Efficiency Standards in Social Housing 2 (EESH) by 2032		Housing Services
Develop an investment strategy to achieve EESH 2		Housing Services; Finance
Implement a pilot initiative/baseline survey of 10% ERC housing properties and propose a 10-15		Housing Services;

year refurbishment plan to achieve EESH2 2032 target /net zero		
Increase specification of new build housing development to reflect whole carbon life-cycle costs e.g. Passivhaus/EPC A ratings		Housing Services;
Deliver energy education campaign to help reduce energy consumption across the home		Housing Services;
<b>Fleet</b>		
What will we do?		Who will do it?
Understand client departments' future fleet needs and vision and review current asset replacement cycles		Fleet;
Set-up a fleet decarbonisation taskforce to consider EV and other potential low/zero carbon technologies.		Fleet;
Decommission petrol/diesel light vehicles/cars by 2025 to deliver on SG target		Fleet;
Increase access to and availability of pool bikes, e-bikes and electric cars		Fleet;
Explore options for route optimisation to minimise mileage across all fleet		Fleet;
<b>Waste management</b>		
What will we do?		Who will do it?
Better understand all waste produced across the council by improved monitoring and reporting mechanisms to be put in place.		GTZ Manager;
Implement a staff awareness campaign on waste reduction and circular economy principles		GTZ Manager; Procurement; Corp Comms;
Identify areas where we can undertake or support focused projects i.e. sharing resources, routes to re-use and repair and investing in re-purposing and recycling sectors and community enterprises.		GTZ Manager; Procurement;
Develop a food waste reduction plan to meet SG target of 33% reduction by 2025, including communities, schools, and local businesses.		GTZ Manager; Procurement; Education; Corp Comms;
Where feasible, ban the use of single-use plastics at schools and council buildings		Council; Procurement;
Develop a 'top-up' taps infrastructure to encourage use of refillable water bottles.		Neighbourhood Services; Planning; Roads; PATS; Education.

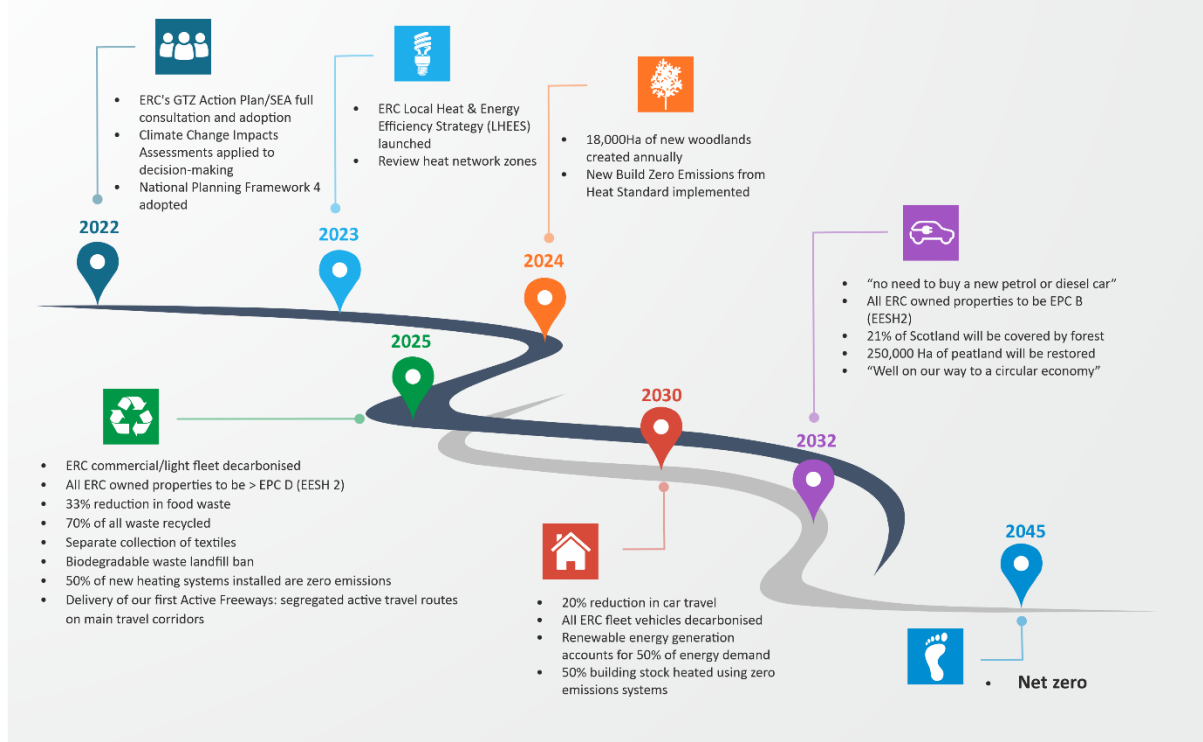
6. We will also soon begin to more fully turn attention to actions that will change our communities, suppliers and contractors - supporting them to make the right choices by providing better infrastructure and services. Whilst the Council took a decision in 2021 to focus on its own emissions we recognise that there is an urgent need to begin to consider the emissions from the wider area- local residents and businesses and asking "What do *they* want *us* to do and how can we help them to do what they need to do? Those conversations will begin to take place from hereon.

7. Everything we do will be subject to a climate change impact screening exercise from 2022 onwards. This will include anything that we buy, build or indeed do. We will aim to capture not only the things new to us (i.e. new buildings, new services, new

policies/procedures) but we would also want to, in time, review what we currently do – existing buildings, services and contracts.

8. Our action plan will evolve as new technologies and markets emerge, statutory requirements change and new funding schemes are made available. We will continue to embed a climate consciousness in everything we do as a Council.

## Get to Zero Route Map 2022 and beyond



### Performance management arrangements

9. The Get to Zero Action Plan will evolve and will be reviewed and updated annually. Carbon reduction progress will be reported to Full Council and the Scottish Government on an annual basis.

10. In terms of delivery, Get to Zero actions will be mainstreamed into wider council performance management arrangements as all critical activities will be captured in the Outcome Development Plan and tracked using performance scorecards.

### Conclusion

11. Maintaining momentum over a period of 23 years is new territory for East Renfrewshire Council and will take everything we have got to deliver on the goal. We do not underestimate the scale of the challenge and recognise that this will require a joint effort with our communities, partners, suppliers and contractors.

12. We will need to maintain focus in the face of an agenda that is complex, daunting and evolving. However, tackling climate change and achieving 'get to zero' is a strategic

priority for East Renfrewshire Council and a national imperative. As such, we commit to play our part.