EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL: CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Strategic Environmental Assessment: Environmental Report

Report for: East Dunbartonshire Council

Ref. [EDC 2022/3592]

Ricardo, Gemini Building, Fermi Avenue, Harwell, Oxfordshire, OX11 0QR, UK | +44(0)1235 75 3000 | www.ricardo.com
Registered company no. 08229264 | VAT no. GB 212 8365 24

Customer:
East Dunbartonshire Council

Customer reference:
EDC 2022/3592

Contact:
David Meek, 18 Blythswood Square, Glasgow, G2 4BG, UK

T: +44 (0)1235 753661
E: David.meek@ricardo.com

Author:
Ingrid Kintu, Katie Moran, Simone Medonos

Approved by:
David Meek

Signed

Ricardo reference:
ED17277

Date:
21/03/2025

Document History

Revision	Purpose Description	Prepared	Date issued
1	Draft for comment	SM	29/01/2025
2	Appendix added with matrix of themes and actions	SR	13/02/2025
3	Accessibility edits	SR	05/03/2025
4	Appendix D updated	SM	21/03/2025
5	Minor formatting updates to Appendix D	SR	27/03/2025

CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Tables

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

As part of the preparation of the Climate Action Plan (CAP), East Dunbartonshire Council have carried out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The process of SEA is a systematic method for considering the likely environmental effects of this Strategy. It aims to:

- Integrate environmental factors into CAP preparation and decision-making
- Improve the CAP and enhance environmental protection
- Increase public participation in decision making
- Facilitate the openness and transparency of decision-making

This Environmental Report documents the SEA of the CAP. The relevant components have been assessed in parallel to the development of the CAP. This has assisted East Dunbartonshire Council in refining the CAP in order to avoid or mitigate the negative environmental effects and to further enhance the positive environmental effects.

KEY FACTS RELATING TO THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
Title of Plan Programme or Strategy (PPS)	Climate Action Plan (CAP)
Purpose of PPS	The CAP covers four key action areas: • Set a date by which the Council can achieve zero direct emissions (emissions that are owned or directly controlled by the Council) for its own activities and operations, along with interim targets to support the progressive reduction of our emissions, and setting out the actions necessary to achieve the reductions; • Identify opportunities to reduce indirect emissions (emissions from sources that are not owned and directly controlled by the Council, including the Council's supply chain); • Work with partners to establish a realistic target date by which net zero emissions can be achieved in East Dunbartonshire as a whole, and identify the main actions necessary to support achievement of the target; and • Set out a local strategy to adapt to the increasing effects of our changing climate and ensure resilience against the future impacts of climate change.
What prompted the PPS	The Scottish Government set a target to achieve net zero emissions by 2045 in the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019. While interim targets were initially set for a 75% emissions reduction by 2030 and a 90% reduction by 2040 relative to 1990 levels, the UK Climate Change Committee (CCC) found that the 2030 targets were no longer achievable. This led to the Scottish Government passing the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill in November 2024, which replaced the 2030 and 2040 interim targets with a carbon budget-based process. Further details on the carbon budgets will be set through secondary legislation following advice from the CCC.

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
	The Scottish Government published its Climate Change Plan [1] in December 2020 and a draft of its third Climate Change Plan has been pushed back to accompany the secondary legislation that will follow the 2024 Climate Change Bill and details on Scottish carbon budgets. Following the Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2020, public bodies are required to report on: • A target date for achieving zero direct emissions; • Targets for reducing indirect emissions; • An outline of how the body will align its spending plans and resource use to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering emissions reduction targets; • An outline of how the body will publish its progress on delivering reduction targets; and • Where applicable, what contribution the body has made to deliver Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Programme. Additional climate targets that apply to public bodies include the following: • Zero direct emissions by 2045 in compliance with national targets and interim benchmarks to monitor progress. • Zero direct emissions from all estate buildings by 2038. • Net zero targets for indirect emissions that clearly state what is included.
Subject	Climate change (mitigation and adaptation) – other subjects that are included are transport, building and heat decarbonisation, sustainable communities, natural environment, consumption and waste, business, supply chains, investment and digital infrastructure and food and agriculture.
Period covered	The CAP will cover a 10-year period from 2026-2036 to broadly align with the Scottish Climate Change Plan. This period covers the first half of the period leading up to the 2045 net zero emissions target. The Council has a statutory duty to support the delivery of these targets and will be required to report to the Scottish Government on progress towards contributing to their delivery on an annual basis and the CAP will form the context for this reporting.
Frequency of updates	The CAP will be reviewed regularly in line with interim targets and will also need to take account of the fast-paced and evolving priorities of the Scottish Government.
Area covered by PPS	East Dunbartonshire Council area
Summary of Nature/ Content of the PPS	The CAP will build on the considerable progress the Council has already made in these areas and will build on the collaborative approach that has made our existing achievements possible. The Council's own carbon emissions have already fallen 18% and 55% relative to the 2019/20 and 2012/13 baselines respectively significantly exceeding the targets for 2022/23 of 13% and 51%. The Council's carbon emissions in 2022/23 were 12% lower than the emissions in 2021/22[2]. Work is under way to deliver a range of actions contained in the updated Sustainability and Climate Change Framework, which was approved by Council in December 2019. Efforts to reduce carbon emissions at an area wide

[1] Scottish Government (2020) Securing a green recovery on a path to net zero: climate change plan 2018–2032 - update - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

[2] East Dunbartonshire Council (n.d) Climate Action Plan (CAP) Available at https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/services/a-z-of-services/sustainability-and-climate-change/climate-action-plan-cap/#:~:text=East%20Dunbartonshire%20Council%20approved%20the,in%20addition%20to%20a%20target Accessed January 2025.

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
	level and adapt to our changing climate are already being pursued through a range of Council strategies including the Local Housing Strategy, Local Transport Strategy, Local Development Plan and Economic Recovery Plan, Carbon Management Plan, Circular Economy Strategy, Local Development Plan 2, Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy, Active Travel Strategy, Green Network Strategy, Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Greenspace Strategy among others. A range of other work, including the preparation of our Flood Risk Management Plan, which is vital in responding to the increasing and intensifying rainfall experienced as a result of climate change, are important in increasing our resilience as weather patterns change. The effects of climate change are already being felt. We are experiencing changing rainfall patterns, increased seasonality and more extreme weather events leading to greater risks arising from incidents such as flooding, high temperatures and higher wind speeds. These changes present a range of risks, including to health and wellbeing, economic losses and a greater burden on public spending impacting Council budgets. The Council contributed to the development of the Glasgow City Region Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan launched at the end of June 2021. The CAP will be the local expression of the Regional Strategy principles and the delivery mechanism for relevant flagship actions. The CAP includes mitigation opportunities to demonstrate a commitment to work towards delivering net zero emissions across the Council-wide area and corporate zero direct emissions, whilst co-ordinating opportunities for climate change adaptation in East Dunbartonshire. By having a better understanding of the current climate situation locally, we will be enabled to identify what is already being done and identify appropriate action to build on this. A Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES), focused on heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency, has been developed to support the overall ambitions of the CAP.
Proposed outcomes	It is intended that the document will set out how the Council will work towards achieving net zero carbon emissions in line with the Scottish Government's 2045 target for both the Council and area-wide through liaison with internal Council services and external organisations such as businesses, transport operators and energy suppliers. The CAP final vision and objectives will be informed by data analysis, consultation and the relevant Independent Assessment Group (IAG) assessment processes. The draft Vision for the CAP is as follows: East Dunbartonshire is carbon neutral and climate resilient with a better quality natural and built environment conducive to healthier, more active lifestyles and flourishing biodiversity. Decisive action has achieved a just and inclusive transition that has created high value jobs, investment, and equipped people with the knowledge and skills to thrive in a low-carbon, wellbeing economy. The initial objectives for the CAP are set out below. • Objective 1 – Prioritise Council spending plans and resource allocation to reduce emissions, support adaptation and deliver on the Council's net zero targets with a presumption against expenditure, investment, and infrastructure that would hinder achievement of net zero and increased climate resilience. • Objective 2 – Set ambitious, interim targets on the path to net zero emissions for the Council and the East Dunbartonshire area

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council

accompanied by a robust framework for transparent monitoring and review, and effective governance.

- Objective 3 – Integrate climate considerations including biodiversity gain into all Council decision-making processes by developing a standardised approach to climate change risk and impact assessments encompassing all council decision making processes, policies, plans and strategies.
- Objective 4 – Improve climate change awareness, strengthen community resilience, and encourage behaviour change to promote a just transition and reduced vulnerability.
- Objective 5 – Maximise the social, economic and environmental co-benefits of local climate action including nature-based solutions achieving efficient use of natural resources and improving health and well-being outcomes.

These objectives are actioned through 8 themes, which organise key actions to reach net zero:

1. **Transport**:
   Switching to significantly more walking, cycling and zero carbon public transport modes, making car-free living more viable across East Dunbartonshire and converting Council fleet vehicles to zero carbon fuels.
2. **Buildings and Heat Decarbonisation:**
   Retrofitting buildings to become energy efficient, carbon neutral and resilient to a changing climate with the Council leading by example on the decarbonisation of its buildings. Maximising local renewable energy generation and increasing system resilience, while facilitating the electrification of heat including through smart electricity usage.
3. **Sustainable Communities:**
   Ensuring that planning and patterns of development make low-carbon lifestyles and local resilience more viable with a presumption against proposals that would lead to additional emissions or create dependence on high-carbon transport and infrastructure.
4. **Natural Environment:**
   Restoring, protecting and enhancing greenspaces and biodiversity as the climate continues to change.
5. **Consumption and Waste:**
   Reducing the emission intensity of consumption through responsible buying of goods and services and zero carbon waste management.
6. **Business and the Economy:**
   Supporting businesses to become carbon neutral and climate resilient, capturing job opportunities, bolstering investment to thrive in a low-carbon, wellbeing economy while supporting a just transition to ensure that nobody is left behind.
7. **Supply Chains, Investment and Digital Infrastructure:**

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
	Driving forward carbon neutral supply chains by reducing emissions from the Council's supply chain and investments, and exploiting digital and technological opportunities that drive forward decarbonisation in order to leave East Dunbartonshire less exposed to climatic hostility, hazards and financial vulnerability including exposure to stranded assets. 8. **Food:** Establishing a resilient sustainable supply chain, with food and drink produced locally and enhanced community food growing, in addition to supporting movement to a plant-based diet. The CAP vision, objectives, and themes were developed based upon key points from East Dunbartonshire Council's Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), the Council's Climate Conversation, a comparative analysis of other Council approaches and independent input from the environmental consultant firm, Ricardo. Thematic actions have been established to contribute to net zero targets and the CAP's governing and monitoring framework and underpin each theme.

CONTEXT OF THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

The Climate Action Plan (CAP) has been developed in accordance with the provisions outlined in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019, with the latter having been updated in 2024 and the Climate Change Plan 2020.

The CAP reflects the strategic vision of East Dunbartonshire Council and establishes a long-term framework to address the challenges posed by climate change. It details the Council's approach to achieving net-zero emissions for its direct operations and outlines key opportunities for reducing carbon emissions across the entire East Dunbartonshire area. The CAP is designed to guide the Council in mitigating climate impacts while fostering a sustainable, low-carbon economy. In addition to reducing emissions, the CAP provides a strategy for adaptation to a changing climate, ensuring that East Dunbartonshire is better prepared for future climate-related challenges. The CAP also reflects the Council's commitment to preserving and enhancing the quality of the district's historic, natural, and water environments, ensuring a balanced approach to environmental protection and climate resilience. These commitments are reflected the CAP's objectives, to be actioned through 8 themes including transport, buildings and heat decarbonisation, sustainable communities, the natural environment consumption and waste, business and the economy, supply chains, investment and digital infrastructure and food.

ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE DATA FOR EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE

The environmental baseline information for East Dunbartonshire has been identified in relation to each of the SEA environmental topics; Population and Human Health; Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna; Cultural Heritage; Landscape; Soil and Geology; Water Quality; Air Quality; Climatic Factors and Material Assets. The information has been collated using a range of statistics and resources, including information from Scotland's Environment Web, SNH, SEPA, Historic Environment Scotland, SNIFFER, Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Government, National Records and Air Quality Scotland, as well as local information obtained from the different relevant Services within the Council. The baseline data has been updated where available data has become available in order to ensure that the data is as relevant as possible. **Section 2.2** of the main report contains a full outline of the environmental baseline data for each of the environmental topics considered in SEA, including spatial representations of the main environmental constraints in East Dunbartonshire using Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Reviewing the environmental baseline data for East Dunbartonshire helped to identify any existing environmental problems/issues that would need to be considered during the preparing and implementation of the CAP. The likely nature of the environment without a Plan to address local socio-economic disadvantages has also been described along with the implications of this for the Council, where appropriate.

The main challenges include:

- East Dunbartonshire has data zones which fall into the top 25% most deprived areas in Scotland; these data zones are in Auchinairn, Hillhead and Harestanes, Lennoxtown and Twechar (SIMD).
- Some town centre environments within East Dunbartonshire are neglected, run down and in need of regeneration; this includes the Council estate. Carbon management options will improve the energy efficiency of existing and new buildings. Corporately, improvements will include those within the Council estate and could present benefits for townscape and the attractiveness of the localities.
- Fuel poverty affects approximately 28% of households in East Dunbartonshire and are estimated to be higher for pensioner households, with the Scottish House Condition Survey (SHCS) reporting that 40% of pensioner households in East Dunbartonshire are fuel poor. Extreme fuel poverty – where more than 20% of household income is spent on fuel affects 6% of East Dunbartonshire households. This rises to 12% of pensioner households. Drivers of fuel poverty including income profiles, energy efficiency and the cost of fuel will be a key priority of the CAP with opportunities to mitigate against the impacts. Opportunities aimed at areas of deprivation will tackle issues such as fuel poverty, ensuring that our communities have access to efficient and affordable energy.
- East Dunbartonshire Council is the largest local employer in the area. The CAP presents an opportunity for significant changes within the Council estate and practices. There is also scope to target other employers and organisations to make changes in order to reduce carbon emissions with the Council leading by example. Businesses and organisations that operate within East Dunbartonshire will be included within the scope of the Action Plan in order to identify appropriate action to take forward in order to demonstrate a collaborative approach to achieving net zero targets.
- There are a large number and variety of cultural heritage assets in East Dunbartonshire including the Antonine Wall (UNESCO World Heritage Site) and the Forth and Clyde Canal which require protection and management but also contribute to East Dunbartonshire as a tourist destination.
- Climate change poses a threat to the historic environment due to rising temperatures and increased rainfall. The CAP presents opportunities to address these impacts by promoting the reuse and retrofit of traditional buildings within the framework of a circular economy and sustainability goals.
- East Dunbartonshire has a wide range of designated and non-designated sites, including those of ecological importance and protected species. This is seen through a number of Local Nature Conservation Sites and Important Wildlife Corridors, Tree Preservation Orders and Local Nature Reserves. East Dunbartonshire also has 6 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).
- Both native and ancient woodland should be managed to conserve important biodiversity and heritage features. The CAP should help promote the restoration of ancient, native and semi-natural woodland, in line with the Clyde Plan Forestry and Woodland Strategy,
- River and canal corridors in East Dunbartonshire contribute significantly to wide ranging habitats and biodiversity. The natural environment plays a considerable role in healthy lives and supports the management of carbon and associated emissions. In addition, the natural environment contributes to East Dunbartonshire as an economic and habitable centre.
- The CAP will include opportunities to address the local ecological emergency with options to protect, manage and enhance biodiversity and habitats and to prevent fragmentation of habitats.
- There are a number of potentially contaminated land areas in East Dunbartonshire along with vacant and derelict land sites which are underutilised.

- There are several sites in East Dunbartonshire that have been identified as peatland. Peatland and carbon rich soils have a role as a carbon sink locally.
- There are 36 sites identified as being geologically diverse, of which 34 have been assigned as Local Geodiversity Site (LGS). The area also hosts 1 RIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site) and 1 SSSI of geological importance.
- East Dunbartonshire has a number of areas with high/moderate scenic value as well as specific landscape characters and settings across the Council area, including the Campsie Fells and Kilpatrick Hills.
- The CAP should promote resilient landscapes, protect designated landscape areas and landscape character and help increase access to green and blue spaces.
- Landscape character, scenic value and particularly local distinctiveness are an area which can positively impact East Dunbartonshire's communities and contribute to health and wellbeing benefits.
- There are a number of watercourses in East Dunbartonshire including the Forth and Clyde Canal, River Kelvin, Allander Water and Luggie Water with varying levels of quality. These assets require protection in order to reduce, prevent or offset any adverse impacts of initiatives explored through the CAP. Action should seek to improve water quality.
- Unacceptably high levels of air pollution can be harmful to the environment and human health. East Dunbartonshire currently has two designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) (Bishopbriggs and Bearsden Cross). These are managed through Air Quality Management Plans and the emerging Air Quality Strategy. The CAP will present an opportunity to address the proportion of emissions impacting air pollution arising from corporate activities and area-wide.
- Domestic emissions account for the largest proportion of carbon dioxide in East Dunbartonshire, and emissions from transport account for the largest proportion of NO2 and PM10 emissions. Furthermore, Council carbon emissions contribute to approximately 5% of local emissions annually. This contributes to the effects of climate change, which include changing temperatures and rainfall patterns, and increased incidences of extreme weather events. The CAP will present an opportunity to address the proportion of emissions impacting on localised climate change arising from corporate and area-wide activities.
- Climate change has a direct link to flood risk. The SEPA Flood Risk Map has identified several locations within the East Dunbartonshire Council area which could have significant impacts on communities.
- As a result of interventions that will be explored within the CAP there are potential changes to the transport network, including Council related uses, material use in refurbishing and construction of the Council estate and other private developments and waste associated with construction.

ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Sections 3 and all related Appendices provide full details of the assessment findings for the CAP.

The Vision, Objectives and Themes collectively set out how the Council will put net zero and climate resilience at the core of strategic decision-making and allow East Dunbartonshire Council to lead by example. The Vision, Objectives and Themes have been assessed as providing neutral to positive environmental effects across the East Dunbartonshire area that may not be otherwise realised through ongoing delivery of existing plans, programmes and projects. **Section 3.5.1** provides the full assessments of the CAP components, with the assessment of alternatives provided in **Appendix C**. An outline assessment of the individual actions that underpin each of the themes is provided for information in **Appendix D.**

The CAP has identified five objectives to achieve the overall vision, which will be actioned through eight themes, which organise the key actions required to meet net zero targets. Positive effects were assessed across many SEA objectives which can be attributed to the central ethos of the CAP, which is to present a dual opportunity of action against climate change to harness economic benefits of the green transition whilst maintaining commitment to advancing climate equity and a just transition. In particular, more significant positive effects were identified for **Climatic Factors**, due to an overall reduction in emissions and **Population and**

Human Health as many of the actions that can be undertaken by East Dunbartonshire promote health and economic wellbeing. For example, Theme 1 – Transport will encourage active travel through increased provision of enhanced pedestrian and cycle access which will result in improvements to public health as well as provide co-benefits on **Air Quality** due to reduced vehicle usage. Where the CAP component has an emphasis on nature-based solutions or implementing biodiversity net gain (for example, Objective 3 and Theme 4), significant positive effects were identified for **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**.

Some of the actions underpinning the Themes and Objectives of the CAP will involve development. For example; constructing a new depot to support a zero carbon Council vehicle fleet, development of renewable energy infrastructure, retrofitting buildings to improve energy efficiency and investment in green infrastructure. The construction activity associated with these actions may induce short-term, temporary negative effects on **Air Quality**, **Population and Human Health** and **Material Assets**. Site investigations and consideration of appropriate mitigation should be agreed prior to any infrastructure projects to avoid negative effects. The long-term positive effects of such developments would outweigh any negative effects anticipated in the short-term.

Following the assessment of each of the components of the CAP, an assessment of the cumulative effects has been carried out. This concluded that when implemented together, the various components can result in cumulative positive effects for East Dunbartonshire across all SEA objectives, with significant effects assessed for **Climatic Factors** as net zero targets are realised. Some objectives (**Population and Human Health, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Air Quality**) may experience cumulative negative effects as a result of simultaneous or concurrent construction activity and disruption. However, these effects would be short-term and temporary in nature and could be mitigated through careful project planning and implementation of best-practice construction techniques.

MITIGATION AND MONITORING

Mitigation measures have been proposed through the environmental assessments and incorporated into the CAP where necessary in order to avoid, reduce, mitigate or offset any potential adverse environmental impacts and enhance any uncertain, neutral, positive environmental impacts identified. The mitigation measures incorporate all environmental factors which were scoped into the assessment and will be the responsibility of East Dunbartonshire Council to implement in conjunction with key agencies and stakeholders.

Implementation of the CAP has potential to have negative effects as a result of development of infrastructure that supports net zero ambition. Consequently, mitigation is largely limited to reducing potential negative effects from construction. As exact developments are not known at this stage, it is not possible to determine specific mitigation measures. However, potential mitigation measures may include:

- Employment of best practice construction methods to reduce nuisance, disruption and impacts to air and water quality. This includes the application of biosecurity measures.
- Ensuring new development is sensitive to existing historic and landscape settings or consider the use of planting and screening options in final designs and during construction.
- Undertake site investigations prior to any infrastructure projects to avoid negative effects on sensitive habitats or species.
- Encourage re-use and recycling of waste materials and the use of sustainable or locally sourced materials where possible.

The draft monitoring measures form part of this Environmental Report, the CAP and SEA Post-Adoption Statement for the CAP, prepared as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the CAP, in accordance with Section 18 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. The environmental baseline data (**Section 2.2**) and the monitoring indicators included in the proposed monitoring framework (**Section 4.2**) will form the basis of future monitoring of the potential effects, predicted and unforeseen, of the CAP on the local environment.

NEXT STEPS: STATUTORY CONSULTATION

The statutory consultation for the draft SEA ER and corresponding Draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) is:

13th October 2025 – 19th December 2025

If you would like to express your views on the Environmental Report, your comments should be submitted through email or post to the following:

Email: Sustainability@eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Post: Sustainability Policy Team,
Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets
Southbank House
Strathkelvin Place
Kirkintilloch
G66 1XQ

Or respond directly via our Draft Climate Action Plan Survey located on the Council webpage.

In addition, the Council will be holding consultation sessions (in-person and online) for discussion and views to be shared on the Draft CAP and corresponding SEA Environmental Report. Details for these sessions will be advertised in advance and promoted through social media, local publications and on the Councils website https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/Draft-CAP.

KEY STAGES OF SEA

The key SEA stages carried out in the preparation of the CAP include:

Scoping: The Scoping Report determined the level of detail to be included in the assessment including baseline analysis, development of assessment methodology and setting out a proposed consultation period for the Environmental Report. This was followed by a consultation with the appropriate Consultation Authorities.

Environmental Assessment: This Environmental Report documents the environmental assessment of the CAP. The assessments of the relevant components were carried out in parallel to the development of the CAP. This has helped East Dunbartonshire Council to refine the CAP in order to avoid or mitigate the negative environmental effects and to further enhance the positive environmental effects.

Post-Adoption Statement: The Post-Adoption Statement will demonstrate how the findings of the SEA have been taken into account in the adopted CAP. In accordance with the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Post-Adoption Statement will highlight:

- How the environmental considerations have been incorporated into the CAP;
- How the findings of the Environmental Report have been taken into account;
- How opinions expressed, from both the Community and Consultation Authorities during the consultation of the Environmental Report have been taken into account;
- The reasons for choosing the CAP as adopted in light of other reasonable alternatives; and,
- The measures to be taken to monitor the significant effects of the implementation of the CAP.

The purpose of SEA is to inform the development of the CAP. The assessment has identified, described and evaluated the likely significant negative and positive environmental effects of the CAP, including any alternatives. This was beneficial in order to reduce, avoid or mitigate any potential environmental effects and further enhance any potential positive effects. This Environmental Report presents the results of the SEA for the CAP. It also establishes a monitoring framework and measures to mitigate any adverse effects that may occur as a result of the strategic document.

SUMMARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The CAP has been prepared under the provisions of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019, updated in 2024 and the Climate Change Plan 2020.

It has been determined that the East Dunbartonshire Council CAP requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. SEA is a systematic process for considering the likely significant environmental effects arising from the CAP produced by the Council. It is a beneficial and thorough assessment process which ensures that environmental considerations are considered at an early stage in the CAP preparation process, and as a result of the CAP's implementation to ensure that negative effects are avoided or minimised, any residual effects are effectively mitigated and where feasible, positive effects are enhanced.

SEA is an integral part of, and has been considered throughout the development of the CAP. At the Environmental Report stage (which documents the assessment) the public have the opportunity to comment on the environmental assessment and all comments will be taken on board. The public will be able to see how their comments have influenced the SEA process, as SEA requires the environmental assessment and Local Authority decision-making to be transparent and accountable.

The Climate Action Plan (CAP) outlines East Dunbartonshire Council's long-term strategy to tackle climate change, aiming for net-zero emissions in its operations and reducing overall carbon emissions across the area. The CAP emphasises both mitigation and adaptation strategies to help the area prepare for future climate challenges, while maintaining a focus on sustainability and a low-carbon economy.

The Environmental Report has been prepared for consultation with the general public and statutory Consultation Authorities (Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), NatureScot and Historic Environment Scotland (HES)).

The Environmental Report is structured as follows:

Section	Commentary
Section 1: Key Facts	This section provides key facts about the CAP including a brief summary regarding the content.
Section 2: Strategic Action Context	This section provides an overview of the CAP and the plans, programmes and strategies internationally, nationally, regionally and locally with which it will align and integrate. In addition, this section provides the environmental baseline data collected and used to assess the CAP.
Section 3: Assessment of Environmental Effects	This section outlines how the SEA process incorporates the identification of reasonable alternatives; assessment methodology, the assessment process and findings regarding each Plan component and the influence the SEA has had on the CAP thus far.
Section 4: Mitigation and Monitoring	This section sets out the mitigation measures and monitoring framework for the CAP and ER.
Section 5: Statutory Consultation and SEA Timetable	This section outlines the consultation dates and procedures and the timeline for the CAP and SEA documentation.
APPENDIX A: List of Relevant Policies, Plans, Programmes, Strategies, Legislation and Environmental Protection Objectives	This appendix lists key legislation, plans, programmes, policies and strategies and how they influence or are influenced by the CAP.
APPENDIX B: SEA Scoping Report Consultation Responses	This appendix highlights the comments and recommendations raised by the Consultation Authorities during the consultation of Scoping Report and how they have been addressed within the Environmental Report for the CAP.

Section	Commentary
APPENDIX C: Alternative Assessments	This appendix includes the initial assessment of the CAP components including the reasonable alternatives to the Vision, Objectives and Themes.
APPENDIX D: CAP Themes and Actions	An outline assessment of the individual actions that underpin each of the themes.

1. KEY FACTS

1.1 KEY FACTS RELATING TO THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
Title of Plan Programme or Strategy (PPS)	Climate Action Plan
Purpose of PPS	The CAP covers four key action areas: • Set a date by which the Council can achieve zero direct emissions (emissions that are owned or directly controlled by the Council) for its own activities and operations, along with interim targets to support the progressive reduction of our emissions, and setting out the actions necessary to achieve the reductions; • Identify opportunities to reduce indirect emissions (emissions from sources that are not owned and directly controlled by the Council, including the Council's supply chain); • Work with partners to establish a realistic target date by which net zero emissions can be achieved in East Dunbartonshire as a whole, and identify the main actions necessary to support achievement of the target; and • Set out a local strategy to adapt to the increasing effects of our changing climate and ensure resilience against the future impacts of climate change.
What prompted the PPS	The Scottish Government set a target to achieve net zero emissions by 2045 in the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019. While interim targets were initially set for a 75% emissions reduction by 2030 and a 90% reduction by 2040 relative to 1990 levels, the UK Climate Change Committee (CCC) found that the 2030 targets were no longer achievable. This led to the Scottish Government passing the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill in November 2024, which replaced the 2030 and 2040 interim targets with a carbon budget-based process. Further details on the carbon budgets will be set through secondary legislation following advice from the CCC.

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
	The Scottish Government published its Climate Change Plan [3] in December 2020 and a draft of its third Climate Change Plan has been pushed back to accompany the secondary legislation that will follow the 2024 Climate Change Bill and details on Scottish carbon budgets. Following the Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2020, public bodies are required to report on: • A target date for achieving zero direct emissions; • Targets for reducing indirect emissions; • An outline of how the body will align its spending plans and resource use to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering emissions reduction targets; • An outline of how the body will publish its progress on delivering reduction targets; and • Where applicable, what contribution the body has made to deliver Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Programme. Additional climate targets that apply to public bodies include the following: • Zero direct emissions by 2045 in compliance with national targets and interim benchmarks to monitor progress. • Zero direct emissions from all estate buildings by 2038. • Net zero targets for indirect emissions that clearly state what is included.
Subject	Climate change (mitigation and adaptation) – other subjects that are included are transport, building and heat decarbonisation, sustainable communities, natural environment, consumption and waste, business, supply chains, investment and digital infrastructure and food and agriculture.
Period covered	The CAP will cover a 10-year period from 2025-2035 to broadly align with the Scottish Climate Change Plan. This period covers the first half of the period leading up to the 2045 net zero emissions target. The Council has a statutory duty to support the delivery of these targets and will be required to report to the Scottish Government on progress towards contributing to their delivery on an annual basis and the CAP will form the context for this reporting.
Frequency of updates	The CAP will be reviewed regularly in line with interim targets and will also need to take account of the fast-paced and evolving priorities of the Scottish Government.
Area covered by PPS	East Dunbartonshire Council area
Summary of Nature/ Content of the PPS	The CAP will build on the considerable progress the Council has already made in these areas and will build on the collaborative approach that has made our existing achievements possible. The Council's own carbon emissions have already fallen 18% and 55% relative to the 2019/20 and 2012/13 baselines respectively significantly exceeding the targets for 2022/23 of 13% and 51%. The Council's carbon emissions in 2022/23 were 12% lower than the emissions in 2021/22[4]. Work is under way to deliver a range of actions contained in the updated Sustainability and Climate Change Framework, which was approved by Council in December 2019. Efforts to reduce carbon emissions at an area wide

[3] Scottish Government (2020) Securing a green recovery on a path to net zero: climate change plan 2018–2032 - update - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

[4] East Dunbartonshire Council (n.d) Climate Action Plan (CAP) Available at https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/services/a-z-of-services/sustainability-and-climate-change/climate-action-plan-cap/#:~:text=East%20Dunbartonshire%20Council%20approved%20the,in%20addition%20to%20a%20target Accessed January 2025.

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
	level and adapt to our changing climate are already being pursued through a range of Council strategies including the Local Housing Strategy, Local Transport Strategy, Local Development Plan and Economic Recovery Plan, Carbon Management Plan, Circular Economy Strategy, Local Development Plan 2, Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy, Active Travel Strategy, Green Network Strategy, Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Greenspace Strategy among others. A range of other work, including the preparation of our Flood Risk Management Plan, which is vital in responding to the increasing and intensifying rainfall experienced as a result of climate change, are important in increasing our resilience as weather patterns change. The effects of climate change are already being felt. We are experiencing changing rainfall patterns, increased seasonality and more extreme weather events leading to greater risks arising from incidents such as flooding, high temperatures and higher wind speeds. These changes present a range of risks, including to health and wellbeing, economic losses and a greater burden on public spending impacting Council budgets. The Council contributed to the development of the Glasgow City Region Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan launched at the end of June 2021. The CAP will be the local expression of the Regional Strategy principles and the delivery mechanism for relevant flagship actions. The CAP includes mitigation opportunities to demonstrate a commitment to work towards delivering net zero emissions across the Council-wide area and corporate zero direct emissions, whilst co-ordinating opportunities for climate change adaptation in East Dunbartonshire. By having a better understanding of the current climate situation locally, we will be enabled to identify what is already being done and identify appropriate action to build on this. A Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES), focused on heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency, has been developed to support the overall ambitions of the CAP.
Proposed outcomes	It is intended that the document will set out how the Council will work towards achieving net zero carbon emissions in line with the Scottish Government's 2045 target for both the Council and area-wide through liaison with internal Council services and external organisations such as businesses, transport operators and energy suppliers. The CAP final vision and objectives will be informed by data analysis, consultation and the relevant Independent Assessment Group (IAG) assessment processes. The draft Vision for the CAP is as follows: East Dunbartonshire is carbon neutral and climate resilient with a better quality natural and built environment conducive to healthier, more active lifestyles and flourishing biodiversity. Decisive action has achieved a just and inclusive transition that has created high value jobs, investment, and equipped people with the knowledge and skills to thrive in a low-carbon, wellbeing economy. The initial objectives for the CAP are set out below. • Objective 1 – Prioritise Council spending plans and resource allocation to reduce emissions, support adaptation and deliver on the Council's net zero targets with a presumption against expenditure, investment, and infrastructure that would hinder achievement of net zero and increased climate resilience. • Objective 2 – Set ambitious, interim targets on the path to net zero emissions for the Council and the East Dunbartonshire area

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council

accompanied by a robust framework for transparent monitoring and review, and effective governance.

- Objective 3 – Integrate climate considerations including biodiversity gain into all Council decision-making processes by developing a standardised approach to climate change risk and impact assessments encompassing all council decision making processes, policies, plans and strategies.
- Objective 4 – Improve climate change awareness, strengthen community resilience, and encourage behaviour change to promote a just transition and reduced vulnerability.
- Objective 5 – Maximise the social, economic and environmental co-benefits of local climate action including nature-based solutions achieving efficient use of natural resources and improving health and well-being outcomes.

These objectives are actioned through 8 themes, which organise key actions to reach net zero:

1. **Transport**:
   Switching to significantly more walking, cycling and zero carbon public transport modes, making car-free living more viable across East Dunbartonshire and converting Council fleet vehicles to zero carbon fuels.
2. **Buildings and Heat Decarbonisation:**
   Retrofitting buildings to become energy efficient, carbon neutral and resilient to a changing climate with the Council leading by example on the decarbonisation of its buildings. Maximising local renewable energy generation and increasing system resilience, while facilitating the electrification of heat including through smart electricity usage.
3. **Sustainable Communities:**
   Ensuring that planning and patterns of development make low-carbon lifestyles and local resilience more viable with a presumption against proposals that would lead to additional emissions or create dependence on high-carbon transport and infrastructure.
4. **Natural Environment:**
   Restoring, protecting and enhancing greenspaces and biodiversity as the climate continues to change.
5. **Consumption and Waste:**
   Reducing the emission intensity of consumption through responsible buying of goods and services and zero carbon waste management.
6. **Business and the Economy:**
   Supporting businesses to become carbon neutral and climate resilient, capturing job opportunities, bolstering investment to thrive in a low-carbon, wellbeing economy while supporting a just transition to ensure that nobody is left behind.
7. **Supply Chains, Investment and Digital Infrastructure:**

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
	Driving forward carbon neutral supply chains by reducing emissions from the Council's supply chain and investments and exploiting digital and technological opportunities that drive forward decarbonisation in order to leave East Dunbartonshire less exposed to climatic hostility, hazards and financial vulnerability including exposure to stranded assets. 8. **Food:** Establishing a resilient sustainable supply chain, with food and drink produced locally and enhanced community food growing, in addition to supporting movement to a plant-based diet. The CAP vision, objectives, and themes were developed based upon key points from East Dunbartonshire Council's Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), the Council's Climate Conversation, a comparative analysis of other Council approaches and independent input from the environmental consultant firm, Ricardo. Thematic actions have been established to contribute to net zero targets and the CAP's governing and monitoring framework and underpin each theme.

2. STRATEGIC ACTION CONTEXT

2.1 RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND STRATEGIES

The CAP needs to align and integrate with a number of other strategies and plans internationally, nationally, regionally and locally. The following lists indicate the primary related legislation and **Figure 2.1** shows a visual representation, acknowledging that not all listed plans are represented graphically.

International

- Rio Declaration 1992
- Kyoto Protocol (1997)
- Johannesburg Declaration 2002
- Paris Agreement 2015
- The Glasgow Pact 2021
- IPCC Sixth Assessment Report
- Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- 2030 Strategic Framework for International Climate and Nature Action

United Kingdom

- Climate Change Act 2008
- UK Emissions Trading Scheme (UK ETS)
- UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (2022)
- UK integrated National Energy and Climate Change (NECP)
- Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener (2021)
- Third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3)
- Environment Act 2021
- Transforming finance for a greener future: 2019 green finance strategy (updated 2023)
- UK Committee on Climate Change, Interim UK Carbon Budgets
- UK Clean Growth Strategy, 2017
- The UK 25 Year Environment Plan, 2018
- Future of Mobility: Urban Strategy Moving Britain Ahead (2019)
- Government food strategy (2022)

Scottish

- Scottish Government National Outcomes
- Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997
- Programme for Government 2024-25: Serving Scotland
- Planning (Scotland) Act 2006
- The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
- National Planning Framework 4 (2024)
- Cleaner Air for Scotland 2 - Towards a Better Place for Everyone
- The River Basin Management Plan for Scotland 2021 - 2027
- Local Government in Scotland Act 2003
- Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
- Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2024
- Climate change: Scottish National Adaptation Plan 2024-2029
- Just Transition Commission: A National Mission for a fairer, greener Scotland (2021)

International

- Heat Policy Statement – 'Towards Decarbonising Heat: Maximising Opportunities for Scotland' 2015
- Fuel Poverty (Targets, Definition and Strategy) (Scotland) Act 2019
- 'Sustainable Housing: Fuel Poverty and Climate Change' Advice Note (2014)
- Climate Change Plan update (2020)
- The future of energy in Scotland: Scottish energy strategy (2017)
- Energy Efficient Scotland Programme (2020)
- Scottish biodiversity strategy to 2045 (2024)
- Biodiversity: delivery plan 2024 to 2030 (2024)
- Scotland's Forestry Strategy
- Heat Networks (Scotland) Act (2021)
- Infrastructure investment plan 2021-2022 to 2025-2026: carbon assessment
- The Net Zero Carbon Public Buildings Standard (2021)
- The Heat in Buildings Strategy (2021)
- Energy Efficient Standard for Social Housing post-2020 (EESSH2)
- Scottish Government's Local Energy Policy Statement (2021)
- The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2015
- Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan and Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan Implementation Plan 2020-2025
- Scottish Government consultation: Role of Public Sector Bodies in Tackling Climate Change
- Scottish Planning Policy 2014
- District Heating Action Plan (DHAP)
- Heat Networks Delivery Plan: review report 2024
- Scottish Government, Nature Scot, SEPA (2017) Peatland Survey. Guidance on Developments on Peatland
- Land Use Strategy for Scotland
- Scotland's Economic Strategy 2015
- National Transport Strategy 2020: Protecting our Climate and Improving Lives
- SEPA Climate Change Allowances for Flood Risk Assessment in Land Use Planning Guidance (2024)
- The Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) (2021)
- A Guide to Climate Change Impacts (2019)
- Historic Environmental Policy for Scotland (2019)
- Our place in time: The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland (2014)
- National Good Food Nation Plan (2024)
- Circular Economy (Scotland) Act 2024
- Green industrial strategy (2024)
- Scotland's Net Zero Nation Public Engagement Strategy (2021)
- The Environment Strategy for Scotland: Delivering the Environment Strategy Outcome on Scotland's Economy - Evidence Base & Policy Levers
- State of Nature Scotland 2023
- Securing a green recovery on a path to net zero: climate change plan 2018–2032 – update (2020)
- Local heat and energy efficiency strategies and delivery plans: guidance (2022)

International

- Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation (2022)

Regional

- Glasgow City Region Climate Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan
- Clydeplan Regional Spatial Strategy
- Regional Transport Strategy Delivery Plan
- Regional Economic Strategy 2017 – 2035
- Green Network Strategy and 'The Blueprint'
- Climate Ready Clyde Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan
- Strathclyde partnership for Transport A Call to Action: The Regional Transport Strategy for the west of Scotland 2023-2038
- The Regional Active Travel Strategy for the West of Scotland 2024-2038
- Surrounding Authorities Climate Change Strategies
- Other authorities' best practice

Local

- Local Development Plan (LDP) 2017 – 2022, LDP2 and LDP3 (emerging 2025)
- Sustainability and Climate Change Framework and Annual Action Plan 2016 – 2021
- Corporate Asset Management Plan
- Open Space Strategy 2015 – 2020
- Active Travel Strategy 2023-2030
- Local Transport Strategy 2020-2025
- Flood Risk Management Strategy – Clyde and Loch Lomond
- East Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017 – 2027
- Local Housing Strategy (2023–2028)
- Draft Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Delivery Plan (2024)
- East Dunbartonshire Council Energy Policy (2012)
- Circular Economy Strategy (2023)
- Place Plans
- Child Poverty Plan
- City Deal Westerhill Masterplan
- Sustainability & Energy Statement Form
- Green Network Strategy 2017 – 2022
- East Dunbartonshire Council Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2016 – 2020
- Statutory Biodiversity Duty Report East Dunbartonshire Council 2021 - 2023
- East Dunbartonshire Council Food Growing Strategy (emerging)
- Strategic Housing Investment Plan (2023 - 2028)
- The Interim Carbon Management Plan 2021 - 2023
- Economic Recovery Plan (2020)
- New Economic Development Strategy (emerging)
- Annual Procurement Strategy
- Digital Strategy (emerging)
- Locality Plans
    - Lennoxtown Locality Plan
    - Hillhead and Harestanes Locality Plan

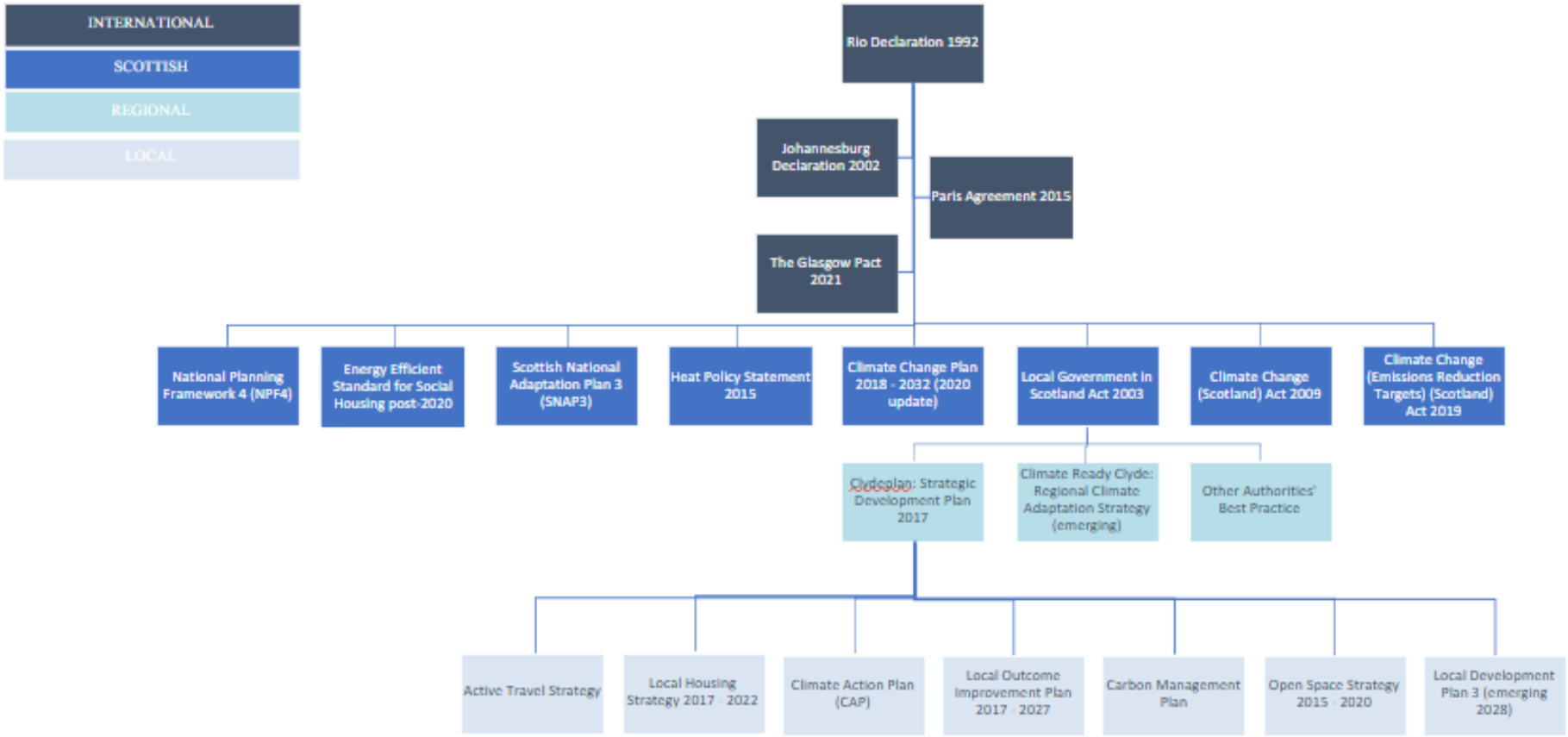
International
○ Auchinairn Locality Plans ○ Twechar Locality Plan

Many of the plans, programmes and strategies have been subject to their own SEA, for example Clydeplan, Regional Transport Strategy and CRC Regional Climate Adaptation Strategy, including all of the local documents. These have been reviewed, where required, to ensure that the environmental assessment aligns with other documents and considers other data and mitigation options.

Cross-boundary effects with neighbouring authorities have been considered through the integration of the CAP and the consideration of Plans and Strategies produced by the neighbouring authorities.

APPENDIX A lists key legislation, plans, programmes, policies and strategies that influence or are influenced by the CAP. This list includes documents that refer to international and national, regional and local environmental objectives. Their content, where appropriate, has been used to inform the environmental objectives for the SEA of the CAP.

Figure 2.1: Visual representation of related legislation



2.2 BASELINE ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

The early stages of SEA, such as describing the baseline, identifying environmental problems/issues and analysing the links and relationships between other strategic actions, have been carried out concurrently and to cross-inform throughout the process.

Establishing a comprehensive understanding of the current environmental baseline is necessary in order to measure the significant environmental effects of the CAP. East Dunbartonshire Council have gathered this Environmental Baseline, utilising GIS mapping where appropriate, to show the geographical location and scale of key environmental designations and assets. The potential effects (including, cumulative, secondary and synergistic effects) of the information contained within the CAP and their alternatives have been measured against this baseline.

Table 2.1 contains a broad summary of the baseline environmental information which has been collated and includes the SEA objectives used for the assessment. These have been developed taking into account the summary baseline data. The SEA Objectives, assessment questions and indicators have been used to assess the CAP. The baseline has been updated since the development of the Scoping Report and also to incorporate comments from the Scoping consultation.

Table 2.1: Proposed Environmental Baseline Data

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
Population & Human Health	East Dunbartonshire has a total population of 109,000 (2022) which increased by 3.7% from 105,000 in the previous census in 2011; Population Projections forecast that the population of East Dunbartonshire will be 112,008 in 2028 and 116,315 by 2043 (+3.8% and +7.4% compared to 2018). Population is not evenly distributed across East Dunbartonshire. Significant concentrations of residential and non-residential properties can be found primarily in the southern part of the area adjacent to the Glasgow City Council boundary. East Dunbartonshire has an ageing population. As of the 2022 census, 11.8% of the population was aged 75 years and above (12,849 people), over 2% higher than Scotland. The 2018-based projections show that 26.6% of the population by 2043 will be of pensionable age and over, with 17.2% aged 0-15 and 56.2% of working age. East Dunbartonshire inhabitants of working age currently make up 57.7% of the population compared to the national figure of 63.4%. Areas of Hillhead, Lennoxtown, Kirkintilloch West, Keystone and Dougalston and Auchinairn are in the most deprived 25% in Scotland (SIMD 2020), with Hillhead being the most deprived in East Dunbartonshire, although the ranks in the area have improved. Twechar is also considered to be an area of socio-economic disadvantaged. Each of these localities have a Locality Plan as outlined in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP).	Population, health and employment statistics East Dunbartonshire Area Profile National Records for Scotland Office of National Statistics SIMD 2020 Transport and Travel in Scotland Open Space Audit and Strategy East Dunbartonshire Food Growing Strategy (emerging) East Dunbartonshire Green Network Strategy East Dunbartonshire Local Outcome Improvement Plan East Dunbartonshire Core Path Plan	To improve human health and community wellbeing

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	Generally, the health of the residents of East Dunbartonshire is good with nearly 81.7% of the residents being generally healthy, in comparison to Scotland as a whole (78.8%) according to the 2022 census. The level of residents found to be in general health status of 'bad' or 'very bad' within East Dunbartonshire and Scotland was 5.6% and 6.9% respectively. In East Dunbartonshire, cars are the most commonly used mode of transport (main mode for 66% of people). 64% of residents walk as a means of transport compared to 36% who don't walk for transport at all. This is higher than both the regional (33%) and national levels (31%). 55% of households have no access to bicycles for adults, compared to 45% of households who have access to one bicycle, 27% of households who have access to two or more bicycles. Household bicycle access increases with income; 73% of those earning £50,000+ have access to one or more bicycles. The percentage of economically active people living in East Dunbartonshire slightly decreased from 76.8% to 76.3% between 2022 and 2023. People in employment increased from 73.7% in 2022 to 74.7% in 2023, in line with the Scottish average. Unemployment decreased from 2.9% to 2.5% over the same period, remaining 1% lower than the Scottish average of 3.5%. A higher proportion of males (80.2%) were economically active compared to females (72.6%). In East Dunbartonshire, the 'green network' includes land, water, open spaces, natural habitats, and connecting paths, supporting wildlife movement and providing recreational areas for residents, workers, and visitors. The key components include nodes of open space, geological features and habitat such as parks, Sites of Special Scientific Interest,	Central Scotland Green Network East Dunbartonshire Council – Greenspace East Dunbartonshire Council - Local Transport Strategy 2020-2025 East Dunbartonshire Council - Parks & Open Spaces East Dunbartonshire Council - Parks, gardens and open spaces locations and facilities Active Travel Strategy 2023-30: Evidence Report Green Infrastructure and Green Network 2023 Nguyen, P.Y., Astell-Burt, T., Rahimi-Ardabili, H. and Feng, X., 2023. Effect of nature prescriptions on cardiometabolic and mental health, and physical activity: a systematic review. The	

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	Local Nature Reserves and Local Nature Conservation Sites connected by linkages and access routes such as core paths, rights of way and linear stretches of habitat corridors - including watercourses, hedgerows, and vegetated road and rail verges. There are six Strategic Green Network Assets in the area: including Mugdock Country Park and Milngavie Reservoirs and 6 Green Network Strategic Access Links, including the long distance paths of the West Highland Way and John Muir Way. Public green spaces are known to provide a range of benefits for communities, the environment, and the local economy. There are nine regional parks and three local nature reserves (LNRs) in East Dunbartonshire utilised by residents. Previous research shows that nature prescriptions are gaining popularity as a form of social prescribing in support of sustainable health care. This is due to it benefits associated with good social, mental, and physical health (Nguyen et al. 2023). Therefore, open greenspaces enhance overall well-being while promoting environmental sustainability, aligning with broader health and climate action goals. Current community food growing assets in East Dunbartonshire: • Rosebank Allotment – Kirkintilloch • Torrance – Demonstration Garden • Twechar – community growing spaces • Hillhead Housing Association – Garden and Friars Croft Orchard An allotment site is currently under construction at Etive Park in Bishopbriggs. An additional allotment site is also planned for Craigfoot in Milton of Campsie.	Lancet Planetary Health, 7(4), pp.e313-e328.	

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
Cultural Heritage	East Dunbartonshire has: - • 1 UNESCO World Heritage Site (part) - Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall). A buffer zone has been identified around the Wall to help protect its setting, in Supplementary Planning Guidance. • 44 Scheduled Monuments. In particular the Forth & Clyde Canal is made up of a series of Scheduled Monuments. • 276 Listed Building, 17 of which are Category A, 123 are Category B and 136 are Category C. • 21 Conservation Areas • 24 Townscape Protection Areas • 1 site – Milngavie Reservoirs – is recognised as a national Garden and Designed Landscape. 11 such sites have also been identified as having local value. • There are nine buildings identified in the Buildings at Risk Register as of 2024. • There are 103 locations selected as archaeological sites on the Historic Environment Record (HER) It is important to recognise and consider non-designated heritage assets as part of the assessment process.	Historic Environment Scotland (2025) Adopted Local Development Plan 2 (2022) map Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) East Dunbartonshire Council United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation – World Heritage Site Designation NatureScot Buildings at Risk register for Scotland	To protect, conserve and, enhance the historic environment at every given opportunity
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	East Dunbartonshire has: - • 6 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI); 4 designated due to their ecological interest and 2 are designated due to their geological interests.	Adopted Local Development Plan 2 (2022) map Priority Species and Habitats. Regionally and locally designated sites.	To protect, enhance, create and restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity at every given opportunity

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	• 5 Local Landscape Areas • 110 Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS): 76 LNCS with biodiversity value and 34 LNCS with geodiversity value. • 490 Tree Preservation Orders • 3 Local Nature Reserves (LNR) which include Merkland LNR, Lenzie Moss LNR and Kilmardinny Loch. • An identified green network in particular 8 Green Network Habitat Links, including the River Kelvin and its tributaries. There are a number of Protected Species identified in East Dunbartonshire (including those with former Species Action Plans, priority species and lesser priority species). This includes a number of European Protected Species such as Otters, Badgers and Water Vole. Several Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) have been identified in East Dunbartonshire including Himalayan balsam, Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed among others. Woodland in East Dunbartonshire: • Area of native woodland is 841ha, which is 32.6% of the total woodland area and 4.8% of the total land area in the Council area. • 94ha of woodland is present on ancient woodlands, which makes up 34% of native woodland	Links to the Green Network Results of the review of LNCS and Important Wildlife Corridor designations detailed in EDC's Natural Environment Planning Guidance EDC Local Biodiversity Action Plan NatureScot (2025) Native Woodland Survey of Scotland report for East Dunbartonshire, October 2010 Record areas and levels of planting NatureScot Protected Species data East Dunbartonshire Green Network Strategy 2016-2021 Scottish Ancient Woodland Inventory	

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	• The main native woodland types in East Dunbartonshire are lowland mixed deciduous woodland (34%), wet woodland (25%) and upland birchwoods (21%). EDC's Green Network Strategy details supporting local actions and strategic green network assets and opportunities including the Campsie Fells, Glazert Valley, River Kelvin, Forth and Clyde Canal and Mugdock Country Park.	Native Woodland Survey of Scotland – East Dunbartonshire. Semi-Natural Woodland Inventory EDC Statutory Biodiversity Duty Report	
Soil & Geology	Despite three quarters of the land in East Dunbartonshire being utilised for agricultural processes, the district has a small percentage (5%) of prime agricultural soil. Currently East Dunbartonshire has not designated any areas of land as contaminated land as defined in the Environmental Protection Act 1990. However, a list of potential contaminated sites has been created based on previous land use. On this list 626 potentially contaminated sites (to varying degrees of contamination) have been identified. There are currently 20 Vacant (8) and Derelict (12) Land within East Dunbartonshire with a total area of over 74 hectares. East Dunbartonshire also has 1 RIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site) at Clachan of Campsie. It has 36 sites representing geological diversity, and 34 are recommended as Local Geodiversity Sites (LGS). There are varying levels of identified peatland and carbon-rich soils in East Dunbartonshire including: • Class 1, 3, 4 and 5 across the Campsie Fells	EDC Local Development Plan Scottish Vacant and Derelict Land Survey 2019 (Updated 2024) James Hutton Institute Adopted Local Development Plan 2 (2022) map NatureScot British Geological Survey UKRIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site)	To protect and use high quality and sensitive soils in a sustainable manner and conserve recognised geodiversity assets at every given opportunity

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	• Class 3 predominantly in the Kilpatrick Hills • Areas of Class 1 and 5 including High Moss • Class 3, 4 and 5 around Lennox Forrest • Areas of Class 4 in Kirkintilloch, Torrance and Twechar. There are over 156 areas of Peat soil with a greater majority to the north of the Council area.	NatureScot Carbon and Peatland Map 2016	
Landscape	East Dunbartonshire's landscape is diverse in terms of character and land uses. The district is characterised by five main types of landscape character: Drumlin Foothills; Rolling Farmland; Broad Valley Lowland; Rugged Moorland Hills; and urban areas. The topography of East Dunbartonshire is generally low lying, undulating land with the exception of the two Local Landscape Areas; the Campsie Fells and the Kilpatrick Hills to the North and West of the district respectively. There are 5 Local Landscape Areas (LLA) within East Dunbartonshire Council's boundary, including: -The Campsie Fells LLA - Glazert Valley LLA - Bardowie, Baldernock and Torrance LLA - Kilpatrick Hills LLA - Bar Hill LLA East Dunbartonshire has a total of 973.46 hectares of urban open space; the greatest proportion of which is classified as semi-natural greenspace and regional Greenspace. The Council area comprises 458	British Geological Survey UKRIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site) Glasgow & Clyde Valley Landscape Character Assessment, 1999 EDC Local Development Plan	To protect and restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value at every given opportunity

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	hectares of public parks and gardens, including nine regional sites for sport and outdoor recreation. East Dunbartonshire has nine Regional parks: • King George V Park, Bearsden • Colquhoun Park, Bearsden • Thorn Park, Bearsden • Bishopbriggs Public Park, Bishopbriggs • Huntershill Playing Fields, Bishopbriggs • High Park, Lennoxtown • Luggie Park, Kirkintilloch • Merkland Sports Pitches, Kirkintilloch • Lennox Park, Milngavie The green belt is a Development Plan policy which covers the East Dunbartonshire area, with the exception of the upland areas; its objectives include maintaining the character and distinctiveness of the areas settlements.		
Water Quality	The main watercourses within East Dunbartonshire are the River Kelvin, Glazert Water, Allander Water, Luggie Water, Forth and Clyde Canal and Bothlin Burn. East Dunbartonshire also has two reservoirs in Milngavie and a number of other small dams in various locations throughout East Dunbartonshire, which are of significant value to the surrounding area. There are a number of water bodies in East Dunbartonshire with varying levels of ecological status (2020 data). These are listed below. All of the water bodies are aiming for good ecological status by 2027: - River Kelvin (to its confluence with the Glazert Water) – Bad	River Basin Management Plan for East Dunbartonshire Local water quality data Drinking water quality SEPA – RBMP Data East Dunbartonshire Council	To prevent deterioration and enhance the water environment at every given opportunity

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	- River Kelvin (from the confluence with the Glazert to the EDC boundary) – Bad - River Carron (source to EDC boundary) – Poor - Allander Water – Moderate - Glazert Water - Moderate - Finglen Burn - Good - Luggie Water – Moderate - Broad Burn – Good - Bothlin Burn – Poor - Craigmaddie Burn – Poor - Kirk Burn – Good - Stand Burn/Park Burn – Bad - Forth and Clyde Canal – High The ecological status of groundwater sources applicable to East Dunbartonshire are as follows: • Clydebank: good • Kilpatrick: good • Lennoxtown: poor • Denny: poor • Carron and Touch: good • Campsie: good • Kirkintilloch: poor • Glasgow and Motherwell: poor • Kelvin Sand and Gravel: good • Clydebank Sand and Gravel: good	Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Action Plan	

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	*Flooding is discussed in Climatic Factors		
Air Quality	A significant concern for air quality in East Dunbartonshire is transport which is the main contributor of air pollutants such as NO_2 (nitrogen dioxide) and PM_{10} (particulates). The busiest routes that are of concern in relation to air quality within East Dunbartonshire are the A803 and B812 in Bishopbriggs; the A81 through Milngavie; and the A809 and A739 through Bearsden. East Dunbartonshire Council has four continuous automatic analysers; Bishopbriggs, Bearsden, Kirkintilloch and Milngavie. Monitoring over 2021 indicates a continuing overall downward trend in line with what has been experienced across Scotland over the last few years and this trend continued on the whole for all pollutants. The annual mean NO_2 level at three of our four automatic monitoring sites rose slightly post pandemic to levels between 16 and 24 $\mu g/m^3$ as opposed to the objective level of 40$\mu g/m^3$ however, the level at the Bishopbriggs site dropped from 20 $\mu g/m^3$ in 2020 to 18.6 $\mu g/m^3$ for 2021. There is currently one Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) declared within East Dunbartonshire; Bishopbriggs, was declared an AQMA after several years of exceeding national NO_2 and PM_{10} objective levels. Bearsden AQMA was revoked in September 2022 due to consistently improved air quality over the recent years. Air quality levels have improved since AQMA declaration in East Dunbartonshire. Monitoring results in the Bishopbriggs AQMA are below the air quality objective levels for which they were declared and have been for some time, although it is not the intention to revoke it yet.	Air Quality statistics for major routes and settlements within east Dunbartonshire. Rail patronage and bus services and frequencies – see climatic factors below. East Dunbartonshire Council National Air Emissions Inventory Scottish Government DEFRA Scottish Transport Bus and Coach Statistics No. 32, 2013 Local Transport Strategy 2020 - 2025 Scottish Air Quality statistics – 1 January to 31 December 2019	To prevent deterioration and enhance air quality at every given opportunity

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	0.35 billion vehicle miles were travelled on roads in East Dunbartonshire in 2023 over 558km of roads in the Council area. In 2022, the total consumption of all fuels by the transport sector was 43.7 ktoe. Allocation of sustainable located development sites is a particular aim of the Climate Action Plan and LDP3. Specific assessment criteria have been integrated into the proposal Site Appraisal Methodology to ensure that this plays an important role in improving air quality levels throughout East Dunbartonshire. (Additional baseline data to be collected utilising the proposal assessment data). Monitoring indicators introduced to highlight the success of this measure to track the allocation of proposals which are sustainably located.	EDC Statutory Biodiversity Duty Report EDC Annual Progress Report 2023 Road traffic statistics	
Climatic Factors	**Travel:** A significant source of carbon dioxide in East Dunbartonshire is attributable to vehicular transport emissions (126.3ktCO_2e in 2022), which contributes towards climate change, although the largest proportion of CO_2 emissions is attributable to domestic emissions (158.8 ktCO_2 in 2022). Total emissions for East Dunbartonshire in 2022 were recorded at 432.8 kt CO2e, which is a 43.8 kt CO2e decrease from 2019 emissions levels (476.6 kt CO2e). • The level of public transport access varies across the area. Kirkintilloch is served by bus services that provide access to towns and villages in East Dunbartonshire and adjacent local authorities such as Glasgow. However, there are areas that do not have services that are frequent or operate out-with peak travel periods and daytime hours. • Most commuters drive or are passengers in cars. Close to 12% of commuters within East Dunbartonshire use bus services to get to work, while only 3% use this mode to cross into other local authorities. • The majority of residents in East Dunbartonshire travelled to work or study by car or van (67% compared to the Scottish average of 62%).	Flood Risk Assessments. Flood defences. Emissions levels within East Dunbartonshire - Local Authority territorial CO2 emissions estimates 2005-2018 (kt CO2) - Full dataset Flooding and storm information and events. Renewable energy potential. Scottish Government	To contribute towards the reduction of Scottish greenhouse gas outputs in line with Government targets To reduce or prevent the overall effects of climate change including those related to flood risks

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	• Bus travel in the Southwest and Strathclyde and Southeast (corresponding to the Regional Transport Partnership areas of SPT, SWestrans and SEStran) accounts for 84 per cent of bus journeys in Scotland. • Bus travel increased in 2021-2022 from 2020-2021 with 97 million passenger journeys (compared to 57 million in 2020-21). However, this is still a -41% change over 5 years where 2016-2017 recorded 165 million passenger journeys by bus travel. • 219 million vehicle kilometres were travelled on A class roads in East Dunbartonshire in 2019. 343 million vehicle kilometres were travelled on all other roads in East Dunbartonshire in 2019. This gives a combined total of 562 million vehicle kilometres travelled throughout East Dunbartonshire in 2019. • East Dunbartonshire has very high levels of car ownership compared to regional and national levels. • ULEVs uptake has increased in East Dunbartonshire. There were 689 licensed ULEVs in East Dunbartonshire in 2021. There are 16 locations of available electric vehicle charging sites within or adjacent to East Dunbartonshire. • Overall petrol and diesel consumption in East Dunbartonshire continues to fall. • Glasgow is a key attraction for both employment and higher education opportunities for the population of East Dunbartonshire which increases the need for travel. **Energy:** CO2 emissions associated with the expenditure of energy from industrial/commercial (including agriculture) and domestic buildings accounts for 79.2 ktCO2e and 158.8 ktCO2e respectively in 2022. Such energy use has a significant impact on air quality.	SEPA East Dunbartonshire Council UK Climate Impacts Programme Online Handbook of Climate Trends across Scotland 2006 (as updated) (SNIFFER Guidance) Scottish Household Survey 2018 (access to cars per household) Transport and Travel in Scotland SEPA Flood map and climate outputs Scotland's Climate Change Declaration 2018-19 Report (SSN; Keep Scotland Beautiful; EDC) Scottish Government UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2015	

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	Flooding: Flooding has been an issue in the Kelvin Valley for many years with the most recent flood events occurring in 1994 and 2005. The main areas of concern for potential flooding are the River Kelvin and its tributaries – the Allander, Glazert and Luggie Waters. The Clyde and Loch Lomond Flood Risk Management Plan (2022–2028), covering 10 local authorities including East Dunbartonshire, aims to address flood risks identified in 23 key catchments. These areas, which include 98,000 homes and businesses, face an estimated annual flood damage of £70 million. The CAP outlines measures such as flood protection schemes, early warning systems, and surface water management to reduce risks and plan for future flooding events. The River Kelvin is a key area of concern, with around 14,500 people and 8,550 properties currently at risk, numbers expected to increase due to climate change. The Council is focused on supporting the implementation of the CAP. **Waste** East Dunbartonshire only has one operating landfill (Inchbelle Quarry, Kirkintilloch) but is only used for the disposal of inert materials, mainly construction materials. All household and commercial municipal waste is transferred to landfills in North Lanarkshire. Therefore, there is minimal methane produced from landfill within East Dunbartonshire to impact on climate change. In East Dunbartonshire (2019 data) there was 52,692 tonnes of household waste generated of which 29,145 tonnes was recycled (55.3%). 10,290 tonnes of waste was landfilled (19.5%). In 2022, more household waste was generated at 54,589 tonnes, but only 2,157 tonnes of household waste ended up landfilled (4%), while 28,272 tonnes were recycled (51.8%). In total, waste management in East Dunbartonshire in 2022 equated to 38.2 ktCO2e or 8.8% of total emissions; compared to	East Dunbartonshire Area Profile UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions statistics, 2005 to 2022 EDC Statutory Biodiversity Duty Report	

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	total emissions for Scotland in 2022 where waste management equated to 1450.3 ktCO2e or 3.7%. **Nature-based solutions** The extent and quality of current nature-based carbon sinks and emissions have not yet been quantified, there is no current baseline data. The potential extent of current nature-based solutions can be summarised in the biodiversity, flora and fauna and soil and geology sections.		
Material Assets	East Dunbartonshire is supplied by various levels of transport infrastructure, through well serviced rail networks and bus routes encompassing the whole district and the various road networks that link settlements within East Dunbartonshire together with providing routes out with the district. There are 57km of A class roads, 47 km of B class roads and 34km of C class roads. There are 385 km of unclassified roads. East Dunbartonshire has a network of Core Paths and public open spaces, which provide opportunities for recreation. These also provide active travel routes from residential areas to services and businesses and support the CSGN Strategic Routes Network. Studies into housing requirements have indicated that East Dunbartonshire has one of the highest net needs for affordable housing, compared to other Scottish Local Authorities. The Local Plan and emerging Local Development Plan identifies the location of new development proposals with potential for changes to transport infrastructure/routes.	Transport and infrastructure data. Core Path Network and Rights of Way. Walking and cycle routes Public open spaces and accessibility. Scottish Government East Dunbartonshire Council Transport Scotland SPT	To promote the sustainable use of community assets, natural resources and material assets.

Environmental Topic	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	SEA Objectives
	Related waste content also relevant to Material Assets is contained above under Climatic Factors.	Local Development Plan for large scale development proposals. Scottish Household waste generated and managed in 2019 – SEPA Central Scotland Green Network Strategic Routes Network Local Transport Strategy 2020 – 2025 Scottish Household Waste Generated and Managed – 2022 Technical Notes 2023, Issue 40 - Waste Compositional Analysis National Records of Scotland - Scotland's Census 2022 - rounded population estimates	

2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES[5] FOR THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

The Environmental Report identifies the current environmental issues that impact on East Dunbartonshire as a whole, utilising the information that has been identified through an analysis of the baseline environmental data to determine the potential environmental implications. When undertaking the assessment of the CAP, the Council have identified environmental issues and made predictions about how they will worsen, stabilise or improve through the implementation of the CAP. The main environmental issues facing East Dunbartonshire are outlined in **Table 2.2** below with an outline of how the CAP and SEA have addressed the issues thus far.

Table 2.2: Environmental Issues

SEA Topic	Relevant Environmental Issues	How the CAP/SEA ER have addressed the issues
Population and Human Health	East Dunbartonshire has datazones which fall into the top 25% most deprived areas in Scotland; these datazones are located in Auchinairn, Hillhead and Harestanes, Lennoxtown and Twechar.	The CAP addresses these issues through focusing on improving energy efficiency and reducing fuel poverty. The CAP includes specific measures for council estates and vulnerable communities. The Environmental Report evaluates how energy efficiency measures will benefit vulnerable communities whilst avoiding adverse environmental effects.
Population and Human Health	Some town centre environments within East Dunbartonshire are neglected, run down and in need of regeneration; this includes the Council estate. Carbon management options will improve the energy efficiency of existing and new buildings. Corporately, improvements will include those within the Council estate and could present benefits for townscape and the attractiveness of our localities.	The CAP incorporates regeneration strategies for town centres particularly focusing on energy efficiency improvements in council buildings and promoting sustainable urban development. The SEA evaluates at a high level the environmental effects of regeneration proposals ensuring that carbon management and energy efficient improvements align with wider environmental objectives.
Population and Human Health	Fuel poverty affects approximately 28% of	The CAP provides context around fuel-poor

[5] The term "environmental issues" is the name collectively given to air, water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors, landscape, material assets, population and human health as well as cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage) in the EU Directive 2001/42/EC. In practice they are referred to as "SEA topics".

SEA Topic	Relevant Environmental Issues	How the CAP/SEA ER have addressed the issues
	households in East Dunbartonshire and are estimated to be higher for pensioner households, with the Scottish House Condition Survey (SHCS) reporting that 40% of pensioner households in East Dunbartonshire are fuel poor. Extreme fuel poverty – where more than 20% of household income is spent on fuel affects 6% of East Dunbartonshire households. This rises to 12% of pensioner households. Drivers of fuel poverty including income profiles, energy efficiency and the cost of fuel will be a key priority of the CAP with opportunities to mitigate against the impacts. Opportunities aimed at areas of deprivation will tackle issues such as fuel poverty, ensuring that our communities have access to efficient and affordable energy.	households through energy efficiency measures. Specific actions include area wide actions on energy efficiency related retrofits (albeit this is not specific to instances of fuel-poverty) and developing methods to ensure the housing estate stock aligns with climate change and relevant sustainability policies. The SEA assesses at a strategic level how energy efficiency measures interact with environmental objectives particularly evaluating the sustainability of energy efficiency interventions and their impacts on vulnerable groups.
Population and Human Health	East Dunbartonshire Council is the largest local employer in the area. The CAP presents an opportunity for significant changes within the Council estate and practices. There is also scope to target other employers and organisations to make changes in order to reduce carbon emissions with the Council leading by example. Businesses and organisations that operate within East Dunbartonshire will be included within the scope of the Action Plan in order to identify appropriate action to take forward in order to demonstrate a collaborative approach to achieving net zero targets.	The CAP establishes the Council as a leader in carbon reduction, implementing significant changes in operations and practices while engaging with other local businesses to achieve net zero targets through collaborative approaches.

SEA Topic	Relevant Environmental Issues	How the CAP/SEA ER have addressed the issues
Cultural Heritage	There are a large number and variety of cultural heritage assets in East Dunbartonshire including the Antonine Wall (UNESCO World Heritage Site) and the Forth and Clyde Canal which require protection and management, but also contribute to East Dunbartonshire as a tourist destination. Climate change poses a threat to the historic environment due to rising temperatures and increased rainfall. The CAP presents strategic opportunities to address these impacts by exploring climate change effects on historic environments and developing promoting the reuse and retrofit of traditional buildings within a circular economy framework and supporting sustainability goals through adaptive conservation approaches.	The CAP sustainable communities theme acknowledges the need to better understand the risks and protections for landmarks noting that cultural heritage preservation is closely linked to climate change. The SEA evaluates the impact of climate actions on heritage assets highlighting that ensuring climate change risk is considered in decision-making could ensure historic assets are protected from changing weather patterns. It also deals with the effects on heritage assets from retrofits and upgraded building fabric.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	East Dunbartonshire has a wide range of designated and non-designated sites, including those of ecological importance and protected species. This is seen through a number of Local Nature Conservation Sites and Important Wildlife Corridors, Tree Preservation Orders and Local Nature Reserves. East Dunbartonshire also has 6 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Both native and ancient woodland should be managed to conserve important biodiversity and heritage features. The CAP should help promote the	The CAP integrates biodiversity protection with climate action including measures to protect and enhance natural habitats while supporting carbon reduction goals. This includes the Council's plan to commission a Nature-based investment study to understand offsetting opportunities for East Dunbartonshire. The SEA Framework evaluates biodiversity protection through: • Assessment of CAP impacts on protected species and habitats

SEA Topic	Relevant Environmental Issues	How the CAP/SEA ER have addressed the issues
	restoration of ancient, native and semi-natural woodland, in line with the Clyde Plan Forestry and Woodland Strategy, River and canal corridors in East Dunbartonshire contribute significantly to wide ranging habitats and biodiversity. The natural environment plays a considerable role in healthy lives and supports the management of carbon and associated emissions. In addition, the natural environment contributes to East Dunbartonshire as an economic and habitable centre. The CAP will include opportunities to address the local ecological emergency with options to protect, manage and enhance biodiversity and habitats and to prevent fragmentation of habitats.	• Evaluation of habitat enhancement opportunities

SEA Topic	Relevant Environmental Issues	How the CAP/SEA ER have addressed the issues
Soil and Geology	There are a number of potentially contaminated land areas in East Dunbartonshire along with vacant and derelict land sites which are underutilised. There are several sites in East Dunbartonshire that have been identified as peatland. Peatland and carbon rich soils have a role as a carbon sink locally. There are 36 sites identified as being geologically diverse, of which 34 have been assigned as Local Geodiversity Site (LGS). The area also hosts 1 RIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site) and 1 SSSI of geological importance.	The CAP addresses soil protection and enhancement particularly focusing on peatland preservation for carbon sequestration and remediation of contaminated sites. The SEA evaluates: • Impact of CAP actions on soil quality • Protection of carbon rich soils and peatland • Opportunities for contaminated land remediation

SEA Topic	Relevant Environmental Issues	How the CAP/SEA ER have addressed the issues
Landscape	East Dunbartonshire has a number of areas with high/moderate scenic value as well as specific landscape characters and settings across the Council area, including the Campsie Fells and Kilpatrick Hills. The CAP should promote resilient landscapes, protect designated landscape areas and landscape character and help increase access to green and blue spaces. Landscape character, scenic value and particularly local distinctiveness are an area which can positively impact East Dunbartonshire's communities and contribute to health and wellbeing benefits.	The CAP promotes landscape resilience whilst protecting designated areas and improving access to green spaces, integrating climate adaptation with landscape preservation. The SEA assesses: • Visual impacts of climate interventions • Protection of landscape character • Integration of green infrastructure • Enhancement of areas of scenic value
Water Quality	There are a number of watercourses in East Dunbartonshire including the Forth and Clyde Canal, River Kelvin, Allander Water and Luggie Water with varying levels of quality. These assets require protection in order to reduce, prevent or offset any adverse impacts of initiatives explored through the CAP. Action should seek to improve water quality.	The CAP includes measures to protect and improve water quality while implementing climate adaptation strategies that consider water resource management. The SEA framework evaluates: • Water quality impacts of CAP measures • Flood risk management • Protection of water resources • Sustainable drainage opportunities.

SEA Topic	Relevant Environmental Issues	How the CAP/SEA ER have addressed the issues
Air Quality	Unacceptably high levels of air pollution can be harmful to the environment and human health. East Dunbartonshire currently has two designated AQMAs (Bishopbriggs and Bearsden Cross). These are managed through Air Quality Management Plans and the emerging Air Quality Strategy. The CAP will present an opportunity to address the proportion of emissions impacting air pollution arising from corporate activities and area-wide.	The CAP addresses air quality through emissions reduction strategies particularly around transport, integrating air quality improvements with carbon reduction goals. The SEA assesses: • Air quality impacts of CAP measures • Transport emission reduction measures Mitigation measures are presented as part of the SEA findings in relation to potential negative effects from construction.
Climatic Factors	Domestic emissions account for the largest proportion of carbon dioxide in East Dunbartonshire, and emissions from transport account for the largest proportion of NO_2 and PM10 emissions. Furthermore, Council carbon emissions contribute to approximately 5% of local emissions annually. This contributes to the effects of climate change, which include changing temperatures and rainfall patterns, and increased incidences of extreme weather events. The CAP will present an opportunity to address the proportion of emissions impacting on localised climate change arising from corporate and area-wide activities. Climate change has a direct link to flood risk. The SEPA Flood Risk Map has identified several locations within the East	The CAP addresses emissions from both domestic and transport sources including specific measures for council operations an area-wide activities to reduce climate impacts. The SEA evaluates: • The effectiveness of emission reduction measures • Climate adaptation impacts, • Resilience to extreme weather and • Flood risk management.

SEA Topic	Relevant Environmental Issues	How the CAP/SEA ER have addressed the issues
	Dunbartonshire Council area which could have significant impacts on communities.	
Material Assets	As a result of interventions that will be explored within the CAP there are potential changes to the transport network, including Council related uses, material use in refurbishing and construction of the Council estate and other private developments and waste associated with construction.	The CAP includes strategies for sustainable material use in construction and refurbishment, promoting circular economy principles in council operations and development projects. The SEA assesses: • Sustainability of material choices, • Circular economy opportunities, • Transport infrastructure impacts and • Waste management implications Mitigation measures are presented as part of the SEA findings in relation to potential negative effects from construction.

2.4 EVOLUTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE ABSENCE OF THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

The SEA process is also required to assess the likely impact on the environment if the CAP were not implemented.

The CAP proposes to explore mitigation and adaptation opportunities for the Council-wide area as well as carbon management within Council operations. Developing climate mitigation opportunities as part of the CAP will ensure area-wide action in response to national emissions reduction targets and in order to meet targets set as part of the CAP for net zero emissions. This approach would demonstrate a coordinated and proactive approach to reducing the effects of climate change in response to local priorities. This element of the CAP will involve partnerships with local organisations and businesses, transport providers, energy companies and local communities in order to identify key priorities and set specific actions with agreements from partners.

The CAP strand aimed at reducing emissions within Council operations and services demonstrate an organisational commitment to energy and fuel efficiency by setting targets for carbon reduction including an upscaling of ambition, with a long-term view. This is to include options that work towards net zero carbon emissions in public buildings and carbon reductions in council operations. Whilst there are a number of existing initiatives within Council operations and services committed to carbon reductions, including opportunities supported by the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework (SCCF) and the previous Carbon Management Plan (CMP), updating previous commitments as part of the CAP will provide ambitious targets

and new options for achieving carbon reductions and net zero carbon emissions for the Council in parallel to actions developed for the Council-wide area.

With climate already changing, no matter how successful we are at reducing our carbon emissions it will also be necessary to adapt because many impacts of past emissions are already locked into the system and will lead to changes in our climate for decades to come. It is therefore essential to combine emissions mitigation with climate adaptation measures and opportunities as part of the CAP to create more sustainable communities and places, practices, infrastructure and behaviours to make East Dunbartonshire more resilient to our changing climate.

In the absence of the adaptation strand of the CAP, it is likely that there will not be a coordinated adaptation strategy or policy for East Dunbartonshire. As a result, vulnerable and sensitive communities, Council assets and infrastructure and the built and natural environmental of the district will be at higher and consistent risk from the impacts of climate change in the decades to come. Without the CAP, there will be a lack of resilience planning and cohesion with an increased risk to Council service disruption or failure with significant related remediation costs.

Without the development of a CAP for East Dunbartonshire there is likely to be less significant carbon reduction action taking place and a lack of alignment to national targets. Furthermore, there will be less scope to realise potential mitigation and adaptation co-benefits to the local environment, including opportunities to support biodiversity value and habitats, improvements to air quality, changes to infrastructure, changes to behaviour – particularly with regards to Council operations – and resource choice and uses and supply chain activities. Overall, without the development of the CAP the likely positive impacts to the environment in relation to carbon emission reductions and increased resilience are likely to be significantly reduced. Furthermore, the CAP presents a unique opportunity to incorporate climate mitigation and adaptation opportunities for the Council-wide area and the Council itself together.

3. ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

3.1 ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires the Environmental Report to assess and evaluate the likely significant effects that the CAP will have on the environment.

The assessment of the CAP focuses on the vision, objectives and themes (the latter of which is underpinned by actions – See Appendix D). The vision, objectives and themes are referred to as components within this Environmental Report. Each component is assessed against the SEA objectives and criteria. It should be noted that the SEA focuses on the identification and assessment of significant environmental effects.

In addition to this, the assessment evaluates the CAP as a whole in terms of the potential cumulative effects (direct, indirect, secondary and synergistic) associated with the implementation of the CAP. **Table 3.1** provides an assessment approach for each of the stages as part of the assessment framework.

Table 3.1: Assessment Framework

Assessment Stage	Assessment Method
Vision	The SEA assessment questions and indicators have been used to establish whether the strategic approach in order to deliver the vision of the CAP is compliant with the proposed SEA objectives. The alternatives to the vision have been assessed and are contained within Appendix C. The main body of the report assesses the performance of the preferred vision against the SEA objectives.
Objectives	The objectives of the CAP have been tested against the proposed SEA objectives for alignment and compliance. The outcome of this assessment has helped to guide the refinement of the CAP objectives throughout its development. The alternative approaches to the objectives have been assessed and are included in Appendix C. The main body of the report assesses the performance of the objectives themselves against the SEA objectives.
Themes	Themes set out the recommended and alternative adaptation options and emission reduction pathways including those relating to local heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency. These themes are assessed via the SEA process. The main body of the report assesses the individual themes against the SEA objectives. The alternative approaches to the themes have been assessed and included in Appendix C. Appendix D presents an outline assessment of actions which underpin each theme.
Cumulative effects	Using the assessments of the various elements contained within the draft CAP, the cumulative effects have been tested. Any transboundary effects on neighbouring authorities are also considered as part of the assessment.

3.2 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The CAP has been assessed against the list of environmental topics set out in Schedule 3 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. The SEA Act requires the environmental effects of 'reasonable alternatives' to the strategic document to be identified, described and assessed where appropriate.

It also requires environmental assessments to consider the environmental objectives established at International, European Community and national levels that are relevant to the strategic document. During the Scoping stage of the SEA, it was determined via identification of the environmental issues that all of the environmental topics were likely to be impacted by the CAP and therefore all were scoped into the assessment.

The Consultation Authorities were in agreement with this level of scope, as expressed in their views following the consultation at the Scoping stage. Their comments have been addressed and incorporated into this Environmental Report as set out in **APPENDIX B.**

East Dunbartonshire Council has adopted a set of SEA objectives and criteria questions for the environmental issues that were scoped into the assessment, shown in **Table 3.2**: SEA Objectives**,** which were derived from other legislation and Plans, Programmes, Strategies and Policy Objectives (**APPENDIX A)**. The criteria questions are used to guide the CAP assessments.

Table 3.2: SEA Objectives

Environmental Factor	SEA Objectives
Population and Human Health	To improve human health and community wellbeing.
Cultural Heritage	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	To protect, enhance, create and, where necessary, restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity
Soil and Geology	To maintain or improve soil quality, prevent any further degradation of soils and conserve recognised geodiversity assets.
Landscape	To protect and enhance the landscape character, local distinctiveness and promote access to the wider environment.
Water Quality	To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance the water environment.
Air Quality	To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance air quality.
Climatic Factors	To contribute towards the reduction of Scottish greenhouse gas outputs in line with Government targets. To reduce overall flood risk by ensuring new development is not at risk of flood risk and it doesn't add to the risk elsewhere. For areas already at flood risk secure management measures.
Material Assets	To promote the sustainable use of community assets, natural resources and material assets.

3.3 ALTERNATIVES

As there is no direct legislative requirement driving the development of a CAP, the direction in which the CAP is developed could be completed through a number of alternative options that explore the three strands of the proposed CAP; mitigation, adaptation and carbon management within the Council. The alternatives are explored below in **Table 3.3**.

Table 3.3: Strategic Directions: Reasonable Alternatives

Strategic Direction	Details	Justification
1. Climate Action Plan for East Dunbartonshire	Developing a Climate Action Plan for East Dunbartonshire will encompass the three strands proposed which will explore both adaptation and mitigation.	This strategic direction will provide for strategic options to be explored with greater benefits and linkages between the strands. This approach is also likely to deliver more climate co-benefits for East Dunbartonshire in order to meet specified interim and net-zero targets and significantly improve the resilience level of the Council and area-wide. Major positive impacts are anticipated through this strategic direction for all SEA environmental factors.
2. Separate Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies (Council and area-wide)	**Mitigation** An individual Strategy focussing on climate mitigation would account for action across East Dunbartonshire, including the Council estate and operations, to meet net zero emissions by determined timescales by developing options to mitigate against the effects of climate change. The options will be largely based on a comprehensive review of local environmental baseline information and public consultation to identify key priorities. This approach would also include the employment of emissions reduction targets at interim stages to meet an overall target of net zero emissions. **Adaptation** This Strategic approach would provide a central policy response for resilience planning and adapting the Council area and operations accounting for our changing climate.	A CCMS would ensure that mitigation opportunities are identified to support meeting the emissions reductions targets set. However, it would fail to identify options for climate change adaptation directly and ensure the links between the two strands are emphasised and taken advantage of. A sole adaptation strategy option would provide an opportunity to future-proof East Dunbartonshire and better prepare for our changing climate. Multiple co-benefits could be realised through this policy approach for example, utilising nature-based solutions. Individually, the two separate strategies are anticipated to deliver major and/or minor positive impacts for all SEA environmental factors. However, the lack of coordination and linkages could reduce the significance of these impacts and be unable to take advantage of potential opportunities, co-

Strategic Direction	Details	Justification
		benefits and combined climate action where significant overlap occurs.
3. Carbon Management Plan (Council – linked with the separate Mitigation Strategy)	This approach for meeting current climate change reporting requirements and anticipated future carbon reduction requirements would focus specifically on Council operations and services. It would be driven by best practice as set out within public bodies' duties and based on the signals given by the Programme for Government regarding future carbon reduction targets.	This approach to carbon management would be limited to Council operations and services and therefore there is likely to be less significant positive impacts to reducing emissions across the area. Additional action to target area-wide emissions would still be required. This strategic approach would significantly reduce the climate impact from an area-wide and adaptation perspective. As a result, minor positive and neutral impacts for all SEA environmental factors are anticipated.

- In addition to these alternatives to the overall approach an Indicative Assessment of the Net Zero and Adaptation Evidence and Options Report was carried out by Council Officers and presented to and agreed by the Council in September 2023. The evidence provided for both of these SEA strands of work resulted in the combined CAP being selected as the preferred option.
- EDC then commissioned Ricardo in June 2024 to undertake an initial assessment of the CAP Vision, Objectives and Themes (with underpinning delivery actions) and any reasonable alternatives identified at this stage. This assessment was carried out in keeping with the style and content of the Indicative Assessment of the Net Zero and Adaptation Evidence and Options Report. It is presented in **Appendix C** and presents further alternatives considered during the course of the development of the CAP. It also outlines the thinking behind the selection of the preferred options which are presented and further assessed in the main body of this report.
- Building on the work undertaken for the Indicative Assessment and Stage 1 Assessment of the CAP Vision, Themes and Objectives, Ricardo has developed the SEA Environmental Report in parallel with the draft CAP to assess all preferred components of the CAP thematically. This assessment is presented in **Section 3.5**.

3.4 SEA OBJECTIVES AND INDICATORS

Table 3.4 details the SEA objectives and associated questions and indicators against which East Dunbartonshire Council will measure what, if any, effects (positive, negative or neutral) the CAP will have on the environment.

The SEA objectives relate to the specific SEA environmental topics and the monitoring and evaluation will relate solely to the environmental issues that were felt to have the potential to significantly impact on the environment. The SEA objectives, questions and indicators are fully compliant with the requirements of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and have been updated based on the responses to the Scoping consultation as detailed in **APPENDIX B**.

Table 3.4: SEA Objectives, Assessment Questions and Indicators

Population and Human Health		
SEA Objective	**Questions for Assessment** Will the proposed Vision, Objectives, Themes …	**Indicators**
To improve human health and community wellbeing	• Promote a sustainable and safe environment? • Contribute to reducing social, economic and environmental deprivation in East Dunbartonshire? This should include fuel poverty. • Encourage active travel and access to the local environment? • Act as an educational resource for local schools? • Demonstrate positive impacts for the local economy? • Encourage behavioural changes within the Council and across all communities? • Result in the refurbishment or regeneration of buildings and townscape? • Provide increased access to green infrastructure? • Impact on physical and mental health? • Increase the resilience of people, infrastructure and the natural environment to the impacts of climate change (including flood risk, extreme weather, heat and cold)?	• Changes in deprivation levels according to SIMD statistics • Access to sustainable travel routes and open space • Number of refurbishment or regeneration projects (Council estate) • Number of refurbishment or regeneration projects linked to the CAP in East Dunbartonshire • Number of Council employees changing their mode of travel to work • Number of local businesses initiating more sustainable practices • Number of households in fuel poverty and extreme fuel poverty. • Increase in the uptake of active travel (for recreation and commuting)?
Cultural Heritage		
SEA Objective	**Questions for Assessment** Will the proposed Vision, Objectives, Themes …	**Indicators**
To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment at every given opportunity	• Cause direct physical impact upon any heritage asset (designated or undesignated) and their setting? • Protect, enhance and manage the character, Setting and appearance of historic landscapes, maintaining local character, distinctiveness and sense of place?	• Does development include a building that is on the Buildings at Risk Register for Scotland? • Is the development on or adjacent to the Forth & Clyde Canal? (a Scheduled Monument) • % of actions with positive effects on the historic environment? • % of actions with negative effects on the historic environment?

	• Reduce the potential impact of climate change on the historic environment, including heritage assets (designated and undesignated) and their Setting? • Achieve high quality sustainable design for buildings, spaces and the public realm?	• Number of listed building or conservation area consents refused or withdrawn due to significant impacts? • % of actions with impacts on Conservation Areas?
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna		
SEA Objective	**Questions for Assessment** Will the proposed Vision, Objectives, Themes …	**Indicators**
To protect, enhance, create and, where necessary, restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity at every given opportunity	• Support environmental net gain? • Promote the importance of biodiversity and the natural environment for local communities and health and wellbeing in East Dunbartonshire? • Promote biodiversity-friendly practices? • Seek to avoid, minimise and then mitigate the negative impacts of climate change on valued biodiversity including non-protected and protected species? • Maximise the role of biodiversity to support climate change management? • Prevent the loss of biodiversity of flora and fauna? • Contribute to improved ecosystems? • Seek to contribute to sustainable management of woodland and forestry in East Dunbartonshire? • Encourage public use and perception of an enhanced natural environment? • Support current efforts within the Council in relation to biodiversity and greenspace enhancement? • Support East Dunbartonshire Council's Biodiversity Duty? • Utilise partnerships working to undertake flagship projects that deliver biodiversity and climate benefits.	• Changes to the presence of different species and habitats • Total area of protected sites (priority species) and changes to protected sites • Quality and connectivity of the green network in East Dunbartonshire • Number of initiatives to offset carbon • Ecosystem specific indicators, such as area of woodland habitats improved/changed and wetland management

Landscape		
SEA Objective	**Questions for Assessment** Will the proposed Vision, Objectives, Themes …	**Indicators**
To protect and, where appropriate, restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value at every given opportunity	• Cause direct impacts through development or maintenance on any areas valued for their landscape, intrinsic value or visual character? • Avoid adverse effects on protected landscapes and seascapes? • Enhance the landscape character? • Promote access to the wider environment?	• Number of actions resulting in net negative or positive effects on the special qualities of Local Landscape Areas or Townscape Protection Areas, or which mitigate impacts? • Number of actions resulting in net negative or positive effects on the green network or green belt locations? • Number of actions with net negative or positive effects on landscape character, or mitigate this? • Number of initiatives improving access to the wider environment / footfall numbers
Water Quality		
SEA Objective	**Questions for Assessment** Will the proposed Vision, Objectives, Themes …	**Indicators**
To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance the water environment at every given opportunity	• Protect and where necessary enhance the water environment? • Promote the efficient use of water? • Lead to the degradation of water bodies (water courses and features) through diffuse pollution?	• Change is water body quality • Water usage data

Soil and Geology		
SEA Objective	**Questions for Assessment** Will the proposed Vision, Objectives, Themes …	**Indicators**
To protect and , where appropriate, use high quality and sensitive soils in a sustainable manner and conserve recognised geodiversity assets at every given opportunity	• Protect and improve areas of peatland and carbon sinks? • Seek to prevent and improve soil degradation? • Protect habitats and species that have Protected Species status, including Invasive Non-Native Species? • Result in improvements or remediation to promote the community use of vacant, derelict and contaminated land? • Avoid development that will impact directly or indirectly on peatland, peatland habitats and carbon rich soils.	• Area of existing vacant, derelict and contaminated land altered by actions within the CAP • Changes to number of Vacant and Derelict Land sites in East Dunbartonshire • % of peatland improved/deteriorated • Number of initiatives to offset carbon emissions
Air Quality		
SEA Objective	**Questions for Assessment** Will the proposed Vision, Objectives, Themes …	**Indicators**
To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance air quality	• Promote a reduction of emissions[6] in the air? • Reduce the impact of transport on air quality in East Dunbartonshire? • Contribute to the improvement of current designated AQMAs? • Support the prevention of additional AQMA designations? • Contribute to the management and improvements of ecosystem services?	• Emissions levels in East Dunbartonshire- % change (NO_2 and PM_{10} levels are measured continuously within East Dunbartonshire. There are 4 monitoring stations in Bishopbriggs, Kirkintilloch, Bearsden and Milngavie. There are also 43 sites with monitoring tubes for NO_2 around the EDC area)

[6] This can include, for example, Particulate Matter (PM10 and PM2.5), Ammonia (NH3), Non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs), Sulphur dioxide (SO2) NOX, Carbon Monoxide (CO), Carbon Dioxide (CO_2)

Climatic Factors		
SEA Objective	**Questions for Assessment** Will the proposed Vision, Objectives, Themes …	**Indicators**
To contribute towards the reduction of Scottish greenhouse gas outputs in line with Government targets. To reduce or prevent the overall effects of climate change including those related to flood risks.	• Promote a change in culture and behaviour to ensure that the local community and Council employees are aware of the issues associated with climate change? • Include mitigation and adaptation measures in light of a changing climate and local environment? • Seek to protect, create or enhance natural resources such as vegetation and soils for carbon capture and storage? • Increase the resilience of people, infrastructure and the natural environment to the impacts of climate change (including flood risk, extreme weather, heat and cold)? • Support the transition to net zero greenhouse gas emissions? This should include an increased number of buildings with heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency measures? • Alleviate the risk of flooding and support natural flood management? • Promote increased climate awareness across society? • Help reduce emissions from the food system?	• Loss/creation of tree assets in East Dunbartonshire • Changes to flooding and drainage (SEPA Flood Risk Map) • Greenhouse gas output trends in East Dunbartonshire and for the Council • Carbon emissions for East Dunbartonshire • Increased number of buildings with improved energy efficiency, renewable power generation, and/or renewable heating technologies installed. • Number of low-carbon technologies employed as part of the Council estate • Changes to material use in Council buildings • Number of purchase orders procuring sustainable resources • Number of planning applications and developments complying with the requirements of LDP2 Policy supporting zero-carbon and zero-waste principles • Number of renewable energy technology developments within the local authority area
Material Assets		
SEA Objective	**Questions for Assessment** Will the proposed Vision, Objectives, Themes …	**Indicators**
To promote the sustainable use of community assets in East Dunbartonshire	• Result in improvements or remediation to promote the community use of vacant, derelict and contaminated land? • Support the use of the existing sustainable transport network specifically active travel routes? • Support the implementation of low carbon technologies and the use of sustainable materials through design concepts?	• Area of existing vacant, derelict and contaminated land altered by community actions/projects • Changes to number of Vacant and Derelict Land sites in East Dunbartonshire • Active and public transport patronage • Access to sustainable travel routes and open space

	• Reduce the use of water? • Consider the life-cycle and procurement of resources? • Encourage enhancements to current transport infrastructure to a more sustainable network? • Support EDC's emerging Travel Plan? • Support zero-carbon and zero-waste principles to influence planning and developments as part of other plans, policies or strategies at EDC?	

3.5 ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

Individual environmental assessments have been undertaken for the Vision, Objectives and Themes of the CAP and have been assessed against the SEA objectives and assessment criteria, based on their predicted impact on the current environmental baseline.

The environmental assessment has been recorded in the form of matrices identifying the environmental performance of each component against the SEA objectives and criteria and using professional judgement. The environmental effects are recorded according to their nature as shown in **Table 3.5** (positive, neutral, negative, unknown or no significant effect).

During the assessment and in line with SEA requirements, consideration has been given to the likelihood/certainty of effect occurring, geographical scale of effect, short, medium and long-term timescales, permanence, significance and reversibility etc.

Table 3.5: Key for Assessment Scoring

++	Major/Significant Positive
+	Minor Positive
0	Neutral
-	Minor Negative
--	Major/Significant Negative
+/-	Mixed

The significance of these effects is determined using a combination of the magnitude of the impact and the importance or sensitivity of the receiving environment. The overall effect has been scored according to a graded scale and incorporates both positive and negative effects. In the event there are both positive and negative effects, this has also been noted in the assessment commentary.

The CAP contains a number of assumptions and dependencies in order to meet zero targets which, in some instances, the Council has limited control over. For example, decarbonising supply chain emissions from its own suppliers and improving energy efficiency outside of Council-owned assets. Therefore, the assessment findings can often be uncertain. Where there is uncertainty in the assessment, this has been outlined in the commentary.

Recommendations have been made where necessary in the form of proposed mitigation measures, which result in alterations and enhancements. The assessments also seek to enhance the environmental benefits and suggest recommendations to further enhance or protect the environment.

Additional assessments for each component assessed as part of the SEA process are listed below:

- Alternative Assessments (Vision, Objectives, Themes) (**Appendix C**).
- An outline assessment based on the individual actions that underpin each of the themes is provided for information in **Appendix D.**
- Overall Cumulative Assessment (**Section 3.6)**.

3.5.1 Assessment: Vision, Objectives and Themes

As part of the CAP development process, the treatment of the Vision, Objectives and Themes of the CAP and their reasonable alternatives were developed and assessed. Each of the alternatives to the Vision, Objectives and Themes have been assessed against the SEA criteria and presented in the form of an assessment matrix (**Appendix C**) with supporting commentary. The assessment findings of the preferred options are provided below. Where these were already assessed and presented during the development process (such as in the case of the preferred Vision), the assessment has been revisited and further refined in light of new detail and baseline information.

3.5.1.1 Vision

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
++	+	++	++	++	++	++	++	++

Vision *East Dunbartonshire is carbon neutral and climate resilient with a better quality natural and built environment conducive to healthier, more active lifestyles and flourishing biodiversity. Decisive action has achieved a just and inclusive transition that has created high value jobs, investment, and equipped people with the knowledge and skills to thrive in a low-carbon, wellbeing economy.*

Assessment Commentary:

This vision addresses both environmental and socio-economic dimensions of climate action, maximising potential co-benefits identified in the CAP objectives. Significant positive effects are anticipated for **Population and Human Health** through promoting healthier and more active lifestyles, enhanced economic opportunities with increased employment opportunities and investment into education and upskilling. A significant positive effect is anticipated on **Biodiversity** through implied protection and enhancement.

Significant positive effects are also anticipated on **Air Quality** and **Climatic Factors** as a result of transitions to cleaner transport and energy systems resulting in an overall reduction in GHG emissions and improvements to air quality; and from thorough comprehensive mitigation and adaptation. **Material Assets** are expected to significantly benefit from investment and skills development.

Significant positive changes are expected in land use and protection of peatland (**Soil and Geology**), promoting access to the wider environment and increased use of sustainable design and materials (**Landscape**) and improvements to ecological status of waterbodies such as through delivery of nature-based solutions (**Water Quality**).

Minor positive effects are anticipated on **Cultural Heritage** as these changes will reduce the potential impact of climate change on the historic environment as well as protecting the built environment.

The vision particularly aligns with the Council's role as a major employer in the area (4,500+staff) with a large estate with significant scope to reduce carbon emissions.

3.5.1.2 Objectives

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+

Objective 1 – Prioritise Council spending plans and resource allocation to reduce emissions, support adaptation and deliver on the Council's net zero targets with a presumption against expenditure, investment, and infrastructure that would hinder achievement of net zero and increased climate resilience.

Assessment Commentary:

This objective would ensure that climate change systemically informs strategic investment planning and decision-making processes within the Council to support achievement of net zero. This aligns with the Climate Change Committee's (CCC's) prediction that significant public and private investment (~£50 billion/year) in low-carbon projects is required for the UK to meet net zero by 2050. Targeting spending to reduce emissions is even more pertinent for East Dunbartonshire given Scotland's accelerated net zero timeline. According to the Scottish Fiscal Commission, current investment levels remain incommensurate with Scotland's accelerated timeline, making strategic allocation of resources even more critical.

East Dunbartonshire has the potential to make a meaningful contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation. For instance, the Council oversees areas including planning and building standards, the provision of schools and education, waste collection and recycling, infrastructure development, local transport planning, and economic development. In addition, the Council employs over 4,500 staff and owns a large number of built assets, resulting in significant scope to reduce emissions through strategic investment decisions. The Scottish Government's Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee recognises that Councils are uniquely positioned to drive emissions reductions through their direct control over local services and infrastructure.

This objective will have significant positive effects on both area-wide (emissions in the Council area as a whole) and corporate GHG emissions (**Climatic Factors**) along with several co-benefits for all SEA objectives. For example, by prioritising investment into low carbon technologies, such as electric vehicles for the Council fleet or renewable heating systems in council-owned buildings, will reduce reliance on fossil fuels and result in improved **Air Quality**. This is particularly important given that transport currently accounts for 24.4% of overall emissions in East Dunbartonshire. The promotion of efficient energy and resource use particularly through the Council's procurement and waste management practices support the transition to a circular economy (**Material Assets**). This is critical as consumption of goods, materials and services is responsible for approximately 80% of Scotland's carbon footprint. Investment into nature-based solutions can create opportunities to protect and enhance biodiversity (**Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**), improve soil health (**Soil & Geology**) and protect the water environment (**Water Quality**) whilst improving visual amenity (**Landscape**).

These investments must prioritise climate resilience, particularly in vulnerable areas such as the River Kelvin area where approximately 14,500 people and 8,550 properties are currently at flood risk.

The Council's approach to investment emphasises both adaptation and mitigation needs, ensuring new infrastructure and assets are climate-resilient while preventing lock-in to carbon-intensive infrastructure. This includes incorporating flood resilience measures, sustainable drainage systems, and climate-adaptive design principles into capital projects.

East Dunbartonshire Council is committed to maximising the economic and social co-benefits of this transition, with significant employment opportunities expected in key sectors such as the retrofitting of buildings, renewable energy generation, and electric vehicle manufacturing. This economic diversification, combined with improved local infrastructure and services, will promote healthier and more resilient communities with minor positive effects for Population and Human Health, supporting a just transition that creates mutual benefits for people and the planet.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	+

Objective 2 – Set ambitious, interim targets on the path to net zero emissions for the Council and the East Dunbartonshire area accompanied by a robust framework for transparent monitoring and review and effective governance.

Assessment Commentary:

As outlined in the CAP, meeting statutory requirements and delivering against East Dunbartonshire Council's corporate and area-wide net zero targets will require a robust governance structure, monitoring framework and communications plan to lead a coordinated approach alongside Council delivery partners.

The implementation of this monitoring and governance framework is anticipated to have significant positive effects on Climatic Factors through systematic tracking and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions across key sectors. Transport, as the largest sectoral emitter in East Dunbartonshire (24.4% of overall emissions), represents a critical area for monitoring and reduction.

The framework will need to track progress across major emission sources including the Council's supply chain, which remains its primary emission source, and the commercial and industrial sectors which account for around 12% of emissions, rising to 16.4% when F-gases are included.

The framework will generate significant positive effects for **Air Quality** through monitoring the transition from internal combustion engine vehicles to ultra-low emission vehicles, particularly along heavily-used commuter corridors. For buildings, the system will track progress on energy efficiency improvements, including monitoring the achievement of potential heating consumption reductions through energy efficiency, heat decarbonisation and building fabric upgrades.

Positive effects are anticipated for **Material Assets** through monitoring of waste reduction targets and recycling rates. The framework should also track adaptation progress, particularly in vulnerable areas such as the River Kelvin area where approximately 14,500 people and 8,550 properties are at flood risk. This systematic monitoring approach will support evidence-based decision making and enable adaptive management responses as the Council progresses toward its net zero commitments.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+

Objective 3 – Integrate climate considerations including biodiversity gain into all Council decision-making processes by developing a standardised approach to climate change risk and impact assessments encompassing all council decision making processes, policies, plans and strategies.

Assessment Commentary:

Objective 3 establishes a systematic approach to incorporating both climate considerations and biodiversity enhancement into all Council decision-making processes. This will have significant positive effects for **Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna** as it will mandate biodiversity net gain and strengthen the importance of biodiversity in East Dunbartonshire whilst maximising the role it plays in climate management. The standardised approach to climate change risk and impact assessments will ensure consistent evaluation and monitoring of environmental impacts across all Council activities. This direct accountability will be crucial to respond to on-going policy developments and funding opportunities while also presenting additional policies, projects and programmes to maximise opportunities for net zero and climate resilience. The Council will implement policies that incorporate nature and climate-related costs and benefits into economic decision-making across all areas of Council activity. This would result in several co-benefits across many other SEA objectives.

This Objective ensures that measures implemented by the Council will not only mitigate impacts of climate change but actively enhance the role of biodiversity in planning and policy. The development of a standardised approach will provide clear metrics and assessment criteria, ensuring consistent application across all decision-making processes. The incorporation of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) principles will ensure impacts from development have a positive effect on the environment, including contributing to environmental protection targets. BNG can promote measures that not only enhance biodiversity but also support climate resilience, including carbon sequestration, water purification and soil sustainability, resulting in potential positive effects for **Climatic Factors**, **Water Quality** and **Soil and Geology**. The promotion of biodiversity and climate resilient development can also result in improvements to **Air Quality** and provide mental and physical health benefits, resulting in improved public health outcomes through cleaner environments, better quality of life and access to enhanced recreational spaces (**Population and Human Health**).

Whilst not directly linked, this objective provides the potential for indirect positive effects on **Cultural Heritage**. Climate change risks such as extreme weather events (e.g. flooding) could have negative effects on historic assets. Ensuring consideration of climate change risk in decision-making within the Council could ensure historic assets are protected from changing weather patterns, meanwhile promoting biodiversity could aid in the preservation and enhancement of their setting. Similarly, this could result in improvements to **Landscape** and visual amenity. Positive effects on **Material Assets** may also be realised through sustainable decision-making within the Council, particularly regarding waste and consumption.

This objective ensures East Dunbartonshire Council puts net zero and climate resilience at the core of strategic decision-making, allowing the Council to lead by example. By developing and implementing a standardised approach to climate change risk and impact assessments, the Council will ensure consistent and comprehensive evaluation of environmental impacts across all its activities. This objective will have broad and positive effects across SEA topics, promoting

enhanced ecosystem resilience, sustainable land use, improved air and water quality, and economic growth through climate and biodiversity-conscious decisions. By ensuring that climate change risks and biodiversity gains are incorporated into decision-making at every level, it will ensure the consideration of both environmental and societal needs whilst contributing to a more coordinated approach that balances development with long-term sustainability.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
++	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+

Objective 4 – Improve climate change awareness, strengthen community resilience, and encourage behaviour change to promote a just transition and reduced vulnerability.

Assessment Commentary:

Objective 4 involves reducing vulnerability to climate change amongst the local population through improved climate change awareness and behavioural change while ensuring a just transition and increased community resilience. This will result in significant positive effects on **Population and Human Health.** The emphasis on a just transition ensures that climate action benefits all members of the community equitably, particularly supporting vulnerable groups. Achieving this objective may include actions that promote the use of eco-friendly practices, sustainable lifestyle choices and encourage behaviours that promote efficient use of water and materials which would have positive effects on **Water Quality**, **Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna** and **Material Assets**, respectively. Subsequently, the change in behaviour should result in reduced emissions and positive effects on **Air Quality** (e.g. reduced vehicle usage and uptake of electric vehicles) and **Climatic Factors.**

This objective can directly address climate change by focussing on key components of climate adaptation; improving awareness and strengthening resilience. This will result in a more proactive approach to climate change, with increased public awareness and participation in climate actions, reducing vulnerability to climate change impacts (**Climatic Factors**). By emphasising community resilience, the objective supports the development of local networks and resources that can help communities adapt to and recover from climate-related events. Improving climate change awareness provides an opportunity to promote environmental stewardship and support conservation efforts, resulting in greater community involvement in biodiversity projects and a greater understanding of the links between climate change and biodiversity (**Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**). The focus on just transition ensures that environmental improvements do not disproportionately affect vulnerable groups, while creating opportunities for green jobs and skills development. Behavioural changes can also have positive effects on human health (**Population and Human Health**) through activities which can reduce pollution of air and water (**Air Quality** and **Water Quality**) such as EV uptake and efficient use of resources (**Material Assets**).

The objective's emphasis on community resilience and just transition has the potential to create lasting, sustainable change by ensuring that climate actions are both socially acceptable and economically viable for all community members. This approach recognises that successful climate action requires both individual behaviour change and systemic support, particularly for vulnerable populations who may face barriers to adopting climate-friendly practices.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+

Objective 5 – Maximise the social, economic and environmental co-benefits of local climate action including nature-based solutions achieving efficient use of natural resources and improving health and well-being outcomes.

Assessment Commentary:

Objective 5 seeks to maximise the co-benefits of local climate action, including the use of nature-based solutions, which will have significant positive effects on **Population and Human Health** and **Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna**. The emphasis on efficient use of natural resources and improved health outcomes further strengthens these benefits. Further positive effects are anticipated for **Soil and Geology, Landscape, Cultural Heritage, Water Quality, Air Quality, Climatic Factors** and **Material Assets.**

Focussing on local climate action, nature-based solutions and resource efficiency will have direct positive effects on **Climatic Factors** due to reduced carbon emissions and enhanced resilience to impacts from climate change. The efficient use of natural resources will help minimise waste and reduce environmental pressures while supporting economic sustainability. There would be significant positive effects for **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna** as the objective promotes nature-based solutions e.g. land and water management practices (**Soil and Geology** and **Water Quality**) that can support diverse ecosystems whilst delivering climate resilience benefits. These solutions can include sustainable drainage systems, wetland restoration, and green infrastructure that provide multiple ecosystem services. Public health outcomes will be improved through maximising the social and health co-benefits of local climate action. Green spaces, tree planting and ecosystem restoration have the potential to reduce air pollution (**Air Quality**) and contribute to physical and mental well-being (**Population and Human Health**) by encouraging uptake of recreational activities as well as promoting active travel. The focus on local action ensures these benefits are directly experienced by communities and contribute to place-making. Nature-based solutions also have the opportunity to enhance local **Landscape** and may improve the setting of **Cultural Heritage** assets.

This objective will have a significant, positive effects across all SEA topics by promoting climate action that delivers multiple benefits for society, the economy, and the environment. By integrating nature-based solutions and efficient resource use, it supports biodiversity, reduces vulnerability to climate change, improves public health, and creates sustainable economic opportunities. The emphasis on local action ensures solutions are appropriate to the context and can be effectively maintained and monitored. It fosters a more holistic approach to climate action, where social, environmental, and economic considerations are interconnected and mutually reinforcing, leading to long-term, sustainable outcomes.

3.5.1.3 Themes

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
++	0	+	0	+	+	++	++	0

Theme 1 - Transport:
Switching to significantly more walking, cycling and zero carbon public transport modes, making car-free living more viable across East Dunbartonshire and converting Council fleet vehicles to zero carbon fuels.

Assessment Commentary:

Theme 1 (Transport) is underpinned by several recommended actions which would decarbonise the Council's fleet and promote more sustainable commuting options. These actions are anticipated to have an overall positive environmental effect on the majority of SEA objectives including significant positive effects on **Climatic Factors and Air Quality** associated with the reduction in GHG emissions (against a baseline of 95,833 tCO2e).

Increased provision of enhanced pedestrian and cycle access would result in an increased uptake of active travel as well as outdoor leisure and recreation. This has potential to cut car emissions whilst providing a wide range of significant positive effects such as improved **Air Quality,** physical and mental health and economic benefits including reduced costs associated with car ownership and infrastructure such as road maintenance, and opportunities for increased revenue from eco-tourism. (**Population and Human Health**). There are significant co-benefits for active travel uptake including reducing the burden on the NHS through increased physical activity (physical inactivity currently costs the NHS £91 million/year and results in 2,500 premature deaths in Scotland[7]). The Council receive regular requests for a cycle to work scheme and 42% of employees reported they would cycle more in a recent survey. The Council have an existing bike loan scheme in place and one of the actions underpinning this theme include the expansion of pool bike locations (including an additional new station) to encourage cycling uptake as well as work towards achieving Cycle Friendly Employer status during 2024/25. The development of a Corporate Travel Plan to support sustainable travel and increase sustainable commuting is estimated to deliver up to a 50% reduction in travel emissions (**Climatic Factors**).

Private cars are the main mode of transport in East Dunbartonshire by a significant margin and reducing car usage is widely recognised as being essential to meeting emissions targets. Facilitating access to active, sustainable and affordable modes of transport will have benefits for alleviating health inequalities (**Population and Human Health**). Meanwhile, decarbonisation of the Council fleet will also have positive effects on **Climatic Factors** due to the reduction in GHG emissions, particularly as transport is the largest sectoral emitter in both East Dunbartonshire (24.4% of overall emissions) and Scotland as a whole (26% of emissions).

[7] Scottish Government (2014) A More Active Scotland: Building a Legacy from the Commonwealth Games; Our 10-year physical activity implementation plan. Available at: A More Active Scotland: Building a Legacy from the Commonwealth Games Accessed January 2025

The shift to sustainable transport modes would have significant positive effects on **Population and Human Health** in the context of East Dunbartonshire's high transboundary commuting rates (80% of workforce), by reducing emissions along key commuter routes and improving transport affordability. The transition would help reverse negative trends in public transport accessibility, by improving access to essential services for marginalised communities and reducing transport poverty. These improvements would particularly benefit lower-income households as they would not be required to purchase a car and there would be improved affordable access to employment opportunities.

Nevertheless, Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicles (ULEVs) do have embodied emissions due to production and mining raw materials for batteries. Encouraging more active transport and zero carbon public transport modes and increasing update of electric vehicles will have positive effects on **Air Quality** due to the reduction in use of Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) vehicles. There may also be positive effects on **Water Quality** as a result of reduced polluted road runoff. The transition from ICE vehicles to ULEVs, while still producing some particulate emissions from brake and tyre use, would create substantial improvements in **Air Quality**, particularly along heavily-used commuter corridors.

Positive effects on **Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna** and **Landscape** are also possible due to increased connectivity of the green network. However, due to the need for energy to support the transition; a vast increase in clean electricity production will be required to support this. Additional electric vehicle charging infrastructure will also be required which has the potential to result in negative impacts from construction resulting in temporary pollution effects (**Air Quality**) and disruption to the local community such as from excavations, noise and associated nuisance and permanent land take for infrastructure and associated power supply (**Population and Human Health**). Following the temporary disruption this is anticipated to result in an overall neutral effect for **Material Assets** as it supports implementation of low carbon technologies and encourages enhancements to current transport infrastructure to more sustainable modes. However, there is the current lack of sophisticated and sustainable waste practices for batteries which reduces the benefit of the overall Theme.

In order to meet the aims of the theme, the transport network will need to be expanded and improved. This infrastructure development would need to incorporate climate resilience measures to protect against increasing severe weather events, generating positive effects for **Material Assets** through enhanced infrastructure longevity and positive effects for **Population and Human Health** by ensuring reliable access to sustainable transport options during extreme weather.

This may involve prioritising investment into vulnerable transport infrastructure, develop Electric Vehicle (EV) infrastructure and encourage use of permeable surfaces and surface water run off management tools. These adaptation measures may result in limited negative effects on **Population and Human Health, Air Quality, Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna, Soil and Geology, Water Quality, Cultural Heritage** and **Landscape** as a result of construction activities (e.g. ground disturbance, noise and dust emissions and disruption), however, these effects will be short-term and temporary in nature and dependant on mitigation measures (e.g. avoiding sensitive sites and best practice construction methods). In addition, the positive effects following implementation will be far greater in magnitude. There are also enhancement opportunities for community engagement and associated provision of educational resources.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+

Theme 2 – Building and Heat Decarbonisation:

Retrofitting buildings to become energy efficient, carbon neutral and resilient to a changing climate with the Council leading by example on the decarbonisation of its buildings. Maximising local renewable energy generation and increasing system resilience, while facilitating the electrification of heat including through smart electricity usage.

Assessment Commentary:

For Theme 2 (Buildings and Heat), the key routes to drive area-wide building decarbonisation include ensuring new builds adhere to heat and renewable energy standards and ring-fencing funding for energy efficiency retrofits and heat network zones identified through the LHEES for example, through a collaborative stakeholder engagement approach. This is in line with the Heat in Buildings Strategy[8] for Scotland.

A critical infrastructure consideration is the substantial expansion of grid capacity needed to support the increased electricity demand from heat pumps and other electric heating systems. This grid expansion must be coordinated with the broader decarbonisation of the electricity supply to achieve maximum emissions reduction benefits. This can be partially negated by ensuring new-builds and retrofitted properties have localised renewable electricity generation, although substantial grid upgrades will nevertheless be required.

Retrofitting of existing buildings can reduce emissions as well as extend the life of buildings. Retrofitting should prioritise low-carbon, sustainable sourced materials and resource-efficient design and construction techniques (also known as “fabric first”). An estimated 16% reduction in heating consumption can be achieved through upgrading building fabric in the commercial and industrial sectors. In addition, higher building fabric upgrade levels allow heat pumps with better performance to be installed, increasing energy savings.

Heat networking opportunities within East Dunbartonshire have been assessed to be limited. Where heat networks are the favoured technology of choice for heating provision, there will be positive effects on **Population and Human Health, Air Quality,** and **Climatic Factors.** However, significant infrastructure requirements will have an impact on **Population and Human Health, Material Assets, Biodiversity Flora and Fauna, Soil and Geology, Landscape and Water Quality.** At present the extent of heat networking is unknown and therefore whilst important to mention, these are unaccounted for in the scores under this theme.

[8] Scottish Government (2021) Heat in Buildings Strategy: Summary Document Available at: Heat in Buildings Strategy - Summary Document Accessed January 2025

Making both existing and new buildings carbon neutral through activities such as converting fossil fuel heat sources to electrically driven heat pumps or direct electric systems and improving building fabric will have positive effects on **Population and Human Health, Air Quality,** and **Climatic Factors.** These technologies are zero direct greenhouse gas emission heating systems. Their installation in place of fossil fuel systems would lead to a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (**Climatic Factors**) while making modest improvements to **Air Quality** and potential for reducing energy costs and helping to alleviate fuel poverty (**Population and Human Health**)**.** Some biomass heat generation could still be implemented throughout the local authority area, increasing localised air pollution – although these types of sites will be in the minority and more likely in rural areas.

However, it is important to note that the transition to electric heating systems also presents challenges for fuel poverty. Currently, 43% of electrically heated homes have experienced fuel poverty compared to 22% of gas-heated homes making electricity price reforms crucial for an equitable transition (**Population and Human Health**)**.** There are opportunities for positive effects through job creation in retrofitting and the renewable energy sector, as well as through community ownership schemes and investment opportunities in renewable energy projects (**Population and Human Health, Material Assets**). There is also a real opportunity to raise awareness amongst the local community through engagement methods on energy efficiency and associated savings (**Population and Human Health**).

The CAP includes important adaptation measures, including auditing the Council estate's resilience to climate impacts and implementing nature-based solutions. Additionally, a target of 10% reduction in water consumption to address climate change pressures on water supply (**Climatic Factors, Material Assets**).

The cost savings from greater efficiency could have a positive effect on **Material Assets** if there is an improvement to the financial viability of heating heritage buildings. These are often more expensive to run than modern buildings and with lower operating costs as well as upgraded building fabric, where allowable, could have a positive effect on **Cultural Heritage.** Lastly, this will also have additional positive effects for **Material Assets** as it supports the implementation of low-carbon technologies and the use of sustainable materials through design. Despite the use of sustainable materials where possible, retrofitting of existing buildings and electrification of heat would require the use of materials with embedded carbon which could result in negative effects on **Material Assets** and **Climatic Factors**.

Short-term temporary disruption from construction and permanent land take is anticipated related to infrastructure/development potentially required for this theme with associated negative effects likely across several SEA objectives. Where construction is required, there may be negative effects on **Population and Human Health** and **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna** (e.g. potential for increased noise, dust and vibration nuisance)**, Air Quality** (e.g. dust emissions and HGV movements), and **Climatic Factors** (e.g. use of materials, vehicles and operation of machinery). However, these are anticipated to be short-term and temporary and best practice construction methods will be used to minimise effects where possible. There may be also negative effects on **Cultural Heritage, Soil and Geology** and **Landscape** where groundwork and permanent land take may result in potential disturbance and/or destruction of buried archaeology as well as negative effects on the setting of individual heritage assets and landscape character.

However, the positive effects following assumed implementation are assessed as being greater in magnitude and hence overall theme scores have been assigned accordingly.

The Council has substantial potential to lead and support the decarbonisation of buildings throughout the East Dunbartonshire area through the LHEES and associated Delivery Plan. Key priorities include assisting with regional energy masterplans, prioritising the installation of heat pumps, and implementing energy efficiency improvements to properties under the Council's control. A key strategy will be expanding solar panel installations, which will play a crucial role in reducing localised power consumption, cost and, to an extent, emissions; and when integrated with energy storage, can support peak saving of electricity demand.

The Council’s level of influence to deliver on this theme varies between activity. For example, EDC would have direct control on any council-owned buildings however improving existing, non-council owned buildings (retrofitting) would predominantly rely on engagement efforts to raise awareness of energy saving measures or

providing financial support to make necessary improvements. Showcasing best practices and raising awareness also plays a major role in area-wide decarbonisation efforts, which can be inspired through best practices in procurement and direct control of the Council's own built assets, therefore leading by example.

There will be major cost implications associated with decarbonising the building stock throughout East Dunbartonshire, with estimations around £970-1,650 million for domestic and £280-350 million for non-domestic (as of 2023). This may have negative effects on **Population and Human Health** through potential for increased costs for council tax payers and the consequent reduction in spend in other areas. To address these financial challenges, the CAP includes investigating the feasibility of creating an East Dunbartonshire Energy Efficiency Discount Scheme, which would offer one-off Council Tax rebates for householders who implement certain energy efficiency measures.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

Theme 3 – Sustainable Communities:

Ensuring that planning and patterns of development make low-carbon lifestyles and local resilience more viable with a presumption against proposals that would lead to additional emissions or create dependence on high-carbon transport and infrastructure.

Assessment Commentary:

Theme 3 encompasses several key actions such as formalising the Communication Plan for the CAP to deliver on net zero targets, this includes promoting sustainability to staff and the wider public systematically, in line with the CAP as well as national guidance (e.g. Net Zero Nation). This theme also involves upskilling operational staff and the Council delivery services to ensure delivery of nature-based solutions which is important to maximise the scope for economic benefits of green industries. These actions include systematic staff development programmes, community payback schemes, and educational initiatives to embed sustainability across council operations and community engagement.

This theme is anticipated to have positive effects on **Population and Human Health, Air Quality,** and **Climatic Factors.** Sustainable development and education to promote low-carbon lifestyles will result in improvements to air quality, reductions in overall emissions and promote climate resilient communities. The actions focused on education, sustainability communications, and community empowerment will strengthen these positive effects through systematic behaviour change and capacity building. Associated benefits are enhanced through active travel promotion, improved local accessibility, and reduced vehicle traffic in residential areas through initiatives like 20-minute neighbourhoods and low traffic neighbourhoods. Positive effects are anticipated on **Material Assets** as this theme supports the implementation of low carbon technologies, use of sustainable materials, increased longevity of materials and promotion of a circular economy including, sustainable transport infrastructure and local service provision.

Positive effects are also anticipated on **Cultural Heritage** and **Landscape** with reduced emissions and potential for climate change effects in addition to sustainable design improving the existing setting and character. This may include undertaking further monitoring and climate change risk assessments for key sites in East Dunbartonshire including Mugdock Country park, the Antonine Wall, Bar Hill and Twechar, Lillie Art Gallery, Auld Kirk Museum, Kirkintilloch Town Hall, and Kilmardinny House. Additionally, this theme is anticipated to encourage efficient use of land, including for use by the local community which will have positive effects on **Soil and Geology**. The actions supporting community climate empowerment through grants and community ownership will enable direct community involvement in protecting and enhancing these heritage assets and landscapes.

There are a number of adaptation actions that will support communities to build resilience and create climate ready places throughout East Dunbartonshire. The Council will focus on developing resilience plans for flood-prone and vulnerable areas, supporting community-led adaptation through local decision-making. Efforts will include exploring the creation of climate and biodiversity community hubs to coordinate emergency responses, provide access to services, and foster local projects and enterprises. Additionally, climate and biodiversity criteria will be integrated into place and locality plans, while education resources will be developed to equip communities with the knowledge and tools needed for resilience. These adaptation actions are strengthened by specific actions to protect critical services through infrastructure audits and emergency response planning, while building community capacity through formalised education and skills development programmes. Finally, options for climate resilience and biodiversity skills training will be explored to help communities adapt to severe weather and enhance local biodiversity. Delivery of these actions will have positive effects on **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna** and **Population and Human Health,** with the potential for additional benefits on **Water Quality**, **Soil and Geology, Cultural Heritage** and **Landscape** depending on the type of projects that materialise.

Where construction is required, there may be negative effects on **Population and Human Health** and **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna** (e.g. potential for increased noise, dust and vibration nuisance)**, Air Quality** (e.g. dust emissions and HGV movements), and **Climatic Factors** (e.g. use of materials, vehicles and operation of machinery). However, these are anticipated to be short-term and temporary and best practice construction methods will be used to minimise effects where possible. The implementation of community payback principles and skills development actions will help ensure sustainable practices are followed in any physical works, while the communications plan will help manage effects on the community during implementation.

There may be additional negative effects on **Cultural Heritage** and **Landscape** where groundwork may result in potential disturbance and/or destruction of buried archaeology as well as negative effects on the setting of individual heritage assets and landscape character.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
++	+	++	++	++	+	+	+	0

Theme 4 – Natural Environment:
Restoring, protecting and enhancing greenspaces and biodiversity as the climate continues to change.

Assessment Commentary:

The theme responds to the twin ecological and climate emergencies, with global wildlife populations declining by 73% over 50 years and Scotland's core species experiencing a decline of 15% since 1994[9]. These challenges are expected to intensify as climate change acts as a multiplier to environmental degradation, creating particular pressures on Scotland's highly climate-adapted species[10].

Despite decarbonisation efforts by the Council, it is estimated that emissions of around 7,801 tCO_2e will remain in 2045, largely from owned buildings and supply chains. Residual emissions can be addressed through offsetting carbon or reducing carbon through investment into nature-based solutions. To deliver on this theme, the Council aims to commission a Nature Based Investment Study to identify effective direct and indirect offsetting opportunities for East Dunbartonshire beyond the expected residual emissions (**Climatic Factors**), whilst reviewing potential co-benefits. This will follow the offsetting hierarchy where offsetting will only be considered when reductions and renewables have been maximised and the purchase of offsetting credits would be a last resort. Possible solutions include; tree planting/reforestation, peatland and carbon rich soils restoration and enhancement, grasslands, wetlands and urban greening.

Significant positive effects are anticipated for **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna** as the actions underpinning this theme involve creating new green spaces and naturalising watercourses through river restoration, both of which will increase habitat availability and connectivity and may have further benefits for **Water Quality**. However, the effectiveness of these interventions may be challenged by changing weather patterns affecting growing seasons and increasing drought frequency. There are additional opportunities for nature-based solutions to reduce flood risk (**Population and Human Health**) which has been demonstrated through existing projects in East Dunbartonshire such as the Colquhoun Park Flood Alleviation Scheme. Flood risk management is particularly crucial given approximately 14,500 people and 8,550 properties in the River Kelvin area are currently at risk, with numbers projected to increase by the 2080s due to climate change[11]. While these nature-based solutions have proven effective, their long-term success requires careful planning to ensure resilience against increasingly hostile storms and rainfall events predicted over coming decades.

[9] State of Nature Partnership (2023) State of Nature Scotland Report Available at https://stateofnature.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/TP26056-SoN-Scotland-summary-report-v5-1.pdf. Accessed January 2025

[10] Nature Scotland (2022) Climate change impacts in Scotland | NatureScot Available at https://www.nature.scot/climate-change/climate-change-impacts-scotland Accessed January 2025

[11] Glasgow City Council (2022) Glasgow City Council (2022) https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=58993&p=0

Improvements to green urban infrastructure would have positive effects on **Air Quality** as trees and plants are natural pollutant filters**.** The increase in green spaces would provide additional co-benefits for **Population and Human Health** due to improvements in mental and physical health as well as increases in available habitat for wildlife (**Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**) and amenity value which could have significant positive effects on **Landscape**. Tree planting will also have significant positive effects on soil health (**Soil and Geology**) through preventing soil erosion.

Peatland restoration promotes carbon sequestration and therefore has positive effects on Climatic Factors as well as providing co-benefits such as an increase in biodiversity (**Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**), improvements in **Water Quality,** reduced flood risk and supports sustainable land use. However, drier conditions from changing weather patterns can increase wildfire risks and may compromise peatland function as a carbon sink.

Delivering these actions will ensure the CAP also delivers on the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy, where the ambition is for Scotland to be nature positive and reverse nature loss by 2045. While positive initiatives are underway including extensive tree planting and wildflower meadow creation, it is acknowledged that current response and investment levels are not yet commensurate with the scale and pace of the crises[12][13]. Success will require significant cross-sector transformation and increased public funding for nature conservation and restoration[14].

[12] State of Nature Partnership (2023) State of Nature Scotland Report Available at https://stateofnature.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/TP26056-SoN-Scotland-summary-report-v5-1.pdf. Accessed January 2025

[13] Scottish Government (2024) Draft Scottish National Adaptation Plan Available at https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/consultation-paper/2024/01/public-consultation-scottish-national-adaptation-plan-2024-2029/documents/draft-scottish-national-adaptation-plan-2024-2029/draft-scottish-national-adaptation-plan-2024-2029/govscot%3Adocument/draft-scottish-national-adaptation-plan-2024-2029.pdf Accessed January 2025

[14] Scottish Government (2024) The Environmental Strategy for Scotland: Delivering the Environmental Strategy Outcome on Scotland's Economy: Evidence Base and Policy Levers Available at https://www.gov.scot/publications/environment-strategy-scotland-delivering-environment-strategy-outcome-scotlands-economy-evidence-base-policy-levers/documents/ Accessed January 2025

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	++

Theme 5 – Consumption and Waste:
Reducing the emission intensity of consumption through responsible buying of goods and services and zero carbon waste management.

Assessment Commentary:

Zero Waste Scotland has estimated that consumption of goods, materials and services is responsible for approximately 80% of Scotland's carbon footprint. Household waste in East Dunbartonshire accounts for 2.3% of the total waste generated in Scotland. The Council area also experiences above average waste generation per person, 0.5 tonnes compared to 0.43 tonnes per year. However, over half all household waste is recycled which is greater than the average recycling rate in Scotland (43.3%).

The theme consists of actions targeting waste reduction and improved management. These are expected to have a significant positive effect on **Material Assets** through waste management improvements and on **Climatic Factors** through emissions reduction. This includes the development of a comprehensive waste strategy, improvements to composting processes, enhanced landfill management, and addressing wastewater treatment.

A key action for the Council is to create a Waste Strategy which will include following the waste hierarchy, reducing waste arisings (including across Council operations), increasing recycling rates of and identifying key improvement areas for purchased goods/materials and increasing low carbon waste disposal. The strategy is expected to deliver substantial improvements to resource management systems (**Material Assets**). The strategy action aims to deliver a 25% reduction in waste through improved data collection, monitoring and infrastructure improvements. This is expected to have a positive effect on **Population and Human Health** through enhanced facilities and waste management systems, particularly in schools.

The Evidence and Options Report recommended that the Council collect actual waste data from its operations to assess where these reductions can be applied. The Waste Strategy which will be subject to a SEA and the necessary consultation requirements. The Council should continue ongoing engagement on waste reduction which is outside of its direct control. This data-driven approach will ensure targeted and effective interventions (**Material Assets**).

Area-wide actions focus on composting and landfill improvements, targeting a 23% reduction in composting emissions and 80% methane capture with 10% oxidation from landfill sites. These measures will have a significant positive effect on **Climatic Factors** and a positive effect on **Soil and Geology** through improved waste management practices. Implementation will also deliver positive effects on **Air Quality** and **Water Quality** through reduced emissions and leachate management. The specific targets for methane capture mean that a positive effect is anticipated on **Climatic Factors**.

Actions addressing wastewater treatment aim to achieve a 21% reduction in current emissions, contributing positive effects on **Water Quality, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna** through improved treatment processes and helping protect local water environments and ecosystems.

Scotland has a waste target for 2025 for no more than 5% of waste going to landfill, from where the vast majority of waste emissions in East Dunbartonshire derive (in addition to other waste management such as wastewater treatment). At present, there are no technologies that entirely mitigate the GHG effects of methane at source when it is emitted by landfill and sewage treatment. Waste is therefore a sector that may need to rely on negative emissions technologies to reach net zero by 2045; technologies that are not yet commercialised. Therefore, to avoid these emissions, it will be necessary to radically reduce waste generated overall, stop sending biodegradable waste to landfill by 2025 (in line with the proposed ban in Scotland), and separate all remaining waste to enable even higher recycling rates. The theme's actions directly support these national targets through systematic waste reduction and improved management (**Material Assets, Climatic Factors**).A positive effect on landscape would be expected from the theme's actions due to reduced visual impacts from waste management activities, particularly through reduced landfill waste (currently at 4% in East Dunbartonshire compared to the Scottish average), improved waste facilities, and enhanced urban environments through better waste management practices. The theme would not be expected to have any significant effects on cultural heritage assets or their settings. There are further actions East Dunbartonshire can take to reduce consumption and waste, these include minimising waste with a focus on plastic waste reduction. The Scottish Government has introduced a ban on many single-use plastics which will support this theme. The Council can also undertake engagement to encourage behaviour change with respect to sustainable production and consumption, upcycling and promoting recycling. This community action can specifically decrease textile and food waste, which account for almost two-thirds of Council waste emissions. An alternative action the Council can take is encouraging best practice when managing their own assets, such as appropriate construction waste and procurement policies and supporting circularity. These behavioural change initiatives will support long-term waste reduction goals.

It is important to note that a collaborative approach will be key to the success of delivering on this theme. Coordination across supply chains presents an opportunity to reduce waste outputs as an eco-conscious supply chain design can alleviate almost 80% of an products lifetime environmental impact. However, a successful circular economy will depend on resource sharing between manufacturers and suppliers which may need third-party intervention to establish trust. East Dunbartonshire will also need to engage with political leaders, council staff, business executives and community members to build a consensus-based approach to the Council's procurement and tender policies. This collaborative approach will strengthen the delivery of environmental benefits across all topics.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	++

Theme 6 – Business and the Economy:

Supporting businesses to become carbon neutral and climate resilient, capturing job opportunities, bolstering investment to thrive in a low-carbon, wellbeing economy while supporting a just transition to ensure that nobody is left behind.

Assessment Commentary:

The majority of businesses (90.7%) in East Dunbartonshire are micro businesses (up to 9 employees), meanwhile <1% are considered medium to large scale enterprises. Nevertheless, the commercial and industrial sectors in East Dunbartonshire account for around 12% all emissions rising to 16.4% when F-gases are included. To achieve net zero on an individual organisation level, carbon accounting will be required whereby businesses set their own emission reduction targets and set out plans to reduce their corporate emissions. The theme includes actions to support this transition through the Economic Development Strategy and Circular Economy Strategy review which is expected to have a significant positive effect on **Material Assets**. The Council should support businesses in developing these plans and signpost available funding and support. The actions underpinning this theme include the Council sending regular bulletins to highlight key sustainability developments and opportunities for businesses, running sustainability seminars and one-to-one surgeries and encouraging businesses to take up support for renewable energy and sustainability. Supporting businesses in this way can assist other emission reduction programmes and data collection processes that East Dunbartonshire Council are involved in, which could allow for more accurate analysis to be undertaken on a building or business level.

Additionally, the Council has a responsibility to create a more circular economy in which resources are used and repurposed for as long as possible to minimise waste and emissions. This is supported through using Economic Partnership meetings as a discussion platform to deliver sustainable development actions. East Dunbartonshire's Circular Economy Strategy sets out ambitions for the Council's procurement processes to promote sustainability through green partnerships, contracts, and construction.

Delivering this theme is anticipated to have positive effects for **Population and Human Health, Air Quality, Climatic Factors** and **Material Assets.** The theme's actions support wider economic benefits identified by the Climate Change Committee, including potential creation of between 135,000 and 725,000 new green jobs by 2030 in sectors such as buildings retrofit, renewable energy generation and electric vehicle manufacturing. Businesses may move to become carbon neutral through activities such as reducing energy usage and/or using greener energy sources, reducing waste, using more sustainable materials, encouraging use of public transport and switching to electric vehicles. These activities will reduce overall emissions (**Climatic Factors)** whilst also improving air quality (**Air Quality**). This will also have positive effects through increased employment opportunities throughout the transition (**Population and Human Health**).

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+	+	+	0	0	0	+	++	+

Theme 7 – Supply Chains, Investment and Digital Infrastructure:
Driving forward carbon neutral supply chains by reducing emissions from the Council's supply chain and investments, and exploiting digital and technological opportunities that drive forward decarbonisation in order to leave East Dunbartonshire less exposed to climatic hostility, hazards and financial vulnerability including exposure to stranded assets.

Assessment Commentary:

Supply Chains

To target net zero by 2045 (a reduction on 92% from the 2019 baseline) assumes that 90% of the Council suppliers will decarbonise with supply chain emission reductions largely delivered without significant cost or long-term intervention from the Council. This assumption has considerable uncertainty and would require further assessment which can be addressed through delivery of this Theme.

The Council's Circular Economy Strategy (CES), approved in 2023, outlines how it will work with community partners to encourage circularity though waste minimisation activities such as repurposing surplus office furniture, reuse of windows and organisational change to reduce operational impacts. While these efforts have improved sustainability in procurement, the Council's wider supply chain remains its primary emission source, emphasising the importance of developing sustainable procurement processes and robust data collection.

The Council's annual Procurement Strategy includes commitments to sustainability and maximising the use of Community Benefits in appropriate contracts. For example, this may include energy efficiency advice for housing tenants, use of locally sourced materials to benefit the economy and upskilling and educational programmes for communities. It is encouraged that the Council continues with these actions.

Investment

The Council can support decarbonisation through direct and indirect investment into low emissions technology and infrastructure. Whilst investment in renewable energy has shown rapid growth (surpassing $1.3 trillion for the first time in 2023[15]) significant challenges persist and further progress is required on fossil fuel drawdown to meet UK net zero targets with an estimated £50 billion/year required by 2020 and to remain at this level until at least 2050[16].

The Strathclyde Pension Fund, of which East Dunbartonshire is a member, currently holds at least £4.338 million in fossil fuel assets. The Scottish Fiscal Commission notes that current climate investment is incommensurate with Scotland's net zero targets. Despite the fund's Climate Action Plan, stakeholders critique its approach as insufficient, particularly its reliance on engagement rather than divestment.

The Council has several options for investment such as:

- An Evergreen Investment Fund, which finances green projects that provide long-term financial returns (e.g. solar panel installations on Council managed buildings). Once operational, the fund would expedite decarbonisation by continually funding projects such as ecological retrofits, building insultation, and other cost saving and decarbonisation opportunities.
- There is also the potential for a Negative Emission Investment Portfolio for private organisations to invest in nature-based solutions and lower their net emissions.
- Additionally, crowdfunding for the public sector remains largely untapped and constitutes a significant potential funding source for net zero strategies.[17]

Digital Infrastructure

Investment into smart infrastructure and technologies supports East Dunbartonshire's resilience and mitigation efforts. The use of integrated smart transport and energy networks encourages efficient management of energy and resources. In addition, technological advances in environmental monitoring methods can facilitate adaptive solutions through faster detection of risks or losses e.g. increased leakage from water supply system or reductions in air quality.

In conclusion, the supply chain is identified as the biggest contributor to the Council's own carbon footprint, therefore, the promotion of carbon neutral supply chains and investments could be one of the highest impact ways for the Council to drive decarbonisation. Decarbonisation is heavily linked to improved air quality as well as other social and economic benefits. It is anticipated this theme will have significant positive effects for **Climatic Factors** due to an increased level of clean, green energy and resultant reduction in GHG emissions. A carbon neutral supply chain will likely have positive effects for **Material Assets** due to the consideration of product life cycle and procurement of resources, as well as the energy supply chain. Additionally, a carbon neutral supply chain may include increased use of electric vehicles which will have positive effects for **Air Quality** and subsequently for **Population and Human Health**. Additionally, given the impact that climate change has on **Biodiversity, and Flora and Fauna** and **Cultural Heritage,** any initiative that results in emission reductions is likely to have positive indirect effects on these SEA objectives.

[15] International Renewable Energy Agency (2023) Investments in Renewables Reached Record High, But Need Massive Increase and More Equitable Distribution Available at Investments in Renewables Reached Record High, But Need Massive Increase and More Equitable Distribution Accessed January 2025

[16] Institute for Government (2021) Paying for net zero Available at https://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/article/explainer/paying-net-zero#:~:text=Another%20way%20of%20thinking%20about,year%2C%20before%20benefits%20are%20counted. Accessed January 2025

[17] Davis, M and Cartwright, L (2019) Financing for Society: Assessing the Suitability of Crowdfunding for the Public Sector. Report. University of Leeds Available at https://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/145481/ Accessed January 2025

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+/?	0	+/?	+/?	0	+/?	0	++	+/?

Theme 8 – Food and Agriculture:
Establishing a resilient sustainable supply chain, with food and drink produced locally and enhanced community food growing, in addition to supporting movement to a plant-based diet.

Assessment Commentary:

Agri-food systems around the world are responsible for 31% of human-induced GHG emissions, largely in relation to animal products, particularly red meat, as animal agriculture requires significant amounts of food, water and medication inputs. Specifically, livestock produce methane with 28 times the warming potential of CO_2[18], and land use and farming emissions account for more than 80% of most foods' footprints[19]. In Scotland, agriculture is the second largest source of net emissions (7.7 $MtCO_2e$[20]).

This Theme is underpinned by several recommended actions to address the main opportunities for food and agriculture:

1) Encouraging cultural and behavioural change around food consumption patterns – there are multiple co-benefits that can be exploited through reducing meat and dairy consumption and moving towards a more plant-based diet: evidence suggests that reducing the amount of animal products consumed and switching to a more plant-based diet will result in a reduction in global emissions from livestock (**Climatic Factors**), agricultural enhancements as well as potentially free up land for carbon sequestration projects (**Soil and Geology, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**) . Animal agriculture is also known to involve intensive water use, therefore the change in agricultural practices may result in water savings. The reduction in animal agriculture is may also result in reduction of nitrates and other pollutants into watercourses (**Water Quality**). Additional co-benefits include reduced risk of antibiotic

[18] Scottish Government (2024) Scottish Greenhouse Gas Statistics 2022 Available at https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-greenhouse-gas-statistics-2022/ Accessed January 2025
[19] Our World in Data (2020) *You want to reduce the carbon footprint of your food? Focus on what you eat, not whether your food is local* Available at https://ourworldindata.org/food-choice-vs-eating-local Accessed January 2025
[20] Scottish Government (2024) Scottish Greenhouse Gas Statistics 2022. Available at Section B. Results - Scottish Greenhouse Gas Statistics 2022 - gov.scot Accessed January 2025

resistance[2122], decreased probability of new pandemics emerging[23], and potential for reducing diet-related diseases[24]. Diets with lower emissions also tend to be healthier and can be linked to a reduction in diet-related diseases (**Population and Human Health**).

2) Improved farming practices and land use – managing soil health and reducing methane emissions from livestock can deliver significant reductions in emissions (**Climatic Factors**). The Council has the opportunity to improve the resilience of food supply through encouraging local growing and allotments and working with farmers to enable them to adopt low carbon practices (e.g. changing agricultural machinery). Agricultural machinery currently accounts for 34% of agricultural emissions in East Dunbartonshire, with potential for 60% reduction through fuel switches to biofuels, hydrogen, and electricity. A ban on the use of traditional pesticides can enhance **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna** as well as improve soil quality (**Soil and Geology**) by improving land use efficiency as currently 48% of UK land is used for animal agriculture yet only produces a third of total calories[25]; and reduce pollution from run-off (**Water Quality**). There are also opportunities for urban farming which would have positive effects on land use.

Establishing a resilient sustainable supply chain is anticipated to have positive environmental effects across many SEA objectives. However, it is not possible to identify the consequences of individual decisions at this stage. While locally produced food would reduce haulage and associated negative effects, there is a risk of precluding the use of sustainable products not produced locally or using less sustainable products due to their origin. Locally East Dunbartonshire currently operates one food allotment and has plans for three additional sites, with three-quarters of its area being agricultural land primarily used for livestock grazing and cereal production. The Council has opportunities for habitat enhancement along field boundaries and supporting a just transition for farmers.

However, it is unclear the extent to which these benefits could be realised locally as detail is not provided on the impact of local agriculture or the extent to which it would be affected by Council decisions. This theme is therefore anticipated to have uncertain but potentially positive effects on **Population and Human Health, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**, **Soil and Geology**, **Water Quality**, **Climatic Factors** and **Material Assets.** The ultimate success will depend on comprehensive data collection, clear guidance for decision-making, and a nuanced approach to supporting local agricultural transitions.

[21] World Health Organisation (2023) Antimicrobial resistance Available at https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/antimicrobial-resistance Accessed January 2025

[22] House of Commons Library (2023) The use of antibiotics on healthy farm animals and antimicrobial resistance Available at https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cdp-2023-0012/ Accessed January 2025

[23] Hayek N. M. (2022) *The infectious disease trap of animal agriculture* Sci Adv. 2022 Nov; 8(44): eadd6681

[24] Carmichael, R. (2019*) Behaviour change, public engagement and Net Zero. A report for the Committee on Climate Change.* Available at https://www.theccc.org.uk/publications/ and http://www.imperial.ac.uk/icept/publications/ Accessed January 2025

[25] Hayek, M.N. and Miller, S.M., 2021. Underestimates of methane from intensively raised animals could undermine goals of sustainable development. Environmental Research Letters, 16(6), p.063006.

3.6 CUMULATIVE ASSESSMENT

Following the assessment of each of the components of the CAP, an assessment of the cumulative effects has been carried out. Cumulative effects can arise from the interaction between different components of a single plan and through the combined effects across multiple plans. These cumulative effects manifest when various components produce a collective impact, for example, where multiple individual effects within the CAP combine to create a significant effect, or where several developments with minor effects collectively result in a significant effect.

There is inherent uncertainty with plans such as the CAP, as the exact location and timing of specific actions is yet to be defined. This makes cumulative assessment, particularly with other plans and programmes, difficult. As a result, the consideration of cumulative effects has been kept at a high-level and can be reviewed by the Council when implementing recommended actions in the future, such as during project-level environmental assessment where required.

It should be noted that, with the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures suggested in each of the components of the CAP, the effects for each of the environmental factors have the potential to be less significant, become neutral and/or other effects could potentially become inherently positive in nature.

3.6.1 Cumulative Effects of the Climate Action Plan

The cumulative, secondary and synergistic effects of the CAP have been determined and summarised below in **Table 3.6** with an overall summary table provided in **Table 3.7**.

Table 3.6: Cumulative Assessment

SEA Objective		Cumulative Effects Assessment
1. Population and Human Health	+	One of the main aims of the CAP is to ensure healthier and more active lifestyles through climate mitigation and adaption actions, including increasing green spaces, promoting active travel and reducing pollutants. This will result in direct positive impacts on public health. Cumulatively, these health benefits can result in improved overall public health and economic wellbeing within East Dunbartonshire. However, negative cumulative effects could occur as a result of construction activity and disruption, although these would be short-term and temporary. Overall, a minor positive cumulative effect is assessed.
2. Cultural Heritage	+	The CAP may consider the protection of cultural heritage by promoting climate-resilient infrastructure and preserving heritage sites that are vulnerable to climate change impacts (e.g. flooding). Cumulatively, these measures can contribute to preserving cultural heritage while addressing climate change. However, there is potential for negative cumulative effects due to potential conflicts between development pressures and heritage preservation, requiring careful balance to avoid unintended harm to culturally significant sites.
3. Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	+	Implementation of the CAP will involve projects such as nature-based solutions that protect and enhance biodiversity, leading to a significant increase over a large area. This also includes implementation of BNG which would not only mitigate impacts of climate change but actively enhance the role of biodiversity in planning and policy. However, if not correctly managed, these projects could negatively impact on biodiversity. For example, tree planting projects could introduce non-native species and restoration projects may inadvertently cause habitat fragmentation. In addition, multiple development projects could interact in ways that could unintentionally harm ecosystems. The positive effects on Biodiversity are anticipated to be significantly greater than any potential negative effects, particularly when considering BNG and implementation of mitigation measures, where required. Therefore, the overall cumulative effect has been assessed to be minor positive for this objective.
4. Soil & Geology	+	The CAP promotes activities which will result in significant benefits for soil health and carbon sequestration though implementation of nature-based solutions and land-use changes. Conversely, changes in land use may result in habitat loss and soil degradation. Overall, when considering BNG, the overall cumulative effect is considered to be minor positive.

SEA Objective		Cumulative Effects Assessment
5. Landscape	+	The CAP includes many actions that have the potential to alter the existing landscape. For example, reforestation, urban greening and changes in agricultural practices can, over time, significantly improve the aesthetic and recreational value of the landscape. The Council must be mindful of excessive development which could result in overuse, degradation and loss of visual amenity and/or recreational value. In some cases, converting land for renewable energy projects (e.g. wind or solar farms) may adversely impact landscape character. Overall, a minor positive cumulative effect is assessed.
6. Water Quality	+	The CAP may result in actions that will collectively contribute to improved water quality across East Dunbartonshire, for example, improved agricultural practices, improved stormwater management in new developments and restoration of wetlands. Overall, this is anticipated to have a minor positive effect on Water Quality.
7. Air Quality	+	The CAP involves several actions that will contribute to reducing air pollution, such as promoting uptake of EVs, energy efficiency improvements, tree planting and cleaner technologies. The success of these actions rely on direct action by the Council itself and across the wider public through community engagement. Cumulatively, significant positive effects on Air Quality are possible. There may be minor short-term negative effects as a result of construction and development activity, however, this is considered temporary and could be mitigated through best-practice techniques.
8. Climatic Factors	++	The vision, objectives and themes underpinning the CAP will encourage widespread adoption of mitigation and adaptation strategies (such as renewable energy, sustainable transport, and implementation of nature-based solutions). These actions can lead to a substantial reduction in GHG emissions and climate-related risks, thereby having a significant positive effect on Climatic Factors. There is potential for net short-term increases in GHG emissions associated with the combined impacts of construction and material usage for retrofitting, improvement and other development projects. However, these effects could be partly mitigated through the use of sustainable design and materials and these impacts would be increasingly outweighed by the long-term benefits.
9. Material Assets	+	The CAP will result in development or modification of infrastructure (e.g. retrofitting of council buildings) to reduce GHG emissions and enhance climate resilience, whilst ensuring efficient use of resources. Cumulatively, this could have a significant positive effect across East Dunbartonshire as the condition and longevity of infrastructure is maintained and often enhanced across the area. The CAP may also result in changes to waste management practices through promoting recycling, reducing waste sent

SEA Objective		Cumulative Effects Assessment
		to landfill and encouraging a circular economy both within the Council itself and across the wider community. The transition to a circular economy may require upfront investment into infrastructure and technology which may have short-term negative impacts on material resources. However, the long-term benefits of ensuring materials are used more sustainably and efficiently would be significant. Overall, a minor positive cumulative effect is assessed.

Table 3.7: Summary of Cumulative Effects CAP components vs SEA Environmental Factors

CAP Component	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Assessment Outcome across topics
Vision	++	+	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++
Objective 1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+
Objective 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	+	+
Objective 3	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Objective 4	++	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+
Objective 5	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Theme 1	++	0	+	0	+	0	++	++	0	+
Theme 2	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+
Theme 3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Theme 4	++	+	++	++	++	+	+	+	++	++
Theme 5	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+
Theme 6	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	++	+
Theme 7	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	++	+	+
Theme 8	+/?	0	+/?	+/?	0	+/?	0	++	+/?	+
Summary	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	

3.6.2 Effects of the Climate Action Plan in combination with other Plans and Policies

A cumulative assessment has been undertaken with other plans and policies that may be impacted by the CAP. The following local plans and policies were reviewed for cumulative effects with the CAP:

- Active Travel Strategy
- Local Housing Strategy
- Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017-2027
- Carbon Management Plan
- Open Space Strategy
- Local Development Plan 2 (Local Development Plan 3 is in development)
- Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy
- Circular Economy Strategy
- Local Biodiversity Action Plan
- Local Transport Strategy
- Green Network Strategy

These strategies and plans largely align with the CAP to achieve broader sustainability goals across East Dunbartonshire. This results in cumulative positive effects across all SEA objectives, particularly **Climatic Effects** due to an overall reduction in emissions and move towards long-term climate resilience. The actions underpinning the CAP will enable and enhance other local strategies such as promoting active travel, renewable energy adoption, promotion of energy efficiency and green infrastructure development. Many of the strategies listed above will support the delivery of the vision, objectives and themes of the CAP. For example, the Circular Economy Strategy will directly support the delivery of the Theme 5 - Waste and overarching objectives, meanwhile the implementation of nature-based solutions (e.g. Theme 4 and Objective 5) will support the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.

While the majority of these effects are positive and complementary, some negative effects may arise due to simultaneous development and activities across the Council area. For example, projects involving development (e.g. a new depot to support a 100% zero carbon fleet) and improving energy efficiency in Council-owned assets may coincide with projects outlined in other local plans and the concurrent construction activities could result in localised disruptions such as increased air pollution, noise and traffic congestion. This could have short-term negative impacts on **Population and Human Health** and **Air Quality**, in particular. However, through careful coordination, mitigation measures, and monitoring, it is possible to manage these potential conflicts and ensure that the overall outcome remains positive, with the long-term environmental and social benefits outweighing the temporary challenges.

3.7 INFLUENCE OF SEA ON THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

The SEA process has played an important role in shaping and refining the CAP through systematic consideration of environmental effects from implementation of the Vision, Objectives, Themes and component actions across each SEA topic. By identifying potential effects during the development process, the SEA has helped evaluate how energy efficiency measures benefit vulnerable communities while avoiding negative environmental effects.

The assessment process has reinforced the importance of considering both direct and indirect environmental effects. This has led to enhanced recognition of co-benefits, particularly around energy efficiency improvements in vulnerable communities, protection of heritage assets from climate change, biodiversity protection and enhancement, flood resilience, air quality improvements through emissions reduction, and community wellbeing outcomes.

The identification of environmental issues through the SEA process has helped inform the CAP's approach to implementation. The iterative nature of the SEA process has supported refinement of CAP measures to better address challenges such as, energy efficiency in council buildings, retrofitting existing buildings, protecting carbon-rich soils and peatland and implementing climate adaptation strategies while maintaining a focus on core climate objectives. This has resulted in a more integrated approach that recognises the interconnected nature of climate action and environmental protection.

Through the assessment process, several specific recommendations were identified. The SEA evaluates the effects on heritage assets from retrofits and upgraded building fabric, assesses opportunities for contaminated

land remediation, evaluates the integration of green infrastructure, and considers sustainable drainage opportunities. The assessment presents mitigation measures as part of the SEA findings in relation to potential negative effects from construction, particularly regarding air quality and material assets.

The assessments highlighted the importance of incorporating best practice construction methods to minimise temporary effects during implementation, along with the need for climate-resilient design in new infrastructure development. The assessments also highlighted the importance of incorporating nature-based solutions and sustainable drainage opportunities, along with the need for climate-resilient design in addressing flood risk management. For waste management, the assessment emphasised the importance of improving data collection from Council operations to better target reduction measures. For material assets, the assessment emphasised the importance of sustainable material use in construction and promoting circular economy principles in Council operations.

One influence of particular importance has been the recommendation to develop and implement a Climate Change Impact Assessment (CCIA) process. This process will ensure climate change considerations are mainstreamed into all relevant Council decision-making, spending decisions, and policy-making processes. The integration of this process into the Council's existing impact assessment framework has been identified as adding significant value to the implementation of the CAP.

3.8 DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED

The SEA Act requires the identification of any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of knowledge) encountered during the assessment process. The difficulties encountered in undertaking the SEA of the draft CAP are summarised below.

The SEA process encountered some challenges in assessing the likely significant effects of the CAP and its components. While quantitative data existed for current conditions, many longer-term impacts required qualitative assessment approaches based on reasonable assumptions and professional judgment. Data availability and information gaps created limitations in the assessment process, particularly given the interconnected nature of climate action interventions.

Reflecting the strategic nature of the draft CAP, specific locations for spatially related components are currently unknown. Assessments have been based on the best available information provided by East Dunbartonshire Council and any assumptions used have been highlighted where appropriate. For spatial options that would be subject to more detailed analysis during implementation, effects on some objectives such as biodiversity remain uncertain. Where this is the case, the assessment has reflected this uncertainty.

The assessment of both direct and indirect effects presented methodological complexities across different environmental topics. While the assessment of cumulative effects with other plans and programmes has been based on the most up to date information available, in many cases there was insufficient detailed information at this stage to make robust conclusions. These uncertainties and assumptions have been documented within the assessment, and recommendations for monitoring have been made where appropriate to address any data gaps.

4. MITIGATION AND MONITORING

4.1 MITIGATION MEASURES

Schedule 3 paragraph 7 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that the Environmental Report includes the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and, as fully as possible, offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the CAP.

Mitigation measures have been proposed and incorporated into each of the assessments, where necessary, in order to avoid, reduce, mitigate or offset any potential adverse environmental impacts and enhance any neutral or positive environmental impacts identified. For the assessment of the CAP, mitigation has been incorporated into the assessments in the form of SEA suggested alterations which have led to more positive environmental scorings and their adoption as the CAP preferred option in the majority of cases.

Implementation of the CAP has potential to have negative effects as a result of development of infrastructure that supports net zero ambitions. Consequently, mitigation is largely limited to reducing potential effects from construction. As exact developments are not known at this stage, it is not possible to determine specific mitigation measures, therefore a summary of the **potential mitigation measures** that could be implemented for each SEA objective is outlined in **Table 4.1**. An attempt has been made to include lead authority and timescales as requested by the Consultation Bodies during the scoping consultation but understandably these will depend on the nature and timing of the CAP related projects to be implemented.

Table 4.1: Potential Mitigation Measures

SEA Objective	Issue/Impact	Potential Mitigation Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
Population and Human Health	• Construction disruption causing noise, dust, and local community disturbance • Increased traffic congestion and safety risks from construction vehicles	• Employ best practice construction methods to reduce nuisance and disruption. • Construction-related traffic and site management measures to reduce negative impacts from increased traffic and congestion. • Where possible, avoid development which may negatively impact existing habitat sites and recreational assets.	East Dunbartonshire Council (Land Planning and Development, Traffic and Transport and Streetscene) in liaison with NatureScot, where relevant.	Throughout project implementation
Cultural Heritage	• Risk of damaging archaeological sites during ground development	• Ensure appropriate archaeological watching briefs and where necessary excavations and subsequent reporting take place prior to any groundwork. • Ensure sensitivity to original design features and use of technology appropriate for the location in upgrading or refurbishment work.	East Dunbartonshire Council Land Planning and Development in liaison with Historic Environment Scotland and Consultant Archaeologists.	Prior to any construction work

SEA Objective	Issue/Impact	Potential Mitigation Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
	• Potential architectural integrity loss during building upgrades • Visual degradation of heritage landscapes	• Explore planting and screening options for developments in proximity to sensitive heritage assets.		
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	• Potential negative effects on species and habitat from infrastructure projects • Risk of invasive species transmission	• Site investigations carried out prior to any infrastructure projects to avoid the possibility of adverse environmental impacts on sensitive habitats or species. • Where possible, use native species where possible in tree planting and other nature-based solution projects. • Ensure the application of appropriate biosecurity measures.	East Dunbartonshire Council (Land Planning and Development and Streetscene) in liaison with NatureScot.	Prior to and throughout project implementation
Soil and Geology	• Soil erosion and degradation during construction activities	• Where viable, implement erosion control techniques, such as silt fences, sediment basins, and erosion-resistant ground cover to prevent soil erosion during construction and development. • Restore soil disturbed during construction or development.	East Dunbartonshire Council (Land Planning and Development, Streetscene and Environmental Health) in liaison with SEPA and NatureScot.	Throughout project implementation
Landscape	• Visual disruption of natural landscape character • Potential negative aesthetic effects on local environment • Intrusive development visibility affecting scenic quality	• Integrate development into the surrounding landscape by carefully considering the natural contours, topography, and vegetation to minimise visual disruption. • Conduct a Visual Impact Assessment to evaluate potential visual impacts of the development on the surrounding landscape and local communities. • Where viable, use natural or artificial screens (e.g., vegetation, earth berms, fences) to reduce the visibility of the development from critical viewpoints and sensitive areas.	East Dunbartonshire Council (Land Planning and Development and Streetscene) in liaison with NatureScot.	Prior to and throughout project implementation

SEA Objective	Issue/Impact	Potential Mitigation Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
Water Quality	• Sediment and soil runoff contaminating water bodies • Potential chemical and material contamination of water sources • Ecosystem disruption along water corridors	• Implement erosion and sediment control measures to prevent soil from being carried into water bodies by stormwater runoff. • Prevent contamination of water sources from construction materials, waste, and chemicals used on site. • Establish buffer zones along water bodies (streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands) to protect water quality from development activities.	East Dunbartonshire Council (Land Planning and Development, Streetscene (including Flood and Drainage Engineers) and Environmental Health) in liaison with SEPA and NatureScot.	Prior to and throughout project implementation
Air Quality	• Construction-related short-term air quality degradation • Vehicle emissions during construction and development • Particulate matter and dust pollution • Long-term urban air quality improvement	• Where necessary, introduction of traffic planning and management schemes to reduce short-term construction impacts. • Reduce emissions from construction vehicles and equipment by using low-emission vehicles and promoting sustainable vehicle management practices. • Implement dust suppression strategies to minimise particulate matter emissions during excavation, demolition, grading, and other construction activities. • Further amelioration from extensive tree planting, where appropriate, to absorb pollutants and carbon emissions, and capture particulates.	East Dunbartonshire Council (Land Planning and Development, Streetscene and Environmental Health) in liaison with SEPA.	Prior to and throughout project implementation
Climatic Factors	• High carbon emissions from development and infrastructure • Sustainable transportation infrastructure • Increased vulnerability to climate change impacts	• Designs to minimise emissions by incorporating demand reduction & energy efficiency measures and low carbon, renewable technologies. • Deliver extensive active travel options and green infrastructure to reduce / absorb emissions. • Install a range of climate change adaptations to improve infiltration, reduce surface water flooding, retain water to mitigate drought conditions, reduce higher temperatures, and provide cooling through shading.	East Dunbartonshire Council (Land Planning and Development, Traffic and Transport and Streetscene) in liaison with SEPA and NatureScot.	Prior to and throughout project implementation

SEA Objective	Issue/Impact	Potential Mitigation Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
Material Assets	• Resource efficiency • High embodied carbon in construction materials	• Promote resource efficiency. • Use of local, renewable and/or recycled materials wherever possible.	East Dunbartonshire Council (Land Planning and Development, Assets and Estates and Streetscene) in liaison with SEPA.	From onset of CAP implementation

4.2 MONITORING

Through Section 19 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, East Dunbartonshire Council is required to monitor significant environmental effects of the implementation of the CAP. The monitoring should be implemented to enable the identification of any unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage to allow the appropriate remedial action to be implemented.

The specific measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the CAP will form part of the Post-Adoption Statement, prepared as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of both documents in accordance with Section 18 of the Act. It is envisaged that the following indicators will be included within the monitoring framework.

The proposed SEA monitoring framework (**Table** 4.2) will directly align with the monitoring framework for the CAP and will be further revised for the Post Adoption Statement. For completion the table currently includes potential monitoring measures across all topics.

Table 4.2: Proposed SEA Monitoring Framework for the CAP

SEA Category	Indicators	Data Source
Population and Human Health	Improvements in physical and mental health outcomes from increased access to green spaces and active travel Changes in instances of diet-related diseases	Health data from East Dunbartonshire Council Survey data on physical activity and use of green spaces
Cultural Heritage	Condition and preservation of cultural heritage assets (e.g. archaeological sites, historic buildings, cultural landscapes) Visitor numbers and engagement with cultural heritage sites	Condition surveys and monitoring (Historic Environment Scotland) Visitor data (e.g. Historic Environment Scotland)
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Improvements in biodiversity metrics (e.g. species population, habitat connectivity) from nature-based solutions and reduced emissions Impacts on protected sites and species	Ecological surveys and monitoring data (e.g. NatureScot)

SEA Category	Indicators	Data Source
Soil and Geology	Improvements in soil health and carbon storage from regenerative agriculture practices Rate of loss of carbon rich soils / peat within Plan area (e.g. tonnes/ year) Reduced pollution from changes in fertiliser and pesticide use	Soil sample analyses (SEPA) Water quality monitoring data (SEPA)
Landscape	Increased green infrastructure and nature networks Improved visual amenity from reduced environmental degradation	Spatial data analysis of green/blue spaces Resident/visitor/citizen science surveys on perceptions of the local environment
Water Quality	Reduced water pollution from changes in agricultural practices and waste management Improved water quality/ecological status in local watercourses Incorporation of SuDS and Natural Flood Management (NFM) Systems Number and type of flooding incidents within Plan area (per year)	Water quality sampling and analysis (SEPA) East Dunbartonshire Council SEPA
Air Quality	Improved air quality from reduced emissions, e.g. particulate matter, NO_x Proportion of electric vehicles in the Council's fleet	Air quality monitoring data East Dunbartonshire Council Monitored through number of charge points and ULEV vehicles in the Carbon Management Plan.

SEA Category	Indicators	Data Source
	Proportion of car journeys replaced with walking, cycling and public transport or homeworking.	Monitored through proxy values in the Carbon Management Plan.
Climatic Factors	Reduced greenhouse gas emissions across key sectors (e.g. transport, buildings, agriculture) Increased carbon sequestration from nature-based solutions Progress on area-wide emissions targets Corporate emissions including supply chain and employee commuting Number of flood alleviation / natural flood management schemes implemented Number of properties / businesses at risk of flooding	Corporate greenhouse gas emissions including scope 3 emissions (employee commuting, supply chain) Annual Scottish Public Bodies' Climate Change Duty reporting Net Zero Monitoring Report (enhanced Carbon Management Plan) including extended scope 3 reporting Council CCIA monitoring and reporting UK Government area-wide emissions data Council travel survey data (specifically for corporate commuting) Met Office Local Authority Climate Service (for climate resilience monitoring) Scottish Climate Intelligence Service (SCIS) standardised reporting SEPA / EDC – Flood Protection Schemes SEPA Flood Map (National Flood Risk Assessment)
Material Assets	Improved material efficiency and circularity in construction, procurement and waste management Increased renewable energy generation and storage capacity	Waste/recycling data (East Dunbartonshire Council) Energy System monitoring including collection and analysis of data related to the generation, distribution, and consumption of energy.

SEA Category	Indicators	Data Source
	The number of homes and businesses that benefit from retrofitting measures	East Dunbartonshire Council

5. STATUTORY CONSULTATION AND SEA TIMETABLE

5.1 STATUTORY CONSULTATION

The statutory consultation for the draft SEA ER and corresponding Draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) is:

13th October 2025 – 19th December 2025

If you would like to express your views on the Environmental Report, your comments should be submitted through email or post to the following:

Email: Sustainability@eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Post: Sustainability Policy Team,
Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets
Southbank House
Strathkelvin Place
Kirkintilloch
G66 1XQ

Or respond directly via our Draft Climate Action Plan Survey located on the Council webpage.

In addition, the Council will be holding consultation sessions (in-person and online) for discussion and views to be shared on the Draft CAP and corresponding SEA Environmental Report. Details for these sessions will be advertised in advance and promoted through social media, local publications and on the Councils website https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/Draft-CAP.

5.2 SEA TIMETABLE

The SEA activities to date and approximate timetable for the CAP and further SEA stages are summarised below (**Table 5.1**). The SEA process has aligned with the development stages for the CAP itself.

Table 5.1: Consultation and SEA Timetable

Plan Preparation Stages	SEA Stages	Timescale & Consultation Period, if required
Preliminary Assessment and Survey / Research work	Scoping Report: • Collate and forecast baseline environmental information • Adopt SEA environmental objectives, criteria and assessment methodology	• Early 2022 (research and draft) • Scoping Report was submitted to the SEA Gateway on 10th June 2022 • 5-week period of Consultation with the Consultation Authorities.
Development of an Options Report which combines options packages for each strand of the wider CAP	Assessment and SEA integration of recommendations and suggested mitigation outlined. Assessment Appendix produced along with the Options Report and presented to the CAP Members Officers Group, Committee and/or Council for approval.	June – September 2022 • No formal external consultation period required as all data contained within the CAP ER.
Prepare draft CAP	Environmental Assessment: • Assess the CAP • Assess all reasonable alternatives • Prepare Environmental Report	• Assessments (various stages) June 2022 – April 2025 • Environmental Report production November 2024 – August 2025 • Environmental Report to be submitted to the SEA Gateway 6th October
Publish and Consult on Proposed Plan	Publish and Consult on Draft Proposed Plan	• Consultation with the public and Consultation Authorities 6th October 2025 – 19th December 2025 • Assessment of responses January
Adopt Climate Action Plan	Produce Post-Adoption Statement along with the adopted CAP (approval date TBC)	• Final CAP to Council for approval early 2026 • Post-Adoption to be produced and submitted post-approval
Monitor and Review	Monitor and Review	• On-going/Annual review

APPENDICES

Appendix A	List of Relevant Policies, Plans, Programmes, Strategies, Legislation and Environmental Protection Objectives
Appendix B	SEA Scoping Report Consultation Reponses
Appendix C	Alternative Assessments
Appendix D	CAP Actions Assessment Against SEA Objectives

APPENDIX A: LIST OF RELEVANT POLICIES, PLANS, PROGRAMMES, STRATEGIES, LEGISLATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OBJECTIVES

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
International		
Rio Declaration (1992)	The Declaration sets out 27 principles to enable the global community to work towards international agreements that respect the interests of all and protect the integrity of the global environmental and developmental systems. The Declaration highlighted the necessity to protect and enhance the environment, economics and social aspects in both developed and developing countries. The Rio Declaration led to an international commitment to Agenda 21 which represented a global action on sustainable development.	The principles of the CAP will align with the principles set out within the Rio Declaration in order to demonstrate environmental protection and enhancement.
Kyoto Protocol (1997)	The UK has committed itself to a 12.5% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2008-2012. It has also set its own domestic target of a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide by 2010.	Carbon reductions are the main outcomes of the CAP and work will be undertaken to adhere to UK and Scottish targets.
Johannesburg Declaration (2002)	The World Summit on Sustainable Development was held in Johannesburg in 2002 to assess progress since Rio. The three key outcomes of the Summit include: • A political declaration • The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and, • Partnership initiatives. The event included a number of commitments including those related to sustainable consumption and production, water and sanitation, and energy.	Similarly to the Rio Declaration, the commitments of the Johannesburg Summit will be embodied within the CAP.
Paris Agreement (2015)	The Paris Agreement is the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate change agreement, adopted at the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015. It sets out a global framework to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.	The CAP will set out the local response to addressing the global framework and meeting the targets to reduce the global warming effect to below 1.5**°C.**

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	It also aims to strengthen countries' ability to deal with the impacts of climate change and support them in their efforts.	
The Glasgow Pact (2021)	The Glasgow Pact is the most recent agreement and progression from the Conference of the Parties Paris Agreement (2015). The Glasgow COP26 pact was reaches in November 2021. The main elements from the conference were: • An agreement to re-visit emission reduction plans in 2022 in order to try to keep the 1.5 °C Paris Agreement target achievable • The first ever inclusion of a commitment to limit the use of unabated coal • A commitment to climate finance for developing countries	The Glasgow Pact will influence the CAP by building on the targets outlined at COP21, such as keeping warming below 1.5 degrees. However, it additionally created a mechanism for countries to visit their reduction plans every year, as opposed to every five, to help maximise decarbonisation.
IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (2022)	The Working Group II contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report assesses the impacts of climate change, looking at ecosystems, biodiversity, and human communities at global and regional levels. It also reviews vulnerabilities and the capacities and limits of the natural world and human societies to adapt to climate change.	The most recent IPCC report will inform the CAP by outlining the general framework and approach to understanding the full impacts of climate change, where vulnerabilities lie and how governments, cities and communities can build capacity to respond to a changing climate.
Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	Establishes a course of action for individuals, the planet, and prosperity, while also aiming to promote universal peace with greater freedom. It outlines 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. They provide a framework for addressing climate change by promoting sustainable practices across economic, social, and environmental sectors.	The SDG goals provide a framework integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation across various sectors, such as clean energy, sustainable cities, and responsible consumption.
2030 Strategic Framework for	The 2030 Strategic Framework for International Climate and Nature Action aims to align global efforts in tackling climate change	The framework promotes a coordinated global approach that combines climate mitigation with nature conservation. It

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
International Climate and Nature Action	and biodiversity loss through integrated, nature-based solutions. It focuses on accelerating sustainable development, enhancing international cooperation, and achieving climate resilience while protecting ecosystems.	encourages the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem protection into climate strategies, ensuring that efforts to combat climate change also preserve natural resources and support long-term environmental health.
UK Policies		
Climate Change Act 2008	Introduced through the UK Climate Change Programme (2000). Set a legally-binding target of at least 80% reduction in UK greenhouse gas emissions by 2050; amended by the Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019 to a target of 100% of 1990 levels (net zero) by 2050	Carbon reduction will be a headline aim of the CAP and work will be undertaken with an awareness of the domestic targets that have been set.
UK Emissions Trading Scheme (UK ETS)	The UK Emissions Trading Scheme (UK ETS) replaced the UK's participation in the EU ETS on 1 January 2021. The 4 governments of the UK have established the scheme to increase the climate ambition of the UK's carbon pricing policy, while protecting the competitiveness of UK businesses. It aims to: • incentivise cost-effective greenhouse gas emissions reductions for sectors currently in scope of the EU ETS, while balancing this ambition with the competitiveness of UK industry • be at least as ambitious as the current EU ETS and to provide a smooth transition for all relevant sectors	The UK ETS will impact the CAP as it sets out the pace and scale of decarbonisation required to deliver on climate targets and net zero. It sets out how industry can decarbonise in line with net zero while remaining competitive and without pushing emissions abroad which will act as a general framework to guide local business.
UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (2022)	The UK CCRA considers sixty-one UK-wide climate risks and opportunities cutting across multiple sectors of the economy and prioritises the following eight risk areas for action in the next two years: • risks to the viability and diversity of terrestrial and freshwater habitats and species from multiple hazards • risks to soil health from increased flooding and drought	The CAP will use the key risks and priority actions areas identified in this Assessment as a guiding document to identify and outline the relevant risk for East Dunbartonshire as a result of climate change. They will be appropriately tailored to reflect the local conditions.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	• risks to natural carbon stores and sequestration from multiple hazards • risks to crops, livestock and commercial trees from multiple climate hazards • risks to supply of food, goods and vital services due to climate-related collapse of supply chains and distribution networks • risks to people and the economy from climate-related failure of the power system • risks to human health, wellbeing and productivity from increased exposure to heat in homes and other buildings • multiple risks to the UK from climate change impacts overseas This is based on the Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk, the statutory advice provided by the Climate Change Committee (CCC), commissioned by the UK government and devolved administrations	
UK 25 Year Environment Plan	This 25 Year Environment Plan sets out government action to help the natural world regain and retain good health. It aims to deliver cleaner air and water in our cities and rural landscapes, protect threatened species and provide richer wildlife habitats. It calls for an approach to agriculture, forestry, land use and fishing that puts the environment first. • Clean air • Clean and plentiful water • Thriving plants and wildlife • Reducing the risks of harm from environmental hazards • Using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently • Enhancing beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment • Mitigating and adapting to climate change • Minimising waste • Managing exposure to chemicals • Enhancing biosecurity	The CAP will aim to promote and support these objectives on a local level as they are parallel outcomes for East Dunbartonshire. However, it should be noted that due to the devolved powers passed to the Scottish Government, the plan may have limited application in Scotland.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
UK integrated National Energy and Climate Change (NECP)	The United Kingdom's integrated National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) focuses on the UK's domestic climate targets and is based on existing energy and climate policy documents, notably the Clean Growth Strategy up to 2050.	The CAP will aim to deliver key targets from this strategy such as low carbon heating and energy technologies, with a focus on localised renewable energy.
Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener (2021)	This strategy sets out policies and proposals for decarbonising all sectors of the UK economy. It outlines the UK's plan to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions, focusing on clean energy, green jobs, and sustainable growth. It aims to decarbonise industries, boost innovation, and reduce carbon footprints across sectors while fostering economic recovery post-pandemic.	The CAP will aim to deliver the ambitions set out in the strategy regarding reducing emissions, driving investments in green technologies, and promoting sustainable economic growth through prioritising decarbonisation across industries, ensuring climate resilience, and fostering a transition to a low-carbon economy.
Third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3)	The UK government is actively working to adapt to climate change by implementing measures that protect communities, the economy, and the environment. Through initiatives like the NAP3, it aims to build resilience against climate risks such as flooding, heatwaves, and infrastructure damage, while also seizing opportunities like growing new crops.	The CAP will ensure that climate adaptation is integrated alongside mitigation efforts, creating a strategy for tackling both current and future climate impacts as envisioned in NAP3.
Environment Act 2021	The Environment Act 2021 strengthens the UK's approach to environmental protection by setting legally binding targets for air quality, biodiversity, and water resources, all crucial for addressing climate change. It supports the country's efforts to reduce emissions and enhance environmental resilience, contributing to climate adaptation and mitigation goals.	The CAP will aim to deliver key targets from this Act such as reducing emissions and enhancing biodiversity.
Transforming finance for a greener future: 2019 green finance strategy (updated 2023)	The strategy aims to aim to align financial flows with environmental sustainability by driving investment in green technologies and ensuring that climate risks are fully integrated into financial decision-making. The strategy seeks to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon, resilient economy by fostering innovation, improving market transparency, and mobilising private capital for environmental goals.	This strategy provides guidance green financing to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy, directing investment toward sustainable projects and green technologies. The CAP will help to facilitate these goals.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
UK Committee on Climate Change, Interim UK Carbon Budgets	The UK has committed to an 100% reduction in its greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. In order to help meet this target, the UK Committee on Climate Change (CCC) has devised a series of interim UK "carbon budgets". The interim UK Carbon Budgets set emission reduction targets for specific periods, guiding the country's transition to a low-carbon economy. These budgets ensure that the UK stays on track to meet its net-zero emissions target by 2050.	The CAP should take into consideration these targets ensuring alignment with the national climate goals
UK Clean Growth Strategy 2017	This strategy sets out proposals for decarbonising all sectors of the UK economy through the 2020s. It explains how the whole country can benefit from low carbon opportunities, while meeting national and international commitments to tackle climate change.	This strategy provides high level guidance on how economic decarbonisation can be achieved, and the CAP will facilitate and act as East Dunbartonshire's transition towards that goal.
Future of Mobility: Urban Strategy Moving Britain Ahead (2019)	This policy paper outlines the government's approach to maximising the benefits from transport innovation in cities and towns. It sets out the principles that will guide government's response to emerging transport technologies and business models. It covers what is changing in the transportation sector, opportunities to improve mobility, the risks of managing the change effectively and the next steps for implementation.	The strategy promotes low-emission transport solutions that reduce carbon footprints locally aligning with the CAP. The CAP's emphasis on sustainable travel and active transport supports the policy's broader goals.
Government food strategy (2022)	The Strategy aims to ensure a sustainable, resilient food system that supports health, reduces environmental impact, and boosts economic growth. It focuses on promoting local production, tackling food insecurity, and driving innovation in agriculture and food industries. The objectives for this strategy are to deliver: • a prosperous agri-food and seafood sector that ensures a secure food supply in an unpredictable world and contributes to the levelling up agenda through good quality jobs around the country • a sustainable, nature positive, affordable food system that provides choice and access to high quality products that support healthier and home-grown diets for all	The strategy has multiple areas of overlaps with the CAP. The strategy contains elements of sustainable and nature positive opportunities to decarbonise supply chains to growing and using local produce Therefore the CAP should consider the opportunities to integrate food growing as part of the wider strategic delivery of the CAP.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	• trade that provides export opportunities and consumer choice through imports, without compromising our regulatory standards for food, whether produced domestically or imported	
Scottish		
Local Government in Scotland Act 2003	The Local Government in Scotland Act places a statutory duty of Best Value on local authorities, requiring a contribution to sustainable development. It was established in order to enable the delivery of public services which better meet the expectations of those who pay for and use them in terms of best value. The Act provides a number of different roles including: • a duty to secure Best Value in local government service provision; • an extension of the Accounts Commission for Scotland's powers to hold hearings and publish findings so that they cover issues relating to Best Value and Community Planning; • the provision of a Ministerial intervention power for continued or extraordinary statutory failure in Best Value or a significant misuse of the power of wellbeing; • amendments to constraints on local authority trading activity, with the repeal of all existing legislation relating to compulsory competitive tendering; • a statutory basis for public performance reporting and arrangements to improve accountability; • a statutory basis for Community Planning to ensure long-term commitment to effective partnership working with communities and between local authorities and other key bodies and organisations; • a power of well-being to enable local authorities to work in a more innovative and creative way in responding to the needs of their communities; and • a vehicle to progress a number of miscellaneous provisions which relate to local government matters.	The Local Government in Scotland Act's duty of Best Value requires local authorities to contribute to sustainable development; the CAP, in seeking to integrate systematic, Council-wide improvements in sustainability, will embody and contribute to this requirement.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997	The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 plays a pivotal role in supporting Scotland's climate change goals by embedding sustainable development within planning processes. It encourages low-carbon infrastructure, renewable energy integration, and efficient land use to reduce emissions. By promoting green spaces and climate-resilient design, the Act aligns with adaptation strategies. Additionally, it ensures community involvement in planning decisions that prioritise environmental and climate-conscious growth.	The Act provides guidance on sustainable land use, low-carbon infrastructure, and climate-resilient development. The CAP will shape the planning priorities by emphasising local goals for emissions reduction, renewable energy, and adaptation to climate risks during project implementation.
Programme for Government 2024-25: Serving Scotland	This programme underscores Scotland’s commitment to a just transition to net-zero by accelerating renewable energy projects, enhancing green transport networks, and supporting energy efficiency in homes. It prioritises nature restoration and community-driven climate adaptation. This aligns with Scotland’s climate goals by embedding sustainability across policies, fostering innovation, and empowering local action for emissions reduction and resilience.	The Programme drives national funding and policies that support local green initiatives. The CAP aligns with these priorities, emphasising local climate actions that reflect national goals.
Scottish Government National Outcomes	11 National Outcomes were set for the Scottish Government as part of the National Performance Framework. These are: 1. Children & Young People – We grow up loved, safe and respected so that we realise our full potential 2. Communities – We live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe 3. Culture – We are creative and our vibrant and diverse cultures are expressed and enjoyed widely 4. Economy – We have a globally competitive, entrepreneurial, inclusive and sustainable economy 5. Education – We are well educated, skilled and able to contribute to society 6. Environment – We value, enjoy, protect and enhance our environment 7. Fair Work & Business – We have thriving and innovative businesses, with quality jobs and fair work for everyone	Whilst the CAP will link to a number of the National Outcomes directly and indirectly, outcome 6 relating to the environment Is the most relevant. The CAP will directly propose actions to protect and enhance the local environment through its ambitions for net zero emissions.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	8. Health – We are healthy and active 9. Human Rights – We respect, protect and fulfil human rights and live free from discrimination 10. International – We are open, connected and make a positive contribution internationally 11. Poverty – We tackle poverty by sharing opportunities, wealth and power more equally	
Planning (Scotland) Act 2006	The Planning (Scotland) Act 2006 reforms the planning system in Scotland to promote sustainable development and improve community involvement in decision-making. It aims to ensure that land use and development decisions align with environmental and social goals for long-term prosperity.	The CAP should ensure alignment with the Act's ambitions on sustainable land use practices and environmental protection goals allowing for climate-conscious decisions that promote long-term resilience.
The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004	The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 establishes protections for Scotland's natural heritage, focusing on the conservation of habitats, species, and ecosystems. It ensures that developments do not harm biodiversity and supports the restoration of vulnerable natural environments.	The CAP should ensure alignment with the Act's ambitions on the protection and restoration of local biodiversity and natural habitats, guiding development to minimise environmental impacts, ensuring natural heritage is preserved, supporting sustainable land use and ecosystem-based solutions for climate adaptation.
National Planning Framework 4 (2024)	The National Planning Framework 4 (2024) sets out the Scottish Government's spatial strategy for land use, focusing on sustainable development, climate resilience, and net-zero targets. It provides guidance to local authorities on integrating climate and environmental considerations into planning and development processes.	The CAP aims to achieve national climate goals through measures posited by the framework on integrating climate action into local planning policies, promoting net-zero development, and improving climate resilience.
Cleaner Air for Scotland 2 - Towards a Better Place for Everyone	Cleaner Air for Scotland 2 (CAFS 2) focuses on 10 key themes, including a precautionary approach to reducing air pollution and ensuring compliance with air quality standards. It calls for integrated policies across sectors like climate change, placemaking, and transport to enhance air quality. The strategy also highlights the need for better data, public engagement, and behaviour change to combat pollution. Effective governance and ongoing progress reviews are crucial for successful implementation and addressing emerging challenges.	CAFS 2 aligns with the CAP by emphasising integrated policies across sectors like climate change, transport, and placemaking, promoting co-benefits for both air quality and climate goals.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
The River Basin Management Plan for Scotland 2021 - 2027	Scotland's water environment is crucial for its health, economy, and biodiversity, but faces increasing threats from climate change, pollution, and resource overuse. The River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) emphasises sustainable water management, incorporating circular economy principles to restore and protect water resources. It aims to improve water quality, reduce emissions, and adapt to climate impacts like floods and droughts. The RBMP promotes collaborative efforts across sectors, ensuring water continues to support drinking, agriculture, business, and recreation.	The ambitions of the RBMP will influence the targets within the CAP and, as a result, the CAP will set out intentions to meet them.
Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009	Greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets set for 2020 and 2050, with linked targets set in relation to energy efficiency and meeting heat demand and electricity demand by renewable resources; includes target for 11% of heat consumed in 2020 to come from renewable sources, complementing a target to reduce total final energy consumption in Scotland by 12% in relation to a baseline of the average energy consumption in 2005-07.	Carbon reduction will be a headline aim of the Strategy and work will be undertaken with an awareness of the domestic targets that have been set.
Climate change: Scottish National Adaptation Plan 2024-2029	The Scottish National Adaptation Plan 2024-2029 outlines Scotland's strategy to manage and adapt to the impacts of climate change. It provides sector-specific actions to protect infrastructure, natural resources, and communities from increasing climate risks.	The National Adaptation Plan provides guidance on managing climate risks, including flood management and infrastructure resilience ensuring that local adaptation actions are aligned with national priorities for climate change resilience.
Just Transition Commission: A National Mission for a fairer, greener Scotland (2021)	Outlines how Scotland can achieve a fair and inclusive transition to a greener economy. It emphasises ensuring that the shift to a low-carbon economy benefits all communities, especially those most impacted by climate change and job transitions.	Provides guidance on making climate action inclusive and benefits all communities, especially those affected by the transition to a greener economy. It fosters equitable green job creation and community engagement in climate solutions.
Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2024	This Bill changes the target for reducing all "greenhouse gas emissions" to 100% by 2045. The target is currently 80%. The Scottish Government wants to make the current legislation on climate change tougher. This will help: • limit temperature increases and the negative impacts they have	The targets set out in the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill will influence the targets within the CAP and, as a result, the CAP will set out intentions to meet them.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	• make sure that businesses and industries start using low-carbon technologies • make sure that businesses and industries work in a way that reduces carbon emissions	
Fuel Poverty (Targets, Definition and Strategy) (Scotland) Act 2019	Sets target of maximum of 5% of Scottish households being in fuel poverty by 2040; also defines fuel poverty, requires the production of a fuel poverty strategy and makes provision about reporting on fuel poverty.	Housing will be considered within the scope of the Strategy; therefore this is likely to result in additional activity being considered in relation to the requirements set out in the Fuel Poverty Act 2019.
'Sustainable Housing: Fuel Poverty and Climate Change' Advice Note (2014)	Assists local authorities in using Local Housing Strategies to addressing fuel poverty and climate change via warm, dry, energy-efficient, low-carbon homes that are affordable to heat (supplementary to Local Housing Strategy Guidance).	Housing will be considered within the scope of the Strategy; therefore this is likely to result in additional activity being considered in relation to the requirements set out in this advice note.
Heat Policy Statement – 'Towards Decarbonising Heat: Maximising the Opportunities for Scotland' (2015)	Sets policy direction for reducing carbon emissions from heat by applying Heat Hierarchy to 3 key aspects of the heat system: heat demand; heat distribution & storage; and sources of heat. Furthermore, sets specific target for 1.5 TWh of Scotland's heat demand to be delivered by district heating and to have 40,000 homes connected to district or communal heating by 2020. Due to be updated in near future, with expected stronger emphasis on public sector bodies taking the lead in reducing carbon emissions from their new buildings.	The provisions set out within the Heat Policy Statement will provide direction for the CCAP in relation to options for public sector bodies reducing carbon emissions from their new buildings.
Heat Networks (Scotland) Act (2021)	The aim of the Bill is to encourage greater use of heat networks in Scotland. Heat networks are made up of insulated pipes and heat generation systems which make heat. This can be in the form of hot water or steam. This will help reduce emissions from homes and other buildings. The Bill puts in place rules and regulations on heat networks, including: • making applications • identifying exemptions • granting licenses • setting up heat network zones	Heat network opportunities will be outlined in the Bill and potential solutions that are applicable for the CAP will be explored.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
Infrastructure investment plan 2021-2022 to 2025-2026: carbon assessment	The Infrastructure Investment Plan will focus on three core strategic themes for guiding investment decisions in Scotland: • Enabling the transition to net zero emissions and environmental sustainability, including investment in active travel, decarbonising of heat in buildings, investment in local authority recycling collection infrastructure and increasing forest cover, • Driving inclusive economic growth, and • Building resilient and sustainable places	The 3 core strategic themes of the Infrastructure Investment Plan are likely to be integral themes of the CAP and therefore the Strategy will explore local level action in response to the national plans for investing in infrastructure.
Scottish Energy Strategy (2017)	Sets a target of the equivalent of 50% of energy used for Scotland's heat, transport and electricity to be supplied from renewable sources by 2030.	The targets set out in the Scottish Energy Strategy will influence the targets within the CAP and, as a result, the CAP will set out intentions to meet them.
Energy Efficient Scotland Programme (2020)	Aims to reduce fuel poverty and carbon emissions by making homes and buildings warmer, greener and more energy-efficient. Proposes standards for domestic and non-domestic buildings, with a general goal of all achieving EPC rating C by 2040, where technologically feasible and cost-effective. To be delivered by local authorities via LHEESs. A new draft Energy Efficiency Route Map is expected before the end of 2020.	The standards of the EESP will be integrated into the CAP.
Scottish biodiversity strategy to 2045 (2024)	This strategy aims to halt biodiversity loss and restore ecosystems by enhancing protected areas, promoting sustainable land and marine use, and tackling invasive species. It supports nature-based solutions to address climate change while fostering community engagement and sustainable development. The strategy also prioritises integrating biodiversity considerations across policies and sectors to ensure long-term resilience.	The strategy drives ecosystem restoration and green infrastructure efforts at a local level. The CAP supports these efforts and will be directly influenced by this strategy.
Scotland's Forestry Strategy 2019 - 2029	The Scotland's Forestry Strategy 2019–2029 outlines several key objectives: Objectives • Increase the contribution of forests and woodlands to Scotland's sustainable and inclusive economic growth	The strategy provides a framework for local forestry initiatives that contribute to carbon sequestration and biodiversity enhancement. The CAP will support these objectives through a Nature-Based Investment Study as a way of targeting unavoidable emissions across the Council.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	• Improve the resilience of Scotland's forests and woodlands and increase their contribution to a healthy and high quality environment • Increase the use of Scotland's forest and woodland resources to enable more people to improve their health, well-being and life chances **Priorities** • Ensuring forests and woodlands are sustainably managed • Expanding the area of forests and woodlands, recognising wider land-use objectives • Improving efficiency and productivity, and developing markets • Increasing the adaptability and resilience of forests and woodlands • Enhancing the environmental benefits provided by forests and woodlands • Engaging more people, communities and businesses in the creation, management and use of forests and woodlands	
Biodiversity: delivery plan 2024 to 2030 (2024)	The plan focuses on restoring ecosystems, expanding protected areas, and increasing biodiversity through sustainable land and water management. The plan priority actions include: 1. Accelerate ecosystem restoration and regeneration 2. Protect nature on land and at sea, across and beyond protected areas 3. Embed Nature Positive farming, fishing and forestry 4. Protect and support the recovery of vulnerable and important species and habitats 5. Invest in nature 6. Take action on the indirect drivers of biodiversity loss	The delivery plan provides a framework for local biodiversity restoration and integration with climate goals. The CAP will contribute to the plan through targeted climate actions to ensure a thriving and resilient natural environment in East Dunbartonshire.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
Climate Change Plan (update) (2020)	The 2020 update to Scotland's Climate Change Plan outlines detailed policies and actions to achieve its emissions reduction targets. It sets out strategies for decarbonising key sectors such as transport, agriculture, and energy, supporting Scotland's transition to net-zero. The engagement of over 200 stakeholders to consider priorities for the Climate Change Plan update found that there is overall acceptance that urgent action is required to meet targets and maximise the opportunities from emissions reduction, acknowledging that businesses, organisations, and the public have a fundamental part to play in this. A number of key cross-cutting, themes were identified from these conversations and they include: • the importance of prioritising fairness, and a just transition; managing any risks, avoiding exacerbating inequalities, and ensuring that everyone can experience the benefits of a transition to net zero; • prioritising the wellbeing of citizens when developing and implementing policy; • the need for a more coordinated and joined up approach, with collaboration between the Scottish Government, local government, business, industry and communities; • the value of setting clear and accurate standards and targets, (such as waste reduction, energy efficiency and goods production) to help those outside government take action; and • the importance of influencing behaviours to implement policies and interventions which are effective and successful.	The CCPu will influence the CAP by defining a net zero target date and interim target for Scotland, which the CAP will use and reflect on to meet these targets locally.
The future of energy in Scotland: Scottish energy strategy (2017)	Scotland’s energy strategy focuses on achieving a low-carbon energy system while ensuring secure, affordable energy for all. It promotes renewable energy, energy storage, and energy efficiency, aiming for a sustainable and integrated energy system.	The strategy will influence the CAP by defining measures for energy use and accessibility, which the CAP will use and reflect on to meet these targets locally.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
Energy Efficient Standard for Social Housing post-2020 (EESSH2)	Builds on the success of the first Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing standard (introduced in 2014) by requiring all social housing to meet EPC Band B, or to be as energy efficient as practically possible, by 2032.	The targets set out in the EESSH2 will influence the targets within the CAP and, as a result, the CAP will set out intentions to meet them.
Scottish Government's Local Energy Policy Statement (2021)	Sets out a series of themes and associated principles and outcomes for project delivery agents to consider during the development of future renewable energy projects. Published in line with strategic priority in Scottish Energy Strategy to develop innovative local energy systems.	The targets set out in the Draft Local Energy Policy Statement will influence the targets within the CAP and, as a result, the CAP will set out intentions to meet them.
The Net Zero Carbon Public Buildings Standard (2021)	The Scottish Government has committed to all buildings achieving net zero emissions by 2045. The Net Zero Public Sector Buildings (NZPSB) standard ("the Standard") is voluntary and informed by exemplary in-use energy and carbon performance from across the UK and Europe. It guides organisations participating in publicly funded new build and major refurbishment projects to develop and improve buildings to achieve a step change improvement in Net Zero (NZ) Operational Energy (OE), and to take action on embodied carbon; Whole Life (WL) emissions and both indoor and other environmental aspects: 1. Inclusive NZ Economy Outcomes 2. NZ-Construction: Project Specific 3. NZ-Operational Energy (NZ-OE) 4. NZ-Whole Life (NZ-WL): Project specific 5. Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) 6. Other Environmental Aspects: Project Specific	The CAP will ensure to use the principles set out in The Standard to help drive and inform standards for developments of new NZ public buildings, and the retrofit of old ones.
The Heat in Buildings Strategy (2021)	This Strategy outlines the steps the government will take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Scotland's buildings and to remove poor energy performance as a driver of fuel poverty. It sets out a pathway to zero emissions buildings by 2045 and details a series of near-term actions and longer-term commitments to accelerate the transformation of the nation's building stock. It sets	Buildings and Houses are a large source of carbon emissions, and therefore through the decarbonisation of the stock, this will be a big enabler to achieving net zero. The CAP will be directly influenced by this strategy.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	out the principles they will apply to ensure zero emissions heat delivery programmes support the fuel poverty objectives. Key work includes: • Increase energy performances of houses through improved building fabrics • Zero or low carbon heating sources, such as Ground Source Heat Pumps	
The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2015	Bodies listed in that schedule are required to prepare reports on compliance with climate change duties imposed under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, specifically publishing how they plan to reduce their emissions through project and service delivery. This Order updates the list of public bodies in schedule.	As per the order, the Council is devising plans to reduce emissions to net zero by 2045, which will be reflected in the CAP. This will also set a date in which the Council aims to achieve net zero, and will publish plans to how that will be achieved.
Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan and Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan Implementation Plan 2020-2025	This sets out the government's plan to maximise the transition to net-zero for Scotland, ensuring that the workforce has the skills required to make the transition to net-zero a successful one. The CESAP acts as a driver towards Scotland's ambition to be a world leader in decarbonisation with its net zero targets. The Implementation Plan reflects the scale of the ambition around the key transformational opportunity that net zero transition presents and has outlined 5 priorities in order to achieve it.	As National plans are laid out, the CAP need to identify and understand the future needs of the local economy and what jobs, skills and training will be required in order to have a suitable work force to meet the needs of green economy.
Scottish Government consultation: Role of Public Sector Bodies in Tackling Climate Change	Includes proposal that public bodies should set targets for net zero carbon emissions and a statement that public sector bodies' budgets should be aligned to their net zero target	This directly influences the development of a CAP as a local method for managing carbon emissions and setting targets and actions for the Council.
Scottish Government's Energy Efficient Scotland programme	• Programme to aid in achieving net zero ambitions • Bring all residential properties to a minimum EPC rating of C by 2040 • Rented homes in the social sector to B by 2032 (See EESH2) • From 2020 will support building owners to make changes to their buildings and heating systems to reach the required	The CAP will be delivered in tandem with the LHEES which will aim to deliver on the objectives outlined in this strategy.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	energy rating – more support to those home- owners that struggle to afford their heating	
Scottish Planning Policy 2014	The consolidated SPP provides a shorter, clearer and more focused statement of national planning policy. The SPP and NPPG series has been replaced by a single SPP. As part of the commitment to proportionate and practical planning policies, the Scottish Government has rationalised national planning policy. The SPP sets out: ➢ the Scottish Government's view of the purpose of planning, ➢ the core principles for the operation of the system and the objectives for key parts of the system, ➢ statutory guidance on sustainable development and planning under Section 3E of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006, ➢ concise subject planning policies, including the implications for development planning and development management, and ➢ the Scottish Government's expectations of the intended outcomes of the planning system.	The SPP sets the overarching structure, principles and guidance local authorities require to enable them to work towards nationally proposed targets, which the CAP will help support.
District Heating Action Plan (DHAP)	The DHAP assists local authorities in using Local Housing Strategies to addressing fuel poverty and climate change via warm, dry, energy-efficient, low-carbon homes that are affordable to heat (supplementary to Local Housing Strategy Guidance.	Having a low carbon housing stock will form a critical element for local authorities to achieve net zero emissions, and the DHAP will help inform the development of new and sustainable energy sources.
Heat Networks Delivery Plan: review report 2024	The Delivery Plan's broad ambition is for a heat networks sector that: • delivers affordable clean heat, supporting delivery of emissions reduction, fuel poverty targets and competitive businesses; • develops local supply chains and attracts new public and private investment; and • contributes to the development, and operation, of an integrated and resilient energy system.	The plan influences the CAP by providing a framework for local heat network development, supporting the area's transition to low-carbon heating solutions. The CAP contributes to national objectives by implementing localised heat network projects that align with the broader goals outlined in the review report.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
Scottish Government, Nature Scot, SEPA (2017) Peatland Survey. Guidance on Developments on Peatland	This guidance defines a consistent sampling methodology to quantify and qualify the peat material on site and advice on how to publish peat surveys as part of wider site investigations for development management applications, with a particular focus on win farm developments. It updates the 2014 Guidance on Developments on Peatland - Site Surveys published on the Scotland Government renewable website. It will also consider how peat surveys interact with other elements of site investigation.	The role of carbon sinks and need to offset emissions will be explored in the Strategy. As peatland will play an integral role in doing this, if within the scope of the Strategy, the peatland guidance will be vital in its development.
Land Use Strategy for Scotland 2021-2026	The Strategy aims to achieve sustainable land use by balancing the conservation of natural resources with human needs. It emphasises the importance of ecosystem services, such as clean water provision and pollinator habitats, in supporting human life. The strategy seeks to guide land use decisions in a way that harmonises economic, environmental, and community interests. By adopting an ecosystem-based approach, the strategy fosters positive outcomes for both people and the natural environment. It encourages integrated land management that considers the interdependence of various land uses and their collective impact on sustainability.	The Strategy provides a framework for sustainable land management that aligns with local climate goals. The CAP contributes to the national strategy by implementing localised actions that support Scotland's broader land use and climate objectives.
Scotland's Economic Strategy 2015	Scotland's Economic Strategy sets out how we will deliver on our vision for Scotland. It brings increased focus to the dual objectives of boosting competitiveness and tackling inequality and sets out the priorities we will target to achieve these mutually reinforcing goals. The approach to Scotland's Economic Strategy is underpinned by four priorities for sustainable growth: • Investing in our people and our infrastructure in a sustainable way; • Fostering a culture of innovation and research and development; • Promoting inclusive growth and creating opportunity through a fair and inclusive jobs market and regional cohesion; and Promoting Scotland on the international	The Strategy promotes sustainable economic growth, which aligns with local priorities to do with investment, business and supply chains. The strategy's emphasis on innovation and investment supports the development of green technologies and practices.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	stage to boost our trade and investment, influence and networks.	
National Transport Strategy 2020: Protecting our Climate and Improving Lives	The Strategy to make Scotland's transportation system more sustainable, inclusive, and accessible. The strategy's vision is to improve the health and well-being of communities, businesses, and visitors. Its priorities include • Climate action: Reduce inequalities and take action to protect the climate • Inclusive economic growth: Help deliver inclusive economic growth • Health and well-being: Improve health and well-being	The Strategy provides a framework for sustainable transport initiatives. The CAP contributes to national objectives by implementing local actions that align with the strategy's goals.
SEPA Climate Change Allowances for Flood Risk Assessment in Land Use Planning Guidance (2024)	This guidance sets out required allowances for climate change that must be used for flood risk assessment following the adoption of National Planning Framework 4 in February 2023. It allows planning authorities in Scotland to underpin their land use planning decisions with the best evidence available.	The guidance provides standardised climate change allowances that inform local flood risk assessments. The CAP contributes to national objectives by implementing localised actions that align with SEPA's guidance.
The Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) (2021)	This programme influences land management in the region. It aims to foster sustainable economic growth by focusing on key priorities such as enhancing the rural economy, supporting agricultural and forestry businesses, protecting and improving the natural environment, addressing the impacts of climate change, and supporting rural communities.	The SRDP both influences and is influenced by the CAP as both work to achieve long-term environmental sustainability and climate resilience.
A Guide to Climate Change Impacts (2019)	This guide can be used to identify and share climate change adaptation solutions, demonstrating the resilience and adaptability of Scotland’s historic environment. The guide identifies many of the risks and hazards of climate change that are facing Scotland’s historic environment and offers owners, local communities and carers of historic sites routes to take action, to implement adaptation measures and enhance resilience to climate change.	The guide offers a framework for assessing the various hazards and risk levels that pose threats to different types of sites within Scotland’s historic environment, particularly in the context of climate change. It establishes a foundation upon which the CAP can contribute to the protection, preservation, and enhancement of East Dunbartonshire’s historic heritage.
Historic Environmental Policy for Scotland (2019)	This policy sets the stage for good decision-making that affects the historic environment, including those to do with climate change. It	Climate change is recognised as one of the most significant challenges facing the historic environment. The policy acknowledges the urgent need for actions to both mitigate and

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	comprises a series of principles and policies for the recognition, care and sustainable management of the historic environment	adapt to the potential severe impacts of climate change on historic sites and structures. The CAP will play a critical role in shaping the approach to protecting the heritage within the East Dunbartonshire Council.
Our place in time: The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland (2014)	This strategy outlines a vision for the future of Scotland's historic environment. It emphasises the importance of Scotland's heritage and aims to safeguard and enhance it for future generations. The strategy focuses on the preservation of historic sites, buildings, landscapes, and cultural heritage, recognising their value in contributing to Scotland's identity, sense of place, and economy.	This strategy places emphasis the need for proactive and adaptive measures to protect Scotland's historic environment from the evolving risks associated with climate change. The CAP will be instrumental in supporting these efforts, providing a framework for integrating climate resilience into heritage conservation practices.
National Good Food Nation Plan (2024)	The National Good Food Nation Plan outlines six key outcomes for creating a Good Food Nation, along with the targets and indicators to measure progress. It also highlights various food-related policies and initiatives implemented by the Scottish Government. Scotland's Good Food Nation Plan aims to ensure everyone has access to safe, nutritious, and sustainable food, while fostering a food system that supports environmental sustainability, biodiversity, and net-zero goals. It promotes physical and mental health through better diets, drives economic growth with a prosperous and innovative food sector, and strengthens food security and resilience. The plan also seeks to enhance Scotland's food culture and global reputation, encouraging education, international collaboration, and positive contributions to global food system transformation.	The plan aligns with the CAP by promoting sustainable food systems that reduce environmental impacts and support biodiversity. The CAP's focus on local resilience and emissions reduction supports the plan's emphasis on sustainable and climate-conscious food practices.
Circular Economy (Scotland) Act 2024	The Circular Economy (Scotland) Act 2024 aims to reduce waste, promote reuse, and maximise resource efficiency across Scotland. It introduces measures like enhanced recycling systems, stricter regulations on single-use items, and incentives for circular business models. This Act supports Scotland's transition to a net-zero economy by fostering sustainable practices and reducing environmental impact.	The Act supports CAP by driving waste reduction, resource efficiency, and sustainable consumption, key components of local climate goals. The CAP's emphasis on community-level circular practices and emissions reduction helps shape the Act's practical implementation.
Green industrial strategy (2024)	This Strategy highlights key strengths and opportunities for Scotland to develop globally competitive industries as it transitions to net zero. It details the actions that the government and its	The promotes green innovation and sustainable industries that align with local climate goals. The CAP, with its focus on reducing

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	partners will take to support stakeholders in creating a conducive environment for investment and growth.	emissions and supporting sustainable growth, informs the strategy's implementation at the regional level.

Scotland's Net Zero Nation Public Engagement Strategy (2021)	This Strategy outlines the broad framework for involving the people of Scotland in the transition to a net-zero nation, while also preparing for the impacts of a changing climate. The Strategy's objectives include:
	• **Understand**
	  ○ Communicating Climate Change
	  ▪ People are aware of the action that all of Scotland is taking to tackle climate change and understand how it relates to their lives
	• **Participate**
	  ○ Enabling Participation in Policy Design
	  ▪ People actively participate in shaping just, fair and inclusive policies that promote mitigation of and adaptation to climate change
	• **Act**
	  ○ Encouraging Action
	  ▪ Taking action on climate change is normalised and encouraged in households, communities and places across Scotland
		The Strategy emphasises public involvement in achieving climate goals and promoting sustainable behaviours. The CAP, with its local focus on community engagement and climate resilience, helps shape the strategy's regional implementation.

The Environment Strategy for Scotland: Delivering the Environment Strategy Outcome on Scotland's Economy - Evidence Base & Policy Levers (2024)	This report provides evidence and preliminary recommendations on how the Scottish Government can leverage existing policy tools to drive the necessary economic transformations to address the climate and nature crises.	The Strategy influences CAP by guiding regional policy on sustainable economic growth and environmental protection. The CAP, focused on local climate resilience, supports the strategy's approach to integrating environmental goals with economic development at the local level.
State of Nature Scotland 2023	The report offers the most accurate assessment of Scotland's natural environment, highlighting the ongoing biodiversity and	The report influences the CAP by providing critical insights into biodiversity and ecosystem health, which inform conservation

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	climate crises. Compiled with input from over 50 nature and conservation organisations, it uses the latest data from monitoring schemes and biological recording centres to establish a benchmark for wildlife status.	priorities. The CAP's focus on climate resilience and sustainable land management will contribute to addressing the biodiversity challenges highlighted in the report.
Securing a green recovery on a path to net zero: climate change plan 2018–2032 – update (2020)	The plan outlines Scotland's approach to achieving its ambitious climate targets, including a 75% reduction in emissions by 2030 and reaching net-zero emissions by 2045. The plan emphasises the importance of a green recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, integrating economic revitalisation with environmental sustainability.	The plan provides a strategic framework that influences the CAP by setting national climate targets and policies. The CAP aligns with these directives, tailoring them to local contexts to effectively contribute to Scotland's overarching climate objectives
Local heat and energy efficiency strategies and delivery plans: guidance (2022)	The Guidance provides a framework for local authorities in Scotland to develop and implement strategies aimed at improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from heating buildings. This guidance supports a place-based, locally led approach to the heat transition, ensuring that strategies are tailored to the specific needs of communities. It outlines the requirements for preparing, publishing, and updating Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies and Delivery Plans, emphasising the importance of local planning and coordination in achieving Scotland's climate goals.	The Guidance directs local authorities in implementing energy-efficient and low-carbon heating solutions aligned with regional climate goals. The CAP will shape the application of this guidance in East Dunbartonshire, tailoring strategies to local needs and ensuring effective delivery of energy transitions.
Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation (2022)	This Strategy aims to create a wellbeing economy that works for everyone, focusing on the quality of people's lives and environmental protection. The strategy identifies key opportunities for Scotland over the next decade, with a particular emphasis on the just transition to a net-zero economy. The Strategy sets out the priorities for Scotland's economy as well as the actions needed to maximise the opportunities of the next decade to achieve the vision of a wellbeing economy.	The Strategy promotes sustainable economic growth, which aligns with local initiatives for green jobs and net-zero targets. The CAP supports the strategy's goals by focusing on actions that contribute to Scotland's broader economic and environmental ambitions.
Regional		
Climate Ready Clyde Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan	The Strategy aims to ensure Glasgow City Region's economy, society and environment is not only prepared for, but continues to flourish in the face of the impacts arising from the climate crisis. The Strategy:	The strategy and plan provide a regional framework for climate adaptation. East Dunbartonshire Council, as a member of Climate Ready Clyde, aligns its local climate action initiatives with the regional strategy to ensure cohesive and effective adaptation efforts.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	• outlines the processes and early interventions needed to manage climate risks and realise opportunities in line with the Theory of Change • provides a strategic framework for adaptation in and by the Glasgow City Region that fits alongside and supports key plans, policies and activities to enable delivery • sets out how we will deepen and expand collaboration and collective impact by working together and engaging, equipping and enabling citizens and organizations to play a role in realising the vision • sets out how progress in increasing climate resilience will be monitored, evaluated and learnt from to improve policies, strategies, programmes and projects.	
Clydeplan: Strategic Development Plan (2017) Clydeplan Regional Spatial Strategy (emerging)	**Chapter 7: City Region as a Low Carbon Place** In line with the NPF3, Clydeplan supports the development of a city region Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan and the use of low and zero carbon generating technologies and fitting of energy efficient measures in existing and new building stock. **Chapter 8: City Region as a Natural, Resilient Place** Clydeplan recognises the role of the green network and integrated green infrastructure in delivery multiple benefits. This includes healthier lifestyles, enhancement of biodiversity, integrating urban and rural areas, sustainable economic activity and climate change mitigation and adaptation. **Chapter 9: City Region as a Connected Place** This chapter focuses on sustainable transport networks and active travel opportunities, both of which will be a key focus of the Climate Action Plan.	Chapters 7, 8 and 9 of Clydeplan directly influences the scope of the CAP and support local ambitions for low and zero carbon emissions and technology.
Regional Transport Strategy Delivery Plan	This plan envisions a regional transport system making the West of Scotland an attractive, resilient and well-connected place with active, liveable communities and accessible, vibrant centres	The plan provides a framework for sustainable transport initiatives. East Dunbartonshire aligns its local climate action

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	facilitated by high quality, sustainable and low carbon transport shaped by the needs of all.	strategies with regional objectives to enhance connectivity, promote sustainable transport, and support economic growth.
Regional Economic Strategy 2017 – 2035	The 2035 Vision for the Glasgow City Region aims for a strong, inclusive, and competitive economy where businesses and individuals reach their full potential. The region seeks to enhance economic diversity, foster innovation, and ensure that sustainable growth benefits all communities. With a focus on addressing inequalities, creating fair work opportunities, and collaborating with economic partners, the region is committed to improving lives and driving prosperity.	The strategy provides a framework for sustainable economic growth which will be supported by the CAP.
Green Network Strategy and 'The Blueprint'	The GCR Green Network Partnership is designed to provide well connected, high quality, multi-functional greenspaces throughout the region. 6 key components: • New & Improved Greenspace meadows • Urban Green Infrastructure • Greening Vacant & Derelict Land • Community Growing Spaces • Wildlife Habitats • Active Travel Routes The Blueprint is a framework for the creation of a strategic Green Network for the benefit of people and wildlife in GCR. It incorporates the fundamental functions of a Green Network: • Strategic Access Network – facilitating the off-road movement of people around and between communities through Green Active Travel routes and greenspace, and; • Strategic Habitat Network – facilitating the movement of wildlife through the landscape The Blueprint identifies for both Networks:	The CAP will use collaborative and joint up working to develop projects on scale and more effectively develop and implement solutions across key themes throughout the GCR. The Blueprint, in addition with the GNS, will be a key component of the CAP as it will help inform the Adaptation & Nature Based Solutions work strands, as well as address the ecological emergency which is to lead to a net gain in biodiversity.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	• existing Green Network assets that should be protected and managed, and; • where there are gaps in the networks	
Climate Ready Clyde Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan	Climate Ready Clyde (CRC) is a cross-sector initiative funded by fifteen member organisations and supported by the Scottish Government to create a shared Vision, Strategy, and Action Plan for an adapting Glasgow City Region (GCR). Adaptation is a strategic issue for Glasgow City Region in terms of securing inward investment and protecting the economy, as well as contributing to good placemaking, addressing inequality and minimizing and avoiding costs arising from unplanned impacts. Climate Ready Clyde was established on the basis that adapting is cheaper, easier and more effective when done together. Flagship Actions Include: • Local authorities in the region working together to build capabilities and deliver collaborative adaptation • Communities shaping climate-ready places • Increasing community agency in adaptation processes through culture and creative practice • Clyde Climate Forest • A multi-hazard climate warning alert system • Climate resilient design principles and guidelines • Net-zero, climate resilient housing retrofit • Regional transport climate resilience group • Roadmap to an adaptation forum on infrastructure and utilities • Private sector challenge for a climate resilient economy • Clyde Adaptation Mission • Regional investment pipeline and adaptation finance lab • Independent expert advisory committee on adaptation and climate resilience	Adaptation will form a critical path for all local authorities to reduce the effects of climate change through sequestration and adaptation techniques, and the CAP will use these methods in order to achieve net zero.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	• Climate resilience embedded into the Regional Economic Strategy and Regional Spatial Strategy • Climate resilience integrated into regional supply chains and procurement • International leadership: Race to Resilience and TCFD supporters initiative	
Strathclyde partnership for Transport A Call to Action: The Regional Transport Strategy for the west of Scotland 2023-2038	The Strategy sets a vision for a sustainable, integrated transport system to support economic growth and tackle climate change. The strategy focuses on enhancing public transport, reducing emissions, and promoting active travel to create a more connected and environmentally friendly region. It aims to deliver long-term benefits for communities, reduce congestion, and improve accessibility across the West of Scotland.	The Strategy promotes sustainable transport solutions that align with local climate goals for reducing emissions and improving air quality. The CAP will inform transportation planning by emphasising the need for greener, more accessible transport options within East Dunbartonshire.
The Regional Active Travel Strategy for the west of Scotland 2024-2038	The Strategy aims to create a well-connected, resilient, and attractive region by promoting active travel modes such as walking, cycling, and wheeling. The strategy focuses on enhancing accessibility, affordability, and safety, ensuring that active travel becomes the preferred choice for short, everyday journeys. It aligns with the broader Regional Transport Strategy's vision of a sustainable, low-carbon transport system shaped by the needs of all.	The Strategy promotes sustainable transport options. The CAP will contribute to the strategy by addressing local needs and ensuring that active travel initiatives are tailored to the local context.
Surrounding Authorities Climate Change Strategies	Lending and learning from other surrounding Local Authorities climate change strategies, targets, projects and case studies help accelerate progress towards successful action plans for tackling climate change. • Glasgow City Council • Inverclyde • East Renfrewshire • Renfrewshire • North Lanarkshire • South Lanarkshire • West Dunbartonshire	The CAP will use collaborative and joint up working to develop projects on scale and more effectively develop and implement solutions.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
Other authorities' best practice	This includes Scottish public sector-wide best practice, likely to be shared via Sustainable Scotland Network.	The content of other authorities' successful strategic actions have the potential to influence the outcomes of the CAP and should be taken into account where appropriate, especially in terms of cross-boundary effects.
Local		
Sustainability and Climate Change Framework (SCCF) (2016-21), SCCF Update and SCCF Action Plan	Sets a framework for strategic, cross-Council approach to sustainability, including low-carbon energy for corporate use and in wider community. Includes specific commitment to revise Carbon Management Plan. Since its development, the SCCF update and SCCF Action Plan provides a more recently updated delivery plan, both of which were approved in December 2020.	The SCCF includes a specific commitment to revise the CMP and therefore aids the need to renew the Action Plan. Given that the CMP will now be integrated in to the CAP, these commitments will be included in the CAP.
Carbon Management Plan (CMP) 2015 - 2020	The Council's Carbon Management Plan seeks to achieve the reduction of corporate emissions from a range of organisational activities, Its original target of 20% emissions reduction by 2020 was extended in 2019 to 44% since achievements by 18/19 were greater than expected; this target was met on time and is in the process of being extended to maintain momentum while the current Climate Action Plan, which will cover corporate emissions reduction, is being prepared. Currently, the preparation of the Interim Carbon Management Plan 2021-2023 is underway and due to go to Council in March 2020.	Updated targets in line with this iteration of the CMP will be integrated into the CAP as the core document guiding carbon reductions and net zero targets for the Council.
Local Development Plan (LDP) 2 LDP3 (emerging 2028)	The LDP for East Dunbartonshire adopted in 2022, establishes a strategic framework for land use and development in the region, emphasising sustainable growth and environmental stewardship. The plan includes policies that promote energy-efficient buildings, enhance green spaces, and integrate climate change considerations into planning decisions. By aligning with national climate targets, LDP2 contributes to Scotland's broader environmental objectives.	The relevant policies within the current LDP2 and their equivalent in the emerging LDP3, set out considerations to be incorporated into the CAP and in particular will influence actions to be delivered as part of the CAP in line with local developments.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	Policy 9 (Climate Change, Sustainability and Energy Infrastructure), Policy 10 (Design and Placemaking), Policy 11 (Transport), Policy 12 (Housing), Policy 17 (Natural Environment), and Policy 20 (Waste) are of particular relevance to the CAP. The SES Form is a component of the LDP2, which supports Policy 9 (Climate Change, Sustainability and Energy Infrastructure). New developments applications must include a SES, providing detailed information on how the proposal minimises carbon emissions, is resilient to the potential effects of climate change and addresses other key sustainability requirements	The CAP will be directly influenced by this Form as it will ensure all developments are committed to the goal of sustainability and take active measures to ensure they minimise emissions – a critical element of the CAP.
Corporate Asset Management Plan (CAMP)	The CAMP represents the Council's 10 year capital investment plan.	The CAMP includes a commitment to install renewable technology in all new asset projects and retrofit where budgets permit; this will be a focus of the CAP.
Open Space Strategy (OSS) 2015 – 2020	The East Dunbartonshire Open Space Strategy (2015 – 2020) replaced the East Dunbartonshire Greenspace Audit and Strategy 2004. It sets the framework for current and future open space provision in the Council area, meeting the requirement of Scottish Planning Policy for local authorities to prepare an Open Space Audit and Strategy. It also contributes to the development of the Central Scotland Green Network, promoted in the National Planning Framework 3. The Strategy will be reviewed and updated every 5 years.	The Open Space Strategy (2015 – 2020) provides the Council's Open Space Planning team with a viable and enforceable tool to define open space requirements and establish requirements for new open space from development proposals together with the scale and nature of any planning obligations. The OSS offers the potential for offsetting emissions and therefore the CAP can build on this.
Active Travel Strategy 2023-2030	The strategy promotes walking, cycling, and other sustainable transport modes to reduce carbon emissions and improve public health. It focuses on developing safe, accessible infrastructure to encourage active travel, contributing to the region's climate action and sustainability goals.	In support of the Active Travel Strategy, the CAP will support the promotion of alternative modes of business travel.
Local Transport Strategy (2020)	The LTS sets out the objectives, strategy and transport actions and interventions for East Dunbartonshire Council. Transport Planning Objectives set the foundation for option generation as they ensure that options are aimed at providing solutions to the evidence-based	In order to promote active and sustainable travel, the CAP will support a multi modal transport ecosystem to drive down emissions and improve health & wellbeing.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	problem or opportunity. Overall, the Transport Planning Objectives provide a clear set of aspirations for the Local Transport Strategy to work to achieve. The following Transport Planning Objectives have been set for the Local Transport Strategy • Increase modal shift towards more sustainable modes of travel for both travel to work/study and leisure trips. • Reduce inequality by providing high quality access for all. • Reduce emissions through reduced vehicle mileage in East Dunbartonshire. • Facilitate sustainable economic growth by improving connections across our boundaries and between our communities. • Improve health by increasing walking and cycling rates. • Improve safety on all modes of transport.	
Flood Risk Management Strategy – Clyde and Loch Lomond	This Strategy summarises flood risk in the area, objectives and actions and actions to manage flood risk in the potentially vulnerable areas. The associated Management Plan provides information on flood risk management, who and what is involved, actions and potentially vulnerable areas. It helps provide an efficient, sustainable and co-ordinated approach to flood-risk management. These actions aim to reduce the risks and impacts of flooding, prepare and protect people and communities, and make a real difference to how we recover from any future flood events.	The CAP will ensure that projects and developments mitigate damage to water courses and provide nature based flood prevention schemes to alleviate future flood events.
Circular Economy Strategy (emerging 2023)	The Circular Economy Strategy should achieve the following objectives: • Help local businesses to find ways of using materials more efficiently and reducing operational costs. • Strengthen the network connections between local businesses and retain more economic benefit within East Dunbartonshire. • Reduce the negative impacts of production and consumption of goods and services on the environment.	In order to promote a more circular economy and create sustained behaviour change, the CAP will provide a basis for improving the reuse of materials to keep them in the economy for longer, encourage knowledge sharing and collaboration among local businesses and provide the necessary infrastructure for waste.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	• Deliver the Circular Economy Strategy action in the Economic Development Strategy 2017-2020. • Contribute to meeting (local, regional and national) targets for sustainability, economic recovery, and employment. Produce achievable actions, against which progress towards a Circular Economy can be measured.	
Place Plans	The East Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership is committed to reducing inequality and to targeting resources where they are needed the most. As a result the 'place approach' is being used to work within those areas which experience the most inequality. While this is currently still under review, the three areas which have been identified as 'place areas' are Hillhead, Lennoxtown, and Auchinairn.	The delivery of the CAP offers opportunities for sustainable development to be at the heart of addressing inequality, such as retrofitting housing stock to become energy efficient, reduce household's bills which directly helps tackle issues such as fuel poverty.
Child Poverty Plan	The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 sets out a duty for Councils and NHS Boards to publish an annual report and action plan to contribute to reductions in child poverty in the area. The Act sets 4 statutory targets for reductions in child poverty across Scotland by 2030. • less than 10% should be living in relative poverty (how many families are on low incomes compared with middle income households) • less than 5% should be living in absolute poverty (how many low income families are not seeing their living standards improving over time). • less than 5% should be living with combined low income and material deprivation (how many lower income families cannot afford basic necessities) • less than 5% should be living in persistent poverty (how many families live on low incomes three years out of four) There are numerous factors that lead to children being in poverty. Child poverty can also lead to longer term impacts on children's wellbeing, educational achievement and health outcomes. Intervening effectively at an early stage to identify supports and	The CAP will aim to reduce child poverty, and in parallel fuel poverty, primarily through the reduction of households costs. As per the emerging Heat in Buildings strategy, household's energy efficiency and performance shall be increased through retrofitting existing builds and new standards for new builds. Additionally, the Economic Development Strategy will seek to increase local economic growth which should help contribute to increased employment and income.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	thus mitigate child poverty can improve outcomes for children. Our reports and action plans set out our activity under the three following themes – identified nationally as areas where we can make the most difference to child poverty: • Increasing income from employment • Maximising income from benefits • Reducing household costs.	
City Deal Westerhill Masterplan	The City Deal Westerhill Masterplan forms part of the Place and Growth Programme and is designed to deliver Phase 5 of Bishiopbriggs Relief Road. This will complete the route through East Dunbartonshire and help improve connectivity and unlock strategic development sites to enable future investment. Some of the objectives of this development include: • Remove non-essential traffic from travelling through Bishopbriggs town centre • Alleviate issues in relation to the Air Quality Management on A803 Promote improved road infrastructure coupled with sustainable travel options in and out of East Dunbartonshire, particularly for commuting	The Masterplan will present an integrated approach to the delivery of a programme of traffic and transport infrastructure within East Dunbartonshire and the north of Glasgow to enable follow on investment in strategic sites within East Dunbartonshire, to support inclusive growth and access to employment.
Sustainability & Energy Statement Form	This form is a key delivery mechanism of the LDP 2, supporting the local development needs. The SES form must be submitted with all proposals for new development (other than the excepted categories detailed below) and includes a series of essential and desirable criteria. All essential criteria must be met otherwise planning permission may not be granted. The purpose of the SES Form is to guide decisions on planning applications, highlight development opportunities, promote economic development and protect the natural and built environment, specifically Policy 9 (Climate Change, Sustainability and Energy Infrastructure).	As part of the wider LDP2, the CAP will help deliver on this topic. It will directly support Policy 9 (Climate Change, Sustainability and Energy Infrastructure).

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
Green Network Strategy 2017-2022	The purpose of the Green Network Strategy (GNS) is to define the existing strategic green network in East Dunbartonshire using GIS mapping analysis to identify opportunities for the enhancement of the existing green network in both urban and rural locations. The opportunities mapping methodology was used to guide the identification of areas that are eligible for the expansion and/or enhancement of the green network in order to improve habitat connectivity, increase active travel provision and enhance access to open spaces, as well as health and wellbeing benefits and opportunities for adaptation to the effects of climate change.	The Strategy informs the CAP by providing a framework for incorporating green infrastructure into climate adaptation and mitigation efforts and identifying key areas for enhancing biodiversity and carbon sequestration.
Statutory Biodiversity Duty Report East Dunbartonshire Council 2021 - 2023	The Statutory Biodiversity Duty Report 2021–2023 outlines East Dunbartonshire Council's commitment to conserving biodiversity, enhancing green spaces, promoting public engagement, and complying with legal obligations. These efforts aim to integrate biodiversity conservation into council operations, improve parks and natural habitats, encourage community involvement, and meet requirements set by the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 and the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011.	The report shows EDC's commitment to integrating biodiversity conservation into climate change strategies and identifying areas for enhancing green infrastructure, thereby contributing to carbon sequestration and climate resilience.
East Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017 – 2027	The LOIP is underpinned by several Outcomes and Guiding Principles. The Outcomes are: 1. Economic Growth and Recovery 2. Employment and Skills 3. Children and Young People 4. Safer and Stronger Communities 5. Adult Health and Wellbeing 6. Other Adults, Vulnerable People and Carers The Guiding Principles for EDC's LOIP include: a) Coproduction and engagement – We will continuously strive to understand the different needs of our communities, supporting them to strengthen their own communities and involving them in the design and delivery of services.	The most relevant driver of the LOIP in relation to the planned outcomes of the CAP is the Sustainability Guiding Principle.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	b) Best value – We will endeavour to maintain an appropriate balance between the quality of the performance of our functions, the cost of that performance, and the cost to people of any service provided. In maintaining that balance, the Partnership shall have regard to safety, efficiency, effectiveness and economy. c) Evidence based planning – We will share information and data to inform robust and transparent decision making, planning and evaluation of our impact in partnership and implementing improvement practices. d) Fair and equitable services – We will plan and deliver services which account for the different needs of population groups who share a characteristic protected by the Equality Act. e) Planning for place – We will target resources where they are most needed to reduce disadvantage caused by socio-economic inequality. This is known as using a 'Place' approach. f) Prevention and early intervention – We will direct resources with the aim of improving resilience and preventing or mitigating poorer outcomes. g) Sustainability – We will create the conditions for a better quality of life for East Dunbartonshire residents, by recognising their health and wellbeing needs without compromising the quality of our built, natural and historic environment. In doing so we will build resilience to a changing climate, use our natural resources prudently and consider the long term implications of our decisions for present and future generations.	
Local Housing Strategy (LHS) (2023–2028)	The strategy focuses on meeting housing needs while ensuring new and existing homes are energy-efficient and resilient to climate change. It aims to reduce carbon emissions through sustainable building practices, energy upgrades, and the promotion of low-carbon heating systems.	The LHS will have a direct influence on opportunities explored within the CAP.
Draft Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Delivery Plan (2024)	The LHEES focuses on improving the energy efficiency of homes and buildings in East Dunbartonshire while decarbonising heating systems. It aims to reduce energy consumption, lower carbon	The strategy and plan provide guidance the decarbonisation of heating systems and enhancing energy efficiency across the region.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	emissions, and provide affordable, sustainable heating solutions to local communities.	
Green Space Strategy 2023-2028 (emerging)	The GSS will be a 5 year Strategy and shall replace and integrate three now outdated council Strategies: the Open Space Strategy (OSS) (2015-2020); Green Network Strategy (GNS) (2016-2021); and the Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA). It will include a review of the Council's GNS, and will incorporate the strategic green network actions identified in the Blueprint for the Green Network Assessment of Delivery Opportunities (the 'Delivery Blueprint'); build on proposals from the Play Area Audit and Action Plan (PAAAP); and integrate the proposals contained in A Blueprint for the Green Network Assessment of delivery opportunities: East Dunbartonshire (Delivery Blueprint).	The delivery of the CAP will be directly affected and influenced by the GSS. The GSS will create a programme of work locally to enable collaborative working and improve the delivery of mutual climate outcomes and objectives. Through increased management and protection of green corridors and route connections, as well as improved play space, this should enable and encourage more people to participate and use their local outdoor environment, increase current levels of active travel and provide better habitats for ecology, acting as crucial means of mitigation, adaptation and nature based solutions.
East Dunbartonshire Council Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2016 – 2020	The Local Biodiversity Action Plan represents East Dunbartonshire Council's local commitment to the biodiversity duty on public bodies from the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004. It aims to ensure that '*East Dunbartonshire has a fully functioning, connected network of robust habitats. Consequently the area will be richer in biodiversity and more resilient to change with healthy ecosystems delivering benefits to people and nature. Everyone will have access to the natural environment and understand its importance'*.	The CAP will consider opportunities to protect and enhance biodiversity throughout East Dunbartonshire. The CAP's fundamental purpose is to mitigate and adapt to climate change effects, as well as safeguard and ensure the long term protection of local wildlife, species and habitats.
East Dunbartonshire Council Food Growing Strategy (emerging)	As mentioned above, local food growing can contribute to improving the range of biodiversity at a local level and will contribute to the overall aims of the LBAP and has the potential to offer climate change mitigation and adaptation opportunities. The Food Growing Strategy could play an important role in contributing to climate change adaptation as part of the wider Strategy.	The principles of the FGS have multiple areas of overlaps with the CAP. The FGS contains elements of Adaptation and Nature Based Solutions, which has symmetry to the emerging Greenspace Strategy, and offers opportunities to decarbonise supply chains to growing and using local produce Therefore the CAP should consider the opportunities to integrate food growing as part of the wider strategic delivery of the CAP.
Strategic Housing Investment Plan (2023 - 2028)	The Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2023–2028 for East Dunbartonshire focuses on increasing affordable housing supply, enhancing housing quality and energy efficiency, and fostering sustainable, inclusive communities. It aims to prioritise affordable	The Plan integrates energy-efficient housing solutions and promotes sustainable development practices that support carbon reduction and climate resilience, which align with the CAP.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
	housing to meet diverse needs and align investments with the Local Housing Strategy. The plan also seeks to improve energy efficiency and support long-term community development.	
Economic Development Strategy (2017-2020)	Vision: East Dunbartonshire has a sustainable and resilient economy with busy town and village centres, a growing business base, and is an attractive place in which to visit and invest. Priorities: • Town and Village Centres • Business Support and Growth • Increasing Tourism • Sustainable Development	The CAP will help deliver local economic benefits through investment in sustainable projects for businesses in towns and villages in order to create communities resilient to the effects of climate change.
The Interim Carbon Management Plan 2021 - 23	This plan comprised the ambitious approach which will reduce emissions and pave the way for further emissions reductions, in line with the zero emissions target dates, and interim targets, that have been set in the CAP for East Dunbartonshire. The main aim of this plan was to reduce carbon emissions in line with the target, via a whole- organisation approach where carbon management is recognised as an intrinsic part of core business and is fully integrated into the Council's, with responsibility embedded across all services.	The interim Plan has influenced the CAP by providing a foundation for setting ambitious carbon reduction targets. The CAP supports these objectives through strategies and actions aimed at achieving the Council's carbon management goals.
Economic Recovery Plan (2020)	The Economic Recovery Plan identifies the impacts and key issues for East Dunbartonshire's economy and sets out actions the Council and Community Planning partners are delivering in response, under each of the following priority areas: 1. Business 2. People 3. Community 4. Environment	The Economic Recovery Plan provides a roadmap for opportunities to invest in local infrastructure and communities, while progressing and achieving climate based outcomes in tandem with the CAP.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the Climate Action Plan
New Economic Development Strategy (emerging)	The strategy focuses on fostering a sustainable, green economy by promoting low-carbon industries and climate-resilient business practices. It aims to create green jobs, support clean energy innovations, and align economic growth with the region's climate goals.	The strategy aims to integrate sustainable economic growth with climate action goals, which aligns with the CAP.
Annual Procurement Strategy	The Strategy aims to support the delivery of efficient and effective public services, ensuring best value and alignment with national and organisational priorities. The three key strategic Procurement objectives which support the Scottish Government's programme to 'deliver procurement that improves public services for a prosperous, fairer and more sustainable Scotland' include: • Governance and Compliance • Added Value & Best Value • Support a sustainable economic environment.	The Strategy prioritises sustainable procurement practices that align with the CAP's goals of reducing carbon emissions and promoting environmental responsibility. In turn, the CAP will help to shape procurement decisions by encouraging the inclusion of climate-conscious criteria in the sourcing of goods, services, and works.
Digital Strategy (emerging)	East Dunbartonshire is actively developing a Digital Strategy to enhance its services and operations. The Finance and Digital Services Business Improvement Plan outlines the Council's commitment to creating a new digital strategy that sets priorities and commitments for transforming the delivery of connected, person-centred public services.	The Strategy will influence the CAP by supporting the transition to digital services that enhance sustainability, reduce carbon footprints, and improve efficiency. In turn, the CAP will inform the Digital Strategy by encouraging the integration of climate-conscious technologies and solutions that contribute to the Council's net-zero targets.
Locality Plans • Lennoxtown Locality Plan • Hillhead and Harestanes Locality Plan • Auchinairn Locality Plans • Twechar Locality Plan	The East Dunbartonshire Locality Plans, including those for Lennoxtown, Hillhead and Harestanes, Auchinairn, and Twechar, focus on addressing the specific needs of each community through targeted local initiatives. These plans aim to enhance local services, improve quality of life, and contribute to the wider goals of sustainability, inclusion, and resilience in the region.	The Locality Plans will tailor climate and sustainability initiatives to the unique needs of each community. The CAP will shape the Locality Plans by ensuring that local actions align with the Council's broader climate goals, promoting resilience and reducing carbon emissions across the area.

APPENDIX B: SEA SCOPING REPORT CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Historic Environment Scotland

No.	Comment	How has this been addressed in the assessment?
1.	It is our understanding that the Climate Action Plan (CAP) will include mitigation opportunities to demonstrate a commitment to work towards delivering net zero emissions across the Council-wide area and corporate zero direct emissions, whilst co-ordinating opportunities for climate change adaptation in East Dunbartonshire. We note that the historic environment has been scoped into the assessment. On the basis of the information provided, we are content with this approach and are satisfied with the scope and level of detail proposed for the assessment, subject to the detailed comments provided below.	Noted
2.	We don't consider that the review of relevant environmental issues (table 2), or the scoping in/out of environmental factors (table 3) are sufficiently focussed on the specific likely interactions between climate change, CAP and the historic environment. We'd expect these to include: • the effects of climate change on the historic environment, and how the plan might help to address this. • the role of the historic environment in supporting the circular economy, energy efficiency and zero waste agendas, through the continued use, reuse and appropriate retrofit of historic and traditional buildings. • the potential for climate change mitigation and adaptation measures and actions to affect the historic environment.	Paragraph added into Table 2.2 to address this.
3.	Your review of relevant plans, programmes and strategies should include The Historic Environment Policy for Scotland (HEPS) And Our Place in Time – Scotland's Strategy for the Historic Environment. Links Climate Change on the Historic Environment - Https://www.Historicenvironment.Scot/Archives-And-Research/Publications/Publication/?Publicationid=843d0c97-D3f4-4510-Acd3-Aadf0118bf82 Heps - Https://Www.Historicenvironment.Scot/Advice-And-Support/Planning-And-Guidance/Historic-Environment-Policy-For-Scotland-Heps/ Strategy For Historic Environment - Https://Www.Historicenvironment.Scot/Archives-And-Research/Publications/Publication/?Publicationid=Fa088e13-8781-4fd6-9ad2-a7af00f14e30	These have been added to section 2.1 and Appendix A.

NatureScot

No.	Comment	How has this been addressed in the assessment?
1.	Subject to the specific comments set out below, NatureScot is content with the scope and level of detail proposed for the environmental report. Overall this scoping exercise is comprehensive, particularly in relation to the SEA objectives and assessment questions. We are satisfied that section 3.1.3 covers the main environmental factors associated with the climate action plan and that they are all scoped in.	Noted
2.	**Setting the context** *relationship with other plans, programmes and strategies* • we are pleased the local development plan is listed at section 2.1.1, as land use planning is one of the key systems through which adaptation must be achieved, so is one of the main plans to consider. • the Scottish rural development programme, and its future iterations, is not referred to in the list of relevant plans, programmes and strategies. This could be added, as it potentially influences a lot of land management in the region.	The Scottish Rural Development Programme has been added to section 2.1 and Appendix A.
3.	**Baseline information** • the baseline information covered in table 1 of the report will help provide a good frame of reference for assessing the plan. • we note that peatlands, watercourses and water bodies are listed in the baseline information, which is important as these habitats could be considered for carbon or flood storage and slowing the flow of water after heavy rainfall events. • a list of designated sites in East Dunbartonshire, and the condition of sites of special scientific interest, can be searched for on our website at: https://sitelink.nature.scot/home. • we note the material assets section on table 1 refers to the existing path and cycle networks. This is useful as one of the actions in the plan might be about increasing and linking these active travel routes, as well as linking them with public transport network.	Noted
4.	**Effects on natura sites/ species** • guidance recommends that plan-making bodies can consider opportunities to combine the earlier stages of SEA and Habitats Regulations appraisal, where appropriate, even though the differing requirements mean that the two assessments cannot be fully integrated. One option is to conduct the earlier stages in parallel, such as environmental information gathering, prediction of plan effects, and some early consultation stages.	Noted, however, a Habitats Regulations Appraisal has not been considered required for the CAP.

No.	Comment	How has this been addressed in the assessment?
	• if the Habitats Regulations appraisal is undertaken in parallel with SEA, it is important that the findings of both appraisals are separately and clearly documented and that the record of the Habitats Regulations appraisal uses the correct terminology, applying them appropriately. In practice, it is easier to set out the Habitats Regulations appraisal in a separate record, and where appropriate provide a cross-reference to it in the environmental report.	
5.	**SEA objectives** • the SEA objectives and assessment questions listed in table 6 appear suitable. We just have a few comments on this area for further consideration: **biodiversity, flora & fauna** • the proposed objective includes encouraging habitat connectivity at every opportunity. You should keep in mind that habitat connectivity can also bring risks, such as increasing a pathway for predators (e.g. Mink reaching isolated water vole populations), diseases and pathogens, so it requires careful thought and may require increased monitoring, so these risks can be managed at an early stage.	Noted
6.	**Climate factors** • one of the assessment questions in table 6 could be - promotes nature-based solutions in adapting to, and mitigating, the effects of climate change? (e.g. Does the proposed action restore peatlands to help increase resilience to climate change; use natural flood management, such as renaturalising the course of rivers and restoration of their adjacent habitats to slow down and hold water during heavy rain events; or create nature friendly suds to cope with the predictions of increased rainfall?).	This question is accommodated in question - alleviate risk of flooding and support natural flood management?
7.	• Other assessment questions could be - help reduce emissions from the food system? (there are potential synergies here with increased food security as an adaptation) and support the long-term security of carbon stored in vegetation and soils?	The question 'help reduce emissions from the food system?' has been added to Section 3.4 - In the case of 'Support the long-term security of carbon stored in vegetation and soils?' - an existing question has been modified to - seek to protect, create or enhance natural resources such as vegetation and soils for carbon capture and storage?
8.	• Some actions around this objective in the plan might include making the Council's existing built estate more energy efficient; with the use of renewable energy, which might be generated on site with ground source heat or solar panels, for example; using an electric vehicle fleet; sourcing food and supplies from environmentally sustainable sources; retrofitting green roofs, green walls and rain gardens at council	Noted

No.	Comment	How has this been addressed in the assessment?
	buildings (including schools) to help mitigate the impacts of climate change. • the Council's role as a decision maker for the location and type of developments that are approved in East Dunbartonshire will also be key in delivering the actions of the plan.	
9.	R**eport structure** schedule 3 of the environmental assessment (Scotland) act 2005 sets out the information to be included in the environmental report.	Noted
10.	**Assessment methodology** identification of alternatives our understanding is that the alternative option being considered is to have separate climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and carbon management plans, instead of combining the related topics in the one plan. We would support the proposed option of combining all three topics in the one plan.	Noted
11.	**Monitoring** • we note that the adopted climate action plan will be subject to ongoing monitoring. A set of indicators will be created to measure the impacts that the plan may have on the environment during its lifespan. The indicators will be related to the baseline information and the existing environmental issues and problems in the area (which have been highlighted in table 2 and table 6). **Additional comments** • the climate action plan needs to be both easy for people to understand and written in a way that allows them to understand how it relates to their work. If jargon like 'net zero' is used, the term should be clearly explained. The plan also needs to be readable (i.e. A useful document, but not too long that people are put off reading it). Nd adapt to climate change is taken on the ground as soon as possible.	Noted
12.	• We would highlight that the climate action plan should consider actions that reduce greenhouse gasses (ghg), not just carbon (dioxide) reduction (e.g. The second objective on p6 refers to reducing carbon emissions rather than ghg emissions). • in relation to the forth objective (p7) which refers to the scope for off-setting emissions, it is important that emissions reduction is done as much as possible first, and that off-setting is not undertaken instead of reduction. • we would also recommend that the climate action plan does not contain lots of actions which require yet more action plans to be written before any action is taken. It is important that action to mitigate and adapt to climate change is taken on the ground as soon as possible.	Noted

Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)

No.	Comment	How has this been addressed in the assessment?
1.	The Scottish government SEA guidance provides guidance to responsible authorities about the type of information that is expected to be provided at each SEA stage; we have also produced SEA topic guidance for those issues which fall within our remit. We have used the guidance to inform our detailed scoping response which is attached as an appendix. Https://www.gov.scot/publications/strategic-environmental-assessment-guidance/ https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/land/planning/strategic-environmental-assessment/ we are generally satisfied with the information provided in the scoping report for climate action plan (CAP). For the purpose of brevity and proportionality, our response will focus on the issues which require action for the preparation of the environmental report. **Relationship with other plans, policies and strategies (PPS)** • some of the PPS included have themselves been subject to SEA. Where this is the case you may find it useful to prepare a summary of the key SEA findings that may be relevant to the CAP. This may assist you with data sources and environmental baseline information and also ensure the current SEA picks up environmental issues or mitigation actions which may have been identified elsewhere. • we recommend including: cleaner air for Scotland 2 - towards a better place for everyone cleaner air for Scotland 2 - towards a better place for everyone – https://www.gov.scot/publications/cleaner-air-Scotland-2-towards-better-place-everyone/ • please also note the latest river basin management plan published in December 2021 rbmp 211222-final-rbmp3-Scotland.pdf (sepa.org.uk)	The Cleaner air for Scotland 2 - towards a better place for everyone and latest river basin management plan have been added to section 2.1 and Appendix A.
2.	**Baseline information** • SEPA holds significant amounts of environmental data which may be of interest to you in preparing the environmental baseline, identifying environmental problems, and summarising the likely changes to the environment in the absence of the PPS, all of which are required for the assessment. Many of these data are now readily available on SEPA's website. • additional local information may also be available from our access to information unit (foi@sepa.org.uk). • other sources of data for issues that fall within SEPA's remit are referenced in our SEA topic guidance notes for climatic factors, air, soil, water, material assets and human health. - https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/land/planning/strategic-environmental-assessment/	Noted
3.	• In relation to water, we recommend referring to the quality of the water environment rather than just quality of water bodies and wetlands. The quality the water environment is defined under the water framework directive. Surface water bodies are described in terms of their "ecological status" which takes	Noted

No.	Comment	How has this been addressed in the assessment?
	account of water quality and morphology pressures as well as pressures resulting from abstraction and impoundment. Groundwater bodies are defined in terms of their "status" taking account of water quality and abstraction pressures. Please also see SEPA guidance on consideration of water in strategic environmental assessment. Water (sepa.org.uk)	
4.	• We note that the river basin management plan data are from 2008 – please note that there is more up-to-date information (2020) in the water classification hub (sepa.org.uk). For example, table 1: proposed environmental baseline data states that the ecological status of the allander water is poor, however the most recent data in 2020 confirms that it is moderate. - https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-classification-hub/	This data has been checked and updated in Section 2.2.
5.	• We recommend that you revise the environmental baseline data in order to ensure that the most up to date information is available for the environmental assessment. Please note the source of data available in the SEA topic guidance and in environmental data | Scottish environment protection agency (SEPA) - https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/ useful data sources | Scotland's environment web - https://www.environment.gov.scot/data/useful-data-sources/	The environmental baseline has been updated in section 2.2.
6.	Environmental problems • we consider that the environmental problems described generally highlight the main issues of relevance for the SEA topics within our remit.	Noted
7.	**Alternatives** • we are satisfied with the alternatives outlined. These should be assessed as part of the SEA process and the findings of the assessment should inform the choice of the preferred option. This should be documented in the environmental report.	Noted
8.	**Scoping in / out of environmental topics** • we agree that in this instance all environmental topics should be scoped into the assessment.	Noted
9.	**Methodology for assessing environmental effects** • we welcome the assessment framework proposed in section 3.2., however we recommend including a commentary section within the matrices in order to state, where necessary, the reasons for the effects cited and the score given helps to fully explain the rationale behind the assessment results. This allows the responsible authority to be transparent and also allows the reader to understand the rationale behind the scores given.	The assessment findings include both matrices and explanatory commentary in sections 3.5, 3.6, Appendices D and E.

<table>
<tr><th>No.</th><th>Comment</th><th>How has this been addressed in the assessment?</th></tr>
<tr><td>10.</td><td>• Where it is expected that other plans, programmes or strategies are better placed to undertake more detailed assessment of environmental effects this should be clearly set out in the environmental report.</td><td>Noted</td></tr>
<tr><td>11.</td><td>• We would expect all aspects of the PPS which could have significant effects to be assessed.</td><td>Noted</td></tr>
<tr><td>12.</td><td>• We support the use of SEA objectives as assessment tools as they allow a systematic, rigorous and consistent framework with which to assess environmental effects.</td><td>SEA Objectives have been used as the basis of the SEA assessment framework as shown in section 3.4.</td></tr>
<tr><td>13.</td><td>• When it comes to setting out the results of the assessment in the environmental report please provide enough information to clearly justify the reasons for each of the assessments presented. It would also be helpful to set out assumptions that are made during the assessment and difficulties and limitations encountered.</td><td>The assessment findings include both matrices and explanatory commentary in sections 3.5, 3.6, Appendices D and E. Where assumptions have been made these are stated in the relevant assessment. Difficulties encountered are set out in section 3.8 of the Environmental Report.</td></tr>
<tr><td>14.</td><td>• It is helpful if the assessment matrix directly links the assessment result with proposed mitigation measures such as in the example below:

<table><tr><th>SEA ISSUES - CHECKLIST QUESTION</th><th>Yes or No</th><th>Effect</th><th>COMMENT and OPPORTUNITIES TO MITIGATE OR IMPROVE</th></tr><tr><td>Is the allocation at risk from fluvial or coastal flooding?</td><td>Y</td><td>Negative</td><td>Part of site found to be at risk now removed from allocation.</td></tr><tr><td>Could the allocation have a physical impact on existing watercourses?</td><td>Y</td><td>Negative</td><td>Site dissected by watercourse. Developer Requirements includes statement "watercourse to be integrated as positive feature of the development. No culverting."</td></tr><tr><td>Can the allocation currently be connected to the public sewerage system?</td><td>Y</td><td>Positive</td><td>Developer Requirement includes statement "connect to public sewer"</td></tr></table></td><td>In the interests of proportionality and due to the strategic nature of the CAP which is not directly spatially related, the mitigation measures have been set out in Section 4.1 and are presented by SEA topic.</td></tr>
<tr><td>15.</td><td>Comments on wording of proposed SEA objectives
• we are content with the proposed SEA objectives to be used in the assessment.</td><td>Noted</td></tr>
<tr><td>16</td><td><u>Mitigation and enhancement</u></td><td>Noted. The mitigation measures are set out in section 4.1. Whilst we have used</td></tr>
</table>

No.	Comment	How has this been addressed in the assessment?
	• we would encourage you to use the assessment as a way to improve the environmental performance of individual aspects of the final option; hence we support proposals for enhancement of positive effects as well as mitigation of negative effects. • it is useful to show the link between potential effects and proposed mitigation / enhancement measures in the assessment framework. • we would encourage you to be very clear in the environmental report about mitigation measures which are proposed as a result of the assessment. These should follow the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, reduce, remedy or compensate). • one of the most important ways to mitigate significant environmental effects identified through the assessment is to make changes to the plan itself so that significant effects are avoided. The environmental report should therefore identify any changes made to the plan as a result of the SEA. • where the mitigation proposed does not relate to modification to the plan itself then it would be extremely helpful to set out the proposed mitigation measures in a way that clearly identifies: (1) the measures required, (2) when they would be required and (3) who will be required to implement them. The inclusion of a summary table in the environmental report such as that presented below will help to track progress on mitigation through the monitoring process. **Issue / Impact identified in ER** | **Mitigation Measure** | **Lead Authority** | **Proposed Timescale** OFFICIAL OFFICIAL Insert effect recorded in ER | Insert mitigation measure to address effect | Insert as appropriate | Insert as appropriate etc | etc | etc | etc	the suggested format for the mitigation table, it must be noted that as exact developments are not known at this stage, it is not possible to determine specific mitigation measures, therefore a summary of the potential mitigation measures that could be implemented for each SEA objective has been included.

No.	Comment	How has this been addressed in the assessment?
17	**Monitoring** • although not specifically required at this stage, monitoring is a requirement of the act and early consideration should be given to a monitoring approach particularly in the choice of indicators. It would be helpful if the environmental report included a description of the measures envisaged to monitor the significant environmental effects of the plan.	Potential monitoring measures across every topic are provided in section 4.2 and will be further refined in the Post Adoption Statement.

APPENDIX C: ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENTS

This Appendix contains the assessments undertaken as part of the CAP development process, when alternatives to the Vision, and the handling of the packages of Objectives and Themes were being examined. These are high level assessments of the wording provided by East Dunbartonshire Council and short summaries are provided detailing the alternatives that performed the best against the SEA assessment framework. The best performing option for the Vision (Option 3) was taken forward as a preferred option. The Objectives were assessed as packages of options….

CAP VISION ASSESSMENTS

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
++	0	+	0	0	0	++	++	0

CAP Vision Option 1 – Lean / Concise
A carbon neutral and climate resilient East Dunbartonshire.

Assessment Commentary:

The vision outlined for Option 1 is anticipated to have positive effects across four of the nine SEA objectives.

Significant positive effects are anticipated for **Climatic Factors, Air Quality and Population and Human Health** due to an overall reduction in GHG emissions and increased climate resilience. As a result, other positive effects are anticipated across other SEA objectives (e.g. **Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna),** however, the emphasis on carbon and climate means that the potential impacts on other SEA objectives remains unclear.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
++	+	++	0	+	0	++	++	++

CAP Vision Option 2 – Intermediate with most factors from LOIP (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan)

A carbon neutral and climate resilient East Dunbartonshire with a better quality natural and built environment conducive to healthier, more active lifestyles and flourishing biodiversity.

Assessment Commentary:

The vision outlined for Option 2 is anticipated to have positive effects across many SEA objectives.

Significant positive effects are anticipated for **Population and Human Health, Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna, Air Quality, Climatic Factors and Material Assets** due to an overall reduction in GHG emissions, improvements to air quality through transitioning to cleaner energy and transport, promoting healthier and more active lifestyles, improving the quality of the natural and built environment resulting in enhanced biodiversity.

The emphasis on carbon, climate, population and human health and biodiversity means that the potential impacts on other SEA objectives remains unclear and uncertain but it is predicted that this vision could have secondary positive effects on **Cultural Heritage** and **Landscape**.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
++	+	++	+	+	+	++	++	++

Option 3 – Holistic option with all factors from LOIP

East Dunbartonshire is carbon neutral and climate resilient with a better quality natural and built environment conducive to healthier, more active lifestyles and flourishing biodiversity. Decisive action has achieved a just and inclusive transition that has created high value jobs, investment, and equipped people with the knowledge and skills to thrive in a low-carbon, wellbeing economy.

Assessment Commentary:

The overall vision for East Dunbartonshire as a carbon neutral and climate resilient area is anticipated to have positive effects for all SEA objectives.

Significant positive effects are anticipated for **Population and Human Health, Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna, Air Quality, Climatic Factors and Material Assets** due to an overall reduction in GHG emissions, improvements to air quality through transitioning to cleaner energy and transport, promoting healthier and more active lifestyles, improving the quality of the natural and built environment, increased employment opportunities and investment into education and upskilling.

Minor positive effects are anticipated elsewhere as these changes will reduce the potential impact of climate change on the historic environment (**Cultural Heritage**), positive changes in land use and protection of peatland (**Soils and Geology**), promote access to the wider environment and increased use of sustainable design and materials (**Landscape**) and improvements to ecological status of waterbodies e.g. through delivery of nature-based solutions (**Water Quality**).

Summary

Option 3 is more comprehensive and the positive effects on SEA objectives are more realised when compared to Option 1 and 2. The emphasis on carbon and climate on Option 1 and 2 results in potential effects on other SEA objectives becoming less clear. Option 3 includes ‘decisive action’ and demonstrates the early input required to achieve the vision.

CAP OBJECTIVE PACKAGES ASSESSMENTS

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+	0	+	0	0	0	++	++	0

CAP Objectives Package Option 1: Previously included in Council papers

The following initial outline objectives were identified and consulted upon during the Climate Conversation. These will be refined taking account of the comments received during the preparation of the Draft Climate Change Plan and as the net zero route map is developed.

- Objective 1 – Propose that climate change and ecological recovery become corporate priorities for the Council
- Objective 2 – Take steps to reduce carbon emissions at the area-wide scale
- Objective 3 – Strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change
- Objective 4 – Work with partners to prepare and deliver the Climate Action Plan
- Objective 5 – Raise awareness of climate change and encourage behaviour change
- Objective 6 – Identify scope to offset emissions and maximise nature-based solutions to support net zero target
- Objective 7 – Mainstream action to address climate change and biodiversity loss into all the Council's policies, plans and strategies

Assessment Commentary:

Largely positive effects identified with significant positive effects anticipated for **Climatic Factors** and **Air Quality** due to the emphasis on climate change and reducing carbon emissions. Objectives 1, 6 and 7 identify potential opportunities for nature recovery and biodiversity therefore further positive effects are anticipated for **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna.** Objective 5 includes raising awareness of climate change and encouraging behaviour change, this will likely have positive effects on **Population and Human Health.**

There are likely to be further positive effects on other SEA objectives as a result of working towards and achieving these objectives, however, there is limited detail on the actions that will underpin each of the objectives. As a result, the effects on other SEA objectives are less transparent.

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
++	0	++	+	+	+	++	++	+

CAP Objectives Package Option 2: Enhanced statutory responsibilities and just transition.

- Objective 1 – Prioritise Council spending plans and resource allocation to reduce emissions, support adaptation and deliver on the Council's net zero targets with a presumption against expenditure, investment, and infrastructure that would hinder achievement of net zero and increased climate resilience.
- Objective 2 – Set ambitious, interim targets on the path to net zero emissions for the Council and the East Dunbartonshire area accompanied by a robust framework for transparent monitoring and review and effective governance.
- Objective 3 – Integrate climate considerations including biodiversity gain into all Council decision-making processes by developing a standardised approach to climate change risk and impact assessments encompassing all council decision making processes, policies, plans and strategies.
- Objective 4 – Improve climate change awareness, strengthen community resilience, and encourage behaviour change to promote a just transition and reduced vulnerability.
- Objective 5 – Maximise the social, economic and environmental co-benefits of local climate action including nature-based solutions achieving efficient use of natural resources and improving health and well-being outcomes.

Assessment Commentary:

Objective 1 prioritises funding for actions that will reduce emissions, support adaptation and deliver the Council's net zero targets.

Objective 2 involves setting ambitious interim targets for net zero and provides a robust framework to monitor and review progress. This will result in significant positive effects for **Climatic Factors** and **Air Quality.** Further positive effects are anticipated for **Material Assets** as there is an assumption that the delivery actions will support the implementation of low-carbon technologies.

Objective 3 ensures the natural environment is considered in all Council decision-making processes. This will have significant positive effects for **Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna** as it will support environmental net gain and promotes the importance of biodiversity in East Dunbartonshire whilst maximising the role it plays in climate management. The integration of climate considerations into decision making within the Council will also have positive effects on several other SEA Objectives including; **Population and Human Health, Air Quality, Climatic Factors** and **Material Assets.**

Objective 4 involves reducing vulnerability to climate change amongst the local population through improved climate change awareness and increased community resilience will result in significant positive effects on **Population and Human Health.** Achieving this objective may include actions that promote the use of eco-friendly practices and encourage behaviours that promote efficient use of water and materials which would have positive effects on **Water Quality**, **Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna** and **Material Assets**, respectively. Subsequently, the change in behaviour should result in reduced emissions and positive effects on **Air Quality** (e.g. reduced vehicle usage and uptake of electric vehicles) and **Climatic Factors.**

Objective 5 involves maximising the co-benefits of local climate action, including the use of nature-based solutions, which will have significant positive effects on **Population and Human Health** and **Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna**. Further positive effects are anticipated for **Soil and Geology, Landscape, Water Quality, Air Quality, Climatic Factors** and **Material Assets.**

There may be negative effects associated with this option if it results in reduced expenditure in other council areas, however, it is not possible to capture this without further details of the Council's spending plans.

Summary

Option 2 objectives are more comprehensive than Option 1 and detail more of the actions that will be undertaken to meet these objectives. The focus of the objectives in Option 1 are on carbon and climate with some mention of biodiversity, meaning there is a lack of evidence to support positive effects for other SEA objectives. The objectives in Option 2 are anticipated to have the greatest positive effects as they include detailed actions that will be undertaken to deliver the Council's net zero targets and set out clear statutory responsibilities so these can be effectively monitored through the transition.

CAP THEME PACKAGES ASSESSMENTS

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+	0	+	+	0	0	++	++	+

CAP Themes Package Option 1 – Broad categories with specific points derived from emission sources and subject areas.

1. Energy, Heat and Built Assets
2. Low-Carbon Transport
3. Land Use, Adaptation and Biodiversity (from LULUCF, Adaptation, Biodiversity, Agriculture and Food)
4. Sustainable Procurement and Economic Development
5. Planning and Investment (including Strategic Alignment)
6. Circular Economy, Consumption and Waste

Assessment Commentary:

Package Option 1 of Themes is anticipated to have positive effects across many SEA objectives. Significant positive effects are anticipated for **Air Quality** and **Climatic Factors** due to the reduced emissions and carbon savings associated with each Theme, this will have subsequent positive effects for **Population and Human Health.** Theme 3 has positive effects for land-use, agriculture and food **(Soil and Geology)** as well as **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna.** Elsewhere, Theme 6 will have positive effects for **Material Assets.**

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
++	+	++	+	+	+	++	++	+

CAP Themes Package Option 2 – Package Option 2 - Greater division and detail of specific Themes.

1. **Transport**: Switching to significantly more walking, cycling and zero carbon public transport modes, making car-free living more viable across East Dunbartonshire and converting Council fleet to zero carbon fuels.
2. **Buildings and Heat Decarbonisation**: Retrofitting buildings to become energy efficient, carbon neutral and resilient to a changing climate with the Council leading by example on the decarbonisation of its buildings. Maximising local renewable energy generation and increasing system resilience, while facilitating the electrification of heat including through smart electricity usage.
3. **Sustainable Communities**: Ensuring that planning and patterns of development make low-carbon lifestyles and local resilience more viable with a presumption against proposals that would lead to additional emissions or create dependence on high-carbon transport and infrastructure.
4. **Natural Environment**: Restoring, protecting and enhancing greenspaces and biodiversity as the climate continues to change.
5. **Consumption and Waste**: Reducing the emission intensity of consumption through responsible buying of goods and services and zero carbon waste management.
6. **Business and the Economy**: Supporting businesses to become carbon neutral and climate resilient, capturing job opportunities, bolstering investment to thrive in a low-carbon, wellbeing economy while supporting a just transition to ensure that nobody is left behind.
7. **Supply Chains, Investment and Digital Infrastructure**: Driving forward carbon neutral supply chains by reducing emissions from the Council's supply chain and investments and exploiting digital and technological opportunities that drive forward decarbonisation in order to leave East Dunbartonshire less exposed to climatic hostility, hazards and financial vulnerability including exposure to stranded assets.
8. **Food**: Establish a resilient sustainable supply chain, with food and drink produced locally and enhanced community food growing, in addition to supporting movement to a plant-based diet.

Assessment Commentary:

Theme 1 (Transport) is anticipated to have an overall positive environmental effect, impacting on **Population and Human Health, Cultural Heritage, Biodiversity, Landscape, Water Quality, Air Quality** and **Climatic Factors** and**.** Transitioning the public transport network (e.g. electrification and hydrogen-based rail) and converting vehicles to zero carbon will have positive effects on **Air Quality** as well as on **Water Quality** from a reduction in polluted road runoff. Increased provision of enhanced pedestrian and cycle access will result in an increased uptake of outdoor leisure and recreation which, in addition to improvements to air quality, will have positive effects on **Population and Human Health.** Meanwhile, decarbonisation of the transport network in general will have significant positive effects on **Climatic Factors** due to the significant reduction in GHG emissions. Positive effects on **Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna** are also possible due to increased

connectivity of the green network. However, due to the need for energy to support the transition; a vast increase in clean electricity production will be required to support this. Additional electric vehicle charging infrastructure will also be required. This will result in an overall neutral effect for **Material Assets** as it supports implementation of low carbon technologies and encourages enhancements to current transport infrastructure to more sustainable modes. However, there is the current lack of sophisticated and sustainable waste practices for batteries which reduces the benefit of the overall Theme. There may be limited negative effects on **Population and Human Health, Air Quality, Biodiversity**, **Flora and Fauna, Soil and Geology, Water Quality, Cultural Heritage** and **Landscape** as a result of construction activities (e.g. ground disturbance, noise and dust emissions and disruption), however, these effects will be short-term and temporary in nature and dependant on mitigation measures (e.g. avoiding sensitive sites and best practice construction methods). In addition, the positive effects following implementation will be far greater. There are also enhancement opportunities for community engagement and associated provision of educational resources.

For Theme 2 (Buildings and Heat decarbonisation), making existing and new buildings carbon neutral through activities such as converting fossil fuel heat sources to electrically driven heat pumps or direct electric systems and improving building fabric will have positive effects on **Population and Human Health, Air Quality,** and **Climatic Factors.** These technologies are zero direct greenhouse gas emission heating systems. Their installation in place of fossil fuel systems would lead to significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions while making modest improvements to air quality and may result in reduced energy costs. The cost savings from greater efficiency could have a positive impact on **Material Assets** if there is an improvement to the financial viability of heating heritage buildings. These are often more expensive to run than modern buildings with lower operating costs could have a positive impact on **Cultural Heritage.** Lastly, this will also have additional positive effects for **Material Assets** as it supports the implementation of low-carbon technologies and the use of sustainable materials through design.

Theme 3 (Sustainable Communities) encompasses several activities such as converting streetlighting to LED, revised buildings standards to ensure new homes use renewable or low carbon heat, incentivisation of energy efficiency measures and improving climate change awareness. This theme is anticipated to have significant positive effects on **Population and Human Health, Air Quality,** and **Climatic Factors.** Sustainable development and promotion of low-carbon lifestyles will result in improvements to air quality, reductions in overall emissions and promote climate resilient communities. Positive impacts are anticipated on **Material Assets** as this theme supports the implementation of low carbon technologies, use of sustainable materials, increased longevity of materials and promotion of a circular economy. Positive impacts are also anticipated on **Cultural Heritage** and **Landscape** with reduced emissions and potential for climate change effects in addition to sustainable design improving the existing setting and character. Additionally, this theme is anticipated to encourage efficient use of land, including for use by the local community which will have positive impacts on **Soil and Geology**.

Where construction is required, there may be negative effects on **Population and Human Health** and **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna** (e.g. potential for increased noise, dust and vibration nuisance)**, Air Quality** (e.g. dust emissions and HGV movements), and **Climatic Factors** (e.g. use of materials, vehicles and operation of machinery). However, these are anticipated to be short-term and temporary and best practice construction methods will be used to minimise effects where possible. There may be additional negative effects on **Cultural Heritage** and **Landscape** where groundwork may result in potential disturbance and/or destruction of buried archaeology as well as negative effects on the setting of individual heritage assets and landscape character. Research has shown that the increasingly common implementation of LED streetlights has a negative impact on **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**, reducing insect populations by as much as 52% compared with a 41% lower abundance in hedgerow species by yellow sodium lamps.

For Theme 4, there are several options available to EDC which can result in restoration, protection and enhancement of wildlife with respect to effects on climate change including nature-based solutions and undertaking activities that result in emissions reduction and improvements to air quality. Significant positive effects are anticipated for **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**. These improvements will promote access to the natural environmental and have positive effects on **Population and Human Health** as well as **Landscape** and **Cultural Heritage** where the settings may be improved and for **Soil and Geology** where peatland and other protected habitats may be protected. Overall, these solutions will contribute to positive effects on **Climatic Factors**.

Theme 5, data suggests that the waste sector is one of the main emissions sources in the Council area in 2045 as it is much more difficult to decarbonise compared to energy use for transport and in buildings. A key action for the Council is to create a Waste Strategy which will include following the waste hierarchy, diverting waste from landfill and holding waste awareness training. The Waste Strategy which will be subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment and the necessary consultation requirements. The Council should continue ongoing engagement on waste reduction which is outside of direct control by EDC. Scotland has a waste target for 2025 to meet no more than 5% of waste going to landfill, from where the vast majority of waste emissions in East Dunbartonshire derive (in addition to other waste management such as wastewater treatment). At present, there are no technologies that entirely mitigate the GHG effects of methane at source when it is emitted by landfill and sewage treatment. Waste is therefore a sector that may need to rely on negative emissions technologies to reach net zero by 2045; technologies that are not yet commercialised. Therefore, to avoid these emissions, it will be necessary to radically reduce waste generated overall, stop sending biodegradable waste to landfill by 2025 (in line with the proposed ban in Scotland), and separate all remaining waste to enable even higher recycling rates. Possible co-benefits from the actions underpinning this theme are reduced spend on new materials and visible action to council staff. There are also potential co-benefits relating to wider society, include improvements to air quality, reductions in associated health conditions, as well as less impact on ecosystems and the environment. This option is anticipated to have positive impacts on the following environmental factors, **Population and Human Health**, **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Soil and Geology, Landscape, Water and Air Quality, Climatic Factors** and **Material Assets**. These impacts are aligned with the emissions reductions related to reduced waste to landfill, increasing alternative waste practices, methane capture and oxidation.

Theme 6 is anticipated to have positive effects for **Population and Human Health, Air Quality, Climatic Factors** and **Material Assets.** Businesses may move to become carbon neutral through activities such as reducing energy usage and/or using greener energy sources, reducing waste, using more sustainable materials, encouraging use of public transport and switching to electric vehicles. These activities will reduce overall emissions whilst also improving air quality. This will also have positive effects through increased employment opportunities throughout the transition.

For Theme 7, the supply chain is identified as the biggest contributor to the Council's own carbon footprint, therefore, the promotion of carbon neutral supply chains and investments could be one of the highest impact ways for the Council to drive decarbonisation. Decarbonisation is heavily linked to improved air quality as well as other social and economic benefits. It is anticipated this theme will have significant positive effects for **Climatic Factors** due to an increased level of clean, green energy and resultant reduction in GHG emissions. A carbon neutral supply chain will likely have positive effects for **Material Assets** due to the consideration of product life cycle and procurement of resources, as well as the energy supply chain. Additionally, a carbon neutral supply chain may include increased use of electric vehicles which will have positive effects for **Air Quality** and subsequently for **Population and Human Health**. Additionally, given the impact that climate change has on **Biodiversity, and Flora and Fauna** and **Cultural Heritage,** any initiative that results in emission reductions is likely to have positive indirect effects on these SEA objectives.

For Theme 8, establishing a resilient sustainable supply chain is anticipated to have positive environmental effects. However, it is not possible to identify the consequences of individual decisions at this stage. While locally produced food would reduce haulage and associated negative effects, there is a risk of precluding the use of sustainable products not produced locally or using less sustainable products due where they were produced. Therefore, clear guidance is required to set out how such decisions should be made. On the move towards a plant-based diet: evidence suggests that reducing the amount of animal products consumed and switching to a more plant-based diet will result in a reduction in global emissions from livestock, agricultural enhancements as well as potentially free up land for carbon sequestration projects. Animal agriculture is also known to involve intensive water use, therefore the change in agricultural practices may result in water savings. The reduction in animal agriculture is may also result in reduction of nitrates and other pollutants into watercourses. However, it is unclear the extent to which these benefits could be realised locally as detail is not provided on the impact of local agriculture or the extent to which it would be affected by Council decisions. This theme is therefore anticipated to have uncertain but potentially positive effects on **Population and Human Health, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**, **Soil and Geology**, **Water Quality**, **Climatic Factors** and **Material Assets.**

Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
+	0	+	+	0	0	++	++	+

CAP Themes Package Option 3 – Fewer broad categories

1. Energy, Heat and Buildings
2. Low-carbon Transport
3. Waste, Recycling and the Circular Economy
4. Biodiversity, Carbon Storage and Agriculture
5. Adaptation, Planning and Organisational Capacity
6. Economic Development and Sustainable Procurement

Assessment Commentary:

In Package Option 3, Themes are anticipated to have positive effects across many SEA objectives. Significant positive effects are anticipated for **Air Quality** and **Climatic Factors** due to the reduced emissions and carbon savings associated with each Theme, this will have subsequent positive effects for **Population and Human Health.** Theme 3 has positive effects for land-use, agriculture and food **(Soil and Geology)** as well as **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna.** Elsewhere, Theme 6 will have positive effects for **Material Assets.**

Summary

The package of themes in Option 2 contains more detail compared to the packages in Option 1 and 3.

Option 1 and 3 divide the themes into broader categories meaning the effects on SEA objectives are not as clear cut. Option 2 would therefore have the greatest positive effects on a wider range of SEA objectives.

APPENDIX D: CAP ACTIONS ASSESSMENT AGAINST SEA OBJECTIVES

The tables below provide an outline assessment of actions that underpin each theme against each of the SEA objectives of each SEA topic. A key to the scoring is also provided.

This assessment acknowledges inherent uncertainties from dependencies intrinsic to many of the proposed actions. Where action wording implies changes, implementation is assumed in appropriate contexts and scores have been assigned accordingly. For actions involving intentions to develop policies or strategies, effects cannot be definitively determined; these instances are accompanied by explanatory commentary.

It should be noted that to maximise benefits across several actions further refinement and clarification of the council's specific implementation plans will be required. The assessment represents current understanding based on available information, with the recognition that additional development work by the council will be necessary to fully realise potential environmental outcomes.

Key for Assessment Scoring

++	**Major/Significant Positive**
+	**Minor Positive**
0	**Neutral**
-	**Minor Negative**
--	**Major/Significant Negative**
+/-	**Mixed**

Assessment of Actions under each Theme

Theme 1 - Transport:

Switching to significantly more walking, cycling and zero carbon public transport modes, making car-free living more viable across East Dunbartonshire and converting Council fleet vehicles to zero carbon fuels.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
1.1 – Area-Wide: Reduce car mileage and achieve modal shift via behavioural and technological change such as working from home.	+	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	Positive effects are anticipated due to increased provision for active travel and reduced vehicular movement resulting in reduction of carbon emissions, improved air quality and community health and wellbeing.
1.2 – Area-Wide: Create the conditions to increase the uptake of electric vehicles.	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	++/-	++/-	+/-	Positive effects are anticipated, particularly in terms of population and human health, air quality and climatic factors, by reducing emissions and air pollutants, contributing to cleaner environments and better public health outcomes. Some permanent land take will be required from additional infrastructure and there will be associated temporary disruption during construction.
1.3 – Corporate: Develop and implement a Corporate Travel Plan to support sustainable travel, increase sustainable commuting and work towards 'Cycle	+	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	Positive effects are anticipated through promotion of sustainable practices and behaviours. The action will encourage sustainable transport, promote public health, and help reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
Friendly Employer' status and Reduce emissions related to Business Travel.										
1.4 – Corporate: Establish a Sustainable Travel Working Group to support the development of a Corporate Travel Plan and the development and implementation of measures to encourage changes to staff commuting behaviour.	+	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	Positive effects are anticipated through promotion of sustainable practices and behaviours. The action will encourage sustainable transport, promote public health, and help reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
1.5 – Corporate: Design and Implement an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan that includes a suitable charging network across Council sites to meet projected demand.	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	++/-	0	Deployment of a charging network will enable the use of electric vehicles. A positive effect is anticipated through implementing sustainable transport infrastructure to encourage use of EV. This will provide mixed impacts through decarbonised transport but also the procurement and construction of required infrastructure.
1.6 – Corporate: Develop and implement Fleet Decarbonisation Plan.	+/-	0	0	-	0	+	++/-	++	0	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact, it refers to work undertaken by the Energy Savings Trust and assumes installation of Broomhill Depot and that associated development in net zero aligned. If stated recommendations are followed, in the long term, positive effects are anticipated, such as improved air quality and reduced emissions and improved community health and wellbeing. There is

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
										potential for temporary negative effects due to pollution, community disruption, and permanent land take for construction of the additional charging infrastructure.
1.7 – Corporate: Decarbonise School coach / bus hire vehicle by switching to ULEV alternatives.	+	0	0	0	0	0	++	++/-	+/-	Positive effects are expected through promotion of sustainable practices and behaviours. The action will encourage sustainable transport, promote public health, and help reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Some mixed effects due to additional infrastructure, procurement and replacement of assets and associated embodied carbon and material use.
1.8 – Corporate: Reduce Business Travel emissions, such as through procurement requirements, for Taxi Switch to EV and low carbon vehicles.	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	Positive effects are anticipated, particularly in terms of population and human health, air quality, and climatic factors by reducing emissions and air pollutants, contributing to a cleaner environment and consequently improved public health outcomes. Water quality is expected to improve as a result of reduced vehicle-related contamination. Positive effects on material assets as the action supports the long-term sustainability of the local transport sector.
1.9 – Corporate: Improve efficiency of vehicle use by investigating scope for	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	Long-term positive effects are anticipated to air quality, climatic factors, and resource use, due to

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
further use of telematics, route planning and driver training.										reductions in emissions, fuel consumption, and resource waste.
1.10 – Adaptation: Increase and improve resilience of transport networks.	+/-	0	-	-	-	-	+/-	++	-	This action promotes the use of adaptation strategies that require construction, resulting in short-term negative effects across most SEA objectives. However, long-term positive effects are expected, particularly in air quality, climate factors, and population and human health.
1.11 – Corporate: Assess carparks for potential for renewable energy generation and develop an action plan to roll out appropriate schemes.	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	+/-	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. However, positive and mixed secondary impacts are anticipated through the delivery of renewable energy projects as part of the Action Plan implementation. Negative impacts are expected for construction phases but medium to long-term impacts could potentially be significantly positive through energy transition and reducing carbon. This is largely dependent on the contents of the action plan which will be developed.

Theme 2 – Building and Heat Decarbonisation:

Retrofitting buildings to become energy efficient, carbon neutral and resilient to a changing climate with the Council leading by example on the decarbonisation of its buildings. Maximising local renewable energy generation and increasing system resilience, while facilitating the electrification of heat including through smart electricity usage.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
2.1 - Corporate: Set out a plan to decarbonise the Council's housing stock through the Capital Investment Plan and Asset Management Plan(s).	++/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+/-	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if implemented may have long-term positive effects due to potential significance of decarbonising the Councils housing stock regarding climatic factors, fuel poverty alleviation and wellbeing aspects. There will be associated negative effects during construction and/or retrofitting phases.
2.2 – Corporate: Set out a plan to decarbonise the Council's assets, including leased buildings and joint ventures but excluding Council housing, through the Capital Investment Plan and Asset Management Plan(s).	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions, if delivered, could have significant long-term positive impacts in relation to climatic factors through decarbonisation of relevant Council estate. There will be associated negative effects during construction and/or retrofitting phases.
2.3 – Area-Wide: Implement the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) Delivery Plan for East Dunbartonshire by 2029	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	++	+	The actions contained within the LHEES Delivery Plan, if delivered, may have long-term positive effects due to energy efficiency improvements and investments in clean energy, leading to reductions in energy use, carbon emissions, and fuel poverty.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
2.4 – Corporate: Implement office rationalisation	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. While it could lead to reduction in the Council's building emissions any re-use of the building would lead to no long-term change in emissions in the absence of implementation of other actions.
2.5 - Corporate: Prepare a Refrigerant Plan.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	Using refrigerants with a lower global warming potential reduces emissions in the event of any leakage. Eliminating refrigerants which are being phased out may extend life of plant infrastructure, which would otherwise be replaced or become obsolete.
2.6 - Corporate: Prepare corporate water and wastewater management plan.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	Positive effects are anticipated, as reducing water usage indirectly enhances energy efficiency by lowering the energy required for water treatment, heating, and distribution.
2.7 – Area-Wide: The Council will engage with Scottish Water to investigate the potential for preparing an area-wide water and wastewater management plan.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	Positive effects are anticipated, as reducing water usage indirectly enhances energy efficiency by lowering the energy required for water treatment, heating, and distribution.
2.8 - Corporate: Development of Authority Construction Requirements (ACR's) for each new build project or	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The impact of ACR beyond the existing building regulations, planning guidance .etc cannot be

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
conversion to ensure the housing estate/stock is in alignment with climate change and relevant sustainability policies.										anticipated at this stage and will be dependent on the content and level of ambition of the Council.
2.9 - Adaptation: Undertake an audit of the Council estate's resilience to climate impacts and identifying the required adaptive measures. Following this, implement the audit recommendations for adaptation and nature-based solutions to build resilience of the Council estate.	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	++/-	0	The effects would depend upon the specific measures proposed to increase resilience. Making buildings more resilient to extreme heat events, for example, may involve installation of cooling systems. These would increase existing energy consumption but may still be necessary.
2.10 - Area-Wide: Local Development Plan 3 implements NPF 4 Policy 11 'to encourage, promote and facilitate all forms of renewable energy development including wind and solar, including energy generation, storage, new and replacement transmission and distribution infrastructure and emerging low-carbon and zero emissions technologies including hydrogen and carbon capture utilisation and storage.'	+/-	0	0	0	-	0	0	++	+	Positive effects are anticipated from reducing reliance on grid electricity and facilitating, where appropriate, renewable energy generation, which can help lower carbon emissions. There is potential for temporary disturbance during installation and for solar arrays to alter the local landscape and potentially lead to visual impacts if not designed with sensitivity to the surrounding environment.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
2.11 - Area-Wide: Drive forward renewable outputs, particularly, solar PV uptake across the domestic, commercial/public and industrial sectors through regional partnerships and other avenues within Council remit.	-	0	0	0	-	0	0	++	+	Positive effects are anticipated from reducing reliance on grid electricity which can help lower carbon emissions. There is potential for temporary disturbance during installation and for solar arrays/panels to alter the local landscape and potentially lead to visual effects if not designed with sensitivity to the surrounding environment
2.12 – Area-Wide: Monitor progress on assumptions within the Council's select-ed net zero pathway, identify where partnership working can support the actions and identify where corrective action needs to be taken to reflect updated modelling.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This is an administrative action to monitor progress. Secondary impacts are unable to be anticipated at this stage.

Theme 3 – Sustainable Communities:

Ensuring that planning and patterns of development make low-carbon lifestyles and local resilience more viable with a presumption against proposals that would lead to additional emissions or create dependence on high-carbon transport and infrastructure.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
3.1 - Corporate: Establish the communication plan for the CAP.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Administrative action to conduct a review. Currently has no discernible environmental effect.
3.2 – Corporate / Area-Wide / Adaptation: Implement targeted training and skills development opportunities for climate mitigation and adaptation and ensure relevant skills are reflected in the Work Force Strategy.	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Positive effects are anticipated through reduced emissions associated with the transport of goods and boost of local economy.
3.3 - Area-Wide: Develop a set of Community payback principles.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Administrative action to conduct a review. Currently has no discernible environmental effects.
3.4 - Area-Wide: Support community climate empowerment via community grant pots and community asset transfer processes.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This action is not yet fully developed. It is an administrative action to conduct a review. Currently has no discernible environmental effects.
3.5 - Adaptation: Support communities to build resilience	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	The concept is anticipated to contribute positively to environmental and community resilience as well as promote sustainable practices and behaviours.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
and create climate ready places throughout East Dunbartonshire.										
3.6 - Adaptation: Disseminate up to date information on projected local and national impacts of climate change to key internal and external partners to help to protect critical services and anticipate impacts on service delivery and business continuity.	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if delivered will bring positive effects through enhancing emergency response capabilities and resilience.
3.7 – Area-Wide: Conduct a review of Council land to assess potential and feasibility of renewable energy generation in partnership with local stakeholders.	0	0	+/-	+/-	+/-	0	0	++	++	Administrative action to conduct a review. If developed and implemented there is potential for environmental benefits and issues but this information won't be known until later stages and dependent completely on the sensitivity of the receiving environment and type and scale of renewable technologies.
3.8 – Corporate, Area-Wide and Adaptation: Develop a robust process such as Climate Change Impact Assessment CCIA) process to ensure alignment of Council spend and use of resources with net zero.	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	Administrative action to develop an internal process. Initial anticipated impacts will be primarily related to emissions reductions and resilience building, particularly corporately but also area-wide.

Theme 4 – Natural Environment:

Restoring, protecting and enhancing greenspaces and biodiversity as the climate continues to change.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climate Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
4.1 – Corporate / Area-Wide / Adaptation: Develop and implement the actions from a Nature-Based Investment Study to maximise natural sequestration of emissions, deliver adaptation solutions and support flourishing biodiversity.	+	0	++	++	+	+	+	++	0	The delivery of actions from the Study could result in significant environmental enhancements by identifying opportunities to sequester carbon and the introduction of area-wide nature-based solutions.
4.2 – Area-Wide: Maximise nature-based solutions through planning mechanisms and establish partnerships to support area-wide nature-based solutions.	+	0	++	++	+	+	+	++	0	The delivery of actions from the Study, development of planning mechanisms and partnership working could lead to the same impacts as noted for action 4.1.
4.3 – Area-Wide: Produce and implement a Greenspace Strategy.	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	0	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if delivered will bring positive effects through natural habitats, enhanced green spaces and resultant improvements in air quality and community wellbeing.
4.4 - Area-Wide and Adaptation: Identify nature-based solutions and climate adaptation opportunities along the main	+	0	++	+	+	++	0	++	0	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if delivered will bring significant positive impacts through biodiversity enhancements, natural habitats improvements, and

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climate Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
corridor of the River Kelvin in East Dunbartonshire to maximise co-benefits for biodiversity, flood mitigation, community development and health and wellbeing.										resultant protection and enhancement in soil and water quality.
4.5 - Adaptation: Drive naturalisation and de-culverting of watercourses for biodiversity and flood attenuation.	0	0	++	+	+	++	0	++	0	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if delivered will bring positive effects through biodiversity enhancement and flood management primarily through nature-based solutions.
4.6 - Adaptation: Implement existing Surface Water Management Plans and develop additional plans where problems areas are identified.	+	0	++	+	+	+	0	++	0	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if delivered will bring positive effects which can enhance water quality, improve habitats, boost biodiversity, and increase resilience to climate change impacts through nature-based solutions.
4.7 - Adaptation: Through the Greenspace Strategy, identify opportunities to create climate ready parks across East Dunbartonshire to make them more climate resilient.	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	++	+	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if delivered will bring positive effects for parks and open spaces through natural flood management, biodiversity enhancements and improved climate resiliency.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climate Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
4.8 - Area-Wide and Adaptation: Develop strengthened actions for climate change and biodiversity in LDP3 and associated workstreams.	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	++	+	This action involves drafting actions for the LDP3. Secondary actions if delivered will bring positive effects through protection and enhancement of species and habitats and improve climate resiliency.
4.9 - Adaptation: Embed and mainstream adaptation considerations, monitoring and actions throughout the Local Authority, including delivering on SNAP3 requirements.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if delivered will ensure streamlined consideration of adaptation and mitigation processes.
4.10 - Adaptation: Contribute to the delivery of adaptation at a Glasgow City-Region level.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if delivered will ensure streamlined delivery of regional adaptation processes but no discernible environmental effect currently anticipated.

Theme 5 – Consumption and Waste:

Reducing the emission intensity of consumption through responsible buying of goods and services and zero carbon waste management.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
5.1 - Corporate: Develop and implement a corporate Waste Route Map and Local Waste Strategy.	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if delivered have the potential to bring positive effects in the medium and long-term, through anticipated influence of the Waste Route Map and Strategy to promote sustainable practices and behaviours but is highly dependent on the contents of the documents. The Waste Strategy will be the subject of its own SEA.
5.2 - Area-Wide: Promote composting to reduce organic waste emissions as far as the Council's sphere of influence and controls allows.	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	Whilst this action requires further development, positive effects are anticipated including the reduction of landfill emissions through waste reduction and improved wastewater management.
5.3 - Area-Wide: Continue to promote the reduction of waste going to landfill through waste reduction, recycling incentives and targeted material bans.	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	Whilst this action requires further development, positive effects are anticipated through sustainable practices, including the responsible use of resources, diversion of waste from landfill and the promotion of sustainable behaviours.
5.4 - Area-Wide: Increase use of recycled material in roadbuilding and maintenance where possible.	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	Whilst this action requires further development, positive effects are anticipated from emissions reduction achieved through reduced material extraction, recycling and reusing of materials, where possible,

Theme 6 – Business and the Economy:

Supporting businesses to become carbon neutral and climate resilient, capturing job opportunities, bolstering investment to thrive in a low-carbon, wellbeing economy while supporting a just transition to ensure that nobody is left behind.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
6.1 - Corporate: Support delivery of sustainable development actions in the forthcoming Economic Development Strategy (EDS) and through East Dunbartonshire Economic Development Partnership (EDEP) activities.	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	Whilst this action involves the use of existing groups and discussion platform, positive long-term effects are anticipated through the empowerment of local businesses and the promotion of emission reduction practices.
6.2 - Corporate: Develop a new Circular Economy Strategy delivery programme, amended Action Plan, and Monitoring and Review Framework in line with the emerging Economic Development Strategy.	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if delivered have the potential to bring positive effects by promoting reuse, repurposing, and recycling, ultimately leading to waste reduction and associated emissions reduction.
6.3 - Area-Wide: Develop and send a regular community bulletin to highlight key	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	Largely an administrative action but positive effects expected through promotion of sustainable practices and

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
sustainability developments and opportunities for local businesses.										behaviour. May foster a more informed and active community.
6.4 - Area-Wide: Run sustainability seminars and workshops through Business Gateway and explore other opportunities to encourage businesses to take up support for renewable energy and sustainability.	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	Largely an administrative action but positive effects expected through promotion of sustainable practices and behaviour. May foster a more informed and active community.

Theme 7 – Supply Chains, Investment and Digital Infrastructure:

Driving forward carbon neutral supply chains by reducing emissions from the Council's supply chain and investments, and exploiting digital and technological opportunities that drive forward decarbonisation in order to leave East Dunbartonshire less exposed to climatic hostility, hazards and financial vulnerability including exposure to stranded assets.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
7.1 - Corporate: Carry out an in-depth assessment of the steps required to decarbonise the Council's supply chain.	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if implemented will bring positive effects in promoting emissions reductions.
7.2 - Corporate: Expand the Annual Procurement Strategy to embed sustainability via an Action Plan to reduce supply chain emissions and to ensure alignment with forthcoming legislation on supporting net-zero carbon targets through procurement.	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	+	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if implemented will bring significant positive effects in emissions reductions and encourage sustainable practices and behaviours.
7.3 - Corporate: Promote sustainable procurement capacity building, including specification / tender writing training for relevant staff.	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if implemented will bring positive effects through promotion of sustainable practices and behaviour.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
7.4 - Continue to consider sustainable investments and to continue to explore whether the Council's investments are consistent with its statutory duties in relation to climate change mitigation and sustainable development.	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	Whilst this action requires further development, the action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if implemented may have positive effects through promotion of sustainable practices and behaviour as well as resultant sustainable investments. Largely dependent on outcome of the investigation and consequent actions and investments.
7.5 – Corporate / Area-wide: Incorporate Climate within the forthcoming Community Benefits Strategy.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Administrative action which currently has no discernible environmental effect.
7.6 - Area-Wide: Monitor Strathclyde Pension Fund's commitment to responsible investment, advocate for decarbonisation and ensure the Council's investments are consistent with statutory duties in relation to climate change mitigation and sustainable development.	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	Action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if implemented will bring positive impacts through promotion of sustainable practices and behaviour as well as resultant sustainable investments. Largely dependent on outcome and consequent actions and investments.
7.7 - Corporate: Explore potential finance models to	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Administrative action which currently has no discernible environmental effect.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
help to bridge funding gaps to climate action and support the achievement of the Council's net zero targets.										

Theme 8 – Food and Agriculture:

Establishing a resilient sustainable supply chain, with food and drink produced locally and enhanced community food growing, in addition to supporting movement to a plant-based diet.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
8.1 - Area-Wide: Prepare and implement a Food Growing Strategy.	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	The action itself will not have a direct environmental impact. Secondary actions if implemented may have positive effects. Local food growing can enhance community resilience, reduces emissions from food miles, and can improve soil health, and biodiversity. It also contributes to better water and air quality compared to other land uses and offers long-term benefits by reducing carbon emissions associated with food transportation.
8.2 – Corporate: Promote and support the adoption of sustainable food including through school meals whilst complying with Scottish Government nutritional guidelines.	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Secondary impacts anticipated through this action by promoting sustainable food options with positive impacts for health and wellbeing aspects as well as wider sustainability and climatic factors through lower food miles and sustainably grown produce.
8.3 – Corporate: Promote and support the adoption of sustainable food through Council catering.	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Secondary impacts anticipated through this action by promoting sustainable food options with positive impacts for health and wellbeing aspects as well as wider sustainability and climatic factors through lower food miles and sustainably grown produce.

Action	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Commentary
8.4 – Area-Wide: Promote the reduction of food waste through local awareness campaigns and programmes.	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	Whilst this action requires further development, positive effects are anticipated, including reduction in food waste and the resulting decrease in agricultural emissions.
8.5 – Area-Wide: Monitor progress on reducing emissions from agriculture and reduced meat and dairy consumption and identify new actions or partnerships to support the transitions where possible.	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	+	Whilst this action requires further development, positive effects on air quality and climate are anticipated with the transition to low-carbon, energy-efficient agricultural machinery, leading to reductions in carbon emissions.

T: +44 (0) 1235 75 3000

E: info@ricardo.com

W: www.ricardo.com