



LOCAL AUTHORITY FORUM

COLLABORATE AND DELIVER

24 February 10 – 12 noon

CHAIR: Judi Kilgallon, Improvement Service

Networking Opportunity before & after event

These informal sessions were well attended & will be included as part of future forum meetings.

STRATEGIC UPDATES

COSLA

COSLA's update focussed on the current Parliament [Inquiry](#) - Local Government's ability to deliver on net zero policy. This meeting clashed with [COSLA Annual Conference](#) and a written update was provided as follows.

COSLA had an informal session with the Scottish Parliament's Net Zero, Transport and Energy Committee on 7 Dec 2021, to help inform the inquiry. Full inquiry is still ongoing, and COSLA is noting strong representations made by a number of LAs. COSLA may give formal evidence towards the end of the inquiry, and will put another report to the last meeting of the COSLA Environment and Economy Board in April, before May elections, to strengthen their formal position.

[The COSLA position](#) captures the key elements that COSLA are aware of that are of concern to LAs. COSLA is very keen to have comments and observations from members of the SSN LA forum, on this position, and to hear if there are issues they would like to see added to the position.

ACTION: Please contact Silke on Silke@cosla.gov.uk or 0131 474 9266

[COSLA Excellence awards](#) have a dedicated NZ/Just transition category (Category 5: Just Transition to a Net Zero Economy).

Post meeting note: Congratulations to West Dunbartonshire Council Partnership (Regulatory & Regeneration).

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Public Engagement Strategy – key role for LAs to deliver trusted messages. Scottish Government keen to host a meeting with more LAs present. **Action SSN to follow up with SG.**

Decarbonisation in public buildings (2038 target) – no date set for consultation as yet.

Heat Network Fund launched £300m capital grant funding (across public & private sector).

NZ Inquiry: Minister, COSLA and LAs likely to give evidence. Expect final report before summer recess providing guide to where future action needs to be focussed.

Green Growth Accelerator (GGA) Fund (jody.fleck@gov.scot) - £200m capital investment in low C infrastructure – **6 pathfinders LAs**. Encourage LAs to start to think about potential projects that could be eligible for GGA now and to reach out to pathfinders organisations for information/funding model etc.

Regional Climate Action Hubs – to be established, with sessions planned over next few months as to how Hubs may be set up. See [link](#) for sessions & dates. Process to be community owned. For those interested please contact ClimateChangeEngagement@gov.scot

LA engagement directly with SG – SG keen to engage with LA on NZ and other key players within LAs for SG to engage with e.g. other networks, gaps that the LA Forum doesn't cover.

SSN UPDATE

Key highlights 2021/22: SG/SSN guidance, Annual conference Dec 2021. 100% PBCCD submission record.

Looking Forward: Scottish Parliament Inquiry; work with Audit Scotand, May 25th Reporting Event & SSN Plan going forward (Capacity building, Reporting & Leadership, SSN Manual, update on SSN hybrid funding model).

[SSN update slides](#)

IS UPDATE

Working with SSN on IS's climate change plan, keen to work with LAs to provide external voice.

Skills, Capacity & Capability: working with SLADE and what is needed.

Carbon Literarcy: worked with SCA to deliver training to elected members and now focusing on senior management with a "train the trainer" add-on.

Elected member induction - preparing a short briefing. Do contact IS if want to input to briefing and with any other actions/information that would be useful.

Data & Research: bridging gap between academia and practitioners. IS colleagues in the Gazetteer are keen to run a session on using address data can help climate challenges.

CLIMATE IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

East Renfrewshire to lead a short life working group to look at this, and report back to Forum supported by IS and SSN. (Fulfilment of Climate Change Scotland Act (Section 44)).

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Presentation: CITY REGION & REGIONAL GROWTH DEALS (Whole Life Carbon Management)

Lewis Barlow, Sustainable Development Manager, Scottish Government.

[Presentation slides](#)

SSN signed off outline proposal to work with Lewis to develop a capacity building programme.

The next LA Forum will take place on 12 May 2022 (10 – noon) with the meeting opening at 09:30 for networking.

The focus topic of the meeting will be Procurement.

Any queries regarding the forum please contact jenny.fausset@ed.ac.uk

USEFUL EVENT / INFORMATION SHARED

Webinar: [How Councils can make the most of the Climate Action Plan Explorer](#)

Tyndall Carbon Budget Tool- see 'Scotland' tab