SCOTTISH BORDERS LOW CARBON ECONOMIC STRATEGY 2023

ACTION PLAN 2015

(No tone – resources required Lighter toned – resourced actions Darker toned – completed actions)

Aim A. Improve business competitiveness – work with local business to increase resource efficiency, and provide assistance to exploit low carbon business opportunities for instance in supply chains and new markets.

Strategic Initiatives – Building the Low Carbon Knowledge and Skills Base

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
1.0		programme of business support activity to ge resource efficiency					
1.1		Business Gateway and Scottish Enterprise to promote services available through Resource Efficient Scotland (RES) Deliverables - Deliver series of themed low carbon/resource efficiency seminars and workshops across the Scottish Borders - Advisers to offer initial low carbon advice and refer clients to RES - Deliver series of seminars targeting sectors – food & drink, tourism, construction, textiles, renewables, creative sector	Business Gateway, Scottish Enterprise	In place - staff time	Ongoing	Increased uptake of RES support and improved business performance	

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
	completed	 Survey of 1300 Business Gateway contacts to assess level of interest in taking forward resource efficiency action 	Business Gateway Advisers/ Resource Efficient Scotland	Staff time	April 2015	Greater understanding of level of demand	2% return, results indicate some appetite for support which is being considered by Business Gateway/RES
-		and capacity to deliver changes in business activity	•	nd deliver awar	eness and engageme	nt programmes for lo	cal businesses which
2.0		programme of business support activities to wareness of low carbon opportunities					
2.1		 Deliver a series of seminars on low carbon business opportunities Deliverables Deliver a roadshow on renewable energy opportunities Deliver a roadshow on electric vehicles opportunities Work with Scottish Borders Business Forum to highlight low carbon opportunities 	Business Gateway, SBC Econ Devt, SE, SBBF, Energy Saving Trust, trades bodies (CITB, SNIPEF, etc)	In place - staff time	During FY 2015- 16		
2.2		 Deliver a programme of support to develop the renewable energy sector Deliverables Dedicated specialist adviser support to be made available to businesses in the renewable energy sector (will respond to recommendations in Sector Action Plan – see action 3.0 below) 	Business Gateway	In place - staff time	Ongoing		

Objective 3: To develop the renewable energy sector which maximises economic and social benefits to the area – to develop a strategic approach to the delivery of all scales of renewable energy schemes.

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
3.0	required	key opportunities and strategic actions by partners to support the growth of the le energy sector					
3.1	NEW	 Produce a Renewable Energy Sector Action Plan (linked to Economic Strategy 2023) Deliverables Produce Action Plan which identifies support required for local businesses currently operating in, or wishing to enter, the renewable energy sector 	SBC Econ Devt, Business Gateway, Scottish Enterprise, Community Energy Scotland, Local Energy Scotland, and others	In place – staff time	Jan 2016	Sector Action Plan produced which identifies support and resources required. Number of business supported, jobs created	
3.2	NEW	Identify renewable energy initiatives (Linked to Aim C Objective 1) Deliverables - Investigate opportunities for energy generation from food waste - Investigate opportunities for the production and use of transport fuel – biogas	SBC Econ Devt, Scottish Enterprise, Community Energy Scotland, Local Energy Scotland, and others	In place – staff time Resource required - budget for feasibility assessment/ consultancy support/ business cases	Dec 2016	Identification of key opportunities completed	
3.3	NEW	In order to drive demand, Registered Social Landlords will investigate opportunities for installation of renewable energy systems in their properties	RSLs , SBC, Local Energy Scotland		Dec 2016		

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
		 Deliverables Assess suitability of properties for a range of renewable technologies Undertake financial feasibility assessments for options Develop plan for installations including opportunities for joint RSL action 		Resources required – staff time/ feasibility assessment budget/ consultancy support/ costs of installation		Identification of key opportunities completed, project plans and business cases in place	
3.4	NEW	 In order to drive demand, Scottish Borders Council will investigate opportunities for installation of renewable energy systems in its properties <i>Deliverables</i> Assess suitability of all properties for a range of renewable technologies Undertake financial feasibility assessments for options 	SBC Property Manager, Energy Saving Trust	Resources required – staff time/ feasibility assessment budget/ consultancy support/ costs of installation	Dec 2016	Identification of key opportunities completed, project plans and business cases in place	
	completed	- Work with Community Energy Scotland to assess renewable energy generation opportunities for the Council.	SBC Property and Facilities Management, Energy Saving Trust	Staff/ consultancy budget	Completed 2014	Study completed	Recommendations were assessed and options are being built into SBC Asset Strategy
	completed	 Complete feasibility assessment for provision of kiln drying facilities for local timber and progress recommendations 	SBC, S Govt, and partners	S Govt/SBC funds	Completed March 2014	Study completed	Proposal assessed as viable and was released to market, Business Gateway acting as contact for support

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
3.5	NEW	 Key Community Planning Partners (NHS Borders, Borders College, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service) to investigate opportunities for installation of renewable energy systems in/on their properties Deliverables Assess suitability of all properties for a range of renewable technologies Undertake financial feasibility assessments for options Develop plan for installations including joint opportunities with local partners Deliver SHARC heat recovery from sewage project at Borders College campus in Galashiels Develop demonstration opportunities at SHARC site 	CPP Estates Managers, Energy Saving Trust	Resources required – staff time/ feasibility assessment budget/ consultancy support/ costs of installation	March 2017 Sept 2015	Identification of key opportunities, project plans and business cases in place	
	completed	 NHS Borders has installed seven biomass boilers at sites across the area. 	NHS Borders				
for suc	cess in a low	velop a workforce equipped with low carbon s carbon future. This covers overall resource efficience					
4.0	supports	e availability of a skilled workforce which local businesses to compete successfully ow carbon economy					

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
4.1		Identify gaps in low carbon skills available in the local workforce					
		 Deliverables Undertake assessment of jobs created and vacancies in the renewable energy sector 	Skills Development Scotland, Borders College, SBC Econ Devt	In place - staff time	March 2016	Plan produced identifying demand and gaps in training provision	
4.2		Pursue opportunities to deliver training and stimulate demand to develop skills within the local workforce	Skills Development Scotland, SBC Econ Dev, Borders College				
		 Deliverables Assess contract and training opportunities in renewables with Registered Social Landlords, Borders College and Skills Development Scotland – underway 	SBC, SDS, Borders College, RSLs	In place - staff time	Ongoing	Increase in number of local contractors trained in renewables installation and maintenance	
		 Run funded training course as 'loss leader' to encourage skills development in local businesses 	Borders College, SDS, SBD Econ Dev	Resource required - SDS funding	Nov 2015	Training course delivered, number of people trained	

Aim B: Improve residents' quality of life – assist individuals and communities to access advice and financial support to reduce domestic energy use, waste and unnecessary travel

Strategic Initiatives - Fuel Poverty Delivery Plan District Heating Schemes

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
1.0		a Scottish Borders wide approach to deliver energy efficiencies.					
1.1	NEW	Implement Fuel Poverty Delivery Plan Deliverables - Registered Social Landlords to ensure that 100% of properties meet EESSH	SBC Housing Strategy , RSLs, all partners	In place - staff time	March 2020		RSLs have legal responsibility under EESSH and report annually on progress
1.2	NEW	Develop energy efficiency programme for private householders (Linked to Aim C Objective 1)	SBC Housing Strategy , RSLs, all partners				
		 Deliverables Respond to consultation on Regulations for Energy Efficiency in Private Properties (REEPS) and prepare for implementation 		In place - staff time	Consultation period tbc		
		 Agree programme of promotional events with Home Energy Scotland 		In place - staff time	Ongoing	Number of events held and number of attendees	
		 Implement Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland schemes 		Resource required – S Gov't funds	Annual programme to 2020	Number of measures installed	

working practices. 3 Yr Target / Lead, **Notes / Constraints** Ref. Status Action Timescale Resource **Contact, Others PIs / Outcomes** 2.0 Implement the Strategic Transport Strategy to deliver a range of innovative, integrated, value for money transport options for Scottish Borders residents to reduce the carbon footprint of individuals and the public sector. 2.1 Support sustainable transport options SBC Passenger In place -Transport staff time, Manager, budget, Paths Strategic Transport for All Board, SEStran, Deliverables /Transport March 2016 Monitoring data, Support the actions approved within the Paths for All, Scotland Funds evidence Scottish Borders Council Smarter Choices /SEStran Liftshare UK supporting future Smarter Places (SCSP) Bid. Support and funding streams resources Support the promotion of Oct 2015 Increased TripshareBoders.com during National membership Liftshare week (5th-11th Oct). Increasing resulting in carbon membership to reduce single occupancy savings car use 2.2 **Encourage the use of Electric Vehicles SBC Fleet** In place -Manager, SBC, staff time, Econ Dev, budget tbc Edinburgh College, SEStran Deliverables Monitor use of electric vehicle recharging Ongoing Monitor to assess points and provide map on SBC website increase in use underway

Objective 2: To increase access to low carbon transport and communications opportunities – to help reduce the need to travel and assist flexible and mobile

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
		- Explore use of electric vehicles by car hire businesses in the Scottish Borders, especially in Galashiels, linked to Borders Railway opening.			Dec 2015	Use of electric vehicles by local businesses	
		 Explore potential links with Edinburgh College's EV Monitoring project. Seeking best practice on the use of EVs including their strengths and limitations 			March 2016	Monitoring data supporting the adoption of EV use	
	completed	 Installation of 6 electric vehicle rapid charging points 	SBC, Fleet Manager	Scottish Gov't funds	March 2015	Installation and use of charging points	8 rapid charging points in place – Eyemouth, Duns, Coldstream, Hawick, Selkirk, Newtown St Boswells, Lauder & Peebles
	completed	- The introduction of an NHS Borders car sharing scheme has reduced the work to home mileage being incurred by members of staff, reducing the number of car journeys being made. This has led to a reduction in traffic congestion and pollution at the Borders General Hospital site, as well as freeing up spaces for patients and visitors to the site.	NHS Borders				
	completed	- The NHS Borders 'Bike to Work' scheme has been successful throughout the organisation leading to more staff cycling to work.	NHS Borders				

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
2.3		Development of Digital Connectivity Programme for the Scottish Borders to increase Superfast Broadband and mobile phone coverage and use Deliverables - Roll-out of Superfast Broadband programme - Extension of mobile phone coverage	Director S&P SBC, Digital Connectivity Programme (Business Transformation), SBC Econ Dev.	tbc	tbc	tbc	This programme is currently being developed.
	completed	Proportion of Borders covered by Broadband and mobile phone networks	SBC, Econ Dev, Strategy and Policy, partners	Staff time, Gov't Funding			
		port communities to develop local energy generation to the community and offers local employed entry and offers local employed entry and the community and offers local employed entry and the community and offers local employed entry and the community and offers local entry and the community and offers local entry and the community and the community and the community entry and the community entry and the communi			lised decentralised	energy network, whic	ch provides secure, low
3.0	assess loca opportuniti focus on: • Ren • Dist	mmunities to develop energy plans which I energy demand and identify es for generation and supply. Plans will ewable Energy Developments rict Heating Networks m C Objective 1)					
3.1	NEW	Map Local Energy Assets <i>Deliverables</i> - Map current local energy generation projects	SBC Forward Planning, CES, SE, all partners and interested stakeholders	In place - staff time	March 2016	Data and maps identifying assets	

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
3.2	NEW	Identify Local Renewable Energy Opportunities Deliverables - Support development of local community energy asset strategy to identify potential renewable energy developments - Identify resources required to support the delivery of community energy projects	SBC Forward Planning, CES, CPP Partners, community groups	Resource required - consultancy support Resource required - Staff time, operational budget	By March 2016 Ongoing	Asset Strategy produced, identification of key opportunities Additional resources secured and number of live projects	
3.3	NEW	 Develop District Heating Network Strategy Deliverables Take part in Heat Network Partnership for Scotland Programme, to support development of methodology to identify key sites with potential for local heat networks, including community initiatives 	SBC Forward Planning, CES, CPP partners	In place - staff time	March 2016	Produce Heat Network Strategy for Scottish Borders identifying key opportunities	

Aim C. Adapting our infrastructure - encourage a low carbon built environment that will reduce emissions, and is prepared for changing weather patterns including extreme weather events.

Strategic Initiatives - Flood Risk Management

Objective 1: To pursue developments which deliver low carbon buildings, environments and sustainable places – to access the opportunities presented by a holistic approach to reduce emissions and change behaviours and an area where there are both low carbon opportunities and challenges for businesses, investors and householders.

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
1.0	 Develop a Scottish Borders wide approach to strategic low carbon energy planning through the development and delivery of: Renewable Energy Developments Energy Efficiency Schemes (Linked to Aim A Objective 3 and Aim B Objective 1 & 3) 						
1.1	NEW	 Map Local Energy Assets Deliverables Collate information on local multi-partner assets Develop information into GIS planning tool to identify and prioritise opportunities. Planning tool will inform the actions below 	SBC Forward Planning , AWC, BMR, all partners and interested stakeholders	Resource required - Facilitation resource to develop/ maintain planning tool (£20k)	March 2016	Data and maps identifying all multi-partner assets	Key areas of opportunity: - Public sector - Communities - Town centre regeneration
1.2	NEW	Identify and Deliver Strategic Renewable Energy Developments Deliverables - Develop multi-partner local asset strategy to pursue renewable energy developments, particularly local heat networks	Scottish Enterprise , Community Planning Partners	Resource required - consultancy support	Dec 2016	Asset Strategy produced including identification of key opportunities	Link to: SBC Asset Strategy completion – 2015.

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
	completed	 Ensure inclusion of local heat networks through Local Development Plan (http://www.scotborders.gov.uk /info/178/ development_plans/659/ local_development_plan) 	SBC Forward Planning	Staff time	Dec 2014	Prepare local strategy for installation of local schemes PI: No. of district heating systems installed	Policy encouraging development of renewable energy and heat networks included within LDP
1.3	NEW	Develop Strategic Programme of Energy Efficiency Schemes (public buildings) Deliverables	SBC Property Manager, CPP partners	Transa		Improved energy efficiency within SBC estate	Use DECC energy consumption data.
	Ongoing	 Continue delivery of energy upgrade programme for SBC buildings and streetlighting 	SBC, Andrew Drummond-Hunt	In place - Buildings: £335k Streetlighting: £5.5M	Buildings: Ongoing Streetlighting: March 2020	PI: Energy consumption figures	consumption figures for the upgraded buildings to evidence the changes
	Ongoing	- SBC to implement Supplementary Planning Guidance on sustainable design and construction	SBC Development Management Service	In place - staff time	Ongoing	Delivery of good practice PI: No. of case studies (target)	When case studies are developed these should be actively promoted.
	Ongoing	 A new NHS Borders food service has been introduced at community hospitals where food is prepared nearer to the mealtimes. This has seen food waste reduce almost to zero, reducing carbon emissions back down the food chain. 	NHS Borders, Estates				

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
	Completed	 A programme of energy efficient low maintenance LED replacement of road and car park lighting has been undertaken throughout the NHS Borders estate. The programme is nearing completion and will enable a reduction in electrical consumption, improvement in lighting levels and reduction in light pollution. 	NHS Borders, Estates				
1.4	NEW	 Maximise Renewable Energy Opportunities within Schools Deliverables Develop specific programme of support for schools to consider opportunities for joint community renewables initiatives 	Community Energy Scotland , SBC, SUP, Parent Councils, Community Councils	Resource required - staff time, voluntary support, installation costs	Dec 2016	Improved energy performance within SBC schools and opportunities for income generation for communities	
	i ve 2: To ada Jes of a changi	pt our buildings and infrastructure to climate ng climate	e change - to ensure t	hat the buildings	and infrastructure o	of the Borders are pre	epared to meet the
2.0	adaptation • Floo • Seve Acti	evidence based approach to infrastructure in the Scottish Borders, focussed on: od Adaptation Actions ere Drought & Heatwave Adaptation ons ere Winter Adaptation Actions					

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead,	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target /	Notes / Constraints
2.1	NEW	Use Met Office data to establish potential climate impacts profile for the Scottish Borders Deliverables - Develop evidence base to (a) Understand the potential climate change impacts, and identify vulnerable areas, incl. Flood prone areas (outwith National Flood Risk Assessment) Coastal areas Vulnerable bridges (b) Inform subsequent Adaptation Actions 	Contact, Others SNH, Tweed Forum, SBC, Adaptation Scotland All partners and interested stakeholders (incl. SSN, SNH, etc.)	In place - Staff time	June 2016	PIs / Outcomes Actions to be captured in this document and taken forward. Improved ability to predict climate change impacts and plan/resource response.	
2.2	NEW	Develop Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan Deliverables - Develop Climate Change Adaptation Plan covering all areas of climate change risk • Flooding • Drought • Heatwave • Storm and severe weather events	SNH, Tweed Forum, SBC, Adaptation Scotland, all partners and interested stakeholders	In place - Staff time	Dec 2016	Action plan produced which identifies adaptation actions required by partners	
2.3		Identify, develop and deliver practical land management measures that lead to increased resilience to extreme weather events Deliverables - Suite of land management measures have been delivered in Eddleston, Bowmont, Gala, Ettrick and Upper Teviot - Lane above Hawick on the Teviot Water is next priority	Tweed Forum , SBC, S Gov't, SEPA, SNH and landowners	Resource required - Staff time & capital funds – S Gov't, SBC, SRDP, windfarm developers, carbon offsets, charitable monies	Ongoing	Works amounting to £1.7 million have been delivered over last 5 years and much more work is in the pipeline	Teviot above Hawick is the next priority area

LCES Action Plan 18/11/15

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
2.4		Identify and deliver priority flood schemes	SBC , Flood Liaison Advisory Group (FLAG), SBC, CES	Resource required –		Reduced flood risk PI: No. of houses	
	Underway	- Deliver Flood Risk Management Strategy Scheme in Selkirk		£#M Scottish Gov't funds	March 2019	protected?	
	Proposed	 Deliver Flood Risk Management Strategy Scheme in Hawick 		£#M Scottish Gov't funds	March 2022		
	Completed	- Deliver Flood Risk Management Strategy Scheme in Galashiels	SBC	Scottish Gov't funds	Nov 2014	Reduced flood risk in Galashiels PI: No. of houses protected?	

Aim D. Increasing Community Resilience - Work with our communities to meet future challenges.

Strategic Initiatives - Community Climate Resilience

Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
1.0	based ada	n evidence based approach to community aptation in the Scottish Borders through the ent and delivery of low carbon resilient ties.					
1.1	NEW	Use Met Office data to establish climate impacts profile for the Scottish Borders <i>Deliverables</i> Deliver learning exchange events on adaptation to highlight the potential climate change impacts on specific communities within the Borders affected by (e.g.) - From flooding - Severe weather - Loss of services	SNH, Tweed Forum, Adaptation Scotland, all communities	In place - Staff time	March 2016	Improved ability to predict climate change impacts and plan/resource response.	
1.2	NEW	 Develop Low Carbon (Climate Resilient) Community Action Plans Deliverables Support development of planned approach to low carbon by local communities 	Community Energy Scotland , SBC (Emergency Planning), The Bridge, SUP, partners	Resource required - additional staff time	By Dec 2016	Number of community groups actively pursuing support	Work with similar community organisations to take forward low carbon action planning.

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Ref.	Status	Action	Lead, Contact, Others	Resource	Timescale	3 Yr Target / PIs / Outcomes	Notes / Constraints
1.3	NEW	Implementation of Low Carbon Community Action Plans	Community Energy Scotland, SBC (Emergency	Resource required - additional staff			
		 Deliverables Provide community networking opportunities by facilitating communication and information exchange 	Planning), The Bridge, SUP, partners	time	By Dec 2016	Number of active community groups	
		- Build community awareness of, and capacity in, low carbon actions			Ongoing	Number of active groups, number of live projects	
		- Identify opportunities to facilitate access to impartial / specialist advice (one stop shop)			By March 2016	Resource available to communities and groups	
		- Identify and maximise available funding opportunities			Ongoing	Increase in amount of funding accessed by Borders projects	
		- Support the development and delivery of Energise Galashiels Low Carbon Action Plan	Energise Galashiels, partners	In place – feasibility study funds from Local Energy Scotland	Ongoing	Number of live projects, funding in place	
		 Work with Dundee University to deliver Joseph Rowntree Foundation funded project to develop community resilience approaches to climate change (supporting three communities) 	Dundee University, SBC (Emergency Planning)	In place – project funding from JRF for facilitator, community support and stakeholder support	May 2015 - July 2016	Methodology developed to engage with climate disadvantaged communities and find solutions to challenges	Link to: Community Learning and Development partners. Ensure learning is shared across communities