

The background of the slide features the coat of arms of the Government of Nunavut. It is a shield divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant shows a stylized sun with rays. The top-right quadrant depicts a caribou head with large antlers. The bottom-left quadrant shows a three-masted sailing ship on wavy lines representing water. The bottom-right quadrant features a bearded man in traditional Inuit clothing. Above the shield is a crown with four maple leaves. A banner at the bottom contains the motto 'ANE FOR A' in Inuktitut syllabics.

Agenda Item 9

Energy Management Monitoring Group

Falkirk Council

Title: Energy Management Monitoring Group
Meeting: Executive
Date: 15 March 2022
Author: Director of Place Services

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report follows on from a motion agreed at the Executive meeting of 22 February 2022 to recognise the importance of energy management in tackling the climate emergency and to establish an energy management monitoring group.
- 1.2 The report sets out how this will be done with the draft Terms of Reference for the group attached as Appendix 1.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Executive:

- (1) Note the existing LHEES group and agree to add Elected Members to the group and rename as Energy Management Monitoring Group.**
- (2) Agree the draft terms of reference (Appendix 2)**

3. Climate Change Impact

- 3.1 Information within this report sets out how Falkirk Council will monitor energy decarbonisation, monitoring and reporting through a formalised working group. Outputs of this report will have a positive impact on council targets as work undertaken by the group shall contribute to a reduction in carbon emissions associated with buildings and transport.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Executive agreed at its meeting on 22 of February 2022, to a range of matters linked to Climate Change including the following points specifically around Energy Management:
 - to establish an Energy Management Monitoring Group;
 - that the Director of Place Services present a report to the next meeting setting out details of the Group's Terms of Reference and proposals for categories of Membership. Membership should be wide and include front line staff;
 - to set energy management targets for each premises for Year One (2022) as:

5% Electricity
5% Gas

- that the Group present an action plan to a future meeting for information which would then be followed by quarterly and an annual update in the Information Bulletin.

5. Energy Management Monitoring Group

- 5.1 Energy management is a crucial aspect of positive action in addressing the Climate Emergency. The potential for carbon reduction associated with energy management is significant, and the targets cannot be achieved without it.
- 5.2 Work to date in this field has been undertaken in line with legislated outputs required under Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) work. Part of the requirement is the existence of an organisational group who will engage and implement the necessary projects to reduce energy consumption and where possible decarbonise. Falkirk Council created its group in 2022 and it has met twice to date. There are no Elected Members on this group.
- 5.3 Given the required action from the Executive motion to establish an energy management monitoring group it is recommended that the existing LHEES group be expanded. This revised Group will include Elected Members and front line staff and a draft term of reference for this Group has been outlined within Appendix 1. Given the forthcoming Local Government elections it is proposed that the Elected Members would join the Group over the summer.
- 5.4 The remit of the new Group will be to monitor energy consumption, drive decarbonisation projects, and monitor progress of projects and their contribution to overall national and organisational targets. The work of the Group would be included in future updates on Climate Change to the Executive and Council.
- 5.5 To comply with the decision of the Executive, the Energy Management Monitoring Group will define an action plan that will be presented to the Executive alongside the regular Climate Change update report later in the year. Further updates will be presented quarterly within future Information Bulletin reports, and there will be an annual update also provided in the Information Bulletin.

6 Policy Context

- 6.1 The Council recognises the external changing environment and commits to achieving the national targets set out in the Climate Change Bill 2019. The Council's Corporate Risk Register recognises that one of the greatest risks to the Council is from Climate Change and sustainability. The Council's Business Plan gives commitment to achieving its own organisational targets of Net Zero.
- 6.2 The Council's commitment to address energy efficiency is set out in the Heat in Buildings Strategy 2021 and Heat Network Scotland Act 2021.

7. Implications

There are significant financial, legal and resource implications for Falkirk Council associated with undertaking energy efficiency measures in buildings. The establishment of a group to focus on this work should positively contribute to this work.

7.1 Financial

There are no financial implications linked to the recommendations of this report.

Work relating to LHEES will have a significant financial impact on the Council and this will be considered by the Group, with further reports presented to Executive and Council.

7.2 Resources

The LHEES implementation group is already established, and representatives outlined in Appendix 1 are already in attendance at regular meetings. Time commitment from Elected Members and staff will be required to complete the proposed make up of the newly branded group.

7.3 Legal

There are no legal implications linked to the recommendations of this report.

7.4 Risk

There is a risk that pace of change may be disrupted if the group does not work collaboratively to enact and enforce decarbonisation in all decisions related to service delivery. This risk is mitigated by the fact that Elected Members agreed to support the motion and demonstrated a unity of purpose around this aspiration

7.5 Equalities

No EPIA is required. EPIA's will be developed for individual energy reduction projects, as required.

7.6 Sustainability/Environmental Impact:

The work and aims expressed within this report are ultimately in line with Just Transition principles to enable the Council to undertake and maintain current levels of service delivery whilst reducing its negative climate impact on the surrounding area and nationally.

7.7 Council of The Future

Climate Change is one of the top 10 priority projects within the Council of the Future initiative. Action outlined within this report will assist with progress on meeting milestones.

8 Conclusions

- 8.1 Work is already underway to implement energy management and monitoring through the work undertaken by the LHEES implementation group. The Group welcome the opportunity to re-name and to expand their remit and membership to include representatives from each political party.

Director of Place Services

Author: Mari-Claire Morgan, Energy and Climate Change Co-Ordinator,
Tel: 01324 504909, E-mail: Mariclaire.morgan@falkirk.gov.uk
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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Draft Terms of Reference - Energy Management Monitoring Group

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The Group comprises of senior officer representatives from each Service and an Elected Member representative from each political party, with specialist knowledge officers invited as appropriate. The Group is facilitated by the Energy & Climate Change Team with a strong focus on the outputs required for the delivery of the LHEES.

The Falkirk Council Energy Management Monitoring Group will comprise of the following representatives:

- Elected Member representatives
- Representative from Strategy & Performance (Housing)
- Representative from Asset & Investment (Housing)
- Representative from Building Design Unit
- Representative from Fairer Falkirk
- Representative from Children's Services
- Representative from Economic Development
- Representative from Community Partnership
- Representative from Business Support
- Representative from Procurement
- Representative from Sustainable Transport/Fleet
- Representative from Adult Services (currently unfilled)
- Representative from Finance Services

The Group will be chaired by the Head of Growth, Planning and Climate supported by officers from the Council's Energy & Climate Change Team. Each Service is expected to provide representation to the quarterly meetings, delegating alternative officers if the designated representative is unable to attend. Service representatives will act as a conduit on relevant energy efficiency information to and from their Service, with the Chair and Elected Members. This will ensure a flow of information to and from the Corporate Management Team and the Executive.

The Energy Management Monitoring Group will ensure that Falkirk Council meets the requirements of the Energy Efficient Scotland Programme and other related decarbonisation policies such as; the Heat in Buildings Strategy 2021: and the Heat Networks Scotland Act 2021. This programme builds on existing legislation that already supports the improvement of the energy efficiency of homes, businesses and public buildings, incorporating the development of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES).

Terms of Reference

The Council's Energy Management Monitoring Group will undertake a number of functions.

Including:

1. Review and discuss the energy performance of buildings. Including any ongoing or potential projects regarding energy efficiency and/or decarbonisation of buildings with potential for linkages between services.
2. Review and support policy, strategy and other guidance prior to wider consultation within the Council and with other stakeholders, taking account any changes or updates.
3. Assess and review funding/resources available or required for improvements to Energy Efficiency Management.
4. To establish specialist Energy Efficiency/LHEES working groups as appropriate

5. To monitor and review the adequacy of the Council's arrangements for communication, consultation and co-operation on Energy Efficiency.

Reporting structure

The work of the group will be reported to Council via Information Bulletin reports, and as part of the standard Climate Change update reports to Executive.

Meeting Frequency

The Energy Management Monitoring Group will meet a minimum of 4 times per year.