



RENZERO

#WorkingTowardsNetZero

Climate Change Impact Assessments

ASSESSING CLIMATE IMPACTS IN RENFREWSHIRE

A TWO-STAGE APPROACH

Key themes

- The Climate Impact Assessment process: purpose, approach and outcomes
- Supporting effective and consistent application across the authority
- Integrating climate risk considerations into reporting

We'll touch on:

- Some Renfrewshire context
- Where the idea/case for CCIAs originated from
- Where our Sustainability Team fits in

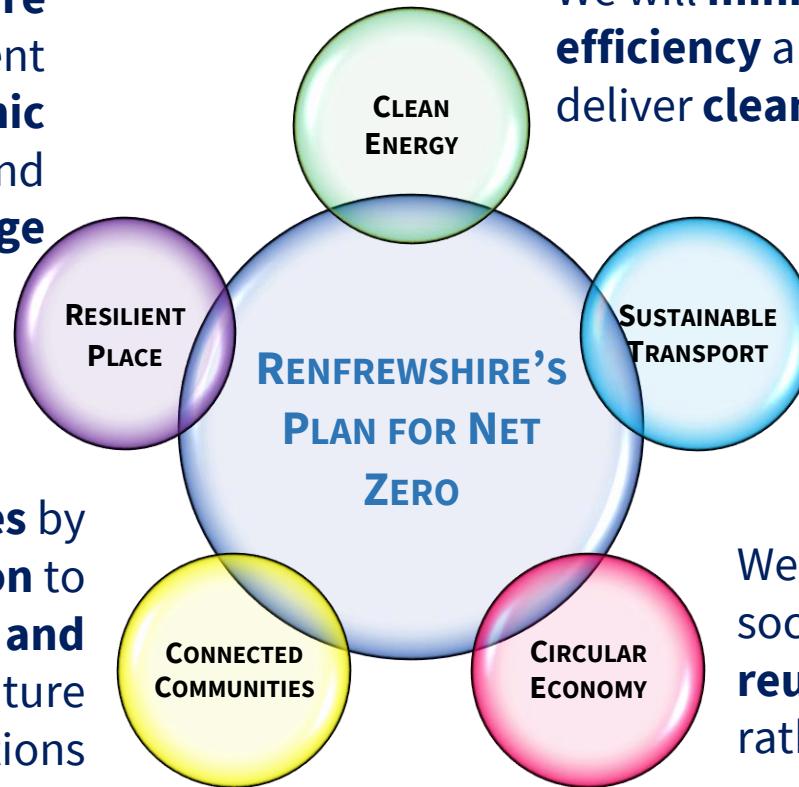


RENFREWSHIRE'S PLAN FOR NET ZERO

WORKING TOWARDS NET ZERO

We will **optimise biodiversity and nature** locally to enhance our natural environment and **maximise green economic opportunities**, while planning and preparing for **impacts of climate change**

We will **empower our communities** by ensuring an inclusive and **just transition** to net zero with **social justice and health and wellbeing** at its core for current and future generations



We will **minimise energy demand, maximise energy efficiency** and transform our energy systems to deliver **clean, affordable energy for all**

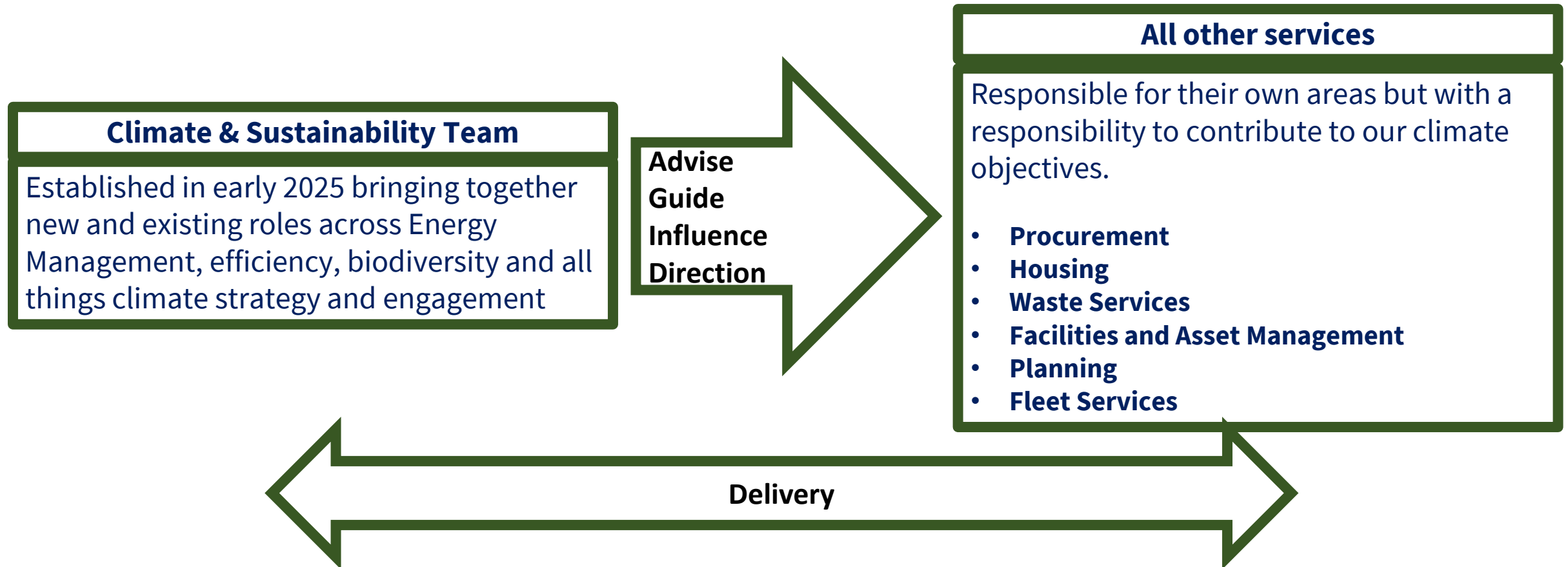
We will **maximise sustainable transport** opportunities to deliver an **inclusive, affordable transport system** that provides choice for all

We will make Renfrewshire a circular economy society: **minimising waste & maximising reuse, recycling & recovery of resources** rather than treating them as waste

THE PLAN IS COUNCIL-LED BUT IS FOR THE AREA AS A WHOLE AND WE NEED EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE TO ACHIEVE OUR AMBITIONS



RENFREWSHIRE'S PLAN FOR NET ZERO



KEEPING TRACK

With so much going on across the Council, how can we possibly know about everything going on and carry out our role in advising and informing from a climate perspective?

- We developed a **project register** across services which was challenging to keep up to date
- The log although useful didn't help us to **understand the impacts**
- It didn't help project leads to **think differently**
- We knew that **other Council's** had developed impact assessments – lets start there

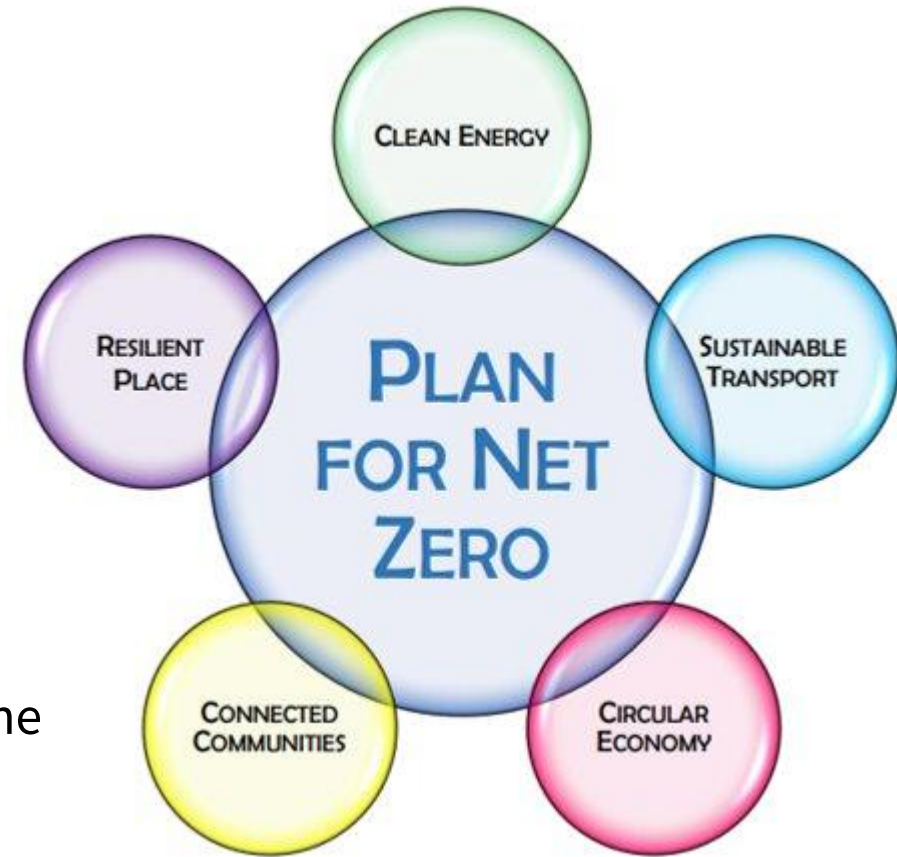


CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

A support tool to determine the climate impacts and benefits of projects and measure how these decisions align with our net zero commitment principles in practice and the impact on targets and progress

- A **support tool** to demonstrate how projects impact wider emissions
- Help **raise awareness** around climate action and impacts
- Provide value in determining how **decisions** impact emissions
- Learning of activity happening **across the organisation**

Our CCIA tool is broken down into the **5 themes** of our Plan for Net Zero



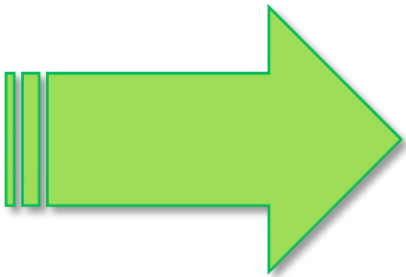
Designed not to stop projects progressing, but to give an indication of climate impact at point of approval

Criteria for when a CCIA should be completed:

- Anything that requires a **formal decision** at policy board
- All new **strategies, policies, plans**
- All **Project Management Unit** projects
- All projects with **£25k procurement value**



Stage 1 CCIA Screening Tool:



- **High level** screening questions to identify where impact could be at the outset of the project
- Only response required is **Yes/No/Unsure**
- **Microsoft form** sent to Sustainability Team for review via climate change mailbox
- Any responses with a Yes or Unsure are required to **complete Stage 2**



* Required

Clean Energy



This section asks questions relating to Clean Energy and the impact of the activity/project/policy in relation to all aspects of energy - reducing energy waste; reducing energy demand; improving energy efficiency; and/or maximising sustainable energy generation.

2. Will the proposal impact **energy demand**? (e.g. reduce energy waste, improve energy efficiency, ensure more efficient systems, change the way buildings are managed in terms of operating hours, change in energy demand due to extension to an existing building/requirement for a new building or removal/demolition of a building from the estate).

Please note the change may be an increase or a decrease. Please tick all that apply. * 

- ☐ Yes - change in energy demand within **Council buildings**, incl. school estate and leased buildings
- ☐ Yes - change in energy demand within **Council Housing stock**
- ☐ Yes - change in energy demand on a **wider community** scale (community-wide initiative)
- ☐ No - Not Applicable to this project
- ☐ Unsure

3. Will the proposal impact the way that buildings are **heated**? (e.g. changes to gas use/heating within buildings, new heating system of any type being installed, connection to district heating network).

Please note this includes any change to current heating systems. Please tick all that apply.

* 

- ☐ Yes - change to heating system(s) within **Council buildings**, incl. school estate and leased buildings
- ☐ Yes - change to heating system(s) within **Council Housing stock**
- ☐ Yes - change in the way buildings are heated on a **wider community scale** (large-scale heating project)
- ☐ No - Not Applicable to this project
- ☐ Unsure

4. Will the proposal impact the way that buildings are **powered**? (e.g. changes to electricity use/power sources within buildings, renewables being installed on buildings, large scale solar farm).

Please note this includes any change to current power use. Please tick all that apply

* 

- ☐ Yes - change in levels and/or types of power generation for **Council buildings**, incl. school estate and leased buildings
- ☐ Yes - change in levels and/or types of power generation for **Council Housing stock**
- ☐ Yes - change in the way buildings are powered on a **wider community scale** (large-scale power generation project)
- ☐ No - Not Applicable to this project
- ☐ Unsure

CCIA Stage 2 Process (if required from Stage 1)

- The CCIA assessor (Sustainability Team) will complete the Assessment Summary page indicating which sections require further information/discussion
- Stage 2 template will be sent to project leads where they have responded yes or unsure to any question within stage 1
- Lead Officers will be asked to complete Initial Assessment indicating impact and scoring the impact out of 10.
- Teams meeting will be scheduled by the assessor to complete the Full Assessment where mitigations and enhancements of the impact will be discussed



STAGE 2: ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

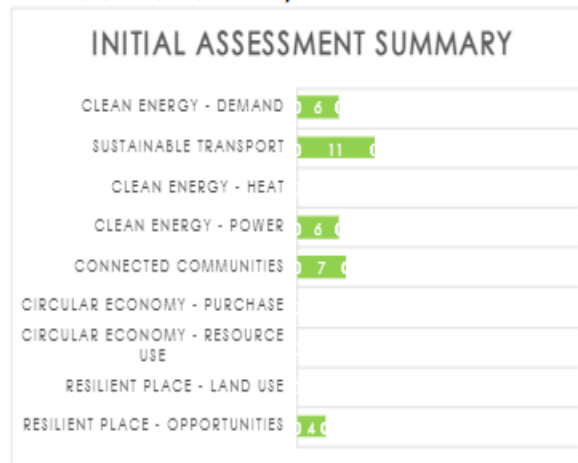
Stage 2 Climate Change Impact Assessment Summary

Project/Proposal Name	Sustainable Travel	Service	Environment, Housing & Infrastructure
Decision Type	Proceed with Modifications	Project Sponsor	
Date CCIA Completed	15/09/2025	Lead Officer	
CCIA Author		Sign Off/Date	15/09/2025

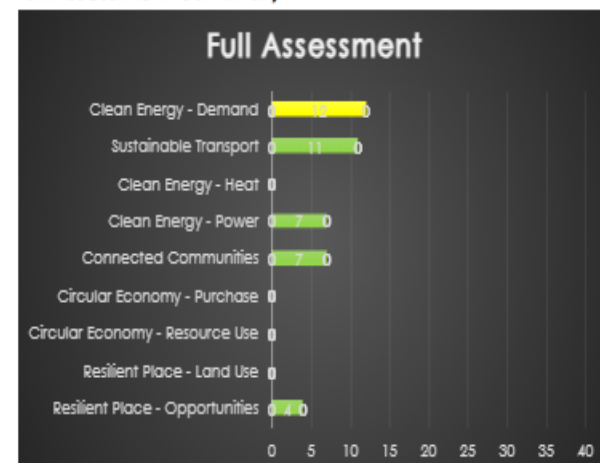
Project Description and CCIA Assessment Summary	Relaunching pool cars and bikes at Renfrewshire House for staff to use for site visits or can use on their lunch break. Project has an informed decision to proceed following completion of CCIA.
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Rapid Assessment	From CCIA Stage 1, it has been determined that the project or proposal has an impact in the following areas below. Only the sections highlighted below require to be completed in the Stage 2 Initial Assessment.		
Clean Energy - Demand	Yes	Circular Economy - Purchase	No
Clean Energy - Heat	No	Circular Economy - Resource Use	No
Clean Energy - Power	Yes	Connected Communities	Yes
Sustainable Travel	Yes	Resilient Place - Local Impacts	No
		Resilient Place - Additional	Yes

Initial Assessment Summary



Full Assessment Summary



The project will increase the amount of CO2e released compared to before/negative impact on just transition.

The project will maintain similar levels of CO2e emissions compared to before.

The project will achieve a moderate decrease in CO2e emissions compared to before.

The project will achieve a significant decrease in CO2e emissions compared to before.

The project can be considered to achieve net zero CO2e emissions/significant positive impact on just transition.

STAGE 2: INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Initial Assessment

Category	Impact	Description of Project Impact	Score
CLEAN ENERGY - ENERGY DEMAND Will the proposal impact energy demand? (e.g. reduce energy waste, improve energy efficiency, ensure more efficient systems, change the way buildings are managed in terms of operating hours, change in energy demand due to extension to an existing building/requirement for a new building or removal/demolition of a building from the estate).	Impact on Energy Demand/Energy Efficiency - Council Buildings	Yes - change in energy demand within Council buildings, incl. school estate and leased buildings;	6
	Impact on Energy Demand/Energy Efficiency - Council Housing	No impact from stage 1	NA
	Impact on Energy Demand/Energy Efficiency - Wider Community	No impact from stage 1	NA
CLEAN ENERGY - HEAT Will the proposal impact the way that buildings are heated? (e.g. changes to gas use/heating within buildings, new heating system of any type being installed, connection to district heating network).	Emissions from Heating - Council Buildings	No impact from stage 1	NA
	Emissions from Heating - Council Housing	No impact from stage 1	NA
	Emissions from Heating - Wider Community	No impact from stage 1	NA
CLEAN ENERGY - POWER Will the proposal impact the way that buildings are powered? (e.g. changes to electricity use/power sources within buildings, renewables being installed on buildings, large scale solar farm). Please note this includes any change to current power use.	Emissions from Power - Council Buildings	Yes - change in levels and/or types of power generation for Council buildings, incl. school estate and leased buildings;	6
	Emissions from Power - Council Housing	No impact from stage 1	NA
	Emissions from Power - Wider Community	No impact from stage 1	NA
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT Will the proposal impact carbon emissions from transport? Reducing transport emissions; maximising active travel opportunities; increasing public transport opportunities; and/or improving community access to transport.	Council Operational Transport Emissions	Yes - change in Council operational transport emissions (e.g. change in fuel use/how vehicles are powered, change in number/type of vehicles, change in use of fleet vehicles of all sizes to impact mileage, change from one form of transport to another);	3
	Staff Travel Emissions	Yes - change in Council staff miles (e.g. impact on the need for staff to travel, incl. commuting and/or for business meetings);	2
	Community Transport Emissions	Yes - change in community-wide transport emissions (e.g. changes to active travel opportunities, changes to shared transport opportunities, change how people travel/car miles);	3
	Active Travel Impact	Yes	3

10	The project will significantly increase the amount of CO2e released compared to before and/or have a negative impact on equality/social outcomes.
9	
8	The project will maintain similar levels of CO2e emissions compared to before and/or have no impact on equality/social outcomes
7	
6	The project will achieve a moderate decrease in CO2e emissions compared to before and/or positive impact on equality/social outcomes.
5	
4	
3	The project will achieve a significant decrease in CO2e emissions compared to before and/or have a significant positive impact on equality/social outcomes..
2	
1	The project can be considered to achieve net zero CO2e emissions.
0	The project is actively removing CO2e from the atmosphere.
NA	Not applicable for this project at this point

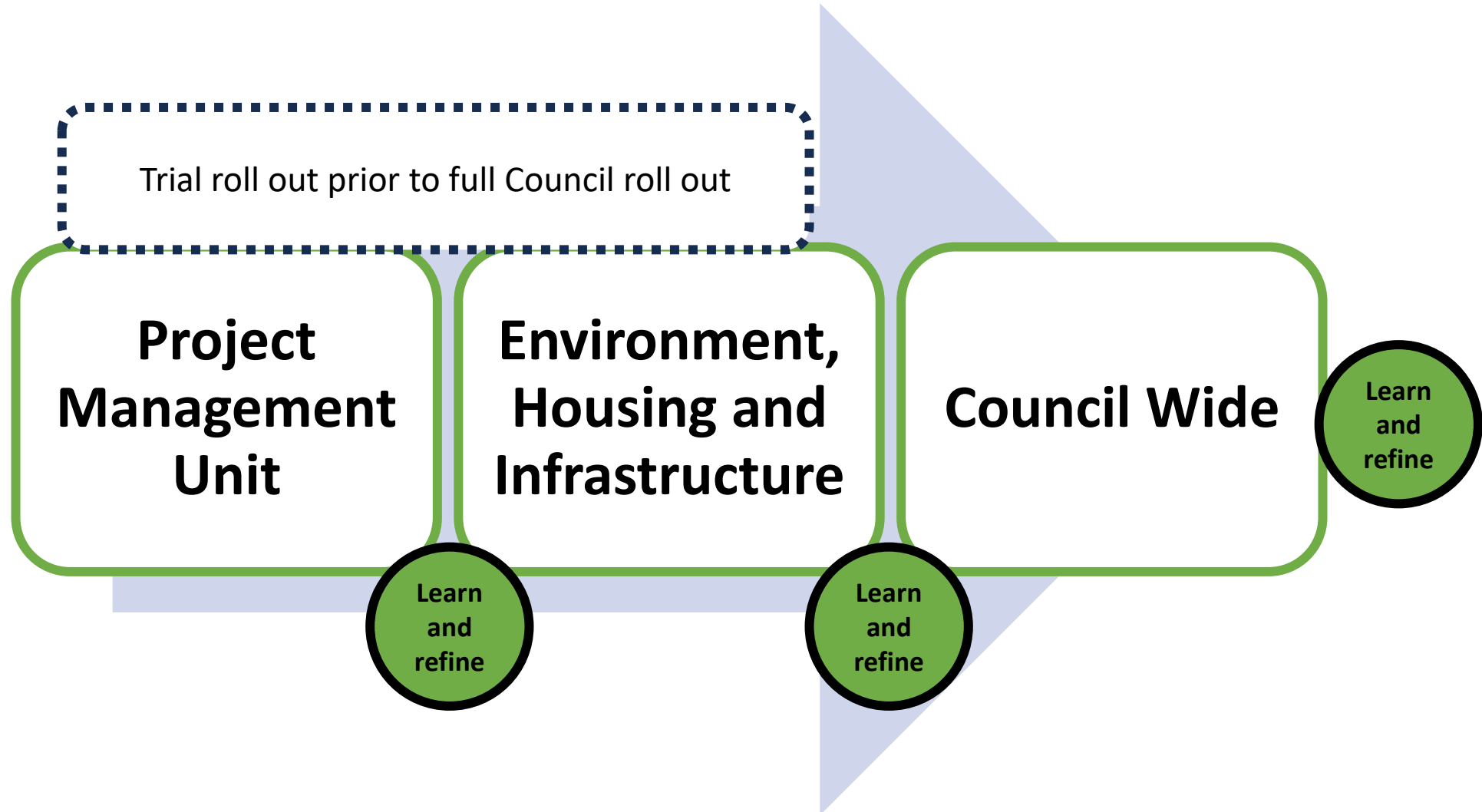
Progress Towards Net Zero and a Just Transition

STAGE 2: FULL ASSESSMENT

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT Will the proposal impact carbon emissions from transport? Reducing transport emissions; maximising active travel opportunities; increasing public transport opportunities; and/or improving community access to transport.	Council Operational Transport Emissions	Yes - change in Council operational transport emissions (e.g. change in fuel use/how vehicles are powered, change in number/type of vehicles, change in use of fleet vehicles of all sizes to impact mileage, change from one form of transport to another);	No mitigation required or further enhancement	3	3	No
	Staff Travel Emissions	Yes - change in Council staff miles (e.g. impact on the need for staff to travel, incl. commuting and/or for business meetings);	No mitigation required or further enhancement	2	2	No
	Community Transport Emissions	Yes - change in community-wide transport emissions (e.g. changes to active travel opportunities, changes to shared transport opportunities, change how people travel/car miles);	No mitigation required or further enhancement	3	3	No
	Increasing Active Travel Opportunities	Yes	No mitigation required or further enhancement	3	3	No



ROLL OUT



REPORTING

Policy Board Reports - Implications

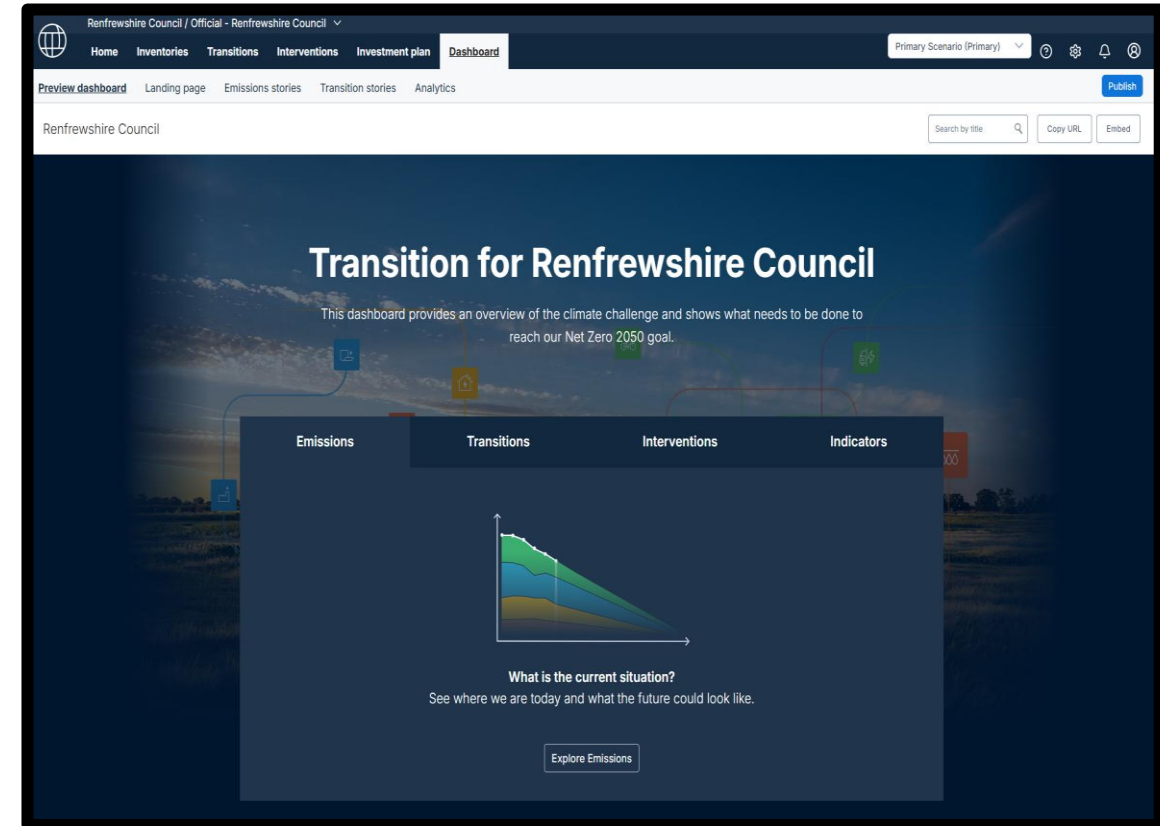
12. **Climate Risk** – The project aims to contribute to Renfrewshire's Plan for Net Zero specifically within clean energy related objectives through heat decarbonisation. A Climate Change Impact Assessment (CCIA) has been completed with an informed decision to proceed without any significant mitigations or enhancements required at this stage.

Public Bodies Duty Reporting

- 3f **Detail the top 10 carbon reduction projects to be carried out by the body in the report year**
Provide details of the 10 projects which are estimated to achieve the highest carbon savings during report year.



ClimateView



IMPROVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The CCIA process is still within its infancy, and we have already identified areas for refinement as well as longer term aspirations to make everything slicker:

- **Automation**
- **Emissions related data**
- **A carbon literate organisation – no need for assessors?**
- **Integrated impact assessments**
- **Learn by doing – the more we do, the better assessors and project leads will become**
- **Fully embedding in BAU**





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