

ANGUS COUNCIL

22 JUNE 2023

**APPOINTMENT OF ELECTED MEMBERS TO THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY & CLIMATE
ACTION PLAN STEERING GROUP**

**REPORT BY ALISON SMITH,
DIRECTOR OF VIBRANT COMMUNITIES & SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**

ABSTRACT

This report provides an overview of the Steering Group to support the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) and seeks nominations for up to 3 elected member representatives for appointment.

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Council:

Makes an appointment of up to 3 elected members representatives to the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan Steering Group as per [Report No 337/21](#).

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN

2.1 This report contributes to the following priorities contained within the Angus Council Plan 2023 – 2028:

Caring for our Place:

- Take action to mitigate against climate change by delivering our Transition to Net Zero Action Plan: 2022 to 2030 and leading on the delivery of a Sustainable Energy Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for Angus to reduce area wide emissions.
- Enhance and restore Angus Biodiversity, corporately and with a range of stakeholders.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 In response to the evolving climate emergency, Angus Council developed the [Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan \(SECAP\)](#) involving Angus stakeholders and partners. The overall objective of the SECAP is to support Angus in its commitment to sustainable development, environmental management, and the transition to a low-carbon economy. The SECAP will cover the entire county and provide a roadmap demonstrating how Angus can meet its climate commitments.

3.2 Stakeholder engagement was central to the development of the SECAP and to continue this theme of collaboration, a SECAP steering group will be created involving business and partner representatives from across the action areas outlined below:

- Buildings
- Energy
- Transport
- Land Use and Forestry
- Agriculture and Food
- Waste
- Governance and Process

3.3 At the statutory meeting of Angus Council on 4th November 2021, the Council considered [Report No 337/21](#) which proposed the establishment of a SECAP steering group to replace the Climate Change Member Officer Working Group. The objective of the SECAP steering group is to monitor delivery of the plan, ensuring actions are carried out within Angus to deliver emissions reductions across various sectors including within communities, businesses,

domestic and non-domestic buildings. The group will meet three times a year and deliver on the vision of the SECAP as below:

'By 2030, Angus will be a major contributor to achieving Scotland's national climate change goals, and a leader in clean growth, environmental stewardship and sustainable communities.'

4. PROPOSAL

- 4.1 Angus Council recognises the critical strategic leadership role it has in tackling climate change and increasing the resilience of the region to the impacts of climate change. Significant progress has been made over the last few years through the previous work of the Climate Change Member Officer Group (MOG) which comprised of senior staff in three dedicated working groups on Carbon Emissions, Adaptation and Sustainability. The SECAP steering group will be an evolution of the MOG and will be facilitated by the Angus Council Environment & Climate Change Team who will link SECAP progress to wider corporate objectives.
- 4.2 Angus Council has declared a climate emergency and tackling climate change is identified as a key priority therefore the strategic and policy benefits of elected member involvement in the Steering Group is classed as essential.
- 4.3 Council is invited to nominate up to 3 elected member representatives to the Steering Group.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The SECAP steering group facilitation, ongoing monitoring of the document, community engagement and committee reporting will be overseen by staff in the Environment & Climate Change Team. There are no additional financial implications for the Council arising from the recommendations in this report.

6. CONSULTATION

The Director of Finance and Legal and Democratic Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is contained within Appendix 1.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

[Report No 242/20](#) – Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) Update – 29th September 2020

[Report No 337/21](#) – Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) & Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Equality Impact Assessment