



## Programme Update September 2023

### Ongoing Projects / Work:

#### Affordable Energy Programme

- Options are being considered for how to achieve more affordable energy for Shetlanders, including political, regulatory and technical opportunities. A report went to Council in September 2023, including a Strategic Outline Programme.

#### Arctic Connections Fund

- The Council were successful in an application involving University of Strathclyde and Energi I Nord to host a common challenges and opportunities webinar around the net zero transition in Shetland and Northern Norway. This will be held on the 28th November.

#### Benefits to the Shetland Community

- Investigating potential benefits that Shetland could attain through renewable developments.

#### Car Club Project

- July saw the completion of the phase 1 research stage of the project. Work then moved to generate a report for CMT on 15<sup>th</sup> August which recommended we move forward with phase 2 which will be a small-scale trial over the next two years. CMT were positive about the project and gave authorisation to proceed. They also recommended that the project was reported to Environment & Transport Committee as part of performance reporting. This was done at the meeting on September the 11<sup>th</sup> where the project was met with enthusiasm from councillors. Work has now begun preparing for phase 2 with new project documentation being created with updated project objectives and a new governance structure to reflect the move to the implementation phase of the project.

#### Carbon Literacy Training

- Continued delivery of training to Council staff.

#### Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Expansion Strategy

- Work has been ongoing on the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Expansion Strategy for public charge points. Collaboration agreement has been entered into with HITRANS which includes other rural and island Local Authorities. Draft strategy being developed. Funding obtained to review potential areas for hub charge point development looking at various factors including grid infrastructure etc.

#### Energy Efficient Grants

- The administration of the Area-Based Scheme is ongoing. The Warmer Homes contract will start in October 2023. It is likely that the Council's in-house Assessors will again be involved in delivering Domestic Energy Assessments as part of the grant process.

#### Hydrogen Innovation Scheme

- EnQuest and Nova Innovation have been successful in receiving funding for separate projects looking at hydrogen production in Shetland, with the Council involved in both projects.

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## Ongoing Projects / Work (continued):

### Islands Centre for Net Zero (ICNZ)

- Collaboration between Orkney, Shetland, and the Western Isles to address the need for fundamental change in how we approach energy transition, composed of 10 work packages which the Climate Change Programme are engaged with.

### ICNZ Shetland Work Package 7

- The work package focused on Shetland; FBC to be completed during 2024, with a local supply and demand focus to build a hydrogen economy on Shetland.

### Local Heating & Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES)

- LHEES will set out the long-term plan for decarbonising heat in buildings and improving their energy efficiency across an entire local authority area. A collaboration agreement through HubNorth involving other rural and island Local Authorities is in place. Through this agreement Changeworks was appointed to assist in developing the LHEES. Changeworks has completed stages 1 and 2 with stages 3 to 5 to be completed by Christmas. The final 3 stages are targeted for completion in the first quarter of 2024. Targets are for LHEES (and implementation plan) to be completed by the end of March 2023.

### Marine Workgroup

- Bi-monthly engagements with local marine companies and organisations that have relevant projects to help transition Shetland's marine sector.

### NZTTP Energy Hubs and Hydrogen Backbone

- Scottish Government and industry sponsored studies led by Net Zero Technology Centre. Phase 2 has just kicked-off, involving feasibility studies and investigating potential pilot projects

### ORION Clean Energy Project

- A strategic framework connecting organisations with a common ambition: to transform the Shetland region into a centre for secure and affordable clean energy.

### Port of Sullom Voe (PoSV) Decarbonisation

- Work is underway to determine how to transition the PoSV, including the servicing vessels and transforming the jetties to support clean fuel export and CO<sub>2</sub> import.

### Shetland Climate Change Strategy

- Content currently under development by the Shetland Partnership Climate Change Steering Group.

### Shetland Community Climate action Network (Shetland CCAN)

- Members of Shetland CCAN had a site visit to the "make and repair" event as part of the Bruckland Festival, a new event run by NCDC.
- The next meet up for members will be in November, with invites already sent out.
- Work is ongoing on content planning for social media platforms.

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## Ongoing Projects / Work (continued):

### Shetland Energy Strategy

- Exploring where the energy landscape in Shetland is now and where we ideally would like to be over the coming decades to identify possible pathways and opportunities for the energy transition. To be presented to the Council in November 2023.

### Shetland Green Skills Group

- Ambition that skills issues across Shetland, from education to industry, are well understood, to ensure a skilled workforce and appropriate training provision is in place to address challenges and capitalise on opportunities that will arise as Shetland progresses its energy transition ambitions.

### SIC Climate Change Strategy

- The Strategy is due for presenting to Full Committee on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Final draft of the strategy and action plan have been complete and are out for final review and comment. The strategy has been co-developed and is outcomes based, logic modelling has been used to develop outcomes, strategic objectives and actions .

### SIC Reduction in Grass Cutting Proposal

- Continued works on proposal to reduce grass cutting across SIC land, to reduce cost and carbon emissions whilst increasing biodiversity.

### Shetland Energy Development Principles

- The Council has approved these principles which are intended to help protect and promote our community interests; and help achieve “Just Transition” and “Levelling Up” from significant energy developments in and around Shetland.
- Continued stakeholder engagement and research into Environmental Protection, identifying local data and capabilities. Draft framework for Environmental Protection complete, continued work on development of the content.

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## Upcoming Projects / Work:

### Area Based Schemes (ABS) Options For Change

- The ABS Options for Change report was presented to Committee and we are now looking at moving forward with preferred option with an initial timescale of delivery being the start of the 2024/25 grant programme.

### Carbon Literacy Training—Toolbox Talks

- Begin works on developing and rolling out climate emergency toolbox talks, which are service specific.

### DFES Data Gathering

- Engaging with the DFES data gathering and consultation in conjunction with Regen and SSEN Distribution.

### Electric Vehicle Charge Points

- Switched on Fleets accrued grant funding. Two charge points to be installed. Potential further grant funding in this financial year.

### Energising Shetland

- Contributing to and aligning a political campaign called 'Energising Shetland' to convey the role energy plays in the cost of living crisis for Shetland.

### Non-domestic Energy Upgrades

- First stage of Building Management System (BMS) completed at Sound Primary. Final works to be completed in the October holidays involving replacement of DHW calorifiers with heat exchanger.
- New heat exchanger to be fitted at St Ringans building.
- LED lighting projects to replace remaining fluorescents to be programmed in at various sites.

### Shetland Energy Strategy Consultation

- Workshops and consultation process for the Shetland Energy Strategy to create fully understand and agree across stakeholders the actions needed for Shetland's energy future.

### Shetland Waste Strategy

- Map out Shetland's waste landscape and begin works on developing the Shetland Waste Strategy and Action Plan.

### SIC Land Strategy

- Contribute to works on developing the SIC Land Strategy and Action Plan.

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## Completed Projects, Results & Findings:

### Completed Consultation Responses from the Future Energy Team

- Hydrogen Allocation Round 2 Market Engagement, as part of the Net Zero Hydrogen Fund process
- DESNZ Community Benefits – Transmission Infrastructure
- SSEN Transmission Community Benefits
- UK Low Carbon Hydrogen Certification Scheme
- Scottish Energy Strategy
- CfD for Private Network Generators
- H2 Transport and Storage Infrastructure
- Review of Electricity Market Arrangements (REMA)

### Liquid Organic Hydrogen Carrier Study

- Phase 2 has just been completed, led by ERM, involving a feasibility study to trial the transport of LOHC from SVT to Rotterdam.

### NZTTP Hydrogen Backbone

- You can now [download a copy of Phase 1 public report](#).

### Offshore Power Study

- University of Strathclyde have concluded Phase 2 of the study, investigating the electrification of offshore assets and an integrated energy system for Shetland.

### Shetland Rural Community Energy Hub Project – Funding Application

- Following completion of the Shetland Rural Energy Hub feasibility study, we have submitted an application for Phase 2 of the Innovate UK Pathfinder Places project, as a joint bid with Orkney. The Shetland aspects of the bid is to implement a rural community energy hub in Brae, building on from previous works. The application includes overarching planning and proposals for the rural energy hub including business model, energy efficiency upgrades to hub building, transport analysis including recommendations and proposals for change, district heating technical analysis and concept design, pilot trial of an electric bus, car club integration, review of community energy generation and use. We will find out if the application has been successful on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

### ABS Options for Change

- Review completed by Changeworks into current delivery of the Area Based Schemes (ABS) with an options appraisal presented of alternative options. It outlined the specific challenges that Shetland Islands Council face in the delivery of ABS, and highlighted where these challenges are similar to those experienced by other island and rural local authorities in Scotland. This was presented to Council Committee.

### General Works

- Public and fleet charge point installs
- Electricity supplies separated at old AHS, each of the individual buildings now have a dedicated supply
- Dedicated heat exchanger fitted at the AHS institute building. Remaining buildings now all have their own dedicated heating system.
- AMR metering programme ongoing
- Isleshavn nursery lighting project.

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## Key Engagements:

### Engagement with Energy Stakeholders

- The Future Energy team continually engages with a range of energy stakeholders (regulators, generators, distributors, supply chain and users) in Shetland and nationally. This includes:
  - EnQuest, who have announced ambitious transition plans at SVT.
  - Statkraft, who have been announced as preferred developers to lease Scatsta.
  - North Sea Transition Authority visited Shetland in September, discussing options around electrification of offshore assets.
  - Offshore wind developers for the NE1 ScotWind site to the East of Shetland, including several visits they have now made to Shetland.

### Floating Offshore Wind 2023

- SIC Future Energy attended Floating Offshore Wind 2023 conference, participating in a 'Shetland – Islands of Opportunity' stand alongside local supply chain, ports & harbours, and offshore wind developers

### NZTC Workshop

- SIC attended a workshop, hosted by NZTC, to align the industrial hydrogen projects for Orkney, Shetland, and Western Isles to create a Pan-Island vision for the region

### Offshore Europe

- ORION was presented during Offshore Europe in Aberdeen in September.

### Pathfinder Places Phase 1 Presentation Event

- We attended an event as part of the Pathfinder Places programme to present the Shetland Rural Energy Hub project, and to hear from other entrants into the Pathfinder Places programme. There are 30 projects that have been entered in the programme, from across the UK. The event was a great way to hear of decarbonisation works and barriers being experienced in different areas of the country, many of which are like those we face in Shetland. The Shetland project was well received with positive feedback.

### Peatland Code Event

- Attended a Peatland Code event organised by Shetland Amenity Trust, providing the opportunity to learn and network in relation to peatland restoration and peatland code

### Shetland Net Zero Energy Forum Website Launch

- Attended the Shetland Net Zero Energy Forum website launch, providing the opportunity to learn more about the forum and network with Shetland businesses.

### Shetland Pride 2023

- The Climate Change Strategy team had a climate change stall as an opportunity to engage on climate change with the wider Shetland community.

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