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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>3 March 2022</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Interim Director, Environment &amp; Regeneration</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>22/03/05/SJ</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Stuart Jamieson</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712402</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>General Update</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update on a number of projects.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 Since the impact of COVID-19, Committee has been advised of a number of points via an expedited business report or update
- 2.2 Section 4 provides Members with a general update on a number of general progress updates.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 The Committee are asked to:
- a) Note the recommencement of parking charging within off street car parks on 1 April 2022, including the new car parks covered under the new TPO's;
  - b) Note the update in respect of the speed surveys undertaken in Albert Road, Ashton Road and Cloch Road, Gourock;
  - c) Note the continued participation in the Greenports bidding process;
  - d) Note the current position in respect of the Falls of Clyde; and
  - e) Note that a further report will be prepared in respect of the Council's participation in the Edinburgh process.

**Stuart Jamieson**  
**Interim Director, Environment & Regeneration**

## 4.0 UPDATE

### Recommencement of Pay and Display Charging in Off Street Car Parks

- 4.1 Members will recall that as part of the Recovery Action Plans approved at Policy and Resources Committee on 25 May 2021. It was agreed to extend Pay and Display charging suspension in town centre car parks until the end of March 2022. In addition the meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Committee on 04 May 2021 approved that the parking charging suspension was extended.
- 4.2 In March 2020 the Council commenced consultation on a Traffic Regulation Order ('TRO') promoting the introduction of car park charges in Fore Street and Shore Street car parks in Port Glasgow and Kempock Street car park in Gourock. This TRO also brought Electric Vehicle Charging Points in line with other vehicles parking in car parks i.e. the time limits and parking charges apply to EVCP car parking spaces. This consultation was paused due to the pandemic as the public did not have access to view the TRO. The TRO consultation was fully undertaken in October 2020 and the TRO was made in January 2022 with an effective date of 1 April 2022.
- 4.3 As the COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed and the message from the Scottish Government is for employers to encourage hybrid working, it is likely that more people will commute to the town and village centres. It is therefore proposed to reintroduce parking charges on 1 April 2022. This will encourage turnover within the town centre car parks and support access to town centre businesses and amenities.

### Speed Survey Update - Albert Road, Ashton Road and Cloch Road, Gourock

- 4.4 Members will recall that the Environment and Regeneration Committee held on 13 January 2022 Officers were requested to provide an update on the speed surveys undertaken on Albert Road, Ashton Road and Cloch Road, Gourock and advise on potential measures that could be undertaken.
- 4.5 Speed surveys were carried out during October and November 2021 and the location of the surveys and the results are contained in the table below:

Location	85 %ile speed
Albert Road – West of Gourock Pool	30.2mph
Albert Road – East of Hillside Road	33.7mph
Ashton Road – West of Victoria Road	32.0mph
Cloch Road – East of Cloch Brae	35.0mph
Cloch Road – McInroy's Point	33.6mph
Cloch Road – West of Levan Point	35.7mph
Cloch Road – old Gantock Hotel Site	38.8mph

- 4.6 The three roads have speed limits of 30mph and it has been noted that there are locations with an 85%ile speed in excess of the speed limit. Police Scotland are responsible for monitoring and enforcement of vehicle speed.
- 4.7 On A and B class roads vertical and horizontal features are not appropriate. The Service are assessing whether at key locations signs, road markings and vehicle actuated speed signs to encourage road users to reduce their speed could be installed. If appropriate a Report will be remitted to Committee to consider proposals.
- 4.8 The Service have raised these locations with the Safety Camera Partnership Team (Police Scotland) for consideration for siting of future safety cameras. Safety cameras are sited to reduce accident likelihood and the Partnership assess locations on the following criteria:

Collision history;  
Speed Surveys;  
Stakeholder Engagement; and  
Enforcement Strategy.

Locations have been identified for installation of either permanent or mobile cameras this calendar year. These are Dubbs Roads, Port Glasgow and Regent Street, Greenock for permanent cameras and a mobile camera will operate on the Clune Brae, Port Glasgow.

Albert Road, Ashton Road and Cloch Road have not been identified for the siting of safety cameras.

### **Greenports/ Freeports**

- 4.9 Officers presented a report to the December 2020 Committee entitled Freeport Consultation and Draft Consultation response. Since then discussions have taken place between the UK and Scottish Governments on the deployment of Freeports/Greenports in Scotland. In February both Governments announced their intention to support the establishment of two Greenports in Scotland.
- 4.10 Whilst Committee approved participation in a potential tri-modal, four port bid within this process, clarification remains outstanding in respect of labour market and tax issues. It is expected that a prospectus will be issued sometime in March. It is proposed that Officers continue to participate in the process up to the potential submission of a Greenport bid with an appropriate report prepared prior to submission.

### **Falls of Clyde**

- 4.11 Following a request from Members Officers re-engaged in December of 2021 with the principle involved with the restoration of the Falls of Clyde regarding a potential relocation from Hawaii to Greenock.
- 4.12 The meeting was fruitful however two issues were raised in respect of discussions with the Planning Service regarding the finish of the proposed buildings in and around Victoria Harbour and the production of an up to date business plan. Unfortunately resolution has not been forthcoming with either matter.

### **The Edinburgh Process**

- 4.13 In December 2021 the Minister for Environment and Land Reform along with the Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity wrote to local authorities seeking their support for the Edinburgh Process. The Edinburgh Process aims to ensure a 'whole of government' approach is adopted globally, and the Edinburgh Declaration is a call to action – setting out the commitment of the subnational constituency in delivering for nature over the next decade, and calling upon Parties to step up their recognition of all levels of government in order to deliver the transformational change needed to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, developing a post-2020 framework for global biodiversity and new global targets to be agreed at the Conference of Parties meeting (COP15) in Kunming, China. Detail can be found at

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/edinburgh-declaration-on-post-2020-biodiversity-framework/>

Officers will evaluate the implications of this request and prepare a report to a future committee.

## **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

### **Finance**

5.1

#### **One off Costs**

<b>Cost Centre</b>	<b>Budget Heading</b>	<b>Budget Years</b>	<b>Proposed Spend this Report £000</b>	<b>Virement From</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
		2021-22			

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Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

**5.2 Legal**

None.

**5.3 Human Resources**

None.

**5.4 Equalities**

Equalities

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

X

YES

NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report’s recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

X

YES – A written statement showing how this report’s recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.

NO

Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

X

YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

NO

**5.5 Repopulation**

N/A

**6.0 CONSULTATIONS**

6.1 None.

## **7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 None.