

Tackling Climate Change within East Lothian Council and how our cleaning services can help

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Outline of presentation

- Our current main areas of focus
- How can our cleaning services help?
- Next steps and suggestions for the future



Introduction and Context – Facilities Management Service

- I would like to thank APSE for the opportunity to share East Lothian's areas of focus. In line with ELC Climate Change Strategy.
- The starting point for Facilities Management is working closely with our procurement colleagues and suppliers looking at their aims and objectives to support Climate Change going forward in line with ELC cleaning services to support environmentally friendly products, reduction in packaging , reducing carbon foot print with deliveries , moving towards more energy efficient cleaning equipment.
- I would also like to share ELC work closely with the Soil Association, Food For Life and are proud to have held the Bronze Award for the seventh year running. They have been a huge support promoting fresh, local food everyday for our pupils. They are also working towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals. There are 17 goals to achieve.

Wider Context: Tackling Climate Change



- East Lothian Council's Climate Emergency Declaration:
 - Net Zero and Sustainable Council
 - Carbon Neutral East Lothian
- Statutory Climate Change Duties
- Moral obligation & public opinion
- Working with partners, including businesses, communities, organisations
- Supply chain & procurement
- ELC's Climate Change Planning & Monitoring Group – 'One Council' approach, linking up across Service Areas & working collaboratively towards shared goals

East Lothian Council's Climate Change Strategy 2020–2025

- Our Strategy sets out East Lothian Council's commitment to tackling the Climate Emergency at a local level and sets out the vision and overall aims for a 'Net Zero Council' and a 'Carbon Neutral East Lothian' with specific outcomes, key priority areas and actions over the next five years towards achieving these overall aims
- Reduce our emissions; improve sustainability; prepare for climate change impacts
- Working with our partners and stakeholders



Facilities Management actions & commitments in our Climate Change Strategy

CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

Working together in East Lothian to tackle climate change

Outcome 1: East Lothian Council will be a Net Zero and Sustainable Council

- Key Priority Area 5: Improve Resource Efficiency and Sustainability
 - Action 1.5a: aim to eliminate problematic or unnecessary single-use plastics
 - Action 1.5b: reduce ELC's waste and review recycling options
- Key Priority Area 8: Our Schools and Young People
 - Action 1.8d: improve sustainability and recycling in schools
 - Action 1.8e: continue to source local food and achieve the Soil Association's Food for Life Served Here award



TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE TOGETHER

What are we doing at ELC and how can our cleaning services help?



- Procurement: ELC's Sustainable Procurement Policy and Charter (approved Nov 2020)
- Engaging with our Suppliers – their corporate social responsibility, utilising the latest scientific research, latest technology (energy efficient, chemical-free, biodegradable etc)
- Waste reduction and recycling
- Waste disposal
- Sustainability & plastics reduction – circular economy
- Chemical free/reduction – effect on nature & environment
- Energy efficiency of Facilities Management cleaning machinery etc
- Conserving water
- Transportation – bulk delivery to reduce journeys; Electric Vehicles for FMS staff
- Educating and raising awareness among FMS staff – sustainability & climate change
- Engaging with users / schools / pupils (East Lothian Youth Council etc)
- Monitoring & evaluation: supervision, regulation, monitoring, revising, updating

What happens to our plastic waste?

- Plastic bottles are taken to the Council's Kinwegar Waste Transfer Station, where the material is bulked and transported to a materials recovery facility
- The material is sorted into individual material streams, such as Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET), High density Polyethylene (HDPE) Natural & Jazz, Polypropylene (PP)
- A range of baled and pelletised products is produced, which allows the items we collect to re-enter manufacturing as prime raw materials
- The finished material is then supplied under contract for manufacturing use
- The Council's Waste Services put together a video in 2018 to show what happens to the materials we collect <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxXEgKgh82s&feature=youtu.be>



'Greening' our cleaning equipment

Working with our suppliers

- FMS used to use the 35B scrubber driers and this was replaced by SC351: these prove to be faster increasing productivity, longer battery life and more reliable. These machines do not use chemicals unlike the older ones, in turn this produces savings on chemicals, energy, staff time.
- More efficient cleaning machinery: from ease of use of machines, plastic reversible squeegee blades to make easier for operators, unique rotating head on 351, one touch button on ride -on to take brush off/on, adjustable brush pressure, performance of equipment
- Saving water due to adjustable water output

Next Steps and suggestions for the future

- Facilities Management Service will work with suppliers to procure and move towards energy efficient and more sustainable cleaning equipment as part of their life cycle programme over a five year period
- Continuing to monitor and evaluate our service and supplies
- Ongoing engagement with suppliers
- Keeping informed of scientific and technological improvements as well as cost efficiency
- Working with Procurement on incorporating sustainability into new contracts through our Sustainable Procurement Policy
- ELC's target is to replace all cars & vans with Ultra Low Emission vehicles by 2025 - this will include the Facilities Management clean team's fleet. The aim is to no longer procure fossil fuel vehicles – fleet vehicles will require to be Ultra Low Emission by 2030
- Engagement, awareness raising and publicity especially as we move out of COVID Response phase

Future suggestions and some specific ideas being pursued

- Dosing system introduced into schools – to reduce waste
- Biodegradable cleaning wipes
- Bulk buying/larger bottles – less waste
- Continuing to work with our suppliers and service users



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TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE TOGETHER

Thank you
Questions?