

Meeting	Forensic Services Committee
Date	26 July 2021
Location	MS Teams
Title of Paper	Environmental Strategy
Presented By	Jennifer Muir
Recommendation to Members	For Noting
Appendix Attached	No

PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to provide Members with an overview Forensic Services activities that will support and engage with the Police Scotland Environmental Strategy.

The paper is submitted for noting.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In March 2021, SPA Authority Members approved the Police Scotland Environmental Strategy that sets out the commitment to environmental sustainability and the organisational response in support of The Climate Change (Emissions Reductions Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019.
- 1.2 The Police Scotland Environmental Strategy is published on the SPA Website and Intranet.

2. FURTHER DETAIL ON THE REPORT TOPIC

- 2.1 Police Scotland have ownership for the Estates Strategy and Fleet Strategy that also support plans, projects and targets in achieving environmental sustainability.
- 2.2 Due to the service back arrangements Forensic Services receive from Police Scotland for Estates, Fleet, ICT etc, Forensic Services are committed to engaging, collaborating and supporting the principles and priorities as set out in the Environmental Strategy.
- 2.3 The following is an overview of the Police Scotland Environmental Strategy Principles and activities that Forensic Services will undertake in support of the Environmental Strategy Priorities:

Police Scotland's Environmental Strategy		
Principles		
To create a culture where our people are enabled and supported to make environmentally sustainable choices		
To contribute effectively to national climate change policy and carbon reduction targets		
Our policing approaches are environmentally sustainable by default and supported by digital solutions		
Our sustainability ambition is supported by investment in projects that reduce our carbon emissions and achieve savings		
We collaborate with partners and focus on our communities to achieve better environmental outcomes		
Priorities		
Our organisation Developing the infrastructure to contribute effectively to carbon reduction targets and legislative requirements	Our people Supporting and encouraging our people to work more sustainably	Community in focus Working with communities and our partners to achieve better environmental outcomes

Forensic Services Activities		
Our Organisation	Our People	Community in focus
Embed the principles of the circular economy – Small Action, Big Impact via knowledge and resources to our people and sites Consider our procurement activity to ensure support for sustainability Work to reduce our carbon emissions and support energy efficiency and our people wellbeing with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fleet in the replacement programme in line with PS Fleet Strategy Our Estate via the PS Estates Strategy Utilise ICT, including increasing use of green ICT to support activities such as smarter working and travel 	Promote organisational culture and learning and embed best practice through awareness and training opportunities Establish a Forensic Services Green Leaders Network to promote positive culture and deliver on sustainability initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness of Small Action, Big Impact – knowledge and learning to promote sustainable behaviours, recycling, energy and water consumption Consider the environmental impact of our travel in line with Fleet Strategy including promoting Cycle to Work scheme	Support a healthy and inclusive Scotland and sustainable future for Forensic Services Collaborate and support the Police Scotland Biodiversity Plan Work in partnership with Police Scotland to achieve aims of Environmental, Estates and Fleet Strategies Through Green Leaders Network, support and collaboration with local community sustainably initiatives



FS 2026 and the Environmental Strategy and Strategic Wellbeing

2.4 Forensic Services is committed to supporting Police Scotland to achieve the Principles and Priorities of the PS Environmental Strategy which aligns to our FS 2026:

Strategic Outcome

- *Transition to an efficient operating model, delivering measurable improvements.*

Strategic Objectives

- *Value and develop our people, promoting equality and wellbeing*
- *Positive and vibrant workplace for all our people*

2.5 The planned activities also dovetail into objectives set out in the SPA Strategic Wellbeing Statement.

2.6 Our FS 2026 Strategy Refresh Insights Work has also highlighted themes in relation to environmental sustainability to be considered in the FS 2026 Strategy Refresh.

2.7 The following maps a summary of Forensic Services planned activities against the Environmental Strategy Priorities, the FS 2026 Strategy and Strategic Wellbeing Objectives:

Forensic Services Activity – PS Environmental Strategy

OUR ORGANISATION

Forensic Services will engage and support the PS Environmental Strategy through our work with Estates Strategy Fleet Strategy and other plans and projects to achieve measurable improvements Collaborate on Smarter Working Initiatives

OUR PEOPLE
Forensic Services will embed a culture of sustainability through raising awareness and learning. Promote and support colleague engagement and participation in the Green Leaders Network

COMMUNITY FOCUS
Forensic Services will engage and support the forthcoming Police Scotland Biodiversity Plan and local communities through our Green Leaders on environmental initiatives

Forensic 2026 Strategy
Scientific Excellence for Safer Communities



Transition to an efficient operating model, delivering measurable improvements



Value and develop our people, promoting equality and wellbeing



Positive and vibrant workplace for all of our people

WELLBEING OBJECTIVE 1

To equip managers with effective, informative and practical policies, procedures and guidance to support officer and staff wellbeing

WELLBEING OBJECTIVE 2

To create a safe, positive and healthy working environment for all officers and staff

WELLBEING OBJECTIVE 3

To embed a culture where the management and promotion of health and wellbeing are integrated into all aspects of the organisation

Delivery, Timescales and Reporting

- 2.8 Due to interdependencies of delivery and timescales of corporate plans and projects informed by the Police Scotland Environmental, Estates and Fleet Strategies, reporting of these activities for Forensic Services will be encompassed within Police Scotland's reporting.
- 2.9 Other specific Forensic Services activities will be reported to members in Quarter 2.

Green Leaders Network

- 2.10 Through our Denison Survey a number of Forensic Services staff have expressed interest in relation to active participation in sustainable initiatives and we wish to harness this enthusiasm for voluntary action.
- 2.11 Forensic Services have established liaison with the Police Scotland Energy Reduction Lead and will seek to align the recruitment, training and resources to support a Forensic Services Green Leaders Network which will aim to develop a planned programme of site and corporate themes. Examples of themes may include:
- Waste
 - Promote the roll out of waste advice posters that will be circulated to all sites. Development of supporting materials to Green Leaders to be able to answer questions and queries related to waste processes.
 - Energy efficiency
 - To coincide with the heating season a behaviour change campaign will focus on energy efficiency in relation to heating, lighting and small power use within sites. Green Leaders will support the central messages being delivered through the Small Action, Big Impact campaign.
 - Biodiversity

OFFICIAL

- Green Leaders will be given support and resource to implement small site based projects that will enhance habitat and encourage species to forage, inhabit and travel through our sites. We will be seeking the support of established organisations such as Nature Scotland and TCV to assist us with this.

Next Steps

2.12

- Align with Police Scotland the recruitment, training and resources to support Forensic Services Green Leaders
- Promote and support the recruitment of Forensic Services Green Leaders
- Develop a Forensic Services site and corporate sustainability initiatives
- Develop reporting to Forensic Committee on Forensic Services activities that support the PS Environmental Strategy.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The paper set out what our plans are however the affordability for Forensic Services activities is yet to be determined. There is not expected to be any significant investment as the training and resources we need will come from Police Scotland in the first instance

4. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are personnel implications associated with this paper.
- Green Leaders – Time to undertake initial and ongoing training and to participate in Network meetings and implementation of initiatives (to be determined)
 - FS Leadership Team – to support and underpin the Forensic Services activities and promoting the Green Leaders Network.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Through engaging with the Police Scotland Environmental Strategy, Forensic Services can contribute to environmental responsibilities and compliance re environmental legislation.

6. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 In engaging with sustainability activities, Forensic Services will be able to demonstrate its commitment and support of legislative responsibilities

7. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The engagement with the Environmental Strategy will improve the health and well being of our staff through improved working environments.

8. COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 8.1 Forensic Services can demonstrate our commitment to communities in supporting the principles and priorities of the PS Environmental Strategy and actively seeking to engage in joint projects and initiatives.

9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are equality implications associated with this paper.

Improvement and support for practices such as smarter working, active travel and better manage workplaces may enhance health and wellbeing of staff.

10. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Engagement with the Environmental Strategy, Forensic Services will be able reduce its environmental impact such as energy efficient estate, modernisation of fleet, reduced transport emission through active travel and flexible working.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to Note the information contained within this report.