



<b>Subject:</b>	Amazon Web Services – Climate data platform challenge
<b>Date:</b>	12 October 2023
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Tully, Director Organisational and City Strategy
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Claire Shortt, Monitoring, Learning and Reporting Officer, Debbie Caldwell, Belfast Climate Commissioner

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To provide members with an update on the work with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to develop a data platform to house climate data.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Note the update and provide any feedback</li> <li>II. A further update will be provided to Members at the next committee</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<b>Background</b>
3.2	A climate emergency was declared by the Northern Ireland Assembly in February 2020. In June 2022, the Climate Change Act 2022 received Royal Assent. This Act sets out Northern

	<p>Ireland's framework for tackling climate change and reducing emissions, by setting challenging targets to deliver net zero emissions in Northern Ireland by the year 2050. The Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is leading on the development of Northern Ireland's first 5-year climate action plan (CAP) as required under the Act.</p>
3.3	<p>The important role of public bodies in tackling climate change is recognised by the Act, by requiring new law to be made, which will set a requirement for specified public bodies to report on climate change.</p> <p>With the new reporting regulations coming before the end of the year from DAERA, council need to have an accessible platform for climate related data to feed into its response. A data platform will help us to outline what exactly will be needed to house this (and other) data. It is hoped that a platform will help to automate the process to alleviate extra pressure on staff to collect and report on additional data.</p>
3.4	<p><b>Opportunity with AWS</b></p> <p>The climate team have been given an opportunity to work with AWS as part of their Smart Challenges programmes. The climate team, along with other members of staff across departments have already held two workshops in order to establish what the data needs are across council in relation to climate and other work areas.</p>
3.5	<p>This opportunity involves the AWS Cloud Innovation Centre (CIC) in Arizona State University. The objective of the engagement is to help us build a visual representation via wireframe of what the potential platform would look like. There is no obligation for further work with AWS and the wireframe can be used as a template for further software development as and when required.</p>
3.6	<p><b>Resource requirement</b></p> <p>This engagement will be of no direct cost to the council, other than 30 minutes of one officer's time once a fortnight and it is estimated that a visual representation will be completed within 8 weeks. There will be no need for council data to be shared during this challenge. After the process the only requirement is that the content gets published via the smart challenges website – examples within the appendices.</p>
3.7	<p>The project team had their first kick off meeting in Arizona on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September. The next step is for all the council stakeholders to meet with the AWS team and further outline the needs. Following this the AWS team will start to build out the wireframes, content and visions for the project. The team have estimated that this will take between 6 and 8 weeks.</p> <p>A further report will be brought to Committee in due course.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</b>
4.1	There are no financial implications.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Implications</b>
5.1	None known
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Appendices</b>
6.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="https://smartchallenges.asu.edu/challenges/zipprocure">https://smartchallenges.asu.edu/challenges/zipprocure</a></li> <li>- <a href="https://smartchallenges.asu.edu/challenges/age-friendly-arizona-human-services-transportation-reporting">https://smartchallenges.asu.edu/challenges/age-friendly-arizona-human-services-transportation-reporting</a></li> </ul>