

REPORT TO ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL – 9 MARCH 2023

CARBON BUDGET 2023 - 2024

1 Executive Summary/Recommendations

1.1 The report contains Aberdeenshire Council's Carbon Budget for 2023/24 and identified projects which will reduce emissions further as the Council continues to progress with its target of a 75% reduction by 2030 (from its 2010-2011 baseline). Projects include LED replacements, building upgrades, energy efficiency interventions, and additional low emission vehicles to the fleet. The report also highlights the success to date by Aberdeenshire Council in reducing its internal operational emissions annually.

1.2 The Council is recommended to:

1.2.1 Agree a total Carbon Budget of 44,152 tonnes CO₂e for 2023/24 as set out in Table 1 in Appendix 1;

1.2.2 Agree future Carbon Budgets for 2023/24 to 2030/31 on a provisional basis as set out in Table 2 in Appendix 1;

1.2.3 Agree the Carbon Budget 2023/24 reduction measures as set out in Appendix 2 and 3;

1.2.4 Note the risks set out in Appendix 4;

1.2.5 Agree that the estimated costs for meeting Carbon Budget reductions are fully considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy;

1.2.6 Delegate the responsibility to each Director to secure their reduction totals as set out in Appendix 2 and 3, including identifying potential CO₂e savings for projects noted as still to be determined and additional CO₂e savings for the Directorate for 2023/24 and future years up to 2045; and

1.2.7 Instruct each Director to nominate officers from across their services to report in year progress at 6 monthly intervals to the relevant Policy Committees and to the Sustainability Committee.

2 Decision Making Route

2.1 Section 44 of Part 4 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 places duties on public bodies relating to climate change. These duties entered into force on 1 January 2011 and require that a public body must, in exercising its functions, act:

- In the way best calculated to contribute to delivery of the Act's emissions reduction targets;
- In the way best calculated to deliver Scotland's statutory climate change adaptation programme; and
- In a way that it considers most sustainable.

2.2 The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 sets national emissions reduction targets as:

- At least 75% lower than the baseline year by 2030;
- At least 90% lower than the baseline year by 2040; and
- Net Zero by 2045 ('Net Zero' refers to achieving an overall balance between emissions produced and emissions taken out of the atmosphere).

2.3 On 18 March 2020 Aberdeenshire Council agreed a Climate Change Declaration ([Item 9](#)), committing the Council to work towards a carbon free society by reducing its own emissions by 75% (2010/11 baseline) by 2030 and to work with others across the region to ensure that Aberdeenshire reaches Net Zero by 2045.

2.4 Aberdeenshire Council has utilised a Carbon Budget process since 2017/18 as a method to plan and manage emission reduction across the organisation. On 29 September 2022, Aberdeenshire Council approved the Route Map to 2030 and Beyond ([Item 14](#)). This laid out future Carbon Budget needs, including the financial investment required to meet the 75% reduction target by 2030. The Route Map also listed 11 recommendations that need to be actioned in order to support the Council in meeting its targets.

2.5 On 23 February 2023 the Sustainability Committee ([Item 6](#)) was provided with an update on progress to date on the Route Map to 2030 and Beyond and the outline for setting the Carbon Budget 2023/24.

3 Discussion

3.1 On 29 October 2021 the Scottish Government in partnership with Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) published the [Public Sector Leadership on the Global Climate Emergency](#) guidance. The guidance is in part to support the Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2020 which set out additional requirements for reporting periods commencing on or after 1 April 2021. Public bodies' annual climate change reports must now also include:

- Where applicable, the body's target date for achieving zero direct emissions of greenhouse gases, or such other targets that demonstrate

how the body is contributing to Scotland achieving its emissions reduction targets;

- Where applicable, targets for reducing indirect emissions of greenhouse gases;
- How the body will align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emissions reduction targets;
- How the body will publish, or otherwise make available, its progress to achieving its emissions reduction targets; and
- Where applicable, what contribution the body has made to helping deliver Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Programme (currently the 2019 - 2024 Programme).

- 3.2 Aberdeenshire Council is already very well placed to demonstrate most of the additional requirements. The Carbon Budget process and the recent approval of the Route Map to 2030 and Beyond captured the gaps in the above reporting requirements ensuring that the Council is working towards complying fully with the Amendment Order.
- 3.3 Table 1 and Figure 1 in **Appendix 1** demonstrate the progress being made annually by Aberdeenshire Council as it moves closer towards its reduction target of 75% by 2030 from its 2010/11 baseline year. Progress to date has been related to different services being engaged in reducing the Council's emissions. A few examples of this are energy efficiency and decarbonisation projects across the operational building estate, LED street light programme, reduction in miles through both the Council fleet and grey fleet (business miles in personal vehicles), and changes to fuel type used by equipment in our quarries.
- 3.4 In addition to projects, a reduction in the Council's overall emissions has also been supported by a number of different factors. The decarbonisation of the electricity grid sees an annual reduction in the emission factor associated with this which the Council benefits from.
- 3.5 The Route Map to 2030 and Beyond has estimated an annual reduction of 500t CO₂e due to this decarbonisation. It should be stressed that this is an estimation as emission factors are set annually after 1 April. Assumptions for this estimation have been made by looking at the reduction trends from previous years.
- 3.5.1 The total emission reduction in 2020/21 also demonstrates the impacts Covid-19 has had on the Council's emissions where a large decrease was evident in electricity use from the Council's operational buildings, fuel from fleet vehicles and business miles claims (personal vehicles, trains, flights). However, impacts of Covid-19 on 2021/22 emissions demonstrated the challenges in relation to the guidance on improving air quality in Council buildings with windows being

required to be opened more to improve ventilation with the result being increased energy use through heating. General increases in energy consumption across the operational building stock, fleet, roads services and business mileage were also seen as part of the 2021/22 emissions reporting due to the resuming of many services after lockdowns. A breakdown of the emissions recorded for the 2021/22 report can be found in Figure 2 in

Appendix 1. Further detail can be found in the Aberdeenshire Council's Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report which went to Sustainability Committee on 30 November 2022 ([Item 8](#)).

- 3.6 For the development of this Carbon Budget 2023/24, engagement across services has gathered information and data for a range of projects. Focus has very much been on the opportunities to further reduce the Council's emissions from its operational buildings, fleet, and street lighting, as well as looking at additional energy efficiency and resources interventions. Other interventions highlighted by services to be assessed and considered further in 2023/24 are listed in Table 3 in **Appendix 3**.
- 3.7 **Appendix 1** also demonstrates how the Carbon Budgets for 2023/24 to 2030/31 have been determined utilising the required linear reduction to 75% from the 2010/11 baseline year (Table 1 & 2 and Figure 1). The Carbon Budget concept has been to allocate a reduction requirement of tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (tCO₂e) annually for the organisation's internal emissions. Directorates will be required to work towards meeting emission reduction targets. The annual reduction requirement for Aberdeenshire Council as identified in the Route Map to 2030 and Beyond is estimated at 2500 tCO₂e each year. This will ensure we stay on track to reach our target and takes into consideration the decarbonisation of the grid and our progress to date.
- 3.8 For the Carbon Budget 2023/24, the majority of projects listed are ones which were already identified as being planned for 2023/24 and so have been captured in the Revenue and Capital Budgets as shown in Table 2 in **Appendix 3**.
- 3.9 In addition to the reduction projects listed for 2023/24 there is a need for the Council to continue to take forward a number of feasibility studies on its operational buildings to identify opportunities and costs for future Carbon Budgets. The studies being progressed can be summarised as follows:
1. Air Source Heat Pumps with associated fabric improvement to schools
 2. Air Source Heat Pumps with no associated fabric improvement to a swimming pool
 3. Additional Photovoltaic installations
 4. Oil to Electric Heat Source Study at a rural primary school
 5. LED Installations

6. Wind Generation
7. Solar Farms
8. Battery Storage
9. Extending the Non-Domestic Energy Efficiency Programme
10. Collating the carbon benefit from other programmes of activity

- 3.10 There are also a number of projects happening across the Council that will support regional emission reduction but may not be captured through the Council's own emissions. For example, the Council does not report emissions from its Housing stock under current guidance.
- 3.11.1 However, there is a great deal of work ongoing by the Housing Service on energy efficiency measures, solar PV generation, battery storage and heat decarbonisation which should not go unrecognised as it will reduce the wider emissions within our area. Table 4 in **Appendix 3** outlines planned projects being led by the Housing service in 2023/24 which will support regional emission reduction.
- 3.12 The development of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) will also support area-based planning and delivery of the heat transition by decarbonising heating in buildings and improving energy efficiency across an entire local authority area. The delivery of the LHEES will support the statutory emissions reduction targets both internally and regionally. The LHEES has a statutory requirement to be completed by December 2023 and our officers are working to meet that deadline.
- 3.13 Similarly, the Education and Children's Services Directorate has developed a Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy which highlights many outcomes related to behavioural change which should impact the Council's emissions in a positive way.
- 3.14 A Sustainability Champions Programme (similar to the Council's Digital Champions Programme) is now underway. This programme was developed with support from officers who volunteered from across different services led by the Sustainability and Climate Change team. After the first round of training in September 2022, the programme now consists of 36 staff from across Council Services, including the Head of Environment and Sustainability, who meet on a monthly basis to network and develop project ideas. The latest project is focusing on how staff can improve energy efficiency at home and in the workplace, through providing specific advice from the pool of expertise. With support from the Marketing and Communications officer, the initiative will aim to reach as many staff as possible.
- 3.15 As mentioned in the preceding paragraphs, the Carbon Budget 2023/24 and Route Map to 2030 and Beyond relates only to Aberdeenshire Council's own emissions and not to the wider community or business emissions that relate to

the area of Aberdeenshire. Work being done on the cross sector Climate Ready Aberdeenshire (CRA) will aim to capture this separately.

- 3.16 Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e) is a standard unit for measuring carbon footprints. It is used to express the impact of each different greenhouse gas in terms of the amount of carbon dioxide that would create the same amount of warming. Therefore, the Council's carbon footprint consists of lots of different greenhouse gases expressed as a single number.

4 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

- 4.1 This report helps deliver the key priority of Climate Change under the pillar of Our Environment.

Pillar	Priority
Our People	Learning for Life Health & Wellbeing
Our Environment	Climate Change Resilient Communities
Our Economy	Economic Growth Infrastructure and public assets

- 4.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendations are agreed.

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial	X		
Staffing	X		
Equalities and Fairer Duty Scotland	IIA attached as Appendix 5		
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing	IIA attached as Appendix 5		
Climate Change and Sustainability	IIA attached as Appendix 5		
Health and Wellbeing			X
Town Centre First			X

- 4.3 The financial implications in reaching carbon emission reduction targets are significant and will need to be addressed and identified for the organisation as a whole. This work will inform the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and in doing so seeks to ensure that the programme of activities and projects represent best value in how the Council helps to deliver the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019. The target of 75% by 2030 is more challenging and will involve the need for considerable investment by the Council, UK and Scottish Government and other stakeholders. The development of the Carbon Budget Toolkit has supported this by identifying the need and amount of investment required. The Toolkit was developed to provide estimates and allow better management, prioritisation, and monitoring

of projects. It sets some assurances of the annual costs and carbon reduction potential to deliver decarbonisation projects.

- 4.3.1 Capital investment of implementing a reduction in Aberdeenshire Council's emissions has been estimated within the Route Map 2030 and Beyond. The estimates are broken down to the level of annual investment with an estimated total of £117,327,000 to reach a 75% reduction in emissions by 2030. These indicative costs focus on only current operational buildings, fleet and street lighting. It is estimated a further 10% of funding (£10,816,000) will need to be considered to cover actions in other areas where the Council reports emissions which brings the total estimated investment to £128,143,000. The Council cannot fund this work alone from its Revenue and Capital Budgets. This will require external funding for Aberdeenshire Council to achieve these ambitious targets.
- 4.3.2 It needs to be noted that these are still estimates based on assumptions within the Carbon Budget Toolkit which was developed alongside the Route Map 2030 and Beyond. Annual feasibility work for projects and other factors such as energy costs, supply and demand of material etc will potentially significantly change the totals to be more accurate over time. Updating of the Toolkit will occur annually by officers across the key services. Further feasibility studies to be continued into 2023/24 will provide more detailed and robust whole life costings. In addition, there will always be some fluidity with these figures as costs behind assumptions change with current market climate, for example the current cost volatility in both the energy and construction market.
- 4.3.3 The figures in 4.3.1 do not include revenue consequences of borrowing which will be around £5.1million per annum for 40 years. They do not include future revenue savings being made by some of the interventions, for example energy efficiency projects. They also do not demonstrate potential increases in future operational costs. However, the Carbon Budget Toolkit will allow for revenue implications to be calculated at project level.
- 4.3.4 The Carbon Budget 2023/24 projects listed in **Appendix 2** and Tables 2 and 4 in **Appendix 3** are projects which have budget already assigned to them. Additional projects in 2023/24 are still possible if further internal or external funding is made available.
- 4.3.5 Working towards the Council's targets will also include a general evolution of staff roles to incorporate consideration of climate change as part of the day job. In the same way that the gap in funding provision is analysed for Capital and Revenue Budgets, the recommendations in the Route Map identify a need for our organisation to analyse and fill the gaps in the numbers and skills of the people we have to deliver the extensive programme that will be required. In the next 2 to 5 year period Services and Directorates will also be asked to augment the corporate lead team on Climate Change by putting in place project specific leads. The options for funding this approach will be developed further in discussion with Directorates. This is likely to be a combination of sourcing external funding, building into the Capital Programmes of work, gaining support as part of collaborations and putting in place secondment opportunities. The

core skills that so many of our people already have relating to project management, communication, budgeting and innovation will support our work across adaptation and mitigation.

- 4.3.6 This consideration of the organisational capacity will also utilise external knowledge and expertise as it develops in the industries across our area who will have a strong focus on energy transition and biodiversity. Links to the local Universities and Colleges are already good and this can be further strengthened via networks such as Opportunity North East and the Net Zero Technology Centre whilst the Developing our Youth Workforce Programme is already building in courses and programmes that will support climate change and sustainability.
- 4.4 An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) has been carried out as part of the development of the proposals set out above. It is included as **Appendix 5** and there is a positive impact as follows:
- The Carbon Budget 2023/24 identifies many projects which will support a reduction in the Council's own emissions demonstrating a positive impact towards supporting action on climate change mitigation and adaptation.
 - Reducing emissions from actions within the Council will support a cleaner, safer environment for children, young people, staff and residents of Aberdeenshire as well as provide exciting opportunities for development and learning.
- 4.5 It is important to consider, report and accept specific risks in setting the Carbon Budget, and those currently identified are listed in **Appendix 4**. The following Risks in the [Corporate Risk Register](#) have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level. However, it is acknowledged that working towards a 75% reduction in Council owned emissions has the potential to impact upon a number of areas across the Council risk portfolio.
- Risk ID ACORP010 as it relates to environmental challenges
 - Risk ID ACORP006 as it relates to reputation management
 - Risk ID ACORP001 as it relates to budget pressure
- 4.5.1 The following Risk in the [Directorate Risk Register](#) has been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level:
- Risk ID ISSR010 as it relates to Climate Change
- 4.5.2 By approving the Carbon Budget 2023/24 and implementing the recommendations within the Route Map 2030 and Beyond in 2023/24 the above risks should be mitigated against with the addition of sufficient communication and engagement on the progress Aberdeenshire Council is already making with regards to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Budget pressures will require additional support but with the progressive understanding and use of the Carbon Budget Toolkit, projects which are most

cost effective at reducing emissions can begin to be prioritised while others are developed to seek external funding opportunities.

5 Scheme of Governance

- 5.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are incorporated within the report. They are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.
- 5.2 Full Council is able to consider this item in terms of Section A.8.1 of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as it relates to approval of the annual estimates and setting the Council budgets including Revenue, Capital, Carbon and Housing Revenue Account.

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22 February 2023

List of Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Annual Carbon Budget Requirements and Progress to Date
- Appendix 2 - Carbon Budget 2023/24
- Appendix 3 - Carbon Budget 2023 - 2024 Identified Costs and Financial Budget Lines
- Appendix 4 - Carbon Budget 2023 - 2024 Risks for Consideration
- Appendix 5 - Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

Appendix 1 Annual Carbon Budget Requirements and Progress to Date

Table 1: Annual Carbon Budget Requirements to Reach 2030 Target (75%)

Financial Year	Actual Emissions Reported (tCO₂e)	Carbon Budget Required to reach Target (tCO₂e)
2010/11	86,155	86,155
2011/12	78,400	82,924
2012/13	82,782	79,693
2013/14	77,265	76,462
2014/15	81,805	73,231
2015/16	79,537	70,000
2016/17	73,587	66,769
2017/18	66,820	63,538
2018/19	57,970	60,307
2019/20	55,687	57,076
2020/21	45,281	53,845
2021/22	49,304	50,614
2022/23	Determined 11/2023	47,383
2023/24	Determined 11/2024	44,152

Table 2: Future Carbon Budgets to reach 2030 target (75%)

Financial Year	Carbon Budget Required to reach Target (tCO₂e)
2024/25	40,921
2025/26	37,690
2026/27	34,459
2027/28	31,228
2028/29	27,997
2029/30	24,766
2030/31	21,539

Appendix 1 Annual Carbon Budget Requirements and Progress to Date

Figure 1 - Annual progress towards 2030 target (75%):

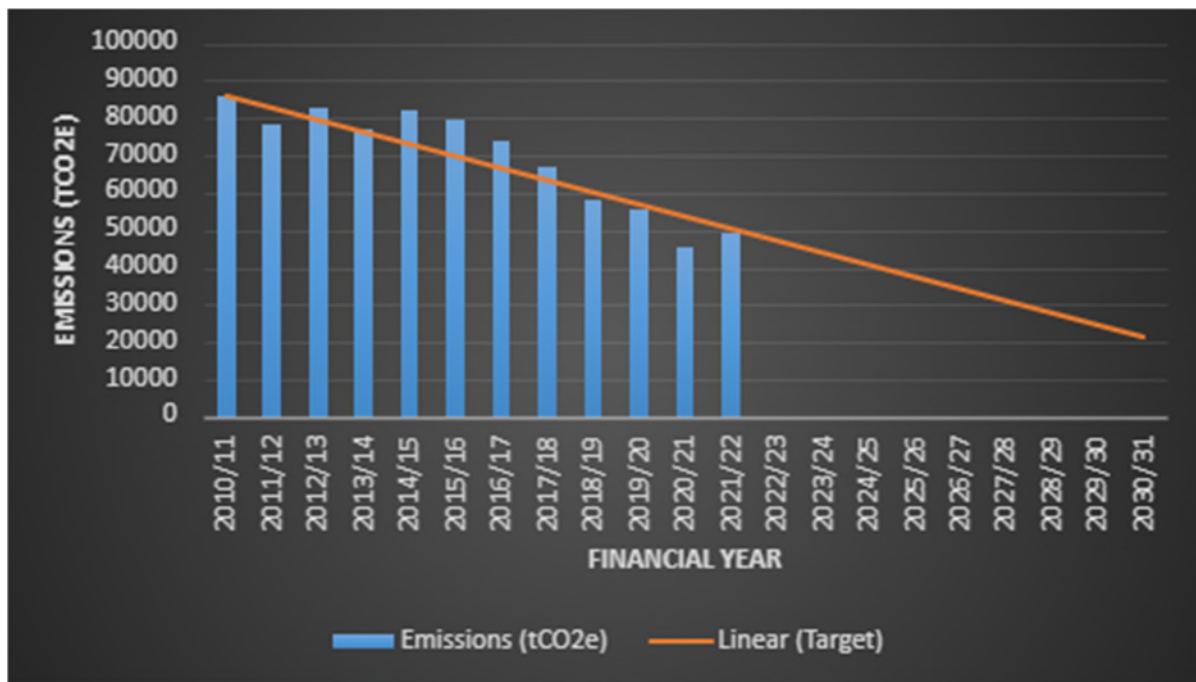
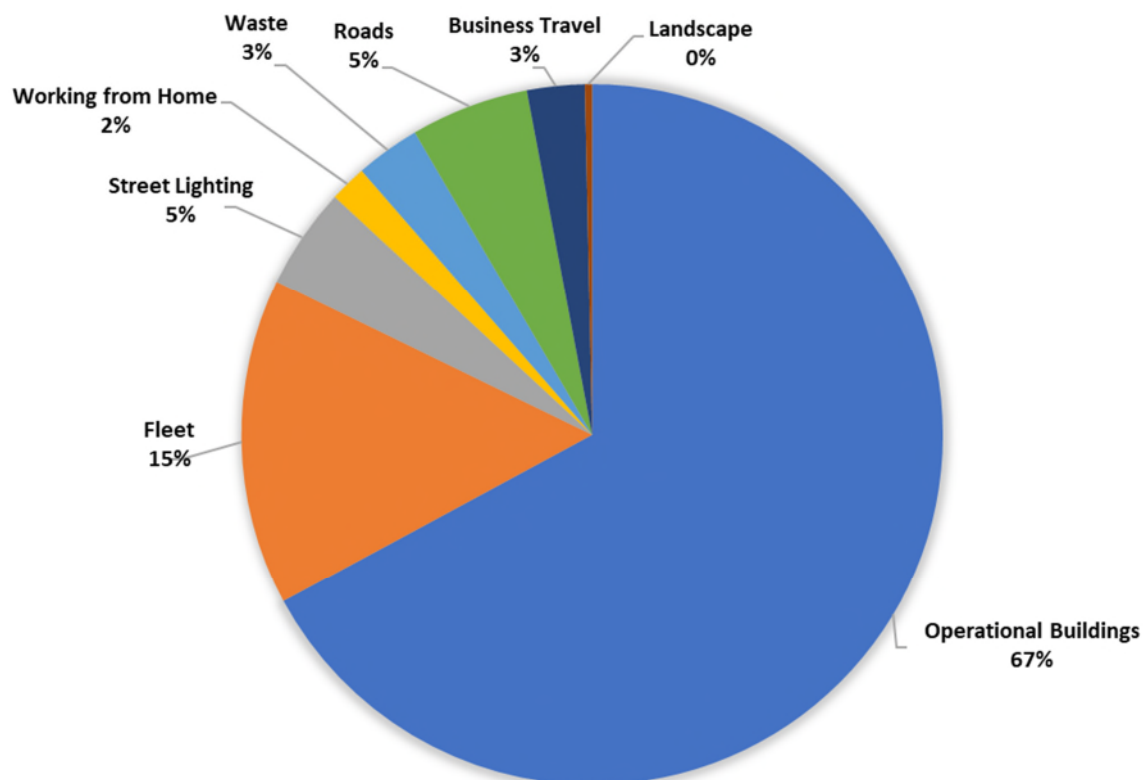


Figure 2 - Breakdown of Council's Carbon Footprint in 2021/22 of 49,304 tCO₂e





	Proposed Identified CO2e Savings (tonnes) 2023/24
BUSINESS SERVICES	
Upgrade windows	19
Upgrade roof	40
Lighting upgrades	20
Business Services Total	79
ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	
High Specification Bus Shelters - off-grid	1
Electric landscaping equipment – 3 more squads	TBD
Two additional lease electric cars	TBD
Battery rammer to trial alongside traditional petrol machines	TBD
Roads resurfacing – warm mix	220
Reduced Greenspace maintenance	TBD
Energy from Waste	900
LED street lighting	261
Warp-It	10
Environment & Infrastructure Services Total	1392
EDUCATION AND CHILDREN SERVICE	
E&CS Energy Project	TBD
Reduction in pool temp	TBD
Heating review in smaller sites	TBD
Industry assessment of main sites	TBD
Asset rationalisation	TBD
Princh Printing	TBD
Digital access to resources	TBD
Update of Raw Food Policy	1
Participatory Budget Projects in Primary Schools	TBD
Education & Children Services Total	1
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP	
Reduction in business miles	TBD
Resources and Circular Economy Frameworks	TBD
Health & Social Care Partnership Total	TBD
Grid Decarbonisation	500
Total Reductions Identified (tCO2e)	1972

*TBD = Data still to be determined for calculating tCO2e savings as these will require multiple service input to make best estimates. Some projects are also about trialling equipment and so savings cannot be estimated at this time.

Appendix 3: Carbon Budget 2023/24 Identified Costs and Financial Budget Lines

Table 1: Abbreviations/Acronyms within the following tables (2-4):

ASHP	Air Source Heat Pump
CLD	Community Learning Development
CWI	Cavity Wall Insulation
E&CS	Education and Children Services
EfW	Energy from Waste
EWI	External Wall Insulation
HIP	Housing Improvement Plan
HRA	Housing Revenue Account
H&SCP	Health and Social Care Partnership
IT	Information Technology
IWI	Internal Wall Insulation
LED	Light-Emitting Diode
LLA	Live Life Aberdeenshire
NA	Not Applicable
PV	Photovoltaic
RTPI	Real Time Passenger Information
TBD	To Be Determined

Appendix 3: Carbon Budget 2023/24 Identified Costs and Financial Budget Lines

Table 2: Carbon Budget 2023 – /24 Indicative Costs and Financial Budget Lines

The details in this table are subject to further consideration by officers but give an indication of the types of interventions being developed.

Interventions	Asset name	Carbon saving (tCO2e)	Capital expenditure (£)	Annual cost saving (£)	Budget	Budget line
Upgrade windows	Balmedie Primary	2	94,000	0	Capital	Capital plan
Upgrade windows	Fetterangus Primary	4	58,000	0	Capital	Capital Plan
Upgrade roof	Portlethan Primary	30	372,000	0	Capital	Capital Plan
Upgrade windows	Torphins Primary	4	75,000	0	Capital	Capital Plan
Upgrade windows	Stuartfield Primary	4	33,000	0	Capital	Capital Plan
Roof upgrade	Inverallochy Primary	10	99,000	0	Capital	Capital Plan
Lighting upgrade	Ellon Primary	8	110,000	5,000	Capital	Capital Plan
Lighting upgrade	Banchory Primary	12	165,000	8,250	Capital	Capital Plan
Upgrade windows	The Gordon Schools	5	275,000	0	Capital	Capital Plan
High Specification Bus Shelters with e-paper RTPI displays – all off-grid	Various projects across Aberdeenshire yet to be planned	1	150,000	N/A	Capital (potentially Nestrans)	Public Transport
Electric landscaping equipment – 3 more squads		TBD	20,000	TBD	Revenue	Fleet
Two additional lease electric cars		TBD	8,652	TBD	Revenue	Transportation /E&CS
Battery rammer to trial alongside traditional petrol machines		TBD	3600	TBD	Revenue	Fleet

Appendix 3: Carbon Budget 2023/24 Identified Costs and Financial Budget Lines

Interventions	Asset name	Carbon saving (tCO2e)	Capital expenditure (£)	Annual cost saving (£)	Budget	Budget line
Reduced Greenspace maintenance – biodiversity enhancement		TBD	TBD	TBD	Revenue / External Funding	Landscape Service/ Nature Restoration Fund
Road resurfacing (Move to warm mix)		220	0	0	Revenue	Roads Maintenance
Energy from waste		900			Capital/Revenue	EfW/Waste disposal
LED street lighting		261	700,000	TBD	Capital	Street lighting
Warp-It		10	3,912	0	Reserve	Renewable Energy Reserve
E&CS Energy Project	Energy Management for schools in collaboration with the Energy Team in Property and Facilities Management.	TBD	0	TBD	Revenue	E&CS Energy Costs
Reduction in pool temp by 1 degree	Across all LLA pools	TBD	TBD	50,000	Revenue	LLA
Heating review in smaller sites - community centres/ halls	Across LLA sites	TBD	TBD	TBD	Revenue	LLA
Industry assessment of main sites (sports & physical activity) to address longer term options for plant/ utilities	Six LLA sites	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	LLA

Appendix 3: Carbon Budget 2023/24 Identified Costs and Financial Budget Lines

Interventions	Asset name	Carbon saving (tCO ₂ e)	Capital expenditure (£)	Annual cost saving (£)	Budget	Budget line
Asset rationalisation	Across LLA sites	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	LLA
Princh Printing	Across LLA libraries	TBD	TBD	TBD	Revenue	LLA
Digital access to resources to reduce print and waste	LLA Essentials	TBD	TBD	TBD	Revenue	LLA
Update of Raw Food Policy	Moving from single use items	1	8,782	1,948	Revenue	Catering
Participatory Budget Projects in Schools	Projects in schools with a focus on carbon reduction/climate change.	TBD	TBD	TBD	Revenue	Education/CLD
Reduction in business miles		TBD	TBD	TBD	Revenue	H&SCP Business Mileage
Resources and Circular Economy Frameworks		TBD	TBD	TBD	Capital/Revenue	H&SCP
Grid decarbonisation		500	0	0	NA	NA
Total		1972				

Appendix 3: Carbon Budget 2023/24 Identified Costs and Financial Budget Lines

Table 3: Other opportunities identified by services to be assessed in 2023 - 2024 for future Carbon Budgets and internal/external funding opportunities

Interventions	Carbon saving (tCO2e)	Estimated Expenditure (£)
General waste reduction and increased recycling on school sites	89	1,230,437
Replace IT networks in buildings	TBD	£3.4m
IT Data centre green energy	TBD	£0
Data hub project	TBD	£400,000
Place Strategy	TBD	TBD
LED lights - Waste management & recycling centres	TBD	TBD
LED lights- sports centres & parks	TBD	TBD

Table 4: Plans for the Council Housing Stock in 2023 – 2024

Upgrade	Total Number	Carbon saving (tCO2e)	Capital expenditure (£)	Annual cost saving (£)	Budget	Budget Line
ASHP to Quantum	1	0	9,860	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, HIP, Sheltered Housing Upgrades
CWI	967	846	2,080,017	0	Capital	Internal Wall Insulation Programme, HIP
Doors	1248	100	3,297,216	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, HIP
Electric storage to Gas	176	90	2,309,120	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, Reactive Heating Upgrades, HIP, Sheltered Housing Upgrades
Electric storage to Quantum	136	45	1,340,960	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, Reactive Heating Upgrades, HIP, Sheltered Housing Upgrades
EWI	248	315	3,026,344	0	Capital	Stock Improvements (Non-HIP), HIP, Weir House type Upgrades

Appendix 3: Carbon Budget 2023/24 Identified Costs and Financial Budget Lines

Upgrade	Total Number	Carbon saving (tCO2e)	Capital expenditure (£)	Annual cost saving (£)	Budget	Budget Line
Gas to Gas	110	56	906,290	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, HIP, Sheltered Housing Upgrades
Gas to Quantum	22	13	216,920	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, HIP, Sheltered Housing Upgrades
IWI	101	118	2,282,600	0	Capital	Internal Wall Insulation Programme, HIP, Internal Net Zero
Oil to Gas	1	0.5	13,120	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, HIP, Sheltered Housing Upgrades
Oil to Oil	1	1	8,239	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, HIP, Sheltered Housing Upgrade
Oil to Quantum	21	17	207,060	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, HIP, Sheltered Housing Upgrade
PVs	1249	1386	8,195,938	0	Capital	Internal Wall Insulation Programme, HIP, Internal Net Zero, Sheltered Housing PV Installations
Solid Fuel to Gas	5	3	65,600	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, HIP, Sheltered Housing Upgrade
Solid Fuel to Quantum	66	53	650,760	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, HIP, Sheltered Housing Upgrade
Windows	1418	355	14,615,326	0	Capital	Capital Works-Voids, HIP

1 Risks

1.1 A number of risks have been identified when developing the proposed Carbon Budget. These are highlighted below:

- 1) Calculations of emission reductions are a best estimate with the data available, therefore all calculations must only be considered as an estimate. Any changes in consumption or emissions data will be monitored and reported on at the appropriate time.
- 2) In some cases, full CO₂e savings of actions listed will not be fully accounted for until the following financial year. Part year savings may need to be considered if there are delays in projects being put into action. This would mean that projected savings would be less than originally calculated and therefore action elsewhere may be required to make up the difference. This can be captured and considered during the quarterly update process with appropriate action taken if needed.
- 3) There have been significant impacts due to the UK exit from the European Union, Covid-19 and the war in Ukraine which have delayed roll out of projects. These impacts are likely to still be of concern in 2023/24 and include: Unusual demands on energy consumption across the estate altering typical and known patterns of usage; Increase in general waste due to additional cleaning needs; Issues with materials and contractor supply chain.
- 4) Many climate change mitigation actions require behaviour change by staff and members across the organisation. To be successful this will require both top down and bottom-up visible action and support across all services. This can be monitored through regular updates to Strategic Leadership Team, service team meetings, the Sustainability Champions, and the newly established Route Map 2030 Steering Group.
- 5) Changes in climate change mitigation and adaptation legislation will need to be monitored and targets adjusted to meet any additional statutory requirements. This will continue to be monitored by the Sustainability & Climate Change team and reported on to the Sustainability Committee. An example of this is the latest target of zero direct emissions from Public Sector buildings by 2038.
- 6) There is a political risk associated with not meeting the Council's agreed emissions reduction target. The Carbon Budget process of Aberdeenshire Council is recognised as best practice by public sector organisations and should continue to be the process used for supporting progress towards the Council's reduction target. Reporting on emissions is a mandatory requirement through the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties and therefore allows the Council to monitor and assess its progress on an annual basis. This reporting is monitored by the Sustainability Committee.

Appendix 4: Carbon Budget 2023/24 Risks for Consideration

- 7) Changes to regulations, introduction of carbon taxes etc. are ways in which there may be a future added cost to not working towards reducing the Council's emissions now. Similarly, not considering impacts of future climate predictions for the region when retrofitting and building new could mean dealing with reactive costs instead of investment being in place already.
 - 8) Constrained networks and the additional grid capacity including its resilience to extreme weather events is a recognised risk but of greater concern in rural areas where heat pumps are deemed to be a solution.
 - 9) The continued development of the Carbon Budget Toolkit for generating a Marginal Abatement Cost (MAC) curve will support the need for the Carbon Budget to continue to become better integrated with the financial budgets. This will provide members with a clearer link in demonstrating the costs and savings being met through carbon saving initiatives. This will be an important step in assisting the Council to make decisions that allow it to meet its emission reduction targets in the most cost effective way. This requires cross service working to ensure savings are captured correctly and will remain an ongoing process.
 - 10) Access to and awareness of external funding opportunities and the internal resource to create successful bids for these different funding streams will be key in financing climate change mitigation and adaptation. Annual Carbon Budgets can not be funded solely by Aberdeenshire Council's Revenue and Capital Budgets.
 - 11) Reaching the required reduction target of 75% by 2030 and net zero by 2045 will require innovation and investment as well as a desire within leadership and across the organisation to continue to progress towards ambitious targets. There is a reputational risk if this is not achieved and therefore progress will continue to be monitored by the Sustainability & Climate Change team and reported on to the Sustainability Committee for appropriate action.
- 1.2 All of these risks and others within the budget will be monitored and managed in order to identify any issues and address these at an early stage.

2 Budget Pressures and Significant Developments

- 2.1 Significant budget pressures and developments across services and the estate will have implications on the Council's Carbon Budget:
- 1) The anticipated scale of investment required for the Council to reach its targets and how this work will be funded is of increasing risk with overall budget pressures across Aberdeenshire Council meaning projects which will reduce emissions may not be considered in order for the Council to reach a balanced budget. Budget reductions across services will also impact resources required for potential projects.

Appendix 4: Carbon Budget 2023/24 Risks for Consideration

- 2) New schools now online – they are more energy efficient but larger community campuses. Extended times of operation have therefore increased energy use. This is in line with expectations of the business case for these builds.
 - 3) The 1140 hours entitlement for childcare will have an impact on emission reduction targets due to increase energy use and waste.
 - 4) Further new developments, policies, procedures and strategies will need to consider climate change mitigation and adaptation in order to support progress in action across the Council. This will require an overall fundamental shift as an organisation to current practices.
 - 5) Future adoption of development sites which include old technology street lighting will need to be updated to LED when added to the Council's portfolio.
 - 6) In presenting any savings which we anticipate making by reducing energy consumption we will need to account for any increase in the price of energy and baseline against the original and future budget for energy costs. For example, we have made real term savings through bringing in LED for our street lighting network but we are also seeing upward pressure on the cost of the electricity we use.
- 2.2 All of these budget pressures and developments will be monitored in order to identify any issues and address these where possible at an early stage.

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

Carbon Budget 2023-24

Assessment ID	IIA-001163
Lead Author	Claudia Cowie
Additional Authors	Yvonne D'Ambruso
Service Reviewers	Ewan Wallace
Subject Matter Experts	Claudia Cowie, Kakuen Mo, Christine McLennan
Approved By	Ewan Wallace
Approved On	Monday February 06, 2023
Publication Date	Thursday February 16, 2023

1. Overview

This document has been generated from information entered into the Integrated Impact Assessment system.

The report contains Aberdeenshire Council's Carbon Budget for 2023 – 2024 and identified projects which will reduce emissions further as the Council continues to progress with its target of a 75% reduction by 2030 (from its 2010/11 baseline). Projects include LED replacements, building upgrades, energy efficiency interventions, and additional low emission vehicles to the fleet. The report also highlights the success to date by Aberdeenshire Council in reducing its internal emissions annually.

During screening 7 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 3 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

- Childrens' Rights and Wellbeing
- Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty
- Sustainability and Climate Change

In total there are 15 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 0 negative impacts, all impacts have been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 0 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by ewan.wallace@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

The remainder of this document sets out the details of all completed impact assessments.

2. Screening

Could your activity / proposal / policy cause an impact in one (or more) of the identified town centres?	No
Would this activity / proposal / policy have consequences for the health and wellbeing of the population in the affected communities?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect greenhouse gas emissions (CO2e) in the Council or community and / or the procurement, use or disposal of physical resources?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the resilience to extreme weather events and/or a changing climate of Aberdeenshire Council or community?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have an impact on people and / or groups with protected characteristics?	Yes
Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council?	Yes
Does this activity / proposal / policy impact on inequality of outcome?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's rights?	Yes
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing?	Yes

3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	No Negative Impacts Identified
Climate Change and Sustainability	No Negative Impacts Identified
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	No Negative Impacts Identified
Health Inequalities	Not Required
Town Centre's First	Not Required

4. Childrens' Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment

4.1. Wellbeing Indicators

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Safe		Yes		
Healthy		Yes		
Achieving	Yes			
Nurtured		Yes		
Active		Yes		
Respected	Yes			
Responsible	Yes			
Included	Yes			

4.2. Rights Indicators

UNCRC Indicators upheld by this activity / proposal / policy	Article 3 - Best interests of the child
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4.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Achieving	The Carbon Budget initiative Energy Management for schools in collaboration with the Energy Team in Property and Facilities Management will engage pupils within Aberdeenshire schools to become more knowledgeable in energy saving initiatives and be able to share these at home and in the community. Schools will be encourages to access the internal website holding all of the energy data for their school and utilise this data for cross disciplinary learning. Pupils will learn new skills and can have an opportunity to lead on different energy saving initiatives as well as work collaboratively across the school and other schools if interested in competition or collaborative working. They can feel empowered to make a difference to emissions and therefore their impact on climate change.
Included	The Carbon Budget initiative Energy Management for schools in collaboration with the Energy Team in Property and Facilities Management will engage pupils within Aberdeenshire schools to become more knowledgeable in energy saving initiatives and be able to share these at home and in the community. Schools will be encourages to access the internal website holding all of the energy data for their school and utilise this data for cross disciplinary learning. Pupils will learn new skills and can have an opportunity to lead on different energy saving initiatives as well as work collaboratively across the school and other schools if interested in competition or collaborative working. They can feel empowered to make a difference to emissions and therefore their impact on climate change.

Impact Area	Impact
Responsible	The Carbon Budget initiative Energy Management for schools in collaboration with the Energy Team in Property and Facilities Management will engage pupils within Aberdeenshire schools to become more knowledgeable in energy saving initiatives and be able to share these at home and in the community. Schools will be encouraged to access the internal website holding all of the energy data for their school and utilise this data for cross disciplinary learning. Pupils will learn new skills and can have an opportunity to lead on different energy saving initiatives as well as work collaboratively across the school and other schools if interested in competition or collaborative working. They can feel empowered to make a difference to emissions and therefore their impact on climate change.
Respected	The Carbon Budget initiative Energy Management for schools in collaboration with the Energy Team in Property and Facilities Management will engage pupils within Aberdeenshire schools to become more knowledgeable in energy saving initiatives and be able to share these at home and in the community. Schools will be encouraged to access the internal website holding all of the energy data for their school and utilise this data for cross disciplinary learning. Pupils will learn new skills and can have an opportunity to lead on different energy saving initiatives as well as work collaboratively across the school and other schools if interested in competition or collaborative working. They can feel empowered to make a difference to emissions and therefore their impact on climate change.

4.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Consultation	https://www.childrensparliament.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Childrens-Parliament_Climate_Assembly_2021.pdf	This report tells explains how children have been involved in Scotland's Climate Assembly, and what children across Scotland think needs to happen in Scotland to tackle the climate emergency.	The climate emergency is a human rights issue. Any plan, solution or action to tackle climate emergency in Scotland must respond to the needs, and rights, of everyone living here, and this means listening to the diversity of views and lived experiences of Scotland's citizens. This includes children.

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Consultation	Officers across different services	A number of different services within Business, Infrastructure, Education and Children, and the Health and Social Care Partnership have provided data and information for this report.	Gathered many lists of project ideas some of which have been included as actions for 2022/23. Others will be worked on over the year to provide an action plan for mitigation and adaptation work including the development of the Route Map to 2030 and Toolkit.
Internal Data	Data from across different services on on consumption of energy and waste.	Internal energy, transport and waste consumption data has been used to determine the carbon emissions of the Council. Data has come from Property and Facilities, Transportation, Roads, Landscape and Waste Services, HR&OD.	The data has been used to determine the Council's total annual emissions up to 2020/21.

4.5. Information Gaps

Climate Change information and data changes frequently as the science and research improves. There are likely gaps but we use all the information provided to us by the Scottish Government alongside all other Public Sector bodies.

4.6. Measures to fill Information Gaps

Measure	Timescale
We will continue to consult on documents put forward by the Scottish Government on the expectations of the Public Sector.	Ongoing

4.7. Accounting for the Views of Children and Young People

The report produced by the Children's Parliament and Scotland's Climate Assembly (2020-21) was considered when pulling together the Carbon Budget.

4.8. Promoting the Wellbeing of Children and Young People

Reducing emissions from actions within the Council will support a cleaner, safer environment for children / young people and therefore improve their wellbeing. For example, reducing emissions will positively impact air quality, improve biodiversity and supports a future where climate change may not be as impactful as predicted if we do not contribute to reducing global emissions. In addition, children / young people who engage in ways to reduce emissions may find a new interest and therefore could impact their wellbeing by providing exciting opportunities for future development, employment, learning opportunities etc.

4.9. Upholding Children and Young People's Rights

Climate Change is a human rights issue. Any plan, solution or action to tackle climate change in Scotland must respond to the needs, and rights, of everyone living here. Actions in the Carbon Budget should also benefit the children the Council look after through its different services. Many of the actions in the carbon budget will do this including the energy efficiency measures

which will be completed in schools, the Energy Management for schools in collaboration with the Energy Team in Property and Facilities Management project and future engagement within the Council's Education and Children Services new Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy.

4.10. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

Reducing emissions from actions within the Council will support a cleaner, safer environment for children / young people as well as provide exciting opportunities for development and learning.

5. Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty Impact Assessment

5.1. Protected Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Age (Younger)		Yes		
Age (Older)		Yes		
Disability		Yes		
Race		Yes		
Religion or Belief		Yes		
Sex		Yes		
Pregnancy and Maternity		Yes		
Sexual Orientation		Yes		
Gender Reassignment		Yes		
Marriage or Civil Partnership		Yes		

5.2. Socio-economic Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Low income		Yes		
Low wealth		Yes		
Material deprivation		Yes		
Area deprivation	Yes			
Socioeconomic background		Yes		

5.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Area deprivation	Improving the Council's operational non-domestic building stock to make it more energy efficient can improve the quality of the building and therefore improve the conditions that people who come into contact with our buildings face (internally and externally). This includes the Council's schools, offices, leisure centres etc. Future proofing the Council's estate will therefore support improving area deprivation. In addition to this, the Council's contribution to reducing emissions will also support other social and environmental impacts on area deprivation such as improving air quality and biodiversity.

5.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Consultation	https://www.gov.scot/publications/transition-commission-national-mission-fairer-greener-scotland/documents/	The report sets out the view of the The Just Transition Commission on key opportunities and challenges for Scotland and recommends practical steps to achieving a just transition.	Fairness and climate ambition must go hand in hand. The pathway to net-zero emissions may be ambitious, but it can be a unique opportunity to build a Scotland that is healthier, fairer and greener.
External Consultation	https://www.climateassembly.scot/full-report	Scotland's Climate Assembly is made up of over 100 citizens from all walks of life tasked with examining expert evidence and agreeing recommendations for tackling the climate emergency in a fair and effective way. This report lays out Scotland's Climate Assembly's recommendations for Scottish society to tackle the climate emergency. It begins with a Statement of Ambition, calling for radical and decisive action, then details 16 goals and 81 recommendations.	It means that Scotland's Public Sector and therefore Aberdeenshire Council have a duty to consider the recommendations put forward by the Assembly and determine ways in which it can support those of which it has direct influence over via the Council's Carbon Budget process.
Internal Consultation	Officers across different services	A number of different services within Business, Infrastructure, Education and Children, and the Health and Social Care Partnership have provided data and information for this report.	Gathered many lists of project ideas some of which have been included as actions for 2022/23. Others will be worked on over the year to provide an action plan for mitigation and adaptation work including the development of the Route Map to 2030 and Toolkit.
Internal Data	Data from across different services on on consumption of energy and waste.	Internal energy, transport and waste consumption data has been used to determine the carbon emissions of the Council. Data has come from Property and Facilities, Transportation, Roads, Landscape and Waste Services, HR&OD.	The data has been used to determine the Council's total annual emissions up to 2020/21.

5.5. Information Gaps

Climate Change information and data changes frequently as the science and research improves. There are likely gaps but we use all the information provided to us by the Scottish Government

alongside all other Public Sector bodies.

5.6. Measures to fill Information Gaps

Measure	Timescale
We will continue to consult on documents put forward by the Scottish Government on the expectations of the Public Sector.	Ongoing

5.7. Engagement with affected groups

Consultation for the production of the Carbon Budget has been to review Scotland's Climate Assembly and Children's Parliament reports. These reports represent a range of people who are broadly representative of a population.

5.8. Ensuring engagement with protected groups

There are no impacts identified on those with protected characteristics.

5.9. Evidence of engagement

There has not been engagement to evidence other than the consultation of the documents mentioned above.

5.10. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

Action to address and improve climate change mitigation and adaptation performance will benefit all staff and residents of Aberdeenshire.

5.11. Improving Relations

Continuous communication across services within Aberdeenshire Council and Aberdeenshire communities will be required to ensure any impacts are identified, considered and mitigated if feasible as early as possible.

5.12. Opportunities of Equality

It is well understood that Climate Change impacts are likely to affect people disproportionately. Any transition through climate change mitigation and adaptation must always be considered just and socially fair so that everyone can benefit from the opportunities and no one is left suffering the consequences worse than others.

6. Sustainability and Climate Change Impact Assessment

6.1. Emissions and Resources

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Consumption of energy	Yes			
Energy efficiency	Yes			
Energy source	Yes			
Low carbon transition	Yes			
Consumption of physical resources	Yes			
Waste and circularity	Yes			
Circular economy transition		Yes		
Economic and social transition	Yes			

6.2. Biodiversity and Resilience

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Quality of environment	Yes			
Quantity of environment		Yes		
Wildlife and biodiversity		Yes		
Infrastructure resilience	Yes			
Council resilience	Yes			
Community resilience		Yes		
Adaptation		Yes		

6.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Council resilience	By improving energy efficiency and installing renewables such as the solar PVs the Council is already improving its own resilience for future climate change events such as extreme weather events.
Infrastructure resilience	By improving energy efficiency and installing renewables such as the solar PVs the Council is already improving its own infrastructure resilience for future climate change events such as extreme weather events.
Quality of environment	By reducing emissions the Council is supporting other benefits for the environment such as improving air quality in the region. In addition, reduced maintenance for biodiversity enhancement in certain areas will also improve the quality of the environment.
Consumption of energy	The Carbon Budget report contains a number of projects which will support reducing energy consumption by the organisation. This is through energy efficiency projects as well as projects reducing waste and also reducing energy consumption by other services.

Impact Area	Impact
Energy efficiency	The Carbon Budget report contains a number of projects which will support reducing energy consumption by the organisation. This is through energy efficiency projects as well as projects reducing waste and also reducing energy consumption by other services. Many projects are focused on energy efficiency improvements to building stock.
Energy source	The carbon budget includes the addition of solar PVs to some of the Council's buildings generating renewable energy.
Economic and social transition	The Council is demonstrating leadership in reducing emissions through its carbon budget process and therefore is supporting the low carbon transition in the region. Part of the feasibility work as mentioned in the report will also look at local supply chains and skills gaps for energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation in the region. The Council can then look at opportunities to support the growth of these needs in the region.
Low carbon transition	The Council is demonstrating leadership in reducing emissions through its carbon budget process and therefore is supporting the low carbon transition in the region.
Consumption of physical resources	The continued membership to the WarplT reuse online platform means the Council can reduce its consumption of physical resources by ensuring items no longer required in one service can be reused in another part of the Council. The platform links the Council to external organisations also so sharing can happen across the region. In addition energy efficiency projects will reduce the Council's consumption of other resources such as fossil fuel.
Waste and circularity	The continued membership to the WarplT reuse online platform means the Council can reduce its consumption of physical resources by ensuring items no longer required in one service can be reused in another part of the Council. The platform links the Council to external organisations also so sharing can happen across the region. Improving food waste recycling in some of the Council's schools will also reduce waste to landfill and will supply circularity through the contract with Keenans which converts the food waste into soil improver for the region.

6.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Consultation	Officers across different services	A number of different services within Business, Infrastructure, Education and Children, and the Health and Social Care Partnership have provided data and information for this report.	Gathered many lists of project ideas some of which have been included as actions for 2022/23. Others will be worked on over the year to provide an action plan for mitigation and adaptation work including the development of the Route Map to 2030 and Toolkit.

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Data	Data from across different services on on consumption of energy and waste.	Internal energy, transport and waste consumption data has been used to determine the carbon emissions of the Council. Data has come from Property and Facilities, Transportation, Roads, Landscape and Waste Services, HR&OD.	The data has been used to determine the Council's total annual emissions up to 2020/21.
External Consultation	https://www.gov.scot/publications/transition-commission-national-mission-fairer-greener-scotland/documents/	The report sets out the view of the The Just Transition Commission on key opportunities and challenges for Scotland and recommends practical steps to achieving a just transition.	Fairness and climate ambition must go hand in hand. The pathway to net-zero emissions may be ambitious, but it can be a unique opportunity to build a Scotland that is healthier, fairer and greener.
External Consultation	https://www.climateassembly.scot/full-report	Scotland's Climate Assembly is made up of over 100 citizens from all walks of life tasked with examining expert evidence and agreeing recommendations for tackling the climate emergency in a fair and effective way. This report lays out Scotland's Climate Assembly's recommendations for Scottish society to tackle the climate emergency. It begins with a Statement of Ambition, calling for radical and decisive action, then details 16 goals and 81 recommendations.	It means that Scotland's Public Sector and therefore Aberdeenshire Council have a duty to consider the recommendations put forward by the Assembly and determine ways in which it can support those of which it has direct influence over via the Council's Carbon Budget process.
Other Evidence	Public Sector Leadership on the Global Climate Emergency	The guidance is in part to support the Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2020 which set out additional requirements and expectations for Public Body response to the Climate Emergency.	The document lays out consideration for Public Sector Bodies to embed climate change action across the organisation in order to reduce emissions in line with the National targets. Aberdeenshire Council's Carbon Budget process supports some of these expectations.

6.5. Information Gaps

Climate Change information and data changes frequently as the science and research improves.

There are likely gaps but we use all the information provided to us by the Scottish Government alongside all other Public Sector bodies.

6.6. Measures to fill Information Gaps

Measure	Timescale
We will continue to consult on documents put forward by the Scottish Government on the expectations of the Public Sector.	Ongoing

6.7. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

The Carbon Budget 2022-23 identifies many projects which will support a reduction in the Council's own emissions demonstrating a positive impact towards supporting action on climate change mitigation and adaptation.