

## REPORT TO SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE – 10 NOVEMBER 2021

### PUBLIC BODIES CLIMATE CHANGE DUTIES REPORT 2020-2021

#### 1 Reason for Report/Summary

- 1.1 This report is Aberdeenshire Council's Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report for 2020-21. This report is produced annually and is a mandatory requirement for all public bodies. It is for the consideration and approval of the Sustainability Committee before its submission to Scottish Government.

#### 2 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 **Consider, comment and approve Aberdeenshire Council's Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2020-21 and delegate authority to the Director of Environment and Infrastructure Services to submit the finalised report to the Scottish Government by 30 November 2021 (Appendix 1); and**
- 2.2 **Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to sign the declaration in Part 6e of the report.**

#### 3 Purpose and Decision-Making Route

- 3.1 The [Climate Change \(Scotland\) Act 2009](#) is a statutory framework for greenhouse gas emissions reductions in Scotland. Included within the Act are the following requirements on public bodies in the exercising of their functions.

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

- 3.2 [The Climate Change \(Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements\) \(Scotland\) Order 2015](#) require public bodies, including Aberdeenshire Council, to report annually on compliance with the climate change duties. The 2020-21 report is required to be submitted to the Scottish Government by 30 November 2021.

#### 4 Discussion

- 4.1 An important note of relevance to future reporting requirements is that the [Climate Change \(Emissions Reduction Targets\) \(Scotland\) Act 2019](#), which came into force on 9 November 2020, 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).

4.2 Amendments made to the 2009 Act by the 2019 Act do not apply to the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties report which the Council requires to produce for the year ending on 31 March 2021. The new reporting requirements for public bodies will be in place as part of the reporting to Scottish Government next year and will include the following:

- Where applicable, a 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, any targets for reducing indirect emissions of greenhouse gases;
- How the body aligns 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 towards achieving its emissions reduction targets;
- How the body is contributing to Scotland's Adaptation Programme.

4.3 Aberdeenshire Council's draft Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2020-21 is included as **Appendix 1**. It requires to be submitted to the Scottish Government at the end of November 2021.

4.4 In addition to the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2020-21 a comparison of 2019-20 consumption data, emission factors and emission data with 2020-21 can be found in **Appendix 2**. There has been a further significant reduction in the electricity emissions factor due to the continued decarbonisation of the grid. Furthermore, the comparison demonstrates where implications from Covid-19 has forced a reduction in consumption of energy, most significantly through transportation (fleet and business travel).

4.5 An overview of Aberdeenshire Council's annual progress towards its 75% reduction by 2030 target can be found in **Appendix 3**.

## **5 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk**

5.1 This Report helps deliver the key principle of 'climate and sustainability' within

the Pillar “Our Environment”.

5.2 This Report helps deliver on the Climate Change Declaration.

5.3 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			X
Children and Young People’s Rights and Wellbeing			X
Climate Change and Sustainability			X
Health and Wellbeing			X
Town Centre First			X

5.4 There are no direct staffing and/or financial implications arising from this performance monitoring report.

5.5 An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) screening was completed (**Appendix 4**). During screening 0 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required as there are no direct implications of approving this Climate Change Duties Report for submission as it is a performance monitoring report from 2020-21.

5.6 The following specific Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level:

- Risk ID ACORP010 as it relates to environmental challenges; and
- Risk ID ACORP006 as it relates to reputation management within the Corporate Risk Register.

The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level:

- Risk ID ISSR004 as it relates to Climate Change in the Directorate Risk Registers.

## 6 Scheme of Governance

6.1 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.

6.2 The Committee is able to consider and take a decision on this item in terms of Section S paragraph 1.1 (b) of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the

Scheme of Governance as it relates to Public Bodies Climate Change Duties annual reporting.

**Alan Wood**  
**Director of Environment & Infrastructure Services**

Report prepared by Claudia Cowie, Team Leader Sustainability and Climate Change  
26 October 2021

**List of Appendices:**

Appendix 1 - Draft Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2020-2021 for  
Aberdeenshire Council

Appendix 2 - Comparison data from 2019/20 - 2020/21

Appendix 3 - Annual progress towards 2030 target

Appendix 4 - Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Report

**Appendix 1: Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2020/21 - Draft**

**PART 1: PROFILE OF REPORTING BODY**

**1(a) Name of reporting body – Aberdeenshire Council**

**1(b) Type of body - Local Government**

**1(c) Highest number of full-time equivalent staff in the body during the report year**

10, 555.4

**1(d) Metrics used by the body**

Specify the metrics that the body uses to assess its performance in relation to climate change and sustainability.

Metric	Units	Value	Comments
Population size served	Population	261,210	<a href="#">PowerPoint Presentation (aberdeenshire.gov.uk)</a>

**1(e) Overall budget of the body**

Specify approximate £/annum for the report year.

£587,000,000

**Comments**

This total is net expenditure

**1(f) Report year**

Specify the report year.

2020/21 (Financial Year)

**1(g) Context**

Provide a summary of the body's nature and functions that are relevant to climate change reporting.

Aberdeenshire is a predominantly rural area in North East Scotland and includes the Cairngorm mountains, rich agricultural lowlands and varied coastal landscapes. Traditionally economically dependent on the primary sectors (Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing), over the past 50 years the development of the oil and gas industry has repositioned Aberdeenshire's economic focus.

Aberdeenshire is largely rural in nature, covering an area of 6,339km<sup>2</sup> (8% of Scotland's overall territory). Its population density is 41 people per km<sup>2</sup>. Aberdeenshire's population has increased by 5% since 2009 - 2019 making up almost 5% of the Scottish population. In 2009 the population was 249,020. The housing stock in Aberdeenshire is 119,503, an increase of 10% since 2009 and accounts for 4.5% of Scotland's total household stock. Source: NRS, Dwellings by Council Tax Band.

The large and rural nature of Aberdeenshire means that transport contributes significantly to the region's emissions. Many areas are also out with the mains gas network, relying largely on oil and electricity for heating.

Aberdeenshire is divided into 6 administrative areas (Kincardine & Mearns, Marr, Formartine, Garioch, Buchan and Banff & Buchan) (See Aberdeenshire Profile [PowerPoint Presentation \(aberdeenshire.gov.uk\)](#))

There are 62 towns and villages in Aberdeenshire with a population greater than 500 and six towns with a population greater than 10,000:

<b>Settlement</b>	<b>Population (2019 est.)</b>
Peterhead	19,270
Fraserburgh	13,180
Inverurie	13,640
Westhill	12,290
Stonehaven	11,170
Ellon	10,200

Source: National Records of Scotland

Aberdeenshire Council as an organisation comprised of 4 Directorates:

#### **Infrastructure Services**

- Economic Development and Protective Services
- Housing
- Planning and Building Standards
- Roads, Landscape and Waste Management Services
- Transportation

**Business Services**

Audit  
Customer and Digital Services  
Finance  
Legal and People  
Procurement  
Property and Facilities

**Education and Children’s Services**

Children’s Social Work  
Education and Learning  
Live Life Aberdeenshire (Libraries, Sport and Physical Activity)

**Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership**

Adult Services  
Commissioning, Procurement and Contracts (Social Care)  
Criminal Justice  
Older People Services  
Records management  
Social Care  
Strategy and Business services

**At the end of the financial year 2020/21 Aberdeenshire Council had 624 operational properties (25 fewer than 2019/20):**

<b>ABERDEENSHIRE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP</b>	Old People’s Homes	8
	Respite Homes	3
	Hostels	16
	Day Centres	32
<b>BUSINESS</b>	Training Centres	3

<b>BUSINESS – PROPERTY + FM</b>	Offices	46
	Town Hall/Council Chambers	6
	Halls	19
	Public Toilets	58
<b>EDUCATION + CHILDRENS - EDUCATION</b>	Primary Schools	152
	Academy Schools	17
	Special Schools	4
	Stand Alone Nurseries	2
<b>EDUCATION + CHILDRENS - LL + L</b>	Community Centres	38
	Sports Centres	7
	Libraries	36
	Museums/Visitor Attractions	11
	Swimming Pools	16
	Sports Pavilions	41
	Outdoor Centre	1
<b>EDUCATION / CHILDRENS SERVICES</b>	Children's Homes	4
	Family Centres	10
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE - ROADS AND LANDSCAPE</b>	Caravan Sites	0
	Depots	49
	Stores	21
	Quarries	3
	Country Parks	4
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE - TRANSPORTATION</b>	Park and Ride	2
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE - WASTE</b>	Civic Amenity Sites	15

The Council also had 48 Industrial Estates/Business Parks including 720 non-operational buildings (shops and industrial units).



**Key Facts:**

- Number of Council Houses – 13,087
- Refuse collection – number of properties serviced 120,229 domestic and 403 commercial
- Planning Applications registered - 1907 (773 householder applications)
- Length of roads maintained (miles) - 3,463
- Number of bridges and culverts maintained - 1,308
- Length of footway and footpath maintained (miles) - 906
- Car Parks - 114
- Streetlights (units) - 49,667 (Total units including signs, speed cameras, traffic signals, flood lights, decorative lights, harbour and car parks)
- Harbours - 7
- Burial Grounds - 223
- Play areas – 474
- Country Parks - 4

**PART 2: GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY**

**2(a) How is climate change governed in the body?**

Provide a summary of the roles performed by the body's governance bodies and members in relation to climate change. If any of the body's activities in relation to climate change sit outside its own governance arrangements (in relation to, for example, land use, adaptation, transport, business travel, waste, information and communication technology, procurement or behaviour change), identify these activities and the governance arrangements.

Aberdeenshire Council's overall response to and management of its sustainability and climate change duties and commitments is currently based around a number of areas, including the following:

- **Policies and commitments** – for example, the Environmental and Climate Change Policy (2017) and Resources and Circular Economy Commitment (2019).
- **Initiatives, strategies and processes** – for example, Climate Ready Aberdeenshire, the Pollinator Action Plan 2019 to 2021 and Carbon Budget (details below).
- **Member oversight** – the Sustainability Committee meets quarterly to oversee the Council's work and ensure duty compliance, with items considered by other Policy Committees, including Full Council, as required.
- **Officer support** – the Sustainability and Climate Change Team provide coordination, expertise and guidance.

Aberdeenshire Council has an Environmental and Climate Change Policy. The policy was reaffirmed by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive in February 2017. All information regarding climate change action by Aberdeenshire Council, including the Environmental and Climate Change policy can be found on the Aberdeenshire Council Climate Change website.

Carbon Budget - In 2017-18 Aberdeenshire Council became the first Local Authority in Scotland to develop and approve a Carbon Budget. The Carbon Budget was established with the aim of ensuring that an ongoing reduction in the Council's own emissions was managed and monitored alongside financial budgets and to encourage ownership of emissions across the organisation. The Carbon Budget is approved by Full Council in February/March each year at the Budget setting meeting. In March 2021 Carbon Budget targets were set in line with a linear reduction in emissions towards a 75% reduction (from 2010-11 baseline) by 2030 and Directorates required to report their Carbon Budget updates six-monthly to their relevant Policy Committees and the Sustainability Committee.

Sustainability Committee - This Committee is responsible for matters relating to sustainable development and climate change. The following functions of the Council are delegated to this Committee:

- a) To approve, review and monitor the Council's work in respect of sustainable development and climate change in order to ensure compliance with relevant statutory duties, with particular reference to the Climate Change Action Plan.
- b) To respond, on the Council's behalf, to the Scottish Government and other relevant bodies regarding sustainable development and climate change issues, including reporting on Scotland's Climate Change Duties Report and the Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy.
- c) To promote awareness of the need for sustainability within the Council and wider community of Aberdeenshire. Reports may also be considered by other Policy Committees, including Full Council, depending on content and remit.

**2(b) How is climate change action managed and embedded by the body?**

Provide a summary of how decision-making in relation to climate change action by the body is managed and how responsibility is allocated to the body's senior staff, departmental heads etc. If any such decision-making sits outside the body's own governance arrangements (in relation to, for example, land use, adaptation, transport, business travel, waste, information and communication technology, procurement or behaviour change), identify how this is managed and how responsibility is allocated outside the body (JPEG, PNG, PDF, DOC)

In March 2020, Aberdeenshire Council approved its Carbon Budget for the 2020/21 financial year. This process has further imbedded Climate Change action throughout all services by placing responsibility for emission reductions to all Service Directors. The Carbon Budget contains projects throughout Council Services which will bring about emission reductions. Projects include behaviour change, renewables, energy efficiency in building stock and street lighting, electric vehicles (EVs), EV infrastructure, battery operated landscaping equipment, waste reduction and reuse initiatives, and

behaviour change etc. Each of the four Council Directorates are now required to report their Carbon Budget updates six-monthly to their relevant Policy Committees and Sustainability Committee. This step further passes responsibility and decision-making around the Carbon Budget to the Directorates.

Decision making with regard to climate change action ultimately rests with the Strategic Leadership Team, Heads of Service and management structure of the Council, with the oversight from Elected Members. The Sustainability and Climate Change Team in Economic Development provide coordination, expertise and guidance to encourage and support decision-making in this area and the integration of sustainability and climate change duties and commitments into Council operations.

In 2019 Sustainability Guidance for report authors (within Aberdeenshire Council) was published. This guidance supports report authors in their consideration, assessment and reporting of climate change and sustainability implications (both positive and negative) when composing and submitting reports to all Committees for consideration. Report authors are asked to consider risks and actions related to climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and general sustainability.

Climate Ready Aberdeenshire is a cross-sector initiative to create a regional Aberdeenshire climate change adaptation and mitigation strategy. It brings together the views and expertise of a range of diverse stakeholders from communities, public, private and 3rd sector organisations, to set out how we can work collaboratively to meet the challenges of a changing climate within Aberdeenshire. Climate Ready Aberdeenshire is governed by a Steering Group consisting of senior representatives from organisations throughout the North East of Scotland. The group is led by a Chair and Vice-Chair and supported by a project lead provided by the initiative's sponsor, Aberdeenshire Council, and is accountable to Aberdeenshire Council's Sustainability Committee. Some of the Steering Group members are also members of various Adaptation Scotland groups, including the Adaptation Scotland Benchmarking Working Group and Climate Adaptation Finance Working Group. [Climate Ready Aberdeenshire – A shared vision, strategy and action plan for Aberdeenshire](#)

Aberdeenshire Council utilises events such as Scotland Climate Week, Earth Hour and World Earth Day to share communication around Climate Change every year. In partnership with many other organisations around the North East, the Council has been involved in developing an annual North East Climate Week in March. There are many events geared at raising public awareness and discussions around climate change as well as engaging communities and youth through our libraries and ranger led activities. WWF awarded Aberdeenshire Council runner a 'Super Local Authority' badge for all their efforts to promote Earth Hour in March 2019.

**2(c) Does the body have specific climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives in its corporate plan or similar document?**

Provide a brief summary of objectives if they exist.

Wording of Objective	Name of Document	Link
We commit to working towards a carbon free society by reducing our emissions by 75% (against	Climate Change Declaration	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf</a>

our 2010/11 baseline) by 2030 and become Net Zero by 2045.		
We will provide support and leadership to empower our communities to also take action and be resilient to the impacts of climate change.	Climate Change Declaration	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf</a>
Offset all residual emissions generated which we cannot eliminate by 2045	Climate Change Declaration	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf</a>
Work with others across the region to ensure that Aberdeenshire reaches Net Zero by 2045, by promoting energy transition and a circular economy	Climate Change Declaration	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf</a>

<p>The six strategic priorities sit under three pillars which are: Our People, Our Environment, Our Economy. Underpinning the Priorities are a number of key principles. They are: right people, right places, right time; responsible finances; <b>climate and sustainability</b>; Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plans; human rights and public protection; tackling poverty and inequalities; digital infrastructure and economy.</p>	<p>Aberdeenshire Council Plan 2020-2022</p>	<p><a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-plan/strategic-priorities/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-plan/strategic-priorities/</a></p>
<p>Sustainability and Climate Change Commitment</p>	<p>Infrastructure Services Service Plan 2020-2022</p>	<p><a href="https://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=106877&amp;action=GetFileFromDB">https://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=106877&amp;action=GetFileFromDB</a></p>

**2(d) Does the body have a climate change plan or strategy?**

If yes, provide the name of any such document and details of where a copy of the document may be obtained or accessed.

A Route Map to 2030 is currently under development and will go to Full Council for consideration and approval in March 2022.

**2(e) Does the body have any plans or strategies covering the following areas that include climate change?**

Provide the name of any such document and the timeframe covered.

Topic Area	Name of document	Link	Time period covered	Comments
Adaptation	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017.	<a href="http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a>	To 2021	Adaptation is covered briefly in Section 18. A specific climate change adaptation strategy is

				proposed for development in the coming years.
Adaptation	Aberdeen City & Shire Strategic Development Plan	<a href="https://www3.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/strategic-development-plan/">https://www3.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/strategic-development-plan/</a>	2020-2040	
Adaptation	Aberdeenshire Corporate Risks	<a href="http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/about-us/single-outcome-agreement-council-and-service-plans-and-reports/">http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/about-us/single-outcome-agreement-council-and-service-plans-and-reports/</a>	2016 onwards	
Adaptation	North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2016-2022	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/17174/north-east-local-flood-risk-management-plan-2016-2022-web-version.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/17174/north-east-local-flood-risk-management-plan-2016-2022-web-version.pdf</a>	2016-2022	
Adaptation	Tay Estuary and Montrose Basin Local Plan District 2016-2022	<a href="https://www.angus.gov.uk/media/tay_estuary_and_montrose_basin_local_flood_risk_management_plan">https://www.angus.gov.uk/media/tay_estuary_and_montrose_basin_local_flood_risk_management_plan</a>	2016 onwards	Includes part of Aberdeenshire
Business Travel	Travel and Subsistence Procedure	<a href="http://arcadialite.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/TandSProcedure.pdf">http://arcadialite.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/TandSProcedure.pdf</a>	2014 onwards	Refer to sections 1 & 4 for climate change/sustainability aspects
Staff Travel	Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) Delivery Plan	<a href="http://publications.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/dataset/03cfdce3-ae2d-47f9-ac25-1a6a41943b45/resource/cf088e2b-d413-4b5e-9aaa-4fb3631fb8aa/download/cusersspellascdocumentslev-delivery-plan.pdf">http://publications.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/dataset/03cfdce3-ae2d-47f9-ac25-1a6a41943b45/resource/cf088e2b-d413-4b5e-9aaa-4fb3631fb8aa/download/cusersspellascdocumentslev-delivery-plan.pdf</a>	October 2018 onwards	Details actions to support update of LEV vehicles, in particular expanding the Council's charging network.
Staff Travel	Local Transport Strategy	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/2374/2012finalts.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/2374/2012finalts.pdf</a>	2012 onwards	To be refreshed during 2020/21 to align with revised Regional Transport Strategy and National Transport Strategy.

Staff Travel	Integrated Travel Town Masterplans	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/transportation/integrated-travel-towns/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/transportation/integrated-travel-towns/</a>	2018 – 2023	5 year masterplans for Fraserburgh, Ellon, Huntly, Inverurie and Portlethen to promote active travel and develop new infrastructure.
Staff Travel	Office Space Strategy		TBC	Office Space Strategy under review
Staff Travel	Worksmart Policy	<a href="http://worksmart.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Website_Worksmart-Policy.pdf">http://worksmart.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Website_Worksmart-Policy.pdf</a>	2015 onwards	
Energy efficiency	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	<a href="http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB">http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB</a>	2016 – 2020	Appendix 2
Energy Efficiency	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a>	2017 - 2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021
Energy Efficiency	Office Space Strategy		TBC	Office Space Strategy under review
Fleet transport	Fleet Services Strategic Plan 2020-2030	<a href="http://committeesinternal.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/committees.aspx?commid=495&amp;meetid=19808">http://committeesinternal.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/committees.aspx?commid=495&amp;meetid=19808</a>	2020-2030	Link provides update as provided at Infrastructure Services Committee
Information and communication technology	Team ICT - Innovate Aberdeenshire	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/14232/ict-digital-strategy.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/14232/ict-digital-strategy.pdf</a>	2015 – 2020	
Information and communication technology	PrintSmart	<a href="https://arcadia.ad.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/services/Pages/Business%20Services/Customer%20Communication%20and%20Improvement/Design,%20Photography%20and%20Print/Printsmart.aspx">https://arcadia.ad.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/services/Pages/Business%20Services/Customer%20Communication%20and%20Improvement/Design,%20Photography%20and%20Print/Printsmart.aspx</a>	2015 onwards	

Information and communication technology	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	<a href="http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB">http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB</a>	2016 - 2020	Appendix 2
Renewable Energy	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	<a href="http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB">http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB</a>	2016 – 2020	Appendix 2
Renewable Energy	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a>	2017 - 2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021.
Sustainable / Renewable Heat	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	<a href="http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB">http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB</a>	2016 – 2020	Appendix 2
Sustainable / Renewable Heat	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	<a href="http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a>	2017-2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021.
Waste Management	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	<a href="http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB">http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB</a>	2016 – 2020	Appendix 2
Waste Management	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a>	2017 - 2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021
Waste Management	Waste Strategy 2019 - 2023	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste/waste-strategy/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste/waste-strategy/</a>	2019 - 2023	This document replaces the Integrated Waste Management Strategy 2001 – 2020.
Water and sewerage	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	<a href="http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB">http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&amp;action=GetFileFromDB</a>	2016 – 2020	Appendix 2



Water and sewerage	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a>	2017 - 2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021.
Land Use	Aberdeenshire Land Use Strategy Pilot Final Report 2015	<a href="http://publications.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/dataset/aberdeenshire-land-use-strategy-pilot">http://publications.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/dataset/aberdeenshire-land-use-strategy-pilot</a>	2015 -2020	
Land Use	Aberdeenshire Forestry and Woodland Strategy 2017	<a href="http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/20174/8-aberdeenshire-forestry-and-woodland-strategy.pdf">http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/20174/8-aberdeenshire-forestry-and-woodland-strategy.pdf</a>	2017 – 2021	Includes adaptation and mitigation and covers both Council-owned and managed land as well as other forests and woodlands.
Land Use	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a>	2017 - 2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021.
Other (state topic area covered in the comments)	Corporate Asset Management Plan 2015 - 2020	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/17318/cam-plan-january-15.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/17318/cam-plan-january-15.pdf</a>	2015 – 2020	Management of roads and water infrastructure, housing, fleet and ICT.
Other (state topic area covered in the comments)	Resources and Circular Economy Commitment	<a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/24872/resourcesandcirculareconomycommitment.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/24872/resourcesandcirculareconomycommitment.pdf</a>	2019 - onwards	Circular Economy

**2(f) What are the body's top 5 priorities for climate change governance, management and strategy for the year ahead?**

Provide a brief summary of the body's areas and activities of focus for the year ahead.

1. Development of a Route Map to 2030 – this piece of work will identify what actions need to happen within the Council in order to reach the 75% reduction target by 2030;
2. Development of a tool to include methodology which creates a carbon abatement curve (or similar) to support best value carbon reductions;
3. Fully embed the Carbon Budget into the financial budgets;

4. Determine how best to embed circular economy across Aberdeenshire Council and the region building on the Resources and Circular Economy Commitment; and
5. Assessing how the Council could further engage to 'work with others across the region to ensure that Aberdeenshire reaches Net Zero by 2045', as committed to in the Climate Change Declaration through Climate Ready Aberdeenshire.

**2(g) Has the body used the Climate Change Assessment Tool <sup>(a)</sup> or equivalent tool to self-assess its capability / performance?**

If yes, please provide details of the key findings and resultant action taken.

The tool was run in late 2017/18 by the Sustainability team. The following were the key findings:

- Adaptation – 5 steps and performance improvement.
- Communication of external reporting – do this internally, externally, develop a comms strategy and determine best way to reach most people.
- Committee reports to consider climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Develop a climate change champion programme.
- Devolve control of relevant emissions to operational area.

We have been addressing these as follows:

- Completed a Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP) 2011 – 2018, work ongoing to update the climate change risk register, strategy and action plan development through Climate Ready Aberdeenshire.
- Have developed a webpage to keep all up-to-date information on action regarding Climate Change and Sustainability within Aberdeenshire Council; created a separate Climate Ready Aberdeenshire webpage, use of Yammer for internal comms, internal newsletter etc.
- Creation of an online Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) which requires all reports to consider sustainability and climate change mitigation and adaptation impacts – negative and positive.
- After trialing a number of different pilots a Sustainability Pioneers and Champions programme has been developed for launch in 2021/22.
- The carbon budget process is devolving control of relevant emissions to operational areas.

a) This refers to the tool developed by Resource Efficient Scotland for self-assessing an organisation's capability / performance in relation to climate change.

**2(h) Supporting information and best practice**

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to governance, management and strategy.

As a Lead Local Authority for the North East Region, the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act introduces a more sustainable and modern approach to flood risk management, suited to the needs of the 21st century and to the impact of climate change.

A Net Zero Strategy for the Council's non domestic buildings is currently under development and will be approved by the relevant Policy Committee in 2021/22. Aberdeenshire Council has been utilising support from the Circular North-east project (funded by Zero Waste Scotland) to work across strategically across Services to identify circular economy opportunities for the Council, building on the Council's pioneering Resources and Circular Economy Commitment.

**PART 3: EMISSIONS, TARGETS AND PROJECTS**

**3a Emissions from start of the year which the body uses as a baseline (for its carbon footprint) to the end of the report year.**

Complete the following table using the greenhouse gas emissions total for the body calculated on the same basis as for its annual carbon footprint /management reporting or, where applicable, its sustainability reporting. Include greenhouse gas emissions from the body's estate and operations (a) (measured and reported in accordance with Scopes 1 & 2 and, to the extent applicable, selected Scope 3 of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (b)). If data is not available for any year from the start of the year which is used as a baseline to the end of the report year, provide an explanation in the comments column.

(a) No information is required on the effect of the body on emissions which are not from its estate and operations.

(b) This refers to the document entitled "The greenhouse gas protocol. A corporate accounting and reporting standard (revised edition)", World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Geneva, Switzerland / World Resources Institute, Washington DC, USA (2004), ISBN: 1-56973-568-9.

Reference Year	Year	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total	Units	Comments
Baseline Carbon footprint	<b>2010/11</b>	37436	40159	8560	86155	tCO2e	Back-cast using Carbon Budget analysis figures. This includes amending waste emission factors to 2016/17 factor and including data from additional services we can now report.
Year 1 Carbon Footprint	<b>2011/12</b>	33899	36789	7712	78400	tCO2e	Back-cast using Carbon Budget analysis figures.
Year 2 Carbon Footprint	<b>2012/13</b>	35922	39012	7848	82782	tCO2e	Back-cast using Carbon Budget analysis figures.

Year 3 Carbon Footprint	<b>2013/14</b>	33415	36108	7742	77265	tCO2e	Back-cast using Carbon Budget analysis figures.
Year 4 Carbon Footprint	<b>2014/15</b>	34222	39857	7726	81805	tCO2e	A like for like on what we recorded this year compared to our baseline year (2010/11).
Year 5 Carbon Footprint	<b>2015/16</b>	35862	37112	6563	79537	tCO2e	A like for like on what we recorded this year compared to our baseline year (2010/11).
Year 6 Carbon Footprint	<b>2016/17</b>	34221	32243	7123	73587	tCO2e	A like for like on what we recorded this year compared to our baseline year (2010/11).
Year 7 Carbon Footprint	<b>2017/18</b>	32742	26817	7261	66820	tCO2e	<p>This year we have included biomass wood chip and pellet tonnage. Also - Quarries switched from Red Diesel to Kerosene.</p> <p>This total has been amended after an error was found with in Scope 1 emissions (where double accounting took place).</p> <p>Previous Scope 1 total was 34274 and previous overall total was 68352.</p>
Year 8 Carbon Footprint	<b>2018/19</b>	30990	20691	6289	57970	tCO2e	See amendments made to 2017/18 total in comments above.

Year 9 Carbon Footprint	<b>2019/20</b>	31313	18326	6048	55687	tCO2e	66tCO2e was found as double accounted for in 2019/20 emissions so this has now been removed from the Scope 3 total and overall total.
Year 10 Carbon Footprint	<b>2020/21</b>	26937	13141	5204	45281	tCO2e	

### 3b Breakdown of emission sources

Complete the following table with the breakdown of emission sources from the body's most recent carbon footprint (greenhouse gas inventory); this should correspond to the last entry in the table in 3(a) above. Use the 'Comments' column to explain what is included within each category of emission source entered in the first column. If there is no data consumption available for an emission source enter the emissions in kgCO2e in the 'Consumption' column of one of the "Other" rows and assign the scope and an emission factor of 1.

(a) Emissions factors are published annually by the UK Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy Emission Factor Year is 2020

Emission Source	Scope	Consumption Data	Units	Emission Factor	Units	Emissions (TCO2e)	Comments
Grid Electricity (generation)	Scope 2	456,026,30	kWh	0.23314	kgCO2e/kWh	10,632	Operational Buildings
Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	Scope 3	456,026,30	kWh	0.02005	kgCO2e/kWh	914	Operational Buildings
Natural Gas	Scope 1	73,978,042	kWh	0.18387	kgCO2e/kWh	13,602	Operational Buildings
Gas Oil	Scope 1	6,651,007	kWh	0.25672	kgCO2e/kWh	1,708	Operational Buildings
Burning Oil (kerosene)	Scope 1	12,152,246	kWh	0.24666	kgCO2e/kWh	2,998	Operational Buildings
LPG	Scope 1	2,549,734	kWh	0.21448	kgCO2e/kWh	547	Operational Buildings

Biomass (wood chips)	Scope 1	943	tonne	58.35272	kgCO2e/tonne	55	Operational Buildings
Biomass (wood pellets)	Scope 1	1639	tonne	72.29731	kgCO2e/tonne	118	Operational Buildings
Biomass (wood pellets) kWh	Scope 2	1,713,000	kWh	0.01545	kgCO2e/kWh	27	Operational Buildings - heat from third party
Water – Supply	Scope 3	471,933	m <sup>3</sup>	0.11000	kgCO2e/m3	52	Water Usage
Water – Treatment	Scope 3	448,336	m <sup>3</sup>	0.23000	kgCO2e/m3	103	Sewerage
Grid Electricity (generation)	Scope 2	10,644,949	kWh	0.23314	kgCO2e/kWh	2,482	Street Lighting
Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	Scope 3	10,644,949	kWh	0.02005	kgCO2e/kWh	213	Street Lighting
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	2,597,995	litres	2.54603	kgCO2e/ litres	6,615	Fleet Diesel
Petrol (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	34,845	Litres	2.16802	kgCO2e/ litres	76	Fleet Petrol
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	235,337	Litres	2.54603	kgCO2e/ litres	599	Roads – Red Diesel
LPG litres	Scope 1	309,518	litres	1.55537	kgCO2e/ litres	481	Roads - Quarries - total LPG purchased not necessarily used in 2020/21.
Gas Oil	Scope 1	1,568	litres	2.75776	kgCO2e/ litres	4	Roads – Harbour

LPG	Scope 1	8,528	litres	1.55537	kgCO2e/ litres	13	Roads – Propane
LPG	Scope 1	5,609	litres	1.55537	kgCO2e/ litres	9	Landscape – Greenhouses
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	43,829	litres	2.54603	kgCO2e/ litres	112	Landscape – Red Diesel
Refuse Municipal to Landfill	Scope 3	2,641	tonnes	437.37200	kgCO2e/tonnes	1,155	Internal Waste
Refuse Municipal/Commercial/Industrial to combustion	Scope 3	4	tonnes	21.31700	kgCO2e/tonnes	0.1	Internal Waste
Mixed Recycling	Scope 3	1,238	tonnes	21.31700	kgCO2e/tonnes	26	Internal Recycling
WEEE (Mixed Recycling)	Scope 3	136	tonnes	21.31700	kgCO2e/tonnes	3	Internal Mixed WEE, Lamps, ICT
Organic Garden Waste and food waste - Composting	Scope 3	1575	tonnes	10.20400	kgCO2e/tonnes	16	Landscape Garden Waste, and internal food waste
Average Car – unknown fuel	Scope 3	5,277,248	km	0.17140	kgCO2e/km	905	Business miles – car
Rail (National)	Scope 3	60,796	Passenger km	0.03694	kgCO2e/passenger km	2	Business National Rail
Domestic Flight (average passenger)	Scope 3	35,464	Passenger km	0.24430	kgCO2e/passenger km	9	UK Internal Flights
Short Haul Flights (average passenger)	Scope 3	5,624	Passenger km	0.15553	kgCO2e/passenger km	1	UK-Europe Flights

Homeworking Emissions	Scope 3	57	percentage of total FTEs home-based	0.30000	tCO2e/FTE/annum	1805	57% is the total estimate of the percentage FTE that were able to work from home, if required (includes teaching staff).
<b>TOTAL</b>						45281	

### 3c Generation, consumption and export of renewable energy

Provide a summary of the body's annual renewable generation (if any), and whether it is used or exported by the body.

Technology*	Renewable Electricity		Renewable Heat		Comments
	Total consumed by the organisation (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	Total consumed by the organisation (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	
Solar PV	1,491,003	18284			All generated power used internally. PV production at Crow's Nest is exported (18284)
Biomass			9,537,452	0	
Biomass			1,713,000		Heat consumed by Aberdeenshire Council, generated from Biomass by HoBESCo.
Solar Thermal					Solar thermal systems not metered - all heat used by Aberdeenshire Council.



Air Source Heat Pump					ASHP systems not metered - all heat used by Aberdeenshire Council.
Ground Source Heat Pump					Ground Source Heat Pump systems not metered - all heat used by Aberdeenshire Council
Landfill Gas CHP	230067	407039			Welfare facility utilising electricity generated on site by Microgen unit.

\*These are the list of entries provided within the form that can be selected from the dropdown menu and the corresponding consumption / export data can be entered under the appropriate heading.

### 3d Targets

List all of the body's targets of relevance to its climate change duties. Where applicable, overall carbon targets and any separate land use, energy efficiency, waste, water, information and communication technology, transport, travel and heat targets should be included.

Name of target	Type of target	Target	Units	Boundary / Scope of Target	Year used as baseline	Baseline figure	Units of baseline	Target completion year	Progress against target	Comments
Carbon emissions reduction target	Percentage	75	Total % reduction	Other (please specify in comments)	2010/11	86155	tCO2e	2030	Broadly on track (due largely to reducing grid emissions factor)	Including a fair range of emissions but far from complete. For example, Scope 3 emissions associated with procurement not included.
Net Zero	Percentage	100	Total % reduction	Other (please specify in comments)	2010/11	86155	tCO2e	2045	Broadly on track (due largely to reducing grid	As above. The net zero target will also require options for sequestration.

										emissions factor)	
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**3e Estimated total annual carbon savings from all projects implemented by the body in the report year**

If no projects were implemented against an emissions source, enter "0".

If the body does not have any information for an emissions source, enter "Unknown" into the comments box.

If the body does not include the emissions source in its carbon footprint, enter "N/A" into the comments box.

<b>Emissions Source</b>	<b>Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Electricity	380	Estimate: Replacement of old HID street lighting
Natural Gas	0	COVID-19 stopped all projects planned for 2020-21
Other heating fuels	0	COVID-19 stopped all projects planned for 2020-21
Waste	0	COVID-19 stopped all projects planned for 2020-21
Water and sewerage	0	
Business Travel	745	Estimated: Integration of EVs and Hydrogen into the pool fleet.  Not a project but COVID restrictions also reduced grey fleet travel significantly – 2,700,153 miles reduced between 2019/20 & 2020/21.
Fleet Transport	20	Estimate: Utilise Telematics – New Alison Gear Box Software and upgrading of some fleet vehicles to EVs/Hybrids. Less savings that predicated due to challenges of Covid-19.
Other (specify in comments)	0	

**3f Detail the top 10 carbon reduction projects to be carried out by the body in the report year**

Provide details of the 10 projects which are estimated to achieve the highest carbon savings during report year.

Project Name	Funding Source	First full year of CO2e savings	Are these savings estimated or actual?	Capital Cost (£)	Operational cost (£ / annum)	Project lifetime (years)	Primary fuel / emission source saved	Estimated carbon savings (tCO2e/annum)	Estimated costs savings / annum (£)	Behaviour Change aspects including use of ISM	Comments
Street Lighting	Capital Programme	2021/22	Estimated	£1,600,000		5yrs project with 20 years savings.	Grid Electricity	380		N/A	Replacement of old HID street lighting – part of 5 year programme.

**3g Estimated decrease or increase in the body's emissions attributed to factors (not reported elsewhere in this form) in the report year.**

If the emissions increased or decreased due to any such factor in the report year, provide an estimate of the amount and direction.

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate Changes			
Service provision	5410	Decrease	Covid related cuts in service provision
Staff numbers			
Other (specify in comments)			

**3h Anticipated annual carbon savings from all projects implemented by the body in the year ahead**

If no projects were implemented against an emissions source, enter "0".

If the body does not have any information for an emissions source, enter "Unknown" into the comments box.

If the body does not include the emissions source in its carbon footprint, enter "N/A" into the comments box.

Emissions Source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Comments
Electricity	200	Non-Domestic Energy Efficiency Framework (NDEEF) (400 total exact split TBC)

Electricity	350	Estimated: Replacement of old HID street lighting with LED units.
Natural Gas	200	NDEEF (400 total exact split TBC).
Other heating fuels	0	
Waste	10	Estimated: From continued use of the Warp-It portal.
Water and sewerage	0	
Business Travel	180	Estimated: based on assumptions of continued reduced mileage in all forms of travel into 2021/22.
Fleet Transport	86	Estimated: Upgrade in fleet vehicles – EV and Hydrogen replacements. Utilising telematics – new Alison gearbox software.
Other (specify in comments)		

**3i Estimated decrease or increase in the body's emissions attributed to factors (not reported elsewhere in this form) in the year ahead.**

If the emissions are likely to increase or decrease due to any such factor in the year ahead, provide an estimate of the amount and direction.

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate Changes	179	Decrease	Related to new Inverurie Community Campus replacing Pool, Community Campus and School.
Service provision	5231	Increase	Post covid return to "normal" operations.
Staff numbers			
Other (specify in comments)			

**3j Total carbon reduction project savings since the start of the year which the body uses as a baseline for its carbon footprint**

If the body has data available, estimate the total emissions savings made from projects since the start of that year ("the baseline year").

Total savings	Total estimated emissions savings (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Comments
Total project savings since the baseline year	40,874	Figure given is total reduction in recorded emissions from 2010/11 baseline year to current reporting year. Specific 'project' savings not identified so figure will include savings from reduced emissions factors and other organisational and external changes.

**3k Supporting information and best practice**

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to its emissions, targets and projects.

In 2017-18 Aberdeenshire Council became the first Local Authority in Scotland to develop and approve a Carbon Budget. The Carbon Budget was established with the aim of ensuring that an ongoing reduction in the Council's own emissions was managed and monitored alongside financial budgets and to encourage ownership of emissions across the organisation. The Carbon Budget is approved by Full Council in February each year at the Budget setting meeting and the process encourages Directorates and Services to consider emissions in their day to day work and to bring forward emissions reduction projects.

In March 2020 Carbon Budget targets were set in line with a linear reduction in emissions towards a 75% reduction (from 2010-11 baseline) by 2030 and Directorates required to report their Carbon Budget updates six-monthly to their relevant Policy Committees, which further passes responsibility and decision-making around the Carbon Budget to the Directorates. The Climate Change Declaration also sets the new target to 'work with others across the region to ensure that Aberdeenshire reaches Net Zero by 2045'.

**PART 4: ADAPTATION**

**4(a) Has the body assessed current and future climate-related risks?**

If yes, provide a reference or link to any such risk assessment(s).

Yes. Aberdeenshire Council has a Climate Change Risk Register developed by a group of representatives from SEPA, SE, Scottish Flood Forum, Adaptation Scotland & Aberdeenshire Council, to assess current and future climate-related risks. The Climate Change Risk Register was reviewed in 2018/19 by the Sustainability team and Risk Manager and updated to take into account the outcomes from the updated Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP) 2019. It was reviewed again by the Climate Ready Aberdeenshire Project Lead and Risk Manager in 2020/21 following the formation of Climate Ready Aberdeenshire and to

ensure risks are in line with the latest climate projections for Scotland. Climate change is identified as a risk within both the Corporate Risk Register and Directorate Strategic Risk Register and, following the 2020/21 revision, service managers were asked to ensure these, and other climate associated risks are included in their appropriate Risk Register.

**4(b) What arrangements does the body have in place to manage climate-related risks?**

Provide details of any climate change adaptation strategies, action plans and risk management procedures, and any climate change adaptation policies which apply across the body.

Aberdeenshire Council are the lead partner of Climate Ready Aberdeenshire 2020 - 2030 (CRA), a cross-partner initiative to create a vision, strategy and action plan for Aberdeenshire to mitigate climate change and adapt to its impact will protecting our biodiversity. This is led by a Steering Group of public, private and 3rd sector organisations and is using a place-based approach to support the region in adaptation and building resilience to climate change and extreme weather events. The Strategy and Action Plan will be finalised by the end of 2022. One of the outcomes of CRA is a regional Climate Change Risk Register to compliment Aberdeenshire Council's Climate Change Risk Register. Aberdeenshire Council are also devising an organisational Climate Adaptation Strategy to be completed by 2022 with an Action Plan. The Adaptation Scotland Benchmarking tool will be used to achieve this. The CRA Project Lead is also a member of several climate change adaptation and Adaptation Scotland groups.

Aberdeenshire Council have several risk management procedures and adaptation policies in place: Flood Risk Management Plans are in place, including Flood Prevention Schemes. In line with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, all services have Business Continuity Plans in place which cover their Critical Activities. These are not specific to extreme weather but could be used during such an event. Aberdeenshire Council and the Local Resilience Partnership have generic emergency response arrangements in place to cover extreme weather events. Infrastructure Services have an Operational Flood plan in place and Education and Children Services have protocols in place for school closures due to extreme weather.

**4(c) What action has the body taken to adapt to climate change?**

Include details of work to increase awareness of the need to adapt to climate change and build the capacity of staff and stakeholders to assess risk and implement action.

CRA are working with community groups and have hosted public events to raise the awareness of the importance of climate change adaptation, increase the understanding of climate change risks, support decision-makers to make climate friendly and climate ready decisions, provide knowledge, advice and support and link businesses, community groups, public and 3rd sector organisations to resources, projects and funding opportunities. CRA and the University of Aberdeen have undertaken a study identifying climate change adaptation actions (current and planned) being undertaken by climate change community groups across Aberdeenshire. This allowed us to share this information across the groups and link them together, identify what matters to communities and businesses, where there are adaptation action gaps and how CRA and Aberdeenshire Council can provide support.

Aberdeenshire Council are working to further embed adaptation, future proofing and resilience throughout services and communities. Some examples of actions already underway across services include:

- Local Development Plans have identified climate change adaptation as an element of their vision and plans include flood risks and prevention.
- The Paths team are building more resilient, sustainable paths to an appropriate specification to deal with climate change.
- Greenspace Officers are continuing to work within Landscape Services reduce management intensity of Council owned/managed greenspace. These measures cut carbon emissions and boost biodiversity. Community engagement is key in the project and is on-going. To date, many areas of greenspace have had grass cutting reduced. Other measures include a significant reduction in the use of traditional bedding displays in favour of perennial planting or meadow seed mixes.
- The Aberdeenshire Council Pollinator Action Plan 2019 - 2021 identifies the work we will undertake to help address the significant threats facing pollinating insects, including the impacts of a changing climate. The Action Plan is currently being revised.
- Council Housing stock are being upgraded to increase their resilience to extreme weather events and temperatures.
- The Bridges Service operates a bridge scour alert system so that any approaching severe rainfall weather patterns can be monitored prior to and during an event so that appropriate reactive monitoring and inspection action can be taken on a RED/AMBER/GREEN alert system. In addition, certain major bridges over major water courses have an emergency closure plan in place which will allow rapid closure if required using the Alert System described above.
- Flood studies have been completed for Ellon, Inverurie & Port Elphinstone, Inch, Stonehaven (coastal) and Ballater. These studies will primarily focus on direct defences, relocation of properties and property level protection, but other actions may also be considered in order to develop the most sustainable range of options.
- Aberdeenshire Council services are also working with partner organisations to adapt to climate change, assess risk and implement actions. This includes our Environmental Health Services working with SEPA to manage drought in the region due to higher temperatures and heat spells.

In addition, an Integrated Impact Assessment which examines the impacts of proposals on climate change adaptation has been introduced and requires consideration for every Committee report.

Actions such as business critical, operational buildings having backup generators in case of power failure during extreme weather events are in place.

**4(d) Where applicable, what progress has the body made in delivering the policies and proposals referenced N1, N2, N3, B1, B2, B3, S1, S2 and S3 in the Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme(a) (“the Programme”)? (Please note this table is for illustration only – the table in the form can be edited to include multiple policy / proposal references if required).**

If the body is listed in the Programme as a body responsible for the delivery of one or more policies and proposals under the objectives N1, N2, N3, B1,B2, B3, S1, S2 and S3, provide details of the progress made by the body in delivering each policy or proposal in the report year. If it is not responsible for delivering any policy or proposal under a particular objective enter “N/A” in the ‘Delivery progress made’ column for that objective.

(a) This refers to the programme for adaptation to climate change laid before the Scottish Parliament under section 53(2) of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 (asp 12) which currently has effect. The most recent one is entitled “Climate Ready Scotland: Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme” dated May 2014

Objective	Objective Reference	Theme	Policy / Proposal reference	Delivery progress made	Comments
Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on the natural environment.	N1		N1-8 N1-10	<p><b>N1-8:</b> Policies exist on avoidance of development in areas at risk from coastal flooding.</p> <p>Aberdeenshire Council as Lead Local Authority for the North East Local Plan District under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, published the Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the North East in June 2016.</p> <p><b>N1-10:</b> Working in partnership with SEPA, Aberdeen City Council and the James Hutton Institute, flood studies have been progressed. These have provided an opportunity to share data and hydraulic models with organisations such as SEPA to refine their Flood Warning Schemes.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a></p> <p><a href="#">Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 - Aberdeenshire Council</a></p>
Support a healthy and diverse natural environment with capacity to adapt.	N2		N2-2 N2-11 N2-18 N2-20	<p><b>N2-2:</b> Initial identification of Green networks within major urban areas in Local Development Plan 2017 and additional settlements identified and reviewed for green networks on the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a></p>



			<p><b>N2-7:</b> Aberdeenshire Council has worked in partnership with the River Dee Trust with LEADER funding to establish the North East Non-Native Species Project. The project provides a vehicle for information sharing and support for on the ground projects which will continue through an annual Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) Forum.</p> <p><b>N2-11:</b> Aberdeenshire Forest and Woodland strategy published as supplementary guidance alongside Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017. Protective policies now in place to conserve woodland and other habitats from development.</p> <p><b>N2-18:</b> As part of the North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan, several flood studies have been completed and further studies will take place. These studies will take a sustainable and integrated approach by coordinating with the river basin management plan. Studies will be undertaken with due consideration to internationally, nationally and locally designated sites including listed buildings. They will also explore opportunities for enhancing biodiversity and for promoting economic activity and social wellbeing. The studies will consider natural flood management measures along with traditional flood defences by exploring opportunities for online and offline flood storage, flow control structures, modification to conveyance capacity of watercourses by sediment and channel management, modifications to the bridges to improve conveyance, the construction of direct</p>	<p><a href="https://www.nennis.org/">https://www.nennis.org/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a></p>
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defences, river/floodplain restoration, runoff control through catchment and riparian tree planting, land-use and land management changes, etc.

Additionally, the studies will also consider property level protection and property relocation. It is expected that the recommended flood protection scheme will comprise a combination of such measures to ensure a sustainable and integrated approach to flood risk management by due consideration of impacts on economy, society, environment and cultural heritage.

**N2-20:** Locations where habitats are most vulnerable to coastal erosion and sea level Rise have been used to inform debate on future land bids. Aberdeenshire Council are progressing the Stonehaven Coastal Flood Study. The study will take a sustainable and integrated approach by coordinating with the river basin management plan and the planned surface water management plan/study. It will be undertaken with due consideration to internationally, nationally and locally designated sites including listed buildings. It will also explore opportunities for enhancing biodiversity and for promoting economic activity and social wellbeing. The interactions between actions and effects on coastal processes along the shoreline will also be considered. The study will consider wave attenuation (beach management/recharge), coastal management actions (revetments), the construction of direct defences, relocation of properties and property level protection.

				<p>Beach recharge will very often involve proposals to obtain the donor sediment from the low intertidal or shallow sub tidal zone in the vicinity. There are potential adverse effects on biodiversity, active coastal processes and even coastal flood risk if sediment extraction allows greater wave attack inshore. The flood protection study will ensure the proposed actions avoid or minimise the potential loss of natural habitat and detrimental interference with coastal processes. The flood protection study will consider how to avoid or minimise potential negative effects on the Garron Point Site of Special Scientific Interest to the north. It is expected that the recommended flood protection scheme will comprise a combination of such measures to ensure a sustainable and integrated approach to flood risk management by due consideration of impacts on economy, society, environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Aberdeenshire Council will coordinate with SEPA, Scottish Water, SNH, The Crown Estate, Marine Scotland, Stonehaven Harbour and community groups as well as other relevant agencies and organisations.</p>	
Sustain and enhance the benefits, goods and services that the natural environment provides.	N3				
Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on buildings and infrastructure networks.	B1		B1-13	<p>Policies exist on avoidance of development in areas at risk from coastal flooding. Aberdeenshire Council as Lead Local Authority for the North East Local Plan</p>	

				District under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 and published the Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the North East in June 2016.	
Provide the knowledge, skills and tools to manage climate change impacts on buildings and infrastructure.	B2		B2-6	<p>Through a sustained 30 year programme of planned investment informed by a comprehensive and robust stock condition database, the housing stock will be modernised and adapted to meet the changing needs of tenants and those targets in relation to the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) and the Energy Efficiency Standards for Social Housing (ESSH). Appropriate information and support will be offered to tenants to encourage them to take upgrades. To help improve the energy efficiency of homes in the private sector the service will ensure that all households have access to services to identify possible energy efficiency improvements within their homes and will provide assistance to source any grants or schemes available to help with these measures. A Fuel Poverty strategic outcome statement and action have been developed in associated with SCARF and other partners.</p> <p>The Housing Improvement Programme (HIP) in 2020/21 along with the reactive heating contract and Internal Wall Insulation at voids, have resulted in multiple properties with improved energy efficiency. In total 1,981 upgrades were carried out in 1,631 properties, so some had multiple works. These upgrades have contributed to an overall carbon emission saving of 1,410 tonnes of CO2 per</p>	

year. For properties where new upgrades have been installed the reduction in CO2 emissions has been modelled based on data obtained from EPCs (NHER calculations previously used are no longer being available).

There has also been a slight decrease in the overall running costs this year. This will mainly be down to the new heating systems, insulation and PVs that have been installed.

The focus for 2021/22 is continuing to work towards the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (EESH and EESH 2). The contracts for EESH are still ongoing and are focused on Insulation, Heating and Renewables in the continued drive to increase energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and eradicate fuel poverty.

A trial project of Smart Solar Storage using batteries and Smart Technology with PVs is currently being undertaken and if successful could be extended so that many properties, which currently have grid constraints stopping the install of PVs, can benefit. This will also be useful when looking at the next target, EESH 2, due to a potential increase in SAP rating with using batteries and further reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and running costs.

<p>Increase the resilience of buildings and infrastructure networks to sustain and enhance the benefits and services provided.</p>	<p>B3</p>		<p>B3-2 B3-3 B3-6 B3-7 B3-8</p>	<p><b>B3-3:</b> The Local Development Plan 2017 is compliant with Scottish Planning Policy</p> <p>Also covered under B2-6.</p>	
<p>Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on people, homes and communities.</p>	<p>S1</p>			<p>Climate Ready Aberdeenshire work to influence this in the future.</p>	<p><a href="#">Climate Ready Aberdeenshire – A shared vision, strategy and action plan for Aberdeenshire</a></p>
<p>Increase the awareness of the impacts of climate change to enable people to adapt to future extreme weather events.</p>	<p>S2</p>			<p>Climate change issues are given a specific chapter within the current Local Development Plan.</p> <p>Aberdeenshire Council have a duty to raise public awareness of flood risk under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 and to plan and inform of risks to communities under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. Over the six years of the Plan, 2016-2022, Aberdeenshire Council will seek opportunities to raise awareness of both flood risk and actions that enable individuals, homes and businesses to reduce the overall impact of flooding. In partnership with Education Scotland Aberdeenshire Council will look to engage schools in activities relating to flooding, extreme weather, climate change and other community resilience issues. Aberdeenshire Council will also develop emergency response plans and work with community flood action groups where these exist.</p> <p>Climate Ready Aberdeenshire work to influence this also.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/</a></p> <p><a href="#">Climate Ready Aberdeenshire – A shared vision, strategy and action plan for Aberdeenshire</a></p>

Support our health services and emergency responders to enable them to respond effectively to the increased pressures associated with a changing climate.	S3			N/A	
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**4(e) What arrangements does the body have in place to review current and future climate risks?**

Provide details of arrangements to review current and future climate risks, for example, what timescales are in place to review the climate change risk assessments referred to in Question 4(a) and adaptation strategies, action plans, procedures and policies in Question 4(b).

Climate Change risk register will be reviewed by CRA project lead and Sustainability & Climate Change Team 2022/23. The CRA strategy will be finalised at the end of 2022 with an Action Plan which will consist of actions up until 2030. The Regional Adaptation Strategy which is one of the outcomes of CRA will be out in 2023 and reviewed annually, and the organisational adaptation strategy is due for completion in 2022. The Aberdeenshire Council procedures and policies examples given in 4(b) will be ongoing and continually monitored and reviewed. For example, current and future climate change risks in land use policy will continue to be evaluated through occasional papers designed to inform Local Development Plans.

Aberdeenshire Council is also the Local Authority Lead for Local Flood Risk Plans for the North East of Scotland which set out how risks will be managed between 2016 and 2022, and these plans will be reviewed.

Aberdeenshire will continue to collaborate with partner organisations and utilise information from organisations including SEPA, Adaptation Scotland and the James Hutton Institute's UKCP18 data as well as data from UK Climate Projections and UK Climate Change Risk Assessments.

The Council are also revising their overall approach to Risk and following initial consideration at Strategic Leadership Team our Elected members are being consulted on the revised approach via our Committees.

**4(f) What arrangements does the body have in place to monitor and evaluate the impact of the adaptation actions?**

Please provide details of monitoring and evaluation criteria and adaptation indicators used to assess the effectiveness of actions detailed under Question 4(c) and Question 4(d).

Local Development Plans (LDP) are continually monitored and reviewed and a new LDP is published every 5 years. Our LDPs for 2022 are currently at Stage 3 of the LDP process. The Aberdeenshire Council examples given in 4(c) are monitored and evaluated by the relevant services using the required indicators.

The outputs from the Flood Protection studies will be considered in the national prioritisation process for Scottish Government funding, for construction as an action in the 2022 – 2028 Local Flood Risk Management Plan. Achievable actions identified in the Surface Water Management Plans for Aboyne, Peterhead, Fraserburgh, Portlethen, Huntly, Stonehaven, Inverurie and Westhill will also be taken forward for consideration in Cycle 2. In the report the assessment of progress with actions is shown using the traffic light system. The actions that apply across the Local Plan District are marked as Red, Amber or Green: Green – action has been delivered is on programme and within budget; Amber – action is behind programme and/or over budget, but the key dates are still anticipated to be met; Red – action is behind programme and/or over budget, with key dates unlikely to be met and/or the outputs unlikely to achieve what was anticipated.

Aberdeenshire Council and Climate Ready Aberdeenshire will also continue to use the Adaptation Scotland benchmarking tool to monitor and evaluate our actions and their effectiveness.

The Sustainability Committee will monitor and evaluate the impact of the adaptation actions moving forward.

#### **4(g) What are the body's top 5 priorities for the year ahead in relation to climate change adaptation?**

Provide a summary of the areas and activities of focus for the year ahead.

1. Finalise the draft CRA strategy by Q2 2022 and final strategy by Q4 2022.
2. Finalise the Aberdeenshire Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.
3. Pilot the Place Standard Tool (PST) through a climate lens for use across Aberdeenshire.
4. Monitor and review the aforementioned actions, plans and policies as outlined in 4(e) and 4(f)
5. Further embed adaptation, resilience and climate change risk into the organisation through supporting services, in particular with identifying and managing climate change risks to their services.

#### **4(h) Supporting information and best practice**

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to adaptation.

Further information including projects and examples of best practice by Climate Ready Aberdeenshire can be found at <https://climatereadyaberdeenshire.org/>

Aberdeenshire Council have also presented at several partner organisation events as an example of best practice in climate change adaptation, including Adaptation Scotland, Aberdeen Climate Action and Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce.



## PART 5: PROCUREMENT

### **5(a) How have procurement policies contributed to compliance with climate change duties?**

Provide information relating to how the procurement policies of the body have contributed to its compliance with climate changes duties.

The Council is guided by policy covering sustainable procurement and community benefits at a strategic and operational level, contributing positively and progressively to duties and commitments under Scottish Climate commitments. The policy is sufficiently agile to contribute to broader climate positive aspirations which support global energy transition, application of meaningful circular economy measures and a net zero future for Aberdeen. Strategic and practical guidance is provided at key stages: identification of need, specification development, selection/award and contract management. Policy/guidance assists procurers to proactively address key aspects of the duties: mitigation (ensuring reduction in greenhouse gases/enhancing carbon storage), adaptation (e.g flood prevention) and maximising added social, economic and environmental value in our procurements and national frameworks call offs.

The Commercial and Procurement Shared Service (C&PSS):

Embraces the procurement function in: Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and The Highland Council. 2017-2022 Joint Procurement Strategy fully aligned to: i) Scottish Model of Procurement (balance of quality, cost and sustainability) ii) National Performance Framework iii) Public Service Reform Agenda and iv) Scottish Government aspirations to: "support Scotland's economic growth by delivering social and environmental benefits, supporting innovation and promoting public procurement processes and systems which are transparent, streamlined, standard, proportionate, fair and business-friendly"

The Procurement Mission Statement followed commits to delivery of "ethical and sustainable value for money solutions that support the operational needs and wider strategic aims of the councils and the communities they service to further local and national priorities to the fullest extent possible. " This converges with the National Performance Framework outcome "valuing, enjoying, protecting and enhancing our environment" and wider vision for the environment. Policy/strategy/guidance emphasises a commitment (beyond mandatory thresholds) to identify: "leverage opportunities (including social, economic and environmental value) aligned to the needs and priorities of our communities"

Policy

"The partner councils aim to act as a role model within the public sector by carrying out activities in a responsible and sustainable manner, considering how the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the area can be improved by working with all sectors of the business community to achieve increased prosperity. As responsible and ethical buyers, the partner councils aim to embed the key principles of sustainability into procurement activity for the benefit of society, the economy and the environment." The policy statement appears prominently in sourcing strategies and tender documents guiding procurers and bidders. Communication in this manner leads to climate positive measures receiving early, considered focus resulting in higher quality, more innovative bids aligned to local priorities and climate change duties.

Policy/guidance explains not all sustainability measures are solely achieved through community benefits. Outcomes can be specified as contractual conditions e.g. particular eco standards (or equivalent), product composition and opportunities to introduce circular economy measures. Methods of production, lifecycle costing, environmental performance, reduction of packaging (particularly single use plastic) waste water standards/accreditation and production methods at any stage of the lifecycle of supply or service promoted.

Zero Waste Scotland Specification Development (Category and Commodity) guidance is promoted. Sustainable procurement measures achieved in the specification regarded as “community benefits” and procurers are encouraged to consider utilising community benefits and the specification to maximise environmental wellbeing.

Sustainability tools are promoted in policy and guidance: i) Sustainability Test, ii) Prioritisation Tool and iii) Lifecycle Impact Mapping. As with procurement strategy, linkages to The Scottish Model of Procurement; The National Performance Framework and Local Outcome Improvement Plans. Policy/guidance recognises that councils have influence and responsibilities beyond the geographic areas they serve. Sustainable procurement measures/community benefits can be captured at the following levels: Local (Council/area specific); National (Scotland/UK) or Global (e.g. fairly traded/ethically sourced goods/carbon emission reduction). Guidance prompts that many national strategic objectives are addressable locally (employment & skills, Real Living Wage, health and wellbeing, poverty, biodiversity, reduced road miles/reduced carbon emissions etc).

To simplify, sustainable procurement strongly recognised as a means of increasing prosperity. Prosperity of the (local) economy; Prosperity of (local) people; Prosperity of (local) places and Prosperity of the (local) environment.

#### **5(b) How has procurement activity contributed to compliance with climate change duties?**

Provide information relating to how procurement activity by the body has contributed to its compliance with climate changes duties.

The following represent illustrative samples of procurement activity i) delivering a reduction in CO2 ii) improving energy efficiency and iii) incorporating meaningful sustainability criteria:

1. Construction – follows industry terms/best practice (NEC3, SBCC ICE etc), Building Standards/Building Performance polices. Specifications incorporate sustainability, energy and environmental considerations to a challenging but proportionate extent per project. Strong ethos that value for money demonstrated by whole of life costing/best price-quality ratio. Current and future climate risks factored into procurement processes where relevant to safeguarding assets/infrastructure and communities. In the reporting period, procurer and supplier knowledge/awareness of circular economy principles and opportunities increased.
2. Managed Print Contract (Managed Print Contract (Aberdeen City/Aberdeenshire) - From an original estate of over 5,000 unmanaged print devices in 2016 the contract systematically eliminated use of small, inefficient desktop printers requiring regular consumable replacement and rationalised to under 50% by 2018 to ENERGY STAR® power saving models. Supported by a Print Policy that drove duplex and mono print as default with encouragement to scan and move paper to digital to reduce resources and eliminate waste. The outcomes being reduced print volumes of nearly 10% year on year, with an estimated 250M less sheets of paper used since 2016 (the equivalent to 28,800 trees). Overall the Sustainability Calculator reports a 30% reduction in: Energy: (annualised BTUs), Greenhouse Gas Emissions (annualised Pounds GHG) and Solid Waste (annualised Pounds SW). Specifically from 2018 to 2021 the CO2 emissions from electricity have reduced by 15% and from paper production by 58%. The contract also ensures all removed devices are governed via WEEE compliant processes and used consumables are managed through the Xerox Green World Alliance programme to recycle and minimise environmental impacts.

3. Energy from Waste (Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray Councils) - The award of a contract for the construction of an Energy from Waste plant working towards fulfilling Zero Waste Plan requirements has been made with the facility targeted to be operational by 2022. This aims to provide a long-term solution for non-recyclable waste produced in the North East of Scotland. Facility will provide a viable solution for residual waste that will generate significant, wider benefits e.g electricity generation and heat for local residents as a sustainable means of reducing fuel poverty. Forecasts indicate plant will process circa 150,000 tonnes of non-recyclable waste pa. Modern combustion technology utilises flexible, future-proof, cutting-edge process control. High temperature combustion provides electricity and heat from the production of steam. Project has the potential to heat 10,000 homes otherwise reliant on fossil fuels. Forecasts show around 10MW of electricity, and/or 20MW of heat as steam or hot water will be produced.
4. Fleet vehicles – The new Fleet Services Strategic Plan 2020-30 sets decarbonisation aims and in 2020/21 Fleet have added 18 electric cars/vans and 2 low level minibuses. Work is ongoing with the Energy Savings Trust to look at our Fleet and future options.  
[Link to Fleet services strategic plan 2020 – 2030.](#)
5. Stonehaven Flood Protection Scheme - Stonehaven Flood Protection Scheme is an example of work across the Council to improve preparedness for future extreme weather events. Major flooding events over the last century have significantly impacted local residences and businesses within lower reach of the River Carron, Stonehaven. Major flooding events have occurred in Stonehaven over many years, most recently 1988, 1995, 2001, 2002, 2007, 2009 and 2012 which have caused the evacuation of nearby residents. The scheme will be designed with a long life, the impacts of climate change (predicted by the UK Climate Predictions (UKCP09) on flood flows have been considered. Construction work is progressing and due to be completed in 2022.

#### National Frameworks:

Through participation in User Intelligence Groups (UIGs), the Council works in close collaboration with Scotland Excel (SXL) to improve sustainability credentials in the development of new national frameworks. A comprehensive sustainability test is carried out by SXL for each new framework. Amongst other considerations, the bidder's policies on managing waste, minimising carbon footprint, fair work practices, innovation and commitments to delivering meaningful community benefits are routinely explored and subject to robust contract/supplier management.

The Council makes extensive use of national frameworks (particularly SXL). The SXL Contracts Register lists each operative SXL framework. In most cases the SXL Contracts Register contains a summary of sustainability considerations. These considerations represent a minimum standard which can (where options allow) be enhanced through purchasing decisions made in "call offs" from the framework. For example, lease and purchase of fleet vehicles and plant predominantly through SXL frameworks. In any framework involving delivery of supplies, new generations of frameworks encourage increasingly superior emissions class of vehicles from framework commencement or willingness to work towards a particular framework during the life of the framework. Food related frameworks increasingly incorporate reduced packaging/waste and circular economy principles.

Scottish Government Frameworks and Contracts cover a wide range of goods and services and can be used by central government and the wider public sector. In some cases the list of frameworks and contracts contain a summary of sustainability considerations. These considerations represent a minimum standard which can (where options allow) be enhanced through purchasing decisions made in "call offs" from the framework.

#### Utilities

- Electricity - Promoting greener power: option of Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin (REGO) certificates at a fixed rate; range of Energy Efficiency Services available as additional services and opportunities to sell energy back to the grid.
- Natural Gas – sustainable measures and energy performance guarantee option to ensure a range of energy conservation measures.
- Water – Climate Change Emergency measures including intelligent water management programme for reducing water usage with associated reduction in CO2 emissions".

#### 5(c) Supporting information and best practice

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to procurement.

In the reporting period, the Commercial and Procurement Shared Service (CPSS) assessed a variety of options for Climate Friendly Criteria/Weightings (including comprehensive appraisal of carbon calculator tools) and assessment of how impacts could be monitored and reported upon. Representatives from the CPSS team are involved with three themed corporate Climate Sub-Groups feeding into the Climate Change Plan supporting enabling actions to support integration of climate change into systems/processes and to build internal awareness of climate change/circular economy principles.

Alongside work at a local level officers from CPSS have made positive contributions to the Climate and Procurement Forum and the Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce "Circular North-East" initiative at a local/regional level.

Despite the impact of the coronavirus (Covid19), significant community benefit outcomes have been secured in the reporting period. Guided by the Council's Sustainable Procurement and Community Benefits Policy, 230 community benefit outcomes included in regulated contracts, are in process or were delivered in the reporting period. This represents a community benefits inclusion rate of 83% and an inclusion rate of 83% in respect of fair work criteria.

The Council is guided by policy covering sustainable procurement activity at a strategic and operational level and this contributes positively and progressively to duties and commitments under Scottish Climate Change Commitments. The policy is sufficiently agile to contribute to broader climate positive aspirations which support global energy transition, application of meaningful circular economy measures and a net zero ambitions for Aberdeenshire.

Strategic and practical guidance is provided at key stages: identification of need, specification development, selection/award and contract management. Policy/guidance assists procurers to proactively address key aspects of the duties: mitigation (ensuring reduction in greenhouse gases/enhancing carbon storage), adaptation (e.g. flood prevention) and maximising added social, economic and environmental value in our procurements and national frameworks call offs.

An increasingly significant number of outcomes relate to "environmental wellbeing" and promote the Council's leadership role in net zero transition. The

approach provides a framework to work consistently within.

A themed approach to community benefits continues to evolve and improve in close alignment to the Aberdeenshire Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017-27 and National Performance Framework. Considerable care is taken to ensure that requirements do not inadvertently create bidder discrimination contrary to treaty principles and that proposals can be evaluated fairly on a “like for like” basis. The approach/strategy has secured supportive feedback from The Scottish Government, suppliers, Sustainable Procurement Limited, Scotland Excel, Senscot, Ready for Business, 3rd Sector Interfaces and Social Enterprises.

In the reporting period, a new section within the Community Benefits Project Plan/Award Questionnaire section of the template Invitation to Tender Documents introduced a climate friendly weighting.

Bidders are asked to outline commitment on areas directly related to performing the contract, which may include: energy efficiency in buildings, emissions class of fleet vehicles, effective route planning measures, energy/fuel efficiency measures in buildings/vehicles/operations, minimisation of waste, circular economy initiatives, reuse of materials, carbon neutrality initiatives, reduction of material/ packaging/reduced plastic content of packaging, avoidance of single use plastics etc. Performance against these commitments will be monitored during ongoing contract management.

#### **Future Plans**

CPSS has reviewed the forward pipeline of procurements for financial year 2021-2022 and identified those which will include climate friendly criteria. The projects have been selected across a wide range of categories including Construction, Social Care, PPE and Agency workers based upon assessment of most impact in terms of outcomes. Projects will be reviewed on a continuous basis and additional projects added where it is proportionate and relevant to do so.

A further review of potential options for a system will be conducted with a view to implementing a system to monitor, measure and report on Community Benefits, Fair Work Practices, Sustainability and Climate outcomes achieved through procurement activity.

#### **Effective Collaboration/Partnership Working**

CPSS has strengthened close partnerships with community planning partners, local third sector interface organisations, Aberdeen Social Enterprise Network and Senscot to raise awareness of and capability within the 3rd sector re sustainable procurement/community benefits/net zero. Improvement initiatives around co-design (embracing LOIP, National Performance Framework) began to come to fruition in the reporting period e.g. new Riverbank School.

This approach ensures that as far as possible, social value is aligned to community priorities. If social/economic value can be supported by the 3rd sector, this allows increased scope for procurers and suppliers address “environmental wellbeing” and the net zero agenda.

### **Sustainable Food City Partnership Procurement Group**

Aberdeenshire Council has involvement in the Sustainable Food City / Place Partnership Procurement Group. Partners include representatives from: Aberdeen City Council, NHS, University of Aberdeen, Robert Gordon University, Sport Aberdeen and CFine Foods.

The group advocates for change at national level, shares best practice and aspires to localise the Scottish Government's aspirations to make Scotland a Good Food Nation; a Land of Food and Drink, not only in what we produce but in what we buy, serve and eat. CPSS worked in partnership with the Sustainable Food City Partnership Aberdeen (SFCPA) group to secure bronze accreditation under the "Food for Life" Scheme and continues to support a city/place application for Silver accreditation.

## **PART 6: VALIDATION AND DECLARATION**

### **6(a) Internal validation process**

Briefly describe the body's internal validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

The Sustainability Committee has reviewed and validated this report – **AWAITING CONFIRMATION OF THIS STATEMENT AT 10/11/2021 COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **6(b) Peer validation process**

Briefly describe the body's peer validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

This report was peer reviewed by the Sustainability team within - Economic Development.

### **6(c) External validation process**

Briefly describe the body's external validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

N/A

### **6(d) No validation process**

If any information provided in this report has not been validated, identify the information in question and explain why it has not been validated.

N/A

### **6(e) Declaration**

I confirm that the information in this report is accurate and provides a fair representation of the body's performance in relation to climate change.

Name: Jim Savege – AWAITING CONFIRMATION OF THIS SIGNOFF AT 10/11/2021 COMMITTEE MEETING
Role in the body: Chief Executive
Date: 30/11/2021

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Appendix 2 – Comparison Data from 2019/20 – 2020/21

Emission Source	Consumption Data 2019/20	Consumption Data 2020/21	Difference	Units	Emission Factor 2019/20	Emission Factor 2020/21	Difference	Units	Emissions (TCO2e) 2019/20	Emissions (TCO2e) 2020/21	Difference	Comments
Grid Electricity (generation)	58,795,137	45,602,630	-22.4%	kWh	0.2556	0.23314	-8.8%	kgCO2e / kWh	15028	10632	-29.3%	Operational Buildings
Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	58,795,137	45602630	-22.4%	kWh	0.0217	0.02005	-7.6%	kgCO2e / kWh	1276	914	-28.4%	Operational Buildings
Natural Gas	74101914	73978042	-0.2%	kWh	0.18385	0.18387	0.0%	kgCO2e / kWh	13624	13602	-0.2%	Operational Buildings
Gas Oil	8370337	6651007	-20.5%	kWh	0.25676	0.25672	0.0%	kgCO2e / kWh	2149	1708	-20.5%	Operational Buildings
Burning Oil (kerosene)	13930300	12152246	-12.8%	kWh	0.24675	0.24666	0.0%	kgCO2e / kWh	3437	2998	-12.8%	Operational Buildings
LPG	2920909	2549734	-12.7%	kWh	0.21447	0.21448	0.0%	kgCO2e / kWh	627	547	-12.8%	Operational Buildings
Biomass (wood chips)	179	943	426.8%	tonne	59.02902	58.35272	-1.1%	kgCO2e / tonnes	11	55	400.0%	Operational Buildings
Biomass (wood pellets)	1832	1639	-10.5%	tonne	73.13523	72.29731	-1.1%	kgCO2e / tonnes	134	118	-11.9%	Operational Buildings
Biomass (wood pellets)	920979	1713000	86.0%	kWh	0.01563	0.01545	-1.2%	kgCO2e / kWh	14	27	92.9%	Operational Buildings - heat from third party
Water – Supply	610147	471,933	-22.7%	m <sup>3</sup>	0.344	0.11	-68.0%	kgCO2e / m3	210	52	-75.2%	Water Usage
Water – Treatment	579640	448336	-22.7%	m <sup>3</sup>	0.708	0.23	-67.5%	kgCO2e / m3	410	103	-74.9%	Sewerage



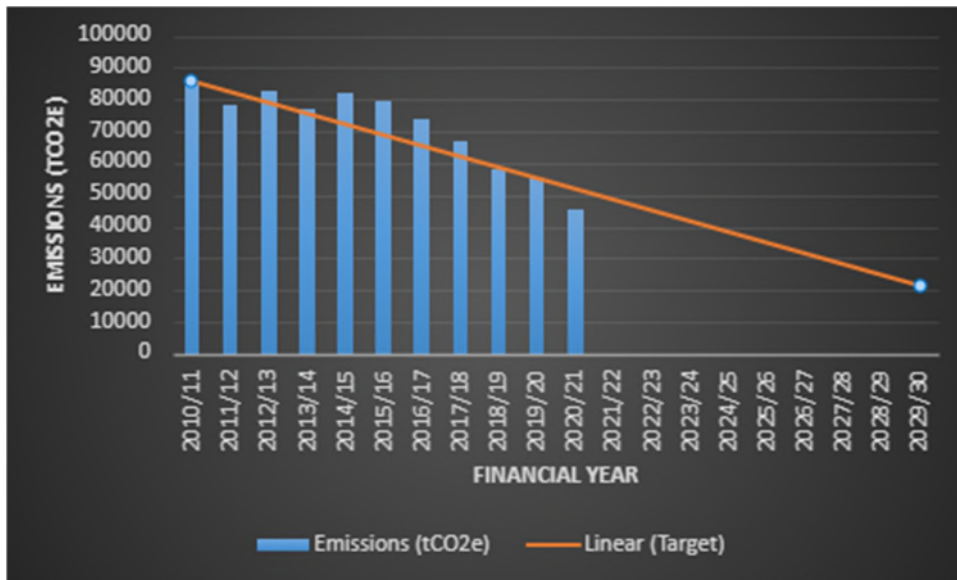
Grid Electricity (generation)	12279162	10644949	-13.3%	kWh	0.2556	0.23314	-8.8%	kgCO2e / kWh	3139	2482	-20.9%	Street Lighting
Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	12279162	10644949	-13.3%	kWh	0.0217	0.02005	-7.6%	kgCO2e / kWh	267	213	-20.2%	Street Lighting
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	3034564.24	2597995	-14.4%	litres	2.59411	2.54603	-1.9%	kgCO2e / litres	7872	6615	-16.0%	Fleet Diesel
Petrol (average biofuel blend)	72547.96	34845	-52.0%	Litres	2.20904	2.16802	-1.9%	kgCO2e / litres	160	76	-52.5%	Fleet Petrol
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	550375.14	235337	-57.2%	Litres	2.59411	2.54603	-1.9%	kgCO2e / litres	1428	599	-58.1%	Roads – Red Diesel
Burning Oil (Kerosene)	480000	0	-100.0%	Litres	2.54042	0	-100.0%	kgCO2e / litres	1219	0	-100.0%	Roads - Kerosene Quarries
LPG litres	355005	309518	-12.8%	Litres	1.5226	1.55537	2.2%	kgCO2e / litres	541	481	-11.1%	Roads - LPG Quarries
Gas Oil	2000	1568	-21.6%	litres	2.75821	2.75776	0.0%	kgCO2e / litres	6	4	-33.3%	Roads – Harbour
LPG	15086	8528	-43.5%	kWh	1.5226	1.55537	2.2%	kgCO2e / kWh	23	13	-43.5%	Roads – Propane
LPG	39260	5609	-85.7%	litres	1.5226	1.55537	2.2%	kgCO2e / litres	60	9	-85.0%	Landscape – Greenhouses
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	64739	43829	-32.3%	litres	2.59411	2.54603	-1.9%	kgCO2e / litres	168	112	-33.3%	Landscape – Red Diesel

Refuse Municipal to Landfill	3378	2641	-21.8%	tonnes	586.5138	437.372	-25.4%	kgCO2e /tonnes	1981	1155	-41.7%	Internal Waste
Refuse Municipal/Commercial/Industrial to combustion	0	4		tonnes		21.317		kgCO2e /tonnes	0	0.1		Internal Waste
Mixed Recycling	1308	1238	-5.4%	tonnes	21.354	21.317	-0.2%	kgCO2e /tonnes	28	26	-7.1%	Internal Recycling
WEEE (Mixed Recycling)	69	136	97.1%	tonnes	21.3538	21.317	-0.2%	kgCO2e /tonnes	2	3	50.0%	Internal Mixed WEE, Lamps, ICT
Organic Garden Waste and food waste - Composting	1062	1575	48.3%	tonnes	10.2039	10.204	0.0%	kgCO2e /tonnes	11	16	45.5%	Landscape Garden Waste and arisings
Average Car – unknown fuel	9624273	5277248	-45.2%	Miles	0.1771	0.1714	-3.2%	kgCO2e /mile	1705	905	-46.9%	Business miles - car
Rail (National)	1411317	60796	-95.7%	Passenger km	0.04115	0.03694	-10.2%	kgCO2e /passenger km	58	2	-96.6%	Business National Rail
Rail (International)	11051	0	-100.0%	Passenger km	0.00597		-100.0%	kgCO2e /passenger km	1	0	-100.0%	Business International Rail
Domestic Flight (average passenger)	243426	35464	-85.4%	Passenger km	0.25493	0.2443	-4.2%	kgCO2e /passenger km	62	9	-85.5%	UK Internal Flights
Short Haul Flights (average passenger)	218510	5626	-97.4%	Passenger km	0.15832	0.15553	-1.8%	kgCO2e /passenger km	35	1	-97.1%	UK-Europe Flights

Long Haul Flights (average passenger)	26016	0	-100.0%	Passenger km	0.19562		-100.0%	kgCO2e /passenger km	5	0	-100.0%	International Flights
Homeworking Emissions		57		percentage of total FTEs home-based		0.3		tCO2e/FTE/annum		1805		An addition to this years reporting
<b>TOTAL</b>									<b>55687</b>	<b>45281</b>	<b>-18.7%</b>	<b>10405</b>

**Appendix 3 - Annual progress towards 2030 target (75%):**

Financial Year	Actual Emissions Reported (tCO2e)	Carbon Budget Required to reach Target (tCO2e)
2010/11	86,155	86155
2011/12	78,400	82754
2012/13	82,782	79353
2013/14	77,265	75952
2014/15	81,805	72551
2015/16	79,537	69150
2016/17	73,587	65749
2017/18	66802	62348
2018/19	57992	58947
2019/20	55687	55546
2020/21	45281	52145
2021/22	Determined 11/2022	48744
2022/23	Determined 11/2023	45343
2023/24	Determined 11/2024	41942
2024/25	Determined 11/2025	38541
2025/26	Determined 11/2026	35140
2026/27	Determined 11/2027	31739
2027/28	Determined 11/2028	28338
2028/29	Determined 11/2029	24937
2029/30	Determined 11/2030	21536



# Aberdeenshire Council

## Integrated Impact Assessment

### Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2020-21

Assessment ID	IIA-000179
Lead Author	Claudia Cowie
Additional Authors	Joel Evans, Tara Murray
Service Reviewers	Ewan Wallace
Approved By	Ewan Wallace
Approved On	Monday October 18, 2021
Publication Date	Wednesday October 20, 2021

# 1. Overview

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

This report is the Aberdeenshire Council's Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report for 2020-21. This monitoring report is produced annually and is a mandatory requirement of all public bodies. It is for the consideration and approval of the Sustainability Committee before its submission.

During screening 0 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 0 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

In total there are 0 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](mailto: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?	No
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?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have an impact on people and / or groups with protected characteristics?	No
Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy reduce inequality of outcome?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's rights?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing?	No

## 3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	Not Required
Climate Change and Sustainability	Not Required
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	Not Required
Health Inequalities	Not Required
Town Centre's First	Not Required