

## **Aberdeenshire Local Climate Impact Profile 2019 - 2022 Summary**

- 1.1 The Aberdeenshire Council Sustainability and Climate Change team has used [a Local Climate Impacts Profile](#) (LCLIP) to look at how extreme weather events have affected people, the environment, and Aberdeenshire Council services between 2019 and 2022.
- 1.2 The purpose of the LCLIP and its report is to develop a story for Aberdeenshire Council employees, elected members, the public and other council stakeholders, to raise awareness of the impact of weather events and the need to adapt and build resilience to these. The LCLIP report has also consolidated existing evidence to provide an evidence base for future climate change adaptation and resilience actions and provided recommendations for improving the preparedness of Aberdeenshire Council to future weather events.
- 1.3 Data for the LCLIP was collected through:
  - A media trawl.
  - [UKCIP](#), [Climate Change Committee](#) (CCC) and [Met Office](#) data.
  - Aberdeenshire [Council's Adaptation Scotland Capability Benchmarking](#) Framework submissions.
  - Aberdeenshire Council's annual [Public Duties Climate Change Reports](#).
  - Aberdeenshire Council's [Bellwin Scheme](#) 2021 - 2022 and 2023 - 2024 Reports.
  - Employee Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Questionnaire.
  - Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Interviews.
- 1.4 Between 1 January 2019 and 31 December 2022, Aberdeenshire Council was affected by 51 weather events, including extreme low temperatures with snow and ice, extreme high temperatures and heatwaves, excessive rainfall events, high winds, and storms:
  - 13 incidents of excessive rainfall
  - 18 storms and high winds
  - 11 snow and ice events
  - 9 heatwaves
- 1.5 The main impacts to Aberdeenshire Council because of these were damage to Council buildings, housing stock, infrastructure, land, vegetation and local ecosystems and biodiversity; disruption to and an increase in demand for services; risks to employees and public health and wellbeing; and an increase in engagement and support to communities.
- 1.6 The total financial cost of the storms was estimated to be approximately £1.075 million. As this figure was below the 1% threshold (£1.2 million) set by Scottish Government there was no additional funding made available to the Council from the Bellwin Scheme. The Council therefore had to absorb the cost of the storms with no extra financial support.

## Appendix 3 - Local Climate Impact Profile 2019 – 2022 Summary

- 1.7 These figures, and the results behind them, emphasise the importance of identifying Aberdeenshire Council's vulnerabilities to weather events and using these to prepare for a longer-term adaptation and resilience programme to minimise the expense and damage of future weather events.
- 1.8 Recommendations of the 2019 – 2022 LCLIP:
1. Climate change adaptation and resilience training programme.
  2. Management plan or model to ensure all extreme weather events are given equal prioritisation.
  3. Cost code to capture costs from all extreme weather events and a central fund for climate change costs and adaptation measures.
  4. Employee redeployment and volunteer programme for extreme weather events.
  5. Adaptation and Resilience communication and engagement plan for communities.
- 1.9 Following the publication of the report, the next steps for Aberdeenshire Council are:
- Discuss the recommendations within this report with leaders and service managers and at appropriate group meetings and Committees, and if they are approved, create an agreed Action Plan.
  - Finalise the Climate Ready Aberdeenshire Strategy considering the results and recommendations within this report.
  - Further embed adaptation, resilience, and climate change risk in Aberdeenshire Council by supporting services with identifying and managing climate change risks to their service, with the support of the Sustainability Champions programme.
  - Collate and share the results of Employee Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience questionnaire and interviews across the Council.
  - Continue with the Council's long-term climate adaptation and resilience programme.

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Please see the Adaptation and Resilience (A & R) Programme Route Map for details.

