Aberdeen City Council Climate Change Report 2020/21

Public Bodies are required to complete an annual climate change report. Information is submitted on a set template. This report sets out the Council's climate change return for the period April 2020-March 2021.

SECTION 1 – PROFILE OF REPORTING BODY

1a. Name of Reporting Body: Aberdeen City Council
1b. Type of body: Local Government
1c. Highest number of full-time equivalent staff in the body during the report year: 6606.01
1d. Metrics used by the body: *Drop down options are not relevant, so nothing noted.*
1e. Overall budget of the body (£): 464,115,492 These are net figures.
1f. Specify the report year type: Financial (1st of April 2020 to 31st of March 2021)
1g. Provide a summary of the body's nature and functions that are relevant to climate change reporting.
Aberdeen City Council has a strong role to play as follows:
- Leading and acting as an example to others through its services, planning and decision making.
- Reducing emissions from its own estate and services and building resilience through the Council Climate Change Plan 2021-25.
- Managing wider city risks and building resilience through the Aberdeen Adapts: Climate Adaptation Framework.
- Promoting city wide emission reduction through the Net Zero Vision for Aberdeen and the Strategic Infrastructure Plan (Energy Transition)
- Helping to shape and inform legislation through consultation responses.
- Alleviating fuel poverty through ACC owned properties and working with the private/third sectors to improve standards in those areas.
- Ensuring compliance with building standards and influencing the planning process to take into consideration climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.
- Through the school systems and lifelong learning educate the citizen about the implications of climate change and principles of sustainability.
- Deliver projects that help mitigate/adapt to a changing climate, flood risk management and water efficiency and fulfil multiple plans, policies, and strategies, e.g. wetland development, sustainable urban drainage, expansion of the EV (Electric Vehicle) network, energy efficiency retrofitting, renewables etc.
- Piloting the development of blue/green infrastructure.
- Procuring sustainably.
- Partnership working.

SECTION 2 – GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY

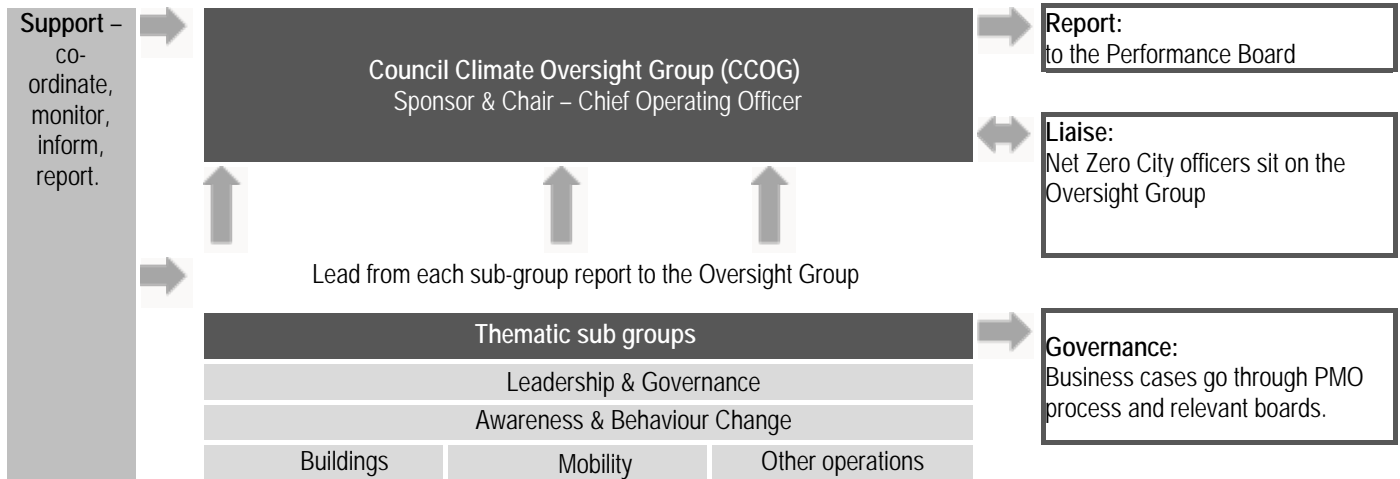### 2a - How is climate change governed in the body?

The Council structure comprises of:
- Resources
- Customer
- Operations
- Commissioning

Within each function are clusters, all functions have a part to play in considering climate change through their decision making and operations in line with corporate policy and risk management. Plans, policies and strategies and their progress are reported through the committee reporting structure predominantly to: Council, City Growth and Resources and Operational Delivery. City Growth and Resources Committee also receives the annual statutory Climate Change Report, which is required to be signed off by a Senior Manager of the Council.

Council

Oversight, monitoring and reporting mechanisms for the **Council Climate Change Plan (CCCP) 2021-2025** have been established. An Oversight Group led by the Chief Operating Officer has a remit for implementation and delivery of the plan and the project programme, taking a project assurance role to review performance and progress and keep the plan on track. The Oversight Group includes Senior Officers from Procurement, Finance, Communications, Corporate Landlord, Data, and Insights and from the Net Zero (City) Delivery Unit. In addition, it includes the theme leads for the 5 thematic sub-groups delivering actions under the plan and creating a broad network of relevant officers working on mitigation and adaptation.

City – energy transition and net zero

The Council approved the governance model and Terms of reference for citywide climate action in June 2020 at Urgent Business Committee.

A Net Zero Leadership Board oversees the work of the Net Zero Transition Delivery Unit which develops and co-ordinates net zero priority activity for the developing Aberdeen Climate Change Plan. The Plan is being developed in consultation with the Net Zero Leadership Board. It is chaired by the Council and has membership of various influential external organisations which have the ability to drive the Net Zero Vision for Aberdeen City forward. Theme leads are established and are developing the city net zero strategic approach for each of the themes.

City – Community Planning Partners

The Aberdeen Community Planning Partners have oversight and delivery of the Aberdeen Local Outcome Improvement Plan. The Sustainable City Outcome Improvement Group sits under the governance for the plan and leads and is responsible for actions and for ensuring progress against the primary and secondary drivers and improvement aims set for the Prosperous Place outcomes in the LOIP. These include stretch outcomes for climate change.

2b - How is climate change action managed and embedded by the body?

Corporate Management Team Boards

Several of the Council's Corporate Management Team Boards have oversight of various aspects of the Council's climate change activity.

- **Performance Board** – Following approval of the CCCP in March 2022, progress reports for the CCCP will be compiled and reported on a quarterly basis to the Council's Performance Board.
- **Risk Board** – is provided with monthly updates on progress with climate change action and annual updates are provided for the Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee. The Council's Corporate Risk Register identifies Climate Change as one of the most significant risks the Council faces and in 2020 the risk was separated into:
  - 'Compliance' – the risk of not complying with statutory duties as a Council to reduce emissions, contribute to national targets, adapt to climate change in contribution to the national adaptation programme, and report annually on this work.
  - 'Place' – the risk of not contributing to a reduction in city-wide emissions and address strategic climate risks for the city where the Council has scope to influence. Including: heavy or reduced rainfall, flooding, higher temperatures and sea levels.
- **Strategy Board** - as part of its remit facilitates the delivery of the Council's strategic priorities covering energy transition and net zero. In addition, the looks at internal and external factors which affect the

Council's current and future environment and the impact this could have on the Council and Aberdeen City.

Carbon budget
In October 2020 City Growth and Resources Committee gave approval for the Service to develop an in-house methodology for calculating an overarching carbon budget for the Council Climate Change Plan which involves carbon (tCO2e) allocations based on ability to influence relevant policy and action.

Internal audit
A Council internal audit on climate change commenced in November 2020. The audit was to provide assurance the Council is taking appropriate measures to comply with statutory requirements on climate change.

Embedding climate change
Some examples of how sustainability has been incorporated into Council processes, procedures and decision making are illustrated below:
- Many corporate plans, policies and strategies undergo Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to assess their environmental impact which includes addressing climate change. Climate change considerations are featured within corporate climate risk register, service plans, business cases and development management consultations.
- Environmental considerations are included in business case templates to assess if projects contribute to a reduction in emissions, build resilience to climate change, deliver resource efficiency, and reduce impacts on the environment. The Business Case process is linked to the Council Building Performance Policy for corporate assets sets standards for sustainable construction, digital connectivity and future proofing for district heating connectivity.
- Consideration for environmental risks is incorporated into the committee reporting structure and accompanying Report Authors guidance document.
- Progress with work to consider environmental implications in the Council Strategy template and guidance; and integrate to in the Council Policy template and guidance – progress will be included in the next reporting period.
- Climate risks included in the corporate risk register with progress reported monthly.
- Environmental considerations are incorporated within planning consultation responses, with regular cross service meetings with Development Management and are embedded into development policy.
- Development of a suit of eLearning training modules to encourage sustainability principles in decision making,
- Emissions management and wide sustainability work across the council is reported annually through the Statutory Performance Indicators (SPI).
- Awareness raising events and presentations relating to sustainability are provided to senior management and elected members.
- A "Green Workplace" area of the staff intranet was established at the start of 2021, to provide information, education, practical tips and ideas and opportunities for staff to get involved in the climate change and wider sustainability agenda.
- A programme of Green Champions was established in 2020 to help disseminate information across Council Clusters and over 30 Green Champions are in place.

Other
In addition, a range of Council teams have responsibility for strategy, activities and monitoring on climate change or sector specific areas:
- The Environmental Policy Team, has specific remit for climate reporting; gives advice on mitigation and adaptation; and encourages embedding of these measures into both corporate and city-wide plans, policies and strategies and ensuring direct links to the LOIP strategic outcomes.
- Corporate Landlord, oversee building conditions and undertake surveys, working closely with the Energy Management Team and Building Services/Maintenance to bring buildings up to standard and perform better in relation to energy efficiency. They also are obliged to comply with the corporate Buildings Performance Policy. This work is done on an ongoing basis. The Energy Management Team is responsible for overseeing collation of energy consumption data.
- Internal waste is managed by many with responsibilities spread among various functions as set out in the Internal Waste Minimisation policy. The Waste and Recycling Team, are responsible for the collection of waste and recycling containers from most corporate buildings, as part of trade waste collections. Facilities, are responsible for the implementation and provision of the waste and recycling

services from main office buildings. The IT Helpdesk and Transformation Team, are responsible for the collection/liaison with external companies for the reuse and recycling of Waste Electronic and Electric Equipment (WEEE).
A range of additional waste data is provided by relevant contractors.

- The Local Development Plan Team is responsible for providing the strategic direction for city development, including incorporation of sustainability principles into strategic plans and supplementary guidance. The Aberdeen Local Development Plan (LDP) is reviewed on a five-yearly cycle and is reported to the Full Council.
- The Flooding and Coastal Management Team have responsibilities in assessing flood risk and flood risk management schemes. The team work in partnership to develop cycles of the North East Flood Risk Management Plan, to meet the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009.
- The Transport Strategy and Programmes Team develop the Local Transport Strategy and a wide range of sustainable and active travel measures.

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

Document	Wording of objective(s)
Council Policy Statement	We will continue to invest in green energy transport projects in order to realise our aspiration to become a world leading city for low carbon technology. We will build new council houses and work with partners to provide more affordable homes. We will build up our existing strength in hydrogen technology. We will support efforts to develop the Energetica corridor. Refresh the local transport strategy, ensuring it includes the results of a city centre parking review; promotes cycle and pedestrian routes; and considers support for public transport. We will explore a property level flood protection scheme for domestic properties. Reduce fuel poverty across our most deprived communities through combined heat and power schemes including the Energy from Waste Plant and supporting community owned energy solutions.
Council Delivery Plan	The Council's Commissioning Intentions are aligned to the stretch outcomes of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and the Council's strategy framework.
Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2016-2026	One of the 15 stretch outcomes for the plan is addressing climate change by reducing carbon emissions and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate. Work also took place during this period to inform a refresh of the LOIP (scheduled for approval July 2021) including an update on emission targets.

2d - Does the body have a climate change plan or strategy?

City
Energy Transition/ Net Zero
- **A Net Zero Vision and Prospectus for Aberdeen** was approved at Urgent Business Committee in May 2020. Includes strategic objectives on: leading the global transition; accelerating transition demand; resilient, productive and dynamic place; climate positive exemplar; putting people first.
- **Strategic Infrastructure Plan (Energy Transition)**: was approved at Urgent Business Committee in May 2020. It includes Strategic Infrastructure Goals: clean energy supply for the city, UK and, particularly, globally; Aberdeen's infrastructure is adaptable to changes in climate; sustainable mobility; building energy efficiency; sustainable waste management. It also includes priority area of Net Carbon Zero - Public Sector.
- Council Committee March 2021 approved the decision: "to develop an Aberdeen Energy Transition and Climate Change Route Map.to meet our ambition to be a Net Zero city and report back to Council before March 2022." This work is underway and an update on this will be provided in the next reporting period.

Adaptation

- **Aberdeen Adapts: Climate Adaptation Framework** was approved in December 2019 and covers city-wide working on adaptation. Incorporating the views of local organisations and communities, it sets the direction to build long term city resilience.

Council

- The **Council Energy and Climate Routemap** was approved at Urgent Business Committee in May 2020. The routemap outlined work towards producing a new climate change plan (highlighted below) with a refreshed focus on the Council's climate change intentions for Council operations and infrastructure.
- The **Climate Change Plan 2021-2025: Towards a Net Zero and Climate Resilient Council** was approved at Council in March 2021. The purpose of this plan is to set out the Council's approach, pathway and actions towards net zero and climate resilient Council assets and operations, by 2045. The plan sets emissions targets for Council assets and operations, outlines actions to reduce carbon emissions and to increase resilience to climate change. It covers 5 main themes:
  - **Buildings** - reducing energy demand, transitioning to renewable energy and low carbon technology, increasing resilience of Council buildings and improving standards.
  - **Mobility** – transition to zero emission fleet, with an expanded EV charging and hydrogen refuelling infrastructure. Reducing emissions from staff travel. Considerations of climate adaptation for transport infrastructure.
  - **Other Operations** - upgraded street lighting, increase in nature-based solutions, a reduction in waste generated from Council buildings and operations, a reduced carbon footprint from our catering.
  - **Leadership and Governance** – improved data and climate risk management, incorporating climate change into Council practices and decision-making processes, strategic resource allocation.
  - **Awareness and Behaviour Change** - staff are aware of the Council's climate action and commitments, increasing staff understanding on climate change; and where necessary, upskilling to support actions.

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

Topic area	Name of document	Time period covered	Comments
Business travel	Staff Travel Policy	Ongoing	Includes considerations of the Environmental Impact of travel. Asks staff to consider first if their trip is necessary, encourages travellers to use modes of transport that result in the least environmental impact and outlines that the Council keeps records of estimated environmental impact of travel and has a clear intent to reduce it.
Staff travel	Council Travel Plan (only available via the intranet)		High-level objectives: To increase the choice of transport modes available to employees, Councillors and visitors to Council buildings. To seek to reduce the negative impact of travel choices locally and more widely, whilst maintaining efficient service provision.
Energy Efficiency	Local Housing Strategy (page 5)	2018-2023	Outlines housing strategy approach and includes the strategic outcome: Fuel poverty is reduced which contributes to meeting climate change targets.
Energy efficiency	Property Asset Management Framework		Includes the objective: Assets will be environmentally and economically sustainable. With indicators for reduction of carbon emissions; reduction in energy consumption per year; total cost of core property costs; number of oil based heating systems – target of zero; maintain water consumption at 2010/11 levels; number of operational buildings connected to district heating
Energy efficiency	Property Asset Management Policy		Key principles include: reducing carbon emissions from our properties.
Other	Condition and Suitability Programme	2018/19 – 2020/21	3-year programme for the condition and suitability works on the Council's non-housing property portfolio. Around 30% of the proposed C&S

			programme is made up of projects that will contribute positively to improving the environmental performance of the Council's assets.
Fleet transport	Fleet Replacement Programme	Phase 1 - for 2021/22	The programme has been updated to reflect the Council's Net Zero ambition to work towards decarbonising its in-house fleet and introducing new vehicles with reduced emissions.
Information and Communication Technology	ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Asset Management Plan (only available via the intranet)	2013	ICT Assets should be environmentally sustainable. This means considering local and global environmental factors, monitoring and reducing energy consumption and CO2 emissions through the whole ICT life cycle from manufacture, packaging, utilisation and disposal. ICT Assets must be safe, secure and comply with current legal and regulatory requirements and known future requirements. This means ensuring regular audits for DSE requirements and PAT testing of all ICT Assets, regular preventative maintenance and testing of critical ICT assets such as UPS and Air Conditioning within Data Centre and communications room facilities, compliance with WEEE regulations for electrical disposals, compliance with software licensing terms and conditions, compliance with Data Protection Act (DPA) and Disability Discriminations Act (DDA) when designing new ICT systems.
Waste Management	Internal Waste Minimisation Policy (only available via the intranet)		Discusses internal waste in relation to the waste hierarchy.
Waste Management	Aberdeen City Waste Strategy (Page 7-8)	2014-2025	Target 1: Waste growth will be eliminated by 2015. Target 2: We will work towards the targets set in the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan 2010. Target 3: Introduce an organic waste collection for all households by 2016. Target 4: Develop facilities within the Aberdeen area to recover our resources. Target 5: No more than 5% of household waste should be landfilled by 2025.
Water and sewerage	*Not applicable*		
Land Use	Aberdeen Local Development Plan (LDP)	Adopted January 2017	Includes policy on low and zero carbon buildings and on renewable and low carbon energy development. A wider range of policy information on the current and proposed LDP is included in the adaptation section. The Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2020) and Delivery Programme was approved by Full Council March 2020
Land use	City Centre Masterplan (Executive summary, page 9)		Includes the objective - Technologically advanced and environmentally responsible. Providing the capacity, quality and reliability of infrastructure required by businesses and residents and utilising resources responsibly.
Land use	Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan	2020-2040	Includes the aim - take on the urgent challenges of climate change.
Land Use	Open Space Strategy	2011-2016	Covers open space across the city, assists with climate adaptation. Recognise the economic, environmental, and social value of open spaces. Maximise opportunities to mitigate and adapt to climate change and further biodiversity. Ongoing open space audit which will feed into the review of the Open Space Strategy.
Other – nature conservation	Nature Conservation Strategy (page 4 and 15)		Biodiversity, which touches upon aspects of climate change. Within the objectives of the strategy and sections on sustainable development and climate change. There are many aspects to consider for truly sustainable development and climate change is one of them. A shift in species populations, ranges, migration patterns and reproductive behaviour are already evident both on land and at sea because of climate change.

Other – sustainable construction	[Building Performance Policy](#)	Renewed January 2018	The Buildings Performance Policy and accompanying guidance and checklist covers sustainable construction activity at a corporate level. It is an internal policy that sets building standards for refurbishments and new build projects. The policy states clearly an intention to deliver against energy performance, digital connectivity, future proofing for district heating and attaining certain BREEAM standards.
Other - various	[Local Outcome Improvement Plan](#)	2016-2026	Stretch outcomes for the plan (20/21) include: Addressing climate change by reducing carbon emissions and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate. 38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026. A refresh of the plan is updating the emission reduction target.
Other – economy	[Regional Economic Strategy](#) (page 25)	Approved 2015	Includes the objective: to maximise the potential of hydrogen, energy from waste and other renewables technologies to develop a medium-long terms demand for the transferable skills in the oil and gas sector.
Other - hydrogen	[Aberdeen City Region Hydrogen Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2025](#) (Part 2, page 16)	2015-2025	The aim of this strategy is to maintain and build on Aberdeen's expertise in hydrogen in order to achieve the long-term goals associated with hydrogen rollout and being the leading hub in Scotland. The strategy and action plan outlines how these aims can be achieved in the short, medium and long term. The action plan identifies a series of measures required to achieve this, across seven key objectives: vehicle deployments, renewable hydrogen, refuelling infrastructure, non-transport applications, supply chain/market development, communication and education, and policy & regulation.
Other	[Socio-Economic Rescue Plan](#)	2020/21	Approved at Urgent Business Committee in June 2020. The plan includes outcomes for green and active travel
Other - transport	[Local Transport Strategy](#) (Page 5)	2016-2021	Increased modal share for public transport and active travel. Reduced the need to travel. Reduced dependence on the private car. Improved journey time reliability for all modes. Improved road safety. Improved air quality and the environment; improved accessibility to transport.
Other – transport	[Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan](#) (Page 1)		Sets out long term approach for active and low carbon travel in the city centre. Varying transport options. Reduces air and noise pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption; improves the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the transportation of people and goods.
Other – transport	[Aberdeen Active Travel Action Plan](#)	2021-2026	Aims to encourage and facilitate active travel.
Other – transport	[Aberdeen Electric Vehicle Framework](#)	2018-2032	Inform the future plans and supporting infrastructure for EVs in Aberdeen over the next 5-10 years
Other – air quality	[Air Quality Action Plan](#) (Page 2)	2011	Actions to improve air quality in Aberdeen. [2020 Air Quality Progress Report](#).

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

In no specific order, the top 5 climate change priorities for the year ahead are:

1. Approve the city strategic approach for Net Zero by March 2022.
2. Programme the theme strategic documents underpinning the City Net Zero strategic approach.
3. Refresh of Aberdeen Adapts and the Local Transport Strategy, with roll out of work on key transport initiatives.
4. Continued delivery of over 100 projects in the Project Register for the Council Climate Change Plan, in support of the Council's net zero targets.
5. Develop robust internal systems for data collection and monitoring of emissions.

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

N/A

2h - Supporting information and best practice.

The 20/21 reporting period covered a range of rapid adjustments and impact on services as a result of Covid. However, climate change remained a priority for the Council through this and throughout the year progress on climate change was not just maintained but took a step forward. This included the establishment of governance for city energy and net zero activity and the approval of a vision document and supporting plan. Further work is also underway to develop the strategic approach for a net zero city. In addition, the Council set net zero targets for its own assets and operations and a net zero and climate resilience Council plan was approved. This was accompanied by a Project Register of over 100 projects being taken forward under 5 thematic sub-groups. An Oversight Group drives the tracking of this activity. Further projects to embed climate change in Council systems and processes are being progressed through the Plan.

Additional plans were approved that sit under the Local Transport Strategy, including an Electric Vehicle Framework for Aberdeen and an Aberdeen Active Travel Action Plan.

SECTION 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.

Reference year	Year	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total	Units	Comments
Baseline carbon Footprint	15/16	22,020.00	21,664.00	2,687.00	46,371.00	tCO$_2$e	
Year 1 carbon footprint	16/17	17,704.90	18,347.31	3,173.58	39,255.00	tCO$_2$e	Changes in estate and provision and accuracy of data account for the significant changes in relation to the total footprint.
Year 2 Carbon Footprint	17/18	17,867.11	15,767.82	2,257.46	35,892.39	tCO$_2$e	Changes in emission factors and provision and accuracy of data account for changes in relation to the total footprint. Biomass from wood chips has been included as a scope 1 emission source because it is not 100% renewable.
Year 3 Carbon Footprint	18/19	17,015.18	12,176.07	1,899.20	31,090.45	tCO$_2$e	Changes in emission factors; and provision and accuracy of data account for changes in relation to the total footprint.
Year 4 Carbon Footprint	19/20	18,544.97	10,315.87	1,700.40	30,563.24	tCO$_2$e	Changes in emission factors; and provision and accuracy of data account for changes in relation to the total footprint.

Year 5 Carbon Footprint	20/21	15,762.4	8,382.9	1,782.8	25,929.3	tCO$_2$e	Consumption figures are significantly lower than 2019-20 due to the reduced use of assets and reduced business travel during the COVID-19 restrictions

Year 5 Carbon Footprint	20/21	15,762.4	8,382.9	1,782.8	25,929.3	tCO$_2$e	Consumption figures are significantly lower than 2019-20 due to the reduced use of assets and reduced business travel during the COVID-19 restrictions

3b – Breakdown of emission sources.

Emission Source	Scope	Consumption Data	Units	Emission Factors	Units	Emissions (tCO2e)	Comments
Grid electricity (transmission and distribution losses)	3	22,992,737	Kwh	0.02005	kg CO2e/kWh	461.0	Usage through corporate assets. Consumption 25% lower than 2019-20 due to the reduced use of buildings during the COVID-19 restrictions. This is an exceptional circumstance, and we expect consumption to return to 19-20 levels in 21-22
Grid electricity (Generation)	2	22,992,737	Kwh	0.23314	kg CO2e/kWh	5,360.5	Usage through corporate assets. Consumption 15% lower than 2019-20 due to the reduced use of buildings during the COVID-19 restrictions. The prolonged cold winter increased gas consumption and that is why consumption did not fall as much as electricity. Degree days for winter 20-21 are 14% higher than 19-20. The Covid-19 restrictions have been an exceptional circumstance, and we expect consumption to return to 19-20 levels in 21 -22
Natural Gas	1	64,518,687	Kwh	0.18387	kg CO2e/kWh	11,863.10	Usage through corporate assets. Consumption 15% lower than 2019-20 due to the reduced use of buildings during the COVID-19 restrictions. The prolonged cold winter increased gas consumption and that is why consumption did not fall as much as electricity. Degree days for winter 20-21 are 14% higher than 19-20. The Covid-19 restrictions have been an exceptional circumstance, and we expect consumption to return to 19-20 levels in 21-22.
Gas Oil	1	2,686,632	Kwh	0.25672	kg CO2e/kWh	689.7	Usage through corporate assets. Consumption 43% lower than 2019-20 due to the reduced use of buildings during the COVID-19 restrictions. 2 sites did not require their tanks to be topped up at all during the year. This is an exceptional circumstance, and we expect consumption to return to 19-20 levels in 21-20.
Water Supply	3	175,715	m^3	0.11000	kg CO_2e/m^3	19.3	Usage through corporate assets. Consumption 27% lower than 2019-20 due to the reduced use of buildings during the COVID-19 restrictions. A further reduction in consumption is due to the removal of SportAberdeen, Bon Accord and Aberdeen Performing Arts sites from the total, to keep water reporting in line with other utilities.
Water Treatment	3	166929.25	m^3	0.23000	kg CO_2e/m^3	38.4	Usage through corporate assets. Figure is 95% of water supply.

Activity		Quantity	Unit	Factor	Factor Unit	Result	Notes
Grid electricity (transmission and distribution losses)	3	12,963,880	Kwh	0.23314	kg CO2e/kWh	259.9	From Street Lighting
Grid electricity (Generation)	2	12,963,880	Kwh	0.02005	kg CO2e/kWh	3,022.4	From Street Lighting
Average car - unknown fuel	3	144,229	km	0.17140	kg CO2e/km	24.7	From car hire
Average car - unknown fuel	3	596,855	km	0.17140	kg CO2e/km	102.3	Gray fleet – essential and casual user.
Rail (national rail)	3	46133.46	passenger km	0.03694	kg CO2e/passenger km	1.7	Some data has been provided from the external supplier; however, this is inaccurate therefore an overall figure cannot be estimated at this time. This is further complicated by staff procuring their own rail travel and claiming back through expenses. This data is not captured.
Car – petrol (average	3	61,774	km	0.17430	kg CO2e/km	10.8	Co-Wheels car club information. All mileage information taken from Co-wheels telematics.
Car – hybrid (medium)	3	0	km	0.11558	kg CO2e/km		Co-Wheels car club information. All mileage information taken from Co-wheels telematics.
Car- diesel (average – unknown engine size)	3	0	km		kg CO2e/km		Co-Wheels car club information. All mileage information taken from Co-wheels telematics.
Car – Battery electric Vehicle (Medium) Km	2	27,364.31	Km	0.05123	kg CO2e/km	1.4	Co-Wheels car club information.
Long haul flight (economy class)	3	0	passenger km	0.14615	kg CO2e/passenger km	0	Data from ATP. Flights booked through credit cards are not captured
Short haul flight (economy class)	3	0	passenger km	0.15289	kg CO2e/passenger km	0	Data from ATP. Flights booked through credit cards are not captured
Paper and board (mixed recycling)	3	26	tonnes	21.31700	kg CO2e/tonne	0.5	Confidential paper. Annual report provided by contractor.
Organic food and drink composting	3	40	tonnes	10.20400	kg CO2e/tonne	0.4	From 3R Schools
Organic food and drink composting	3	161	tonnes	10.20400	kg CO2e/tonne	1.6	From corporate premises
General waste to landfill	3	0	tonnes	437.37200	kg CO2e/tonne	0.0	Residual waste has been bulked and transported as refuse derived fuel since June 2017 rather than landfilled.
Mixed recycling	3	210	tonnes	21.31700	kg CO2e/tonne	4.5	Based on scheduled regular uplifts so data does not include bulky uplifts. Use volume to weight conversion factors.

Glass recycling	3	1.21	tonnes	21.31700	kg CO_2e/tonne	0.00	Based on scheduled regular uplifts so data does not include bulky uplifts. Use volume to weight conversion factors.
WEEE (Mixed) Recycling	3	3.42	tonnes	21.31700	kg CO_2e/tonne	0.1	IT provided information from contractor
Other – WEEE IT Reuse	3	1.98	tonnes	0	kg CO_2e/tonne	0	IT provided this information from contractor
General waste to landfill	3	134	tonnes	437.31700	kg CO_2e/tonne	58.7	3R schools. General waste to landfill provided by a report from the waste contractor.
Mixed recycling	3	50	tonnes	21.31700	kg CO_2e/tonne	1.1	3R schools. Mixed recycling provided by a report from the waste contractor
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	1	1,152,722	litres	2.54503	kg CO2e/litre	2934.9	Used within fleet services
Petrol (average biofuel blend)	1	122,614	litres	2.16802	kg CO2e/litre	265.8	Used within fleet services
Grid electricity (Generation)	2	4,793	kWh	0.23314	kg CO2e/kWh	1.1	Used within fleet services
Grid electricity (transmission and distribution losses)	3	4,793	kWh	0.02005	kg CO2e/kWh	0.1	Used within fleet services
Biomass chips	1	577,130		0.01513	kg CO2e/kWh	8.9	150,000kg of woodchips consumed for the biomass.
Homeworking emissions	3	40.18	%	0.30000	kg CO2e/FTE/annum	796.3	Estimate based on % of staff working from home during the pandemic. FTE not available. Headcount figure provided.
Overall Total Emissions						**25,929.3**	

3c - Generation, consumption and export of renewable energy

Technology	Renewable electricity		Renewable heat		Comments
	Total consumed by the organisation (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	Total consumed by the organisation (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	
Biomass			577,130		150,000 kg/ of woodchips consumed for the biomass plant.

3d – Organisational Targets

Name of target	Type of target	Target	Units	Boundary / scope of target	Progress against target	Year used as baseline	Baseline figure tCO2e	Units of baseline	Target completion year	Comments
Corporate emissions	Absolute	Net zero	tCO2e	Council assets/ operations	44%	15/16	46,371	tCO2e	2045	At the latest
	%	75	tCO2e					tCO2e	2030	At least
	%	48	tCO2e					tCO2e	2025	At least
Energy	Annual % reduction	2%	Annual %	Energy use in buildings		14/15		kWh/m^3		Significant reductions 20-21 due to covid restrictions.
Internal waste	%	65%	tonnes	Reuse, recycle, compost corporate waste		11/12	23,589	tonnes	2018	Internal Waste Policy
Recycling domestic	%	56%	tonnes	Household waste recycled by 2025	45.37% in 2020 calendar year			tonnes	2025	Waste Strategy
Waste - domestic	%	No more than 5%	tonnes	Household waste landfilled by 2025					2025	Waste Strategy

3e - Estimated total annual carbon savings from all projects implemented by the body in the report year

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO$_2$e)	Comments
Electricity		Data and monitoring actions are being progressed to support future reporting.
Electricity		
Natural Gas		
Other heating fuels		
Waste		
Water and sewerage		
Business travel		
Fleet transport		
Other		

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

Project Name	Funding Source	First full year of CO$_2$e savings	Estimated or actual?	Capital cost (£)	Operati-onal cost (£/ annum)	Project lifetime (years)	Primary fuel / emission source saved	Estimated carbon savings per year (tCO2e/ annum)	Estimated cost savings (£/ annum)	Behaviour change aspects including use of ISM	Comments
Continued Streetlighting LED Replacement Programme	Aberdeen City Council	2017	Actual	£7,500,000	0	7	Electricity	352	17,000	no	Inventory update being compiled - will see a further reduction on figures shown.
Torry Heatnet - connecting 3 public buildings to existing District Heating Network	Aberdeen City Council & Interreg North East Europe	2021	-	£9,500,000	-	-	Gas	92	-	no	Interreg Heatnet NWE pilot completed at the start of 2021. In future Torry DH network will be supplied by heat from Energy from Waste plant currently under construction.
St Machar Academy District Heating Connection	Aberdeen City Council	2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no	A 1.2km heat main to link St Machar Academy to Tillydrone Energy Centre
Woodlands Nursery District Heating Connection	Aberdeen City Council	2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no	Connection to existing district heat network
Tillydrone Nursery District Heating Connection	Aberdeen City Council	2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no	Connection to existing district heat network
Heating control upgrades	Aberdeen City Council	On-going	-	-	-	-	Mains Gas	-	-	no	Upgrade of heating controls in 3 schools and 1 community centre with minor works in 4 additional schools. Reduced gas use by 10%

Electric vehicle charge point rollout	Transport Scotland, Energy Saving Trust (Scotland), Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV), Civitas PORTIS EU funded project	2012	Estimate	£315,000 for 2020/21 £810,000 since 2012	£75,000	Ongoing	Petrol and Diesel	-	-	no	Chargepoint installation organised by the Council 118. This includes 16 for the car club only and 22 for fleet.
Trial of vehicles running on green hydrogen dual fuel	HyTIME, HyTrEc2 (EU Interreg) and Transport Scotland Large Vehicles	20-21	Actual	Time – unknown. HyTrEc2 = £45,000 TS = £69,000	-	-	Petrol and Diesel	7.03	-	no	HyTIME, within the Low Emission Freight and Logistics Trial of vehicles running on hydrogen dual fuel. 1 roadsweeper, 2 waste trucks EU Interreg HyTrec2 project – 1 roadsweeper Transport Scotland funding – 1 Roadsweeper
Fleet Replacement Programme	Aberdeen City Council	2020	Estimate	As committee paper	-	-	Petrol and Diesel	-	-	no	Low carbon fleet vehicles at the end of March 2021 included: electric vans, 25; electric cars, 7; electric compact sweeper, 1; electric mini digger, 1; Electric Refuse Collection Vehicle, 1; Diesel/ hydrogen vehicles, 5; hydrogen car 1.
Condition & Suitability Programme	Aberdeen City Council	On-going	Estimate	As committee paper	-	-	Electricity, Mains Gas, Oil and Water	-	-	-	-Implementation of building energy efficiency measures through maintenance and upgrade programme

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

Emission source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO$_2$e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
This section has not been populated due to lack of information.			

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

Emission source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO$_2$e)	Comments
Electricity	145.35	Replacement lighting system at Marischal College
Electricity	tbc	Continued LED street lighting programme
Electricity	tbc	Lighting replacement - lit signs and bollards
Electricity	tbc	Phased Intelligent Street Lighting Programme
Natural gas	1,617.00	Torry Heatnet - connecting 3 public buildings to District Heat Network
Other heating fuels	tbc	Replacement school, Milltimber
Waste	0	
Water/ sewerage	0	
Business Travel	0	
Fleet transport	tbc	Continued fleet replacement programme – electric, hydrogen & hybrid vehicles
Fleet transport	tbc	Full hydrogen and electric refuse collection vehicles
Fleet transport	tbc	Conversion to dual fuel refuse collection vehicles
Other	tbc	Transition to low carbon small machinery - landscaping
Other	tbc	Condition & Suitability Programme
Other	tbc	Staff Green Champions scheme

3i - Estimated decrease or increase in the body's emissions attributed to factors

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO$_2$e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate changes			
Service provision			
Staff numbers			
Other			

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

Total savings	Total estimated emissions savings (tCO2e)	Comments
Data and monitoring actions are being progressed to support future reporting.		

3k - Supporting information and best practice

- **Streetlighting Programme –** Since 2016 the Council's street lighting team have been carrying out a refurbishment process to convert the existing lighting in the city to LED. In addition, a phased approach to install an intelligent street lighting system is taking place enabling controls, dimming, and remote monitoring of faults.

- **Fleet transition**
  The Council was a winner at the GreenFleet awards 'The Public Sector Fleet of the Year 2020 (Medium to Large)'. The award acknowledged the work which has been carried out by the Council replacing older

vehicles; including increased numbers of electric, hydrogen vehicles and dual fuel vehicles in the Council fleet. Phase 1 of the Fleet Replacement Programme 2021/22 reflects the Council's Net Zero ambition to work towards de-carbonising its in-house Fleet. This includes a hydrogen refuse collection vehicle through the HECTOR project – Hydrogen Waste Collection Vehicles in North West Europe.

- **Co-wheels Car Club** - Council staff have access to low carbon vehicles through the Co-wheels Car Club. In 2020/21, 22,571 km were covered using Battery Electric Vehicles (BEV) and 107,378 km using Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles (FCEV). Mileage information was taken from Co-wheels telematics.

- **Connections to district heating**
  Torry HEATNET, an EU part-funded project is complete providing district heating connections to 146 homes. A district heating routemap has been published to show further district heating scope. A phased plan for expansion of the district heating network for existing Council housing stock & public buildings is planned.
  Not-for-profit Aberdeen Heat & Power installed a 1.2km heat main to link St Machar Academy to Tillydrone Energy Centre in 2021. This is delivering affordable heat and hot water to the 900-pupil school.

- **Housing Programme**
  The vision of the Aberdeen City Council Housing Programme is: "To create sustainable integrated communities and places, delivering affordable homes designed for life, which meet citizens current and changing needs, supporting the wellbeing and resilience of our tenants." The new build programme is delivering 2,000 additional council homes in conjunction with developers.
  In February 2020, Aberdeen City Council agreed to adopt the Scottish Building Standards gold standard for the new house build programme, where practical. Gold standard homes promote a more efficient use of energy, fuel and water. The design specifications for the programme include use of energy efficient technologies that make homes greener and cheaper to run; enhanced sound insulation; increased natural light; improved security; dedicated space for working or study; storage for an electric wheelchair, pram or bicycle; and are "dementia friendly".

SECTION 4 - ADAPTATION

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

- A full strategic climate risk assessment has been completed for risks affecting the Council. The **Council's Corporate Risk Register (CRR)** captures the risks which pose the most significant threat to the achievement of organisational outcomes and have the potential to cause failure of service delivery. In 2020 the climate risk entry in the Council Corporate Risk Register was separated into 2 entries - compliance with climate duties and place climate risks.
  - 'Compliance' – the risk of not complying with statutory duties as a Council to reduce emissions, contribute to national targets, adapt to climate change in contribution to the national adaptation programme, and report annually on this work.
  - 'Place' – the risk of not contributing to a reduction in city-wide emissions and address strategic climate risks for the city where the Council has scope to influence. Including: heavy or reduced rainfall, flooding, higher temperatures and sea levels.
  Previously a Climate Risk Guidance document was produced, outlining climate risks and their impact on corporate functions and teams and a one page document produced on key corporate climate risks was produced for corporate managers to support engagement on climate risks.
  One of the actions in the Project Register for the **Council Climate Change Plan 2021-2025** covers climate risk management and the mainstreaming of climate risk at cluster and/ or operational level. To progress this, presentations on climate risks relevant to the Council were presented to the Risk Board and to the Organisational Resilience Working Group in March 2021. A spreadsheet of climate risks relevant at Cluster and Operational level has been collated and issued to Chief Officers in 2021 for integration in Cluster and/or Organisational Risk Registers where relevant.
  Actions support Capability Framework – UC2A (Develop understanding of risk and vulnerability), and UC2B (Consider how you organisations functions might be affected by climate change).

- A review of the Council **Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP)** took place in 2019 to assess the impact of severe weather on Council services between 2014-19. This updated the Council's initial LCLIP, published in 2014. The LCLIP report was completed in 2020 and shared with the Council's Strategy

Board.
Action supports Capability Framework – UC2C (Explore the impact of recent weather events on your organisation).

- **Informing Aberdeen Adapts**, an Evidence Base document was collated to inform the development of Aberdeen Adapts, which aimed to build understanding of how climate change will affect the city.
  Action supports Capability Framework – UC3B (Undertake strategic climate change risk assessment).

- An assessment of flood risk was carried out for Aberdeen under work in the north east for the **Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2016- 2022** and this mapped areas potentially vulnerable to flood risk under cycle 1 of the plan. The plan forms part of the statutory obligations placed on Aberdeen City Council and partners SEPA, Moray Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Scottish Water, under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009.
  Mapping and Assessment, to identified Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) was concluded in July 2018 to inform cycle 2 of the plan. Flooding hotspots in each PVA have been identified and these are called Objective Target Areas (OTAs).
  During the implementation phase for Cycle 1, the Strategies and Plans for Cycle 2 are developed for publication on December 2021 and June 2022 respectively however these dates may be put back as a result of SEPA's postponement of the public consultation.

- A **Strategic Flood Risk Assessment** was undertaken for the **proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2020**. This is to satisfy the requirements placed on local authorities under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, requiring local authorities to exercise their flood risk related functions with a view to reducing overall flood risk and promoting sustainable flood risk management. The Assessment was to inform the development planning process and to reduce flood risk by avoiding areas at significant risk of flooding.

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

- **Aberdeen Adapts; a Climate Adaptation Framework** for the city, was approved by Council committee in December 2019. The Framework sets out key priorities, goals and key action areas for adaptation in the city.
  Action supports Capability Framework – UC3A (Explore future change by developing scenarios and/or storylines for climate impacts and Pl2C (Develop an initial adaptation strategy or action plan).

- The Council approved an **Energy Transition Strategic Infrastructure Plan** in May 2020, which references Aberdeen Adapts, including the goal of "Aberdeen's infrastructure is adaptable to changes in climate" and some high level actions relevant to adaptation.

- The Council approved a **Council Energy and Climate Routemap** in May 2020. This outlined commitment and indicative mitigation and adaptation actions for Council assets and operations and the phased approach to producing a detailed plan.

- The **Council Climate Change Plan 2021-2025** was then approved by Full Council, March 2021, with over 100 mitigation and adaptation actions for Council assets and operations. Governance for the Council Climate Change Plan was fully established. (see 2a).
  Actions supports Capability Framework Pl2B (Identify a range of potential adaptation actions), Pl2D (Take action to deliver adaptation, PI3D (Implement a programme of adaptation actions).

- Updates on progress with the control measures for climate risks in the Council's Risk Register are provided to the **Risk Board** on a monthly basis. The Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee is responsible for overseeing risk management on behalf of the Council and for receiving assurance that the Extended Corporate Management Team (ECMT) are effectively identifying and managing risks. In October 2020 the Corporate Risk Register and Assurance Map were provided to the Committee.
  Action supports Capability Framework – UC3B (Undertake strategic climate change risk assessment)

- The Council is a participant in the **Adaptation Scotland Benchmarking Working Group**, using the **Benchmarking Tool** to assess progress against the Capability Framework. A visual of Council progress using the Benchmarking Tool is included in the **Council Climate Change Plan 2021 – 2025**.

Adaptation is embedded in many Council and partnership policies and strategies including:
- The **Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2017)**, includes policies on:
  - Greenspace network – policy NE1 (p67)
  - Trees and woodlands – policy NE5 (p72)

- **Flooding, drainage & water quality** - policy NE6 (p74)
- Coastal planning – policy NE7 (p77)
- Low and zero carbon buildings & water efficiency – policy R7 (p87)
- Renewable and low carbon energy developments – policy R8 (p89)

- **Supplementary guidance** on open space & green infrastructure (p71) and flooding drainage and water quality (p75) with arrangements for Flood Risk Management Planning in Scotland, Flood Risk Assessment, Drainage Impact Assessment, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), Regional SuDS and Waste and Foul Drainage.

- The **Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2020)** and Delivery Programme was approved by Full Council in March 2020 and public consultation ran for over 14 weeks from May to August 2020. The Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2020 assesses policies against the **UN Sustainable Development Goals** (p14-15). It includes policies on:
  - Green and Blue Infrastructure – policy NE2 (p50)
  - Our Water Environment – policy NE4 (p56)
  - Trees and Woodland – policy NE5 (p58)
  - Low and zero carbon buildings, and water efficiency – policy R6 (p71)
  - Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments – policy R7 (72)
  - Heat Networks – policy R8 (p73)
  - Energy Transition – policy B5 (p101)

- Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority published the **Strategic Development Plan 2020**. It includes the objective: "mitigates and adapts to the effects of climate change and changing weather patterns"

- Aberdeen City Council produces and maintains **emergency plans** in conjunction with the **Local Resilience Partnership** members, including the emergency services and other agencies. This is to address specific potential emergencies which may affect the Grampian area as a whole, such as flooding.

- The **Aberdeen Nature Conservation Strategy**, considers the future impacts of climate change and highlights the links between biodiversity and climate change. Specifically, the strategy recognises that biodiversity loss and climate change are interlinked and that both threaten the availability of the natural resources. *(p15)*

- The **Aberdeen Open Space Strategy 2011-2016**, contains a key objective and series of actions to, "Maximise opportunities to mitigate and adapt to climate change and further biodiversity." This is through encouraging (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems) SuDS, protecting open spaces for the role they play in flood management, planting native and wildlife friendly species. This strategy will be updated following the Open Space Audit review, which is in progress and is surveying the extent, type, function and quality of open spaces in urban and peri-urban parts of Aberdeen. It is an ongoing process. Actions are taken forward through the process of planning.

- The **Local Transport Strategy 2016 - 2021** states and "we therefore need to build infrastructure which is more sustainable, climate resilient and adapted to our environment, ecological conditions and landscape setting". It includes the objectives:
  - To ensure that the transport network is as resilient as possible in case of flooding from extreme weather conditions. *(P28)*
  - To contribute to Aberdeen's carbon emissions targets and develop climate resilient infrastructure. *(P43)*

- The **North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan (NELFRMP) and North East Local Flood Risk Management Strategies** were approved in 2016. The plan contains the statutory duties that the Council will be required to undertake during Cycle 1 of the Flood Risk Management Plan 2016-2022. This is to meet statutory requirements under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009.
Plans and Strategies for Cycle 2 are in development detailing the draft objectives set for each Objective Target Areas (OTAs) in Aberdeen City.
The Council is part of the partnership for the North East Local Plan District (NELPD).

- **Aberdeen City Council Business Case** - adaptation is embedded into the Environmental Management section of the Aberdeen City Council Business Case template – *"Building city resilience to projected changes in climate",* to ensure climate change is considered in new projects and proposals.

- The **ACC Building Performance Policy** covers new build and refurbishment projects for corporate assets. Accompanying guidance and a checklist are to support and help inform decision making when considering the construction of new, and refurbishment of, corporate assets. The checklist includes consideration for site selection and assessment, including conducting a climate risk assessment, consideration for drainage, flooding and water efficiency.

- The Community Planning Aberdeen, **Local Outcome Improvement Plan** (LOIP) 2016 – 26 includes the stretch outcome "Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions…and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate." Key drivers for community resilience, and the development of community resilience plans, are shown under this outcome, with key improvement measures against these drivers. (P47)
  ACC Committee Report templates ask to state links to the LOIP.

- The **Aberdeen City Council Delivery Plan 2021-22** was approved at Council in March 2021. This sets out key deliverables and Commissioning Intentions, supporting delivery of the LOIP. Including delivery of Aberdeen Adapts; managing and expanding a safe, healthy tree stock; improve resilience to flooding and ensure the safety of the environment; encourage community resilience; and to increase community participation in winter maintenance and other resilience issues.

- **Granite City Growing: Aberdeen Growing Food Together** a city community food growing strategy was approved by Council in February 2020. This includes the strategic outcome "Embed the requirement to increase biodiversity and climate change adaptation and mitigation within growing spaces through the choice of plants, heritage varieties, site design and management."

4c - What action has the body taken to adapt to climate change?

Increase awareness

- Presentations were on the **climate impacts** for the city and Council to:
  - The Council's Risk Board in February 2021.
  - The Organisational Resilience Working Group in March 2021.
- Presentations were given on **climate risks relevant to Council assets and operations** along with wider mitigation data to support the development of the Council Climate Change Plan.
  - Council Climate Oversight Group July 2020.
  - Council Climate Theme Group - buildings, mobility, other operations, leadership and governance and awareness and behaviour change theme
- An area of the **staff intranet** "Green Workplace" has been established to share information. This will be developed over the coming year.

Building Adaptive Capacity

- The **Council Climate Change Group** fully established in this period – consisting of an Oversight Group and 5 thematic sub groups to develop and implement the Council Climate Change Plan (emission reduction and adaptation, covering the Council's assets and operations). The first full meeting of the Oversight Group took place in July 2020 and they have met on a monthly basis since then.

- **A Teams channel** was established for the Group files and communication.

- Updates were made to the environmental consideration section of the **Committee Report Authors Guidance template**, this included climate adaptation.

- Adaptation and mitigation are being embedded into a range of processes and procedures as part of work under the Leadership and Governance Group, for the Council Climate Change Plan. This has included the development of information to include in the Council Policy template and guidance.

Deliver Adaptation Action

- The Council is a partner in the EU project BEGIN: Blue-green Infrastructure through Social Innovation project, with work including consultation in December 2019 on phase 2, environmental improvement work and extension of access for the **Maidencraig Flood Management and Wetland Scheme** in Aberdeen.

The scheme aims to slow the flow of water in the Den Burn, allowing it to temporarily flood across the boggy area of the Den of Maidencraig, if required, during storms.

- A [property level flood protection grant](#) remains in place. The Council runs a 50% funded grant scheme to assist protecting property from flooding. The grant is for private residences that have either been previously flooded and have sustained damage; are located on a vulnerable area shown on the SEPA Flooding Maps; or are shown on the Integrated Catchment Study Model.

- Aberdeen City Council is part of the [EU SCORE project](#) (Smart Cities + Open data reuse), using data to improve flood protection. The Council worked on a trial for an app for a smartphone with the community of Peterculter, which aimed to allow residents to use their local knowledge and let the Council know when waters are rising or there is flooding in their area. The trial was investigated as part of work on the project, with the app developed and led by the University of Bradford. There has been installation of smart technology such as, real time sensors and cameras, as well as improved flood models. Sensors give more accurate information on water levels at points in the city.
  Actions supports Capability Framework PI2B (Identify a range of potential adaptation actions), PI2D (Take action to deliver adaptation, PI3D (Implement a programme of adaptation actions)

4d - 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")?

Objective	Ref	Theme	Policy/ Proposal reference	Information required	Delivery progress made during 2020/21
Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on the natural environment.	N1	Natural Environment	N1-8	Understand the risks associated with coastal flooding through development and implementation of local flood risk plans.	The **North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan (NELFRMP)** was approved in 2016. The plan contains the statutory duties that the Council will be required to undertake during Cycle 1 of the Flood Risk Management Plan 2016-2022. This is to meet statutory requirements under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009. The Plan was produced in partnership with SEPA, Moray Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Scottish Water. The **Footdee coastal study** (2018), aimed to improve understanding of coastal flood risk, including wave overtopping, for the Footdee area of Aberdeen. In addition, **Aberdeen Strategic Overview of Coast Protection (2019)** has been completed.
Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on the natural environment.	N1	Natural Environment	N1-10	Developing datasets to support flood risk, river and coastal management. A requirement of the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act is to develop a programme to integrate necessary data.	Outputs from the **Integrated Catchment Study**, have helped inform **Surface Water Management Plans** and identify in detail key risk areas within Potentially Vulnerable Areas, where further study work is required. The **Footdee coastal study** was completed under a previous reporting period, to improve understanding of coastal flood risk, including wave overtopping, for the Footdee area of Aberdeen. The **Aberdeen Strategic Overview of Coast Protection (2019)** has been completed. Aberdeen City Council remained a partner in the EU Interreg project **SCORE Smart Cities + Open Data RE**, in which low cost technology is being used to gather water level data, promote Citizen Science and provide property owners forewarning of potential flooding. In November 2019, residents in the Peterculter area of the city were invited to take part in a trail of smartphone flooding alert app with the hope this would help to build up a database on flooding patterns and statistics. The app was developed by Bradford University as part of the SCORE project. The Council is a partner in the **BEGIN project; Blue-Green Infrastructure through Social Innovation**, taking place from 2016 to 2020. It aims to drive the development of blue-green infrastructure (BGI) in urban areas through social innovation. This is a collaborative project working with ten cities and six scientific partners from across

					the North Sea region. It focuses on developing an approach to climate resilience for cities, that mimics nature's potential to deal with flooding. BGI can support urban areas to cope with extreme weather events and can improve urban liveability. The project is also designed to empower multiple stakeholders to contribute to the design, construction and maintenance of BGI.
Support a healthy and diverse natural environment with capacity to adapt.	N2	Natural Environment	N2-2	The Scottish Planning Policy includes green networks, green space, street trees and other vegetation, green roofs, wetlands and other water features, and coastal habitats in helping Scotland to mitigate and adapt to climate change.	A [Green Space Network](#) identifies threats and opportunities in relation to the natural and built environment across Aberdeen. This strategic network connects various habitats and species, urban and rural green spaces to each other and the communities around them. The network aims to protect and enhance designated sites; to improve connectivity between habitats and open spaces; and to promote opportunities for access to the outdoors. It also takes into account climate change adaptation opportunities and flood risk or alleviation. The Green Space Network and the Green Space Network (GSN) GIS Tool promotes, enhances and protects the environment identifies threats/ opportunities to the city natural and built environment. Focus on green infrastructure practices and enhancing the green space network. It is an ongoing process. The Council is a partner in the [**BEGIN project; Blue-Green Infrastructure through Social Innovation**](#), taking place from 2016 to 2020. It aims to drive the development of blue-green infrastructure (BGI) in urban areas through social innovation. This is a collaborative project working with ten cities and six scientific partners from across the North Sea region. It focuses on developing an approach to climate resilience for cities, that mimics nature's potential to deal with flooding. BGI can support urban areas to cope with extreme weather events and can improve urban liveability. The project is also designed to help cities overcome BGI's implementation barriers through social innovation. Empowering multiple stakeholders to contribute to the design, construction and maintenance of BGI.
Support a healthy and diverse natural environment with capacity to adapt.	N2	Natural Environment	N2-11	Embed climate change adaptation considerations, and potential responses such as habitat networks and green networks, into wider land use planning decisions using Forestry and Woodland Strategies, regional	The **Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017** includes "Policy NE1 Green Space Network" and "Policy NE8 Natural Heritage" and supplementary guidance on: - [Green Space Network and Open Space](#) - [Natural Heritage](#) The **Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2020)** assesses policies against the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and includes "Policy NE2 Green and

Objective	Ref	Theme	Policy/Proposal reference	Information required	Delivery progress made during 2020/21
				land use strategies, and Strategic and Local Development Plans and development master-plans.	Blue Infrastructure, and Policy NE3 Our Natural Environment"
Support a healthy and diverse natural environment with capacity to adapt.	N2	Natural Environment	N2-20	Assess and manage coasts, promoting adaptive coastal management that works with natural processes.	The Council assess and manage coasts through the development of the **North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan (NELFRMP)** approved in 2016. The understanding of coastal flood risk is improved by the **Footdee Coastal Flood Study (2018)** and **Aberdeen Strategic Overview of Coast Protection (2019)**. In line with recommendations of the flood study, a **Shoreline Management Plan** will be developed for Aberdeen City. There may be opportunities to develop this with Aberdeenshire Council as part of a wider east coast plan. The impacts of climate change on coastal flood risk will be considered. Coastal erosion will also be considered. Linkages with the **North East Grampian Marine Plan** will be considered. The **Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017** includes "Policy NE7 Coastal Planning", that states development will not be permitted in areas at risk from coastal erosion and flooding. The **Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2020)** includes "Policy NE4 – Our Water Environment", that states coastal development will not be permitted in areas at risk from coastal erosion and flooding.

Objective	Ref	Theme	Policy/Proposal reference	Information required	Delivery progress made during 2020/21
Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on buildings and infrastructure networks.	B1	Buildings and infrastructure networks	B1-13	Flood Risk Management Plans - The Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 requires the development of Flood Risk Management Strategies (FRMS) and Local Flood Risk Management Plans (LFRMP).	The **North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan (NELFRMP)**, was approved in 2016. The plan contains the statutory duties that the Council will be required to undertake during Cycle 1 of the Flood Risk Management Plan 2016-2022. This is to meet statutory requirements under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009. The Plan was produced in partnership with SEPA, Moray Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Scottish Water. During the implementation phase for Cycle 1, the Strategies and **Plans for Cycle 2** are developed for publication on December 2021 and June 2022 respectively. However, these dates may be put back as a result of SEPA's postponement of the public consultation.

Increase the resilience of buildings and infrastructure networks to sustain and enhance the benefits and services provided	B3	Buildings and infrastructure networks	B3-2	Planning Advice Notes (PAN) provides advice and information on technical planning matters. As part of the modernisation of the planning system, the planning advice notes are being reviewed and consolidated. Revised PANs (Planning Advice Notes) are to be underpinned by the principles of sustainable flood risk management.	The **Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017** was adopted on 20 January 2017. Adoption of **supplementary guidance** on 18 April 2017 including: Flooding, Drainage & Water Quality and Resources for New Development
					The **Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017** includes a specific policy on Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality (policy NE6) and it further supported by adopted Supplementary Guidance (SG). The aim of the policy and SG are to manage and reduce flood risk by ensuring that new development does not take place on areas that are susceptible to flooding and incorporates appropriate and sustainable surface water management measures. The policy and SG also seek to protect land and green infrastructure, with the potential to contribute to natural flood risk management from developments. The SG provides guidance on statutory roles and responsibilities, arrangements for flood risk management planning in Scotland, Flood Risk Assessments, Drainage Impact Assessments, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), Regional SuDS and Waste and Foul Drainage.
					Further to this, Policy R7 and its associated supplementary guidance focus on water efficiency, all new buildings are required to use water saving technologies and techniques.
					The **Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2020)** includes "Policy NE4 – Our Water Environment", that discussed flood risk and managements, foul drainage and water quality, and surface water drainage. The aim of the policy is to manage and reduce flood risk by ensuring that new development does not take place on areas that are susceptible to flooding and incorporates appropriate and sustainable surface water management measures. The policy seeks to protect land and green infrastructure, with the potential to contribute to natural flood risk management from developments. Further information will be produced in the form of "Aberdeen Planning Guidance Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality" which will support the policy by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with the above policy, with regard to Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality. Accordingly, the APG will provide guidance on statutory roles and responsibilities, arrangements for flood risk management planning in Scotland, Flood Risk Assessment, Drainage Impact Assessment. Sustainable

					Drainage Systems (SuDS), Regional SuDS and waste and foul drainage requirements. Further to this, Policy R6 – Low and Zero Carbon Buildings, and Water Efficiency and its associated Aberdeen Planning Guidance focus on water efficiency, all new buildings are required to use water saving technologies and techniques.

Objective	Ref	Theme	Policy/ Proposal reference	Information required	Delivery progress made during 2020/21
Increase the resilience of buildings and infrastructure networks to sustain and enhance the benefits and services provided	B3	Buildings and infrastructure networks	B3-3	Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) (Climate Change) identifies that short- and long-term impacts of climate change should be considered in all decisions throughout the planning system. Scottish Planning Policy is the statement of the Scottish Government's policy on nationally important land use planning matters.	The <u>Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017</u> was adopted on 20 January 2017. Adoption of <u>supplementary guidance</u> on 18 April 2017. The adoption of the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017 and its associated supplementary guidance will ensure short and long term impacts of climate change will be taken into account in all decisions throughout the planning system. NE1: Green Space Network NE5: Trees and woodlands NE6: Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality NE7: Coastal Planning NE8: Natural Heritage R7: Low and Zero Carbon Buildings and Water Efficiency R8: Renewable and low carbon energy developments The **Proposed <u>Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2020)</u>** and Delivery Programme was approved by Full Council in March 2020. The Proposed Plan 2020 includes policies on: NE2: Green and Blue Infrastructure NE4: Our Water Environment NE5: Trees and Woodland R6: Low and zero carbon buildings, and water efficiency R7: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments R8: Heat Networks B5: Energy Transition
Increase the resilience of buildings and infrastructure networks to sustain and enhance the benefits and services provided	B3	Buildings and infrastructure networks	B3-6	Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland. Delivering heating and insulation measures across Scotland to help improve energy efficiency and reduce energy demands of existing housing stock in the most fuel poor areas.	Information on **home energy initiatives** in Aberdeen can be found on the <u>Council website</u>.
Increase the resilience of buildings and infrastructure networks to sustain and enhance the benefits and services provided	B3	Buildings and infrastructure networks	B3-7	The Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing sets a minimum standard for energy efficiency in social housing. All social housing will be expected to meet the standard by 2020.	For the 2020/21 annual return there was a slight improvement even with the restrictions brought on by the Covid 19 pandemic. From the 22,052 properties that are in the scope of the **Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (EESSH)** the following was reported: - Pass EESSH – 20,583 (93.3%) - Abeyance/Exemption – 586 (2.66%)

					- Unknown – 1
					- Fail – 882 (4.00%)
					The failing properties are a combination of cost, construction type i.e. granite, non-traditional, solid wall. The 1 unknown is a purchased property that has no Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) and due to restrictions the Council has not yet been able to survey.
Increase the resilience of buildings and infrastructure networks to sustain and enhance the benefits and services provided	B3	Buildings and infrastructure networks	B3-8	Improve Housing Quality by ensuring all houses meet the tolerable standard, and that all social housing meets the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) by 2015.	As with the previous reporting year, at this time there are no properties in the Aberdeen City Council, Housing Revenue Account that are failing to meet SHQS, under the criteria set in Tolerable Standard.

4d (i) - Where applicable, what contribution has the body made to helping deliver the Programme (Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme – SCCAP2)?

Sub-Outcome 1.1: People in Scotland's diverse communities are informed, empowered and adapting to climate change	1.1.2 Empowered Communities	Flood Wardens are in place in several areas of the city. The Aberdeen Local Outcome Improvement Plan includes an Improvement Project Aim for "Community led resilience plans in place for areas most vulnerable to flooding by 2023, leading to resilience plans in place across all areas of Aberdeen by 2026". 2 Community Led Resilience Plans have so far been developed.
Sub-Outcome 1.2: Scotland's buildings and places are adaptable to Climate Change	Flood Risk Management Strategies	The North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan (NELFRMP) was approved in 2016. The plan contains the statutory duties that the Council will be required to undertake during Cycle 1 of the Flood Risk Management Plan 2016-2022. This is to meet statutory requirements under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009. The Plan was produced in partnership with SEPA, Moray Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Scottish Water.
	1.2.1.1 Community Planning	The Council produced a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan approved in December 2019. An Aberdeen Active Travel Action Plan 2021-2026, was approved in March 2021
	1.2.3 Resilient Buildings	Information on home energy savings in Aberdeen can be found at https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/housing/home-energy-efficiency/home-energy-savings and on the Energy Efficiency Aberdeen website https://www.savingenergyaberdeen.co.uk/
Sub-Outcome 2.2: Scotland's health and social care is ready and responding to changing demands as a result of the changing climate	2.2.2.1 Temperature	The Council network is developing sustainable travel networks; have produced a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan approved in December 2019 and Aberdeen Active Travel Action Plan 2021-2026, was approved in March 2021
	2.2.2.5 Air Quality	The Council is developing a Low Emission Zone. Work is taking place to increase the electric vehicle network in Aberdeen and an Aberdeen Electric Vehicle Framework was approved in March 2021. In addition, work is taking place to transition the Council's own fleet.
Sub-Outcome 3.1: Scotland's businesses based on natural resources are informed and adaptable to climate change.	Land Use Strategy	The Council is a member of a Regional Land Use Partnership being piloted to help develop the approach to land use in support of our green recovery and transition to net-zero.
	3.1.2 Forestry	Expanding Forests and Woodlands, programme of tree planting on Council owned land.
Sub-Outcome 3.2: Scotland's manufacturing,	3.2.4 Building Premises	The North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan (NELFRMP), was approved in 2016. The plan contains the statutory duties that the Council

services and wider economy are informed and adaptable to climate change		will be required to undertake during Cycle 1 of the Flood Risk Management Plan 2016-2022. During the implementation phase for Cycle 1, work has taken place to develop the Strategies and Plans for Cycle 2.
Sub-Outcome 4.2: Scotland's devolved supporting systems are resilient to climate change	4.2.2 Water	The Council has a Sustainable Growth Agreement with SEPA and Scottish Water, the City Blueprint Aberdeen planning is mapping potential areas for blue-green infrastructure.

4e - 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).

- High level information on climate risk is included in the **Council's Corporate Risk Register**, this gives details on the overarching strategic impacts causes and controls. The Risk Board is provided with monthly updates on progress with climate change action and annual updates are provided for the Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee.
- Monitoring processes for the delivery of actions in the **Council Climate Change Plan** are indicated in 4b.
- Progress with the **Nature Conservation Strategy** is reviewed, as part of **Biodiversity Reporting Duties**. This is required every three years under the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011. The Council produced a Biodiversity Duty Report in December 2020. It includes information on climate change related challenges for biodiversity over the next three years.
- A review of current and future flood risks for the city took place for the **North East Flood Risk Management Plan** 2016-2022. The plan covers the North East Local Plan District and is reviewed at 6 yearly intervals. The plan for Cycle 2 is under preparation.

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

- Key indicators are set out under each of the priority areas in the approved **Aberdeen Adapts: Climate Adaptation Framework**. It is anticipated further indicators will be developed to support the implementation phases of the work.
- A Project Dashboard has been established for the **Council Climate Change Plan**. This is updated on a monthly basis by project leads, with project summaries provided to the Oversight Group by theme leads. Following the approval of the Plan in March 2021, quarterly reports will be provided to the Council's Performance Board. Initial indicators have been developed for the plan and these will be further developed as implementation progresses.
- The **Risk Board** is provided with monthly updates on progress with climate change controls in the Corporate Risk Register and annual updates are provided for the Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee.
- The Council is part of the Adaptation Scotland Benchmarking Working Group and reviews adaptation progress annually against the **Public Sector Adaptation Capability Framework**.
- Biodiversity actions are monitored through implementation of the **Aberdeen Nature Conservation Strategy**.
- Open space actions are monitored through the implementation of the Aberdeen Open Space Strategy.
- Ongoing flood monitoring helps to assess the delivery and effectiveness of flood alleviation studies and schemes.
- The Council is a partner in the Aberdeen Community Planning Partnership, monitoring takes place against key improvement measures for addressing climate change set out in the Aberdeen Local Outcome Improvement Plan. An Improvement Charter has been established for community resilience.

4g - What are the body's top 5 priorities for the year ahead in relation to climate change adaptation?
Implementation of adaptation actions in the approved Council Climate Change Plan 2021-2025 for mitigation and climate resilience for the Council's own assets and operations.

1. To ensure the approved Aberdeen Adapts aligns with the development of a new Aberdeen Climate Plan due completion in March 2022, to cover place based net zero activity. A light refresh of Aberdeen

Adapts is to take place, for completion at the same time along with establishing governance arrangements.
2. Progress with the development of cycle 2 of the North East Flood Risk Management Plan. The Council budget (10 March 2021) allocated funding for flood protection including grants, flood scheme and sensors.
3. Mapping blue green infrastructure opportunity sites as part of a Sustainable Growth Agreement project with SEPA and Scottish Water.
4. Continuing work to embed climate adaptation in Council processes and procedures.

4h - Supporting information and best practice
Covered in previous 4a-g

SECTION 5 - PROCUREMENT

5a - How have procurement policies contributed to compliance with climate change duties?

The Council's **Sustainable Procurement and Community Benefits Policy** guides sustainable procurement activity 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 Council's **Procurement Mission Statement** 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) wastewater 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 <u>and</u> 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.

5b - How has procurement activity contributed to compliance with climate change 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. **Sensor Network–** Illustrative of the Council's proactive approach to adaptation. At full business case stage in 2019/2020. Progressing and will assess the merits of strategically deploying sensors that could serve to support early intervention in the context of flood prevention.

3. **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**.**

4. **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 provides a long-term solution for non-recyclable waste produced in the NE 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.

5. **Aberdeen Hydrogen Bus Projects –** Hydrogen buses only emit water vapour so reducing carbon emissions/air pollution compared to diesel equivalents they are replacing. The HyTransit and HyVLoCty single decker hydrogen buses were retired at the end of 2019 and have been allocated to various learning institutions for training / parts purposes. The new hydrogen fuel cell electric double decker buses as part of the JIVE Project are a world first and arrived in November 2020 with testing phase until full launch in January 2021. Since launch in January, the fleet of 15 buses has already saved 170,000kg of CO2– the equivalent of taking 42 cars off the road for a year. This is considered to mark a significant step forward in improving the city's air quality for residents.

6. **Fuel Cell/Hydrogen/Electric Vehicles -** in the reporting period, two Hyundai Nexos were deployed into the Council Fleet Car Club operated by Cowheels and one allocated to the Lord Provost (July 20) Two H2ICED (Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engine) roadsweepers deployed onto the Council fleet (July + November 20) and 2 x Nissan eNV200 EVs purchased for the harbour through the EU CIVITAS PORTIS project. Due to Covid 19 pandemic, the lease, purchase and deployment of other vehicles has been delayed. In the reporting period, a comprehensive fleet review was carried out to assess potential H2 demand and electric vehicles potential uptake. The findings of the review are linked here

In terms of charge points, Aberdeen City Electric Vehicle Framework (and supporting Evidence Base and Baseline report) were approved by the Council's City Growth and Resources Committee in February 2021. A tariff for use of publicly available EV chargepoints was introduced in June 2020 (38p connection fee and 19p per kWh thereafter) A further 3 x rapid triple charger and 4 x fast chargers, each capable of recharging two vehicles at once, purchased and installed in Frederick Street car park. It is hoped that these will be operational in Summer 2021. 2 x rapid triple chargers purchased and now operational for the harbour through the EU CIVITAS PORTIS project. 4 x replacement fast chargers (each capable of recharging 2 vehicles at once) purchased for Craibstone Park and Ride. These will replace older, less reliable units. To be installed in Summer 2021. A comprehensive list of chargepoints is listed here.

Aberdeen City Hydrogen Energy Storage (ACHES) – the facility runs off a green tariff so there are no emissions emitted, only emissions saved. Due to the pandemic a part needing to be replaced by the Belgian based company was unable to attend and access to 700 bar hydrogen was therefore limited with car refuelling primarily undertaken at the BOC owned and operated Kittybrewster Hydrogen Refuelling Station. Aberdeen did however facilitate trial tube trailer filling from the station with quantities shipped to Northern Ireland for use in their buses. Limited reliable data is therefore available in terms of emission savings attributable directly to the facility in Aberdeen in the reporting period.

Hydrogen Hub - In December 2020, the Council published a Prior Information Notice (PIN) inviting expressions of interest to explore potential delivery options to achieve the Council's ambitions to deliver a hydrogen hub in Aberdeen. Aberdeen has a vision to be a world leading hydrogen City. The potential opportunity focused on developing a commercial supply of hydrogen to support requirements to decarbonise transport, heat and industrial applications, but also to establish the opportunity for the City and the region to export hydrogen to the UK and EU markets. Initial requirements in terms of renewable hydrogen production could include supply to Aberdeen's bus and public sector vehicle fleets. Initial demand was estimated at 500kg/day with demand forecasted to increase to 3.5 tonnes of hydrogen by 2030 to meet potential transport uses – road, rail, marine – as well as for heat and industry applications.

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.

5c - Supporting information and best practice

- 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, 311 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 73% and an inclusion rate of 80% in respect of fair work criteria.
- The Policy guides sustainable procurement activity at a strategic and operational level and 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 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.
- 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 Aberdeen City Council Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-2026 (LOIP) 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. Example Climate Clause.
- 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

- Partners include representatives from: the 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.

SECTION 6 – VALIDATION AND DECLARATION

6a – Internal validation process.

Representatives from the Council's Environmental Policy team collated the information used to populate the Climate Change Report template. The information was gathered from multiple service areas. It is expected that those service areas have provided accurate data and have gained verification of this by their senior management. The Climate Change Report is checked by the Environmental Policy team that all areas have been completed, where reasonably practicable to do so.
Senior management have been asked to validate information provided by relevant Officers. The following information has been validated in this way.
- Adaptation
- Car club
- Trade waste
- Domestic waste
- Street Lighting
- Procurement
- Co-Wheels
- Travel
- Fleet

- Energy

Work is being carried out to identify areas for improvement in data collation for the Climate Change Report. The Climate Change Report 2020/21 is submitted to the City Growth and Resources Committee for approval. During the committee reporting process consultation is undertaken.

6b – Peer validation process

The Climate Change Report 2020/21 has not undergone peer validation due to time and resource constraints.

6c – External validation process

The Climate Change Report 2020/21 has not undertaken any external validation due to time and resource constraints.

6d – No validation process

Not applicable.

6e – Declaration

Dated and signed prior to submission.