

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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<b>COMMITTEE</b>	City Growth and Resources
<b>DATE</b>	27 November 2018
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	Climate Change Report 2017/2018
<b>REPORT NUMBER</b>	PLA/18/274
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	N/A
<b>CHIEF OFFICER</b>	Gale Beattie
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	Oluwatoyin Fatokun
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	4 To oversee and monitor the development and approval of an appropriate strategy for the Council's estate, including plans for investment, disposal and maintenance. 5. To oversee and monitor the development, approval and delivery of Council place based strategies to support the City's plans for future economic growth.

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to approve the mandatory Climate Change Report (CCR) submission to the Scottish Government to ensure compliance with the requirements of Part 4 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. This report is due for submission by the 30th of November 2018 covering the financial year 2017/2018.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

Committee is asked to:

- 2.1 Approve the submission of the Climate Change Report, as set out within the appendices, to the Scottish Government; and
- 2.2 Request that the Chief Executive signs off the submission.

### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Public sector organisations are required to report annually on progress against Public Bodies Duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. Public Bodies Duties are:

- to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (mitigation)
- adapt to the impacts of a changing climate (adaptation)
- to have sustainable development as a core value (acting sustainably)

- 3.2 The report follows a standardised reporting methodology to allow for consistency and accuracy in data collection in order to enable comparison. The report requires that organisations demonstrate a commitment to tackling climate change, managing climate risks, improving performance reporting and reducing emissions whilst setting

an example. The primary function of the report is to monitor performance against legislative requirements and the Councils relevant corporate plans, policies and strategies. This information is made publicly available and should provide information in a transparent and accountable manner. In addition, the report can help to identify areas of best practice and areas for improvement to support future decision making. The report has two sections: “Required<sup>1</sup>” and “Recommended<sup>2</sup>” reporting.

- 3.4 The Scottish Government expect all reports to be published prior to submission and that validation of quantitative and qualitative information is regarded as good practice and expects all reports to be approved by person with senior responsibility.
- 3.5 The overall emissions for this year show a reduction when compared to previous reporting periods. However, it should be noted that differences in emissions are attributed to changes in the scope of the submission (what is and isn’t included) and changes in emission factors used.

Reporting period	Overall emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
2014/2015	44993
2015/2016	46371
2016/2017	39225
2017/2018	35892

- 3.6 The most notable savings can be seen in street lighting, travel (car hire, diesel car used in fleet services, air travel), gas oil usage and internal waste. Savings seen from internal waste have been attributed to residual waste being bulked and transported as refuse derived fuel since June 2017 rather than landfilled. The consumption of natural gas showed the most notable increase from last year’s figures. It was explained that this is due to a decrease in temperature experienced between January to March 2018. Time needs to be taken to further scrutinise the data provided to enable ACC to identify areas for improvement and establish better performance monitoring.
- 3.7 In line with recommendation (C) in the last CCR to the former Finance, Policy and Resources committee paper on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2017<sup>3</sup> (CHI/17/144) ‘*to instruct the Interim Head of Planning and Sustainable Development to report back with an action plan to improve performance and reporting*’ time has been spent investigating current reporting process and performance as well as governance structures. The restructuring of the Council through the Target Operating Model has offered a unique opportunity to look to imbed Climate Change within this new structure. At the recent Corporate Management Team, where this report was approved to go to committee, the Management team agreed that a workshop on Climate Change should be scheduled with Extended Corporate Management Team to engage Chief Officers in this process. In particular the CMT were anxious for Chief Officers to be engaged in looking at performance reporting and roles and responsibilities which will inform the action plan. In parallel to this a significant amount of work is ongoing to establish a more effective mechanism for collation, holistic reporting and analysis using the Pentana System which is currently being used to report against existing Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs). Finally, Climate Change is also being imbedded in

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<sup>1</sup> The “Required” section (Appendix 1) provides evidence of corporate climate change governance, internal waste, business travel, street lighting, council building utilities, water and projects focusing upon efforts to reduce emissions at a corporate level as well as information on adaptation and sustainable procurement.

<sup>2</sup> The “Recommended” section (Appendix 2) reflects the influential functions that the Council has in supporting efforts on climate change mitigation and adaptation city-wide, beyond its estate boundary

<sup>3</sup> <http://councilcommittees.acc.gov.uk/documents/s74151/CHI.17.144%20-%20Climate%20Change%20Report%202017.pdf>

Risk Registers and this will further strengthen the roles and responsibilities. It is expected that the Action Plan will be completed in the first half of next year at which time it will be reported back to committee.

#### 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from recommendations of this report. The report simply illustrates a point in time as to how the Council is performing.
- 4.2 It should be noted that any increase in emissions could have repercussions on revenue budgets through any fiscal penalties associated with emissions e.g. Carbon Reduction Commitment.

#### 5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Failure to report and show continual improvement to emissions reduction, adaptation to climate change and acting sustainably could result in non-compliance with:
- 1) The requirements of Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, part 4. Public Bodies Duties require the council to act:
    - in the way best calculated to contribute to delivery of the Act’s proposed emission reduction targets of 56% by 2020 and 90% by 2050<sup>4</sup>;
    - in the best way calculated to deliver any statutory adaptation programme. Climate Ready Scotland, the Scottish Adaptation Programme was approved in 2014; and
    - in the way it considers most sustainable.
  - 2) The requirements of individual specific pieces of legislation, of which there are many and the Councils’ corporate policy, such as:
    - Aligning to the themes, priorities and drivers of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.
    - The goals within the Strategic Business Plan.
    - The Regional Economic Strategy – relating to innovation, investment in infrastructure and sustained and secure wellbeing of the city.
    - The Building Performance Policy.
    - Sustainable Procurement Guidance Note 10.
- 5.2 It should be noted that Scottish Government are currently pursuing more stringent emissions target, working towards net-zero emissions in order to achieve its Climate Change Plan. Further actions will be placed upon the Council subject to the draft Energy Efficiency Strategy being approved and the amendments to the revised Building Regulations and Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) Scotland Bill.

#### 6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

	Risk	Low (L), Medium (M),	Mitigation

<sup>4</sup>[http://www.parliament.scot/S5\\_Bills/Climate%20Change%20\(Emissions%20Reduction%20Targets\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill30S052018.pdf](http://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Climate%20Change%20(Emissions%20Reduction%20Targets)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill30S052018.pdf)

		High (H)	
<b>Financial</b>	The financial impact of producing the CCR is minimal, albeit higher than necessary due to current systemic inefficiencies. There are potential financial opportunity risks with reducing operational costs and generating income if decision making is ill-considered.	L	Streamlined and robust procedures and processes are being developed with Senior Managers to improve monitoring, reporting and targeted emissions reduction.
<b>Legal</b>	Failure to report and show continuous improvement to emissions reduction, adaptation to climate change and acting sustainably could result in non-compliance of the Public Bodies Duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009	M	Measures are being developed to ensure the relevant service areas monitor and target performance.
<b>Employee</b>	There is potential for a medium risk to employees, including staff time collecting data.	M	Officers are developing streamlined and robust processes and procedures to ensure the accuracy and consistency of information gathered.  Consideration is being given to developing key performance indicators and using the Pentana system.  Roles and responsibilities are being clearly defined and communicated to those responsible for collecting and verifying the required data.
<b>Customer</b>	All reports are made publicly available. ACC emissions, adaptation and sustainability performance data may be of interest to some stakeholders. This will become more important as Scottish Government continues to work towards national targets for net- <a href="#">zero emissions</a> .	L	These impacts are monitored through multiple plans, policies and strategies across Council activities.

<b>Environment</b>	The impact on environment in producing this report is minimal. However, the report reflects the Councils' environmental performance in managing climate change	L	These impacts may be monitored through multiple plans, policies and strategies across Council activities.
<b>Technology</b>	The impact on technology in producing this report is minimal. Better use of technology would improve data collation for future reporting.	L	Measures are being considered to utilise technology to address better performance reporting.
<b>Reputational</b>	All reports are made publically available. There is the potential for negative reputational impact if the Council's performance is poor when compared against similar organisations, or if performance shows no or little improvement against the previous year's performance.	M	Communications will be advised of the reports outcomes and when it is publically available so they can deal with any related inquiries.

## 7. OUTCOMES

<b>Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Prosperous Economy</b>	There are no direct impacts of this report on the economy.  However, by addressing emissions reductions there could be opportunities for market diversification and job creation within the city.
<b>Prosperous People</b>	There are no direct impacts of this report on people.  However, increases in emissions might result in reduced air quality, impact on health and well-being, put more pressure on the health system and result in increases in fuel costs affecting those who live within fuel poverty for example.
<b>Prosperous Place</b>	There are no direct impacts of this report on Place.  However, not taking action to reduce emissions will impact negatively on Aberdeen being a resilient and sustainable community.
<b>Enabling Technology</b>	There are no impacts of this report on technology affecting wider Aberdeen. However, there is the

	opportunity to explore digital transformation which can enable better data capture, reporting and subsequently using that information through intelligent systems to improve performance. It could be that this information is made publicly available through data sourcing.
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## 8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
<b>Equality &amp; Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA)</b>	Completed and confirmed a full EHRIA is not required
<b>Data Privacy Impact Assessment (DPIA)</b>	Completed and confirmed a full DPIA is not required
<b><u><a href="#">Children's Rights Impact Assessment/Duty of Due Regard</a></u></b>	Not applicable.

## 9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- CHI/16/162 – 1st November 2016<sup>5</sup>
- CHI/17/144 – 20th September 2017<sup>6</sup>

## 10. APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 – [Required Reporting](#)
- Appendix 2 – [Recommended reporting](#)

## 11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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<sup>5</sup> <http://councilcommittees.acc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=503&MId=3877&Ver=4>

<sup>6</sup> <http://councilcommittees/documents/s74151/CHI.17.144%20%20Climate%20Change%20Report%202017.pdf>