

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee
DATE	17 November 2022
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Climate Change Report 2021-22
REPORT NUMBER	COM/22/253
DIRECTOR	Gale Beattie
CHIEF OFFICER	David Dunne
REPORT AUTHOR	Jenny Jindra
TERMS OF REFERENCE	2

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the statutory Climate Change Report (CCR) covering the period 2021/2022. The report is required to be submitted to the Scottish Government, to ensure compliance with the requirements of Part 4 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- 2.1 approve the Climate Change Report 2021/22, as detailed in Appendix 1 and, instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to submit the report prior to the deadline of 30 November 2022; and
- 2.2 instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to publish the Climate Change Report on the Council's website.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

About The Climate Change Report

- 3.1 The Council along with other public sector organisations, have a statutory duty to report annually on progress against Public Bodies Duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. These duties are to act:
- In the best way calculated to contribute to the Act's emission reduction targets, these are Net Zero emissions by 2045;
 - In the best way calculated to deliver any statutory adaptation programme; and
 - In a way that it considers is most sustainable.
- 3.2 Reports must be produced on a set excel template and follow a standardised reporting methodology to allow for consistency and accuracy in data collection.

- 3.3 The CCR consists of two sections, “Required” and “Recommended” reporting.
- Required reporting (*Appendix 1*) requires evidence of:
 - Profile of the Reporting Body
 - Governance Management and Strategy relating to climate change.
 - Emissions, targets and projects: information on the Council’s “corporate” emissions, including those from internal waste, fleet, business travel, street lighting, energy and water from council buildings and projects focusing upon efforts to reduce emissions at a corporate level
 - Adaptation: assessment and management of climate related risks
 - Procurement; policies and activities relevant to climate change duties.
 - Validation and Declaration
 - The “Recommended” section (*Appendix 2*) reflects the scope of influence the Council has in supporting city wide climate change mitigation and adaptation. It includes:
 - Area-wide and per capita emissions
 - Targets
 - Strategies, plans or policies outlining ambition to influence emissions beyond your corporate boundaries
 - Policies and Actions to Reduce Emissions
 - Partnership Working, Communications and Capacity Building
- 3.4 The CCR must be made publicly available and provide information in a transparent and accountable manner, in line with the relevant guidance.
- 3.5 Reports cannot be submitted unless sign-off is evident in section 6 of the Required Report, for the relevant reporting period.

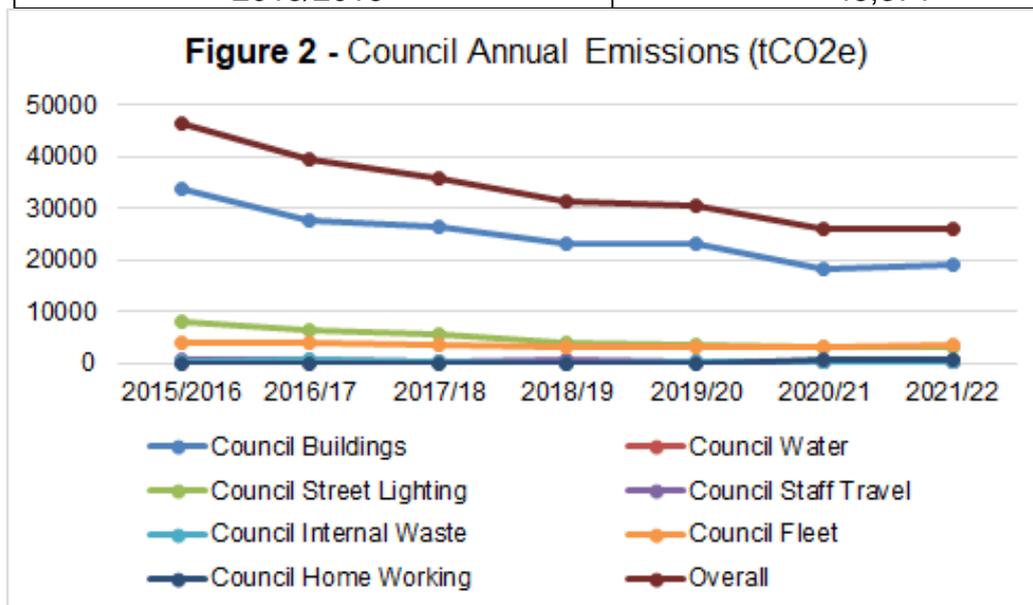
Council emissions

- 3.6 The Council’s emissions data is collated for the Required Reporting section of the CCR.
- 3.7 New annual compliance reports for 21/22 include the following requirements:
- A target date for achieving zero direct emissions.
 - Targets for reducing indirect emissions.
 - Information on how the body will align spending plans and resources to deliver emissions targets.
 - How the Council will publish or make available its progress to achieving its emissions reduction targets.
 - The contribution to help deliver Scotland’s Climate Change Adaptation Programme.
- 3.8 Overall annual emissions data is set out in Figure 1, with a breakdown of emissions in Figure 2. Due to Covid19 restrictions, including building closures 20/21 emissions data is not considered a representative year. In comparison with the previous reporting period 20/21, emissions have increased by 230 tCO₂e (1%). A 43.6% reduction against the 2015/16 baseline. Emissions are still on track to achieve the interim target of a 48% reduction by 2025.

- 3.9 It should be noted that in the 21/22 reporting period electricity, gas, oil and water consumption from buildings was higher than 20/21 due to the increased use of buildings as the pandemic began to ease. Similarly, there was also an increase in emissions from staff travel, air, rail, car hire and grey fleet. Figure 2 reflects data from the 20/21 report period.
- 3.10 Emissions are calculated based on consumption data e.g., km travelled and converted using emission factors released annually by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Emissions are categorised into groups of scope 1, 2 & 3 emissions. Scope 1 are direct emissions from sources owned or controlled by the Council, Scope 2 are indirect emissions from purchased electricity and Scope 3 other indirect emissions.
- 3.11 There are external factors which can influence emissions year to year such as changes in annual emissions factors; colder winter weather and changes in estate.
- 3.12 For the second year, guidance on reporting has requested data on emissions from staff working from home. The data included is based on the estimated figure of 24% of FTE Council staff working from home during this period which added 493.6 tCO₂e to the annual emissions data.

Figure 1: Overall Carbon Emissions

Reporting Period	Overall emissions (tCO ₂ e)
2021/2022	26,159
2020/2021	25,929
2019/2020	30,563
2018/2019	31,090
2017/2018	35,892
2016/2017	39,225
2015/2016	46,371



Council Climate Change Plan

3.13 Council approved the Council Climate Change Plan in March 2021. This set a net zero emission reduction target; as well as emission reduction and climate resilience measures for Council assets and operations, with the Council “baseline” year for reporting as 2015/16.

3.14 A summary of progress from the first year of implementation of the Council Climate Change Plan (1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022) is included in Appendix 3. This sets out activity under key themes of buildings; mobility; other operations; leadership and governance; and awareness and behaviour change.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report. The report simply illustrates a point in time as to how the Council is performing.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Failing to report would put the Council in breach of a legal duty under part four of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) <small>*taking into account controls/control actions</small>	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	Climate risks and opportunities not being recorded and regularly monitored.	Climate risks are reported through the risk registers and updated monthly. Includes risk on compliance with climate duties. Project Register and Dashboard established	L	Yes

		to monitor progress on Council Climate actions.		
Compliance	Non-compliance of the Public Bodies Duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009	Climate Change Report is completed, published and submitted within the mandatory timeframe.	L	Yes
Operational	Risk that reporting does not meet the required format. Risk that systems to collate data are inefficient. Risk that incorrect emission factors are used.	Reporting guidance is followed. Information and data is entered on the standard reporting templates. Set scope of data is collated annually for consistency. Up to date emission factors are used. Improvements to data collation are taking place.	L	Yes
Financial	There is no financial implication as a result of this report.	The annual CCR is achieved through existing budgets.	L	Yes
Reputational	Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 set targets for emission reduction in Scotland of net zero by 2045 and requirements on Public Sector bodies on setting Net Zero targets.	Governance established for the Council Climate Change Plan – covering actions required to meet climate duties.	M	Yes
Environment / Climate	Failure to meet emission reduction target year.	Continue the monitoring and reporting of corporate emissions.	M	Yes

8. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN</u>	
Impact of Report	
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	The report contributes to providing CO2 emission statements and supports the reduction of the carbon footprint of the council's building estate and vehicle fleet.
<u>Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan</u>	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	This report does not contribute to Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	The proposals in this report support the delivery of stretch outcome 11 - Healthy life expectancy (time lived in good health) is five years longer by 2026. Actions to reduce carbon emissions; protect and improve the environment can have a positive impact on health and wellbeing.
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	The proposals in this report support the delivery of stretch outcome 13. Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by at least 61% by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate. 14. Increase sustainable travel: 38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026 15. Addressing the nature crisis by protecting/managing 26% of Aberdeen's area for nature by 2026.
Regional and City Strategies	The CCR highlights the climate targets and objectives in a range of regional and city strategies including: Regional and Local Transport Strategies, Strategic and Local Development Plans, Local Outcome Improvement Plan, Aberdeen Adapts, Local Housing Strategy and Net Zero Routemap for the City.

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	Full impact assessment not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	N/A

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 COM21252 - Climate Change Report 2020/21
- 10.2 COM21047 - Council Climate Change Plan 2021-2025
- 10.3 [Climate Change Reporting Guidance 2021/2022](#)
- 10.4 [Greenhouse Gas Reporting: Conversion factors 2022](#)

11. APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 – Climate Change Report 21/22: Required Reporting
- Appendix 2 – Climate Change Report 21/22: Recommended Reporting
- Appendix 3 – Summary of Climate Change Report 21/22 and 1st Year Progress of the Council Climate Change Plan 21-25

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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