

The Highland Council
Planning, Development and Infrastructure Committee

Agenda Item	13.iii
Report No	PDI/68/16

2 November 2016

Annual Report under Public Bodies Climate Change Duties, 2015/16

Report by Director of Development & Infrastructure

Summary

This report presents The Highland Council's first mandatory report under the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties (PBCCD), as required under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Highland Council has been a signatory of Scotland's Climate Change Declaration (SCCD) since its launch in 2007. Through the SCCD, the Council has committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions, with publicly declared targets and timescales, as well as adapting to predicted climate change impacts. There was also a strong emphasis on working with communities to achieve these goals. Under SCCD, the Council voluntarily submitted an annual report detailing progress on the above. The 2014/15 SCCD report was the final report submitted under this voluntary scheme.
- 1.2 The Scottish Government has enacted a new Public Bodies Duties Order under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to replace the voluntary reports, with a mandatory reporting process from 2015/16.
- 1.3 The 2015/16 PBCCD report uses the same template used in previous reporting years. However, mandatory reporting will impact how the Council collects and analyses carbon emissions data, and will impose firm submission deadlines for annual reports (the last working day in November, for reporting on the previous financial year). There will also be more external and public scrutiny of the Council's carbon emissions, and activities related to the climate change.
- 1.4 The report is divided into five required sections:
 1. Organisational profile, detailing key statistics about the organisation (e.g. size of the estate and number of employees);
 2. Governance, Management and Strategy relating to climate change;
 3. Details of the Council's own 'corporate' emissions from its estate, services and functions, including details of top 10 carbon reduction projects and targets for reducing carbon emissions;
 4. Details on steps taken to adapt to the risks and impacts of climate change including priority action areas for the year ahead; and
 5. Information on how sustainable procurement practices are contributing to climate change goals and targets.

1.5 The report also includes a recommended section on the wider impacts and influence on carbon emissions, which includes area-wide emissions estimates, and details of projects demonstrating effective partnership working, capacity building and climate change communications.

1.6 The proposed submission by the Council is attached at **Appendix 1**.

2. Implications

2.1 Resource: There are resource implications with regards to staff time to put in place the reporting systems necessary for the required reporting processes that will need input from teams across the Council (namely Energy and Sustainability, Waste, Street lighting, Fleet, and Finance). This will be managed within the resource available for next year.

2.2 Legal: The move to required reporting places new legal duties on the Council to report on its carbon emissions in accordance with the information requested by the Scottish Government. This includes complying with any deadlines or monitoring and verification standards that are imposed.

2.3 Climate Change/Carbon CLEVER: Accurately monitoring and reporting on carbon emissions and climate change will help to focus attention on action to reduce carbon emissions across the Council and the region.

2.4 Rural, Equality, Risk and Gaelic: There are no rural, equality, risk or Gaelic implications arising from this report.

Recommendations

Members are asked to agree that the 2015/16 report is submitted as part of the mandatory reporting process under the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties.

Designation: Environment Manager

Date: 14 October 2016

Author: Heidi de Haas, Climate Change Co-ordinator

APPENDIX 1: Annual Report under Public Bodies Climate Change Duties, 2015/16

Required Section

1 Organisational Profile

1a Name of the organisation – Highland Council

1b Type of organisation – Local Authority

1c Number of FTE staff in the organisation – 8,092.7

1d Alternative metrics used by the organisation Specify any other metrics that the organisation uses to assess its performance in relation to climate change and sustainability.

N/A

1e Overall budget of the organisation

~£570 million net revenue budget

1f Report year – 2015/16 Financial Year

1g Organisational context

The Highland Council is a local authority in the north of Scotland, serving a largely rural and remote population. Inverness is the region's main population centre, and its only city. The Council is responsible for delivering a wide range of services to residents across the region, including schools, leisure facilities, waste collections and social and welfare services.

The Highland Council serves a third of the land area of Scotland including the most remote and sparsely populated parts of the United Kingdom. The region has the 7th highest population of the 32 authorities in Scotland.

The length of coastline including islands at low water is 4,905 kilometres, 21 per cent of the Scottish total, and excluding islands is 1,900 kilometres (49 per cent of Scotland).

2 Governance, Management and Strategy

2a How is climate change governed in the organisation?

Climate change was identified as one of the Council's key cross-cutting themes, with relevance to all services in the Council's Programme "Working Together for the Highlands" from 2012 - 2015, partly covering this reporting year. The "Highland First" Council programme, adopted in August 2015, identifies helping communities improve their energy efficiency, developing a local flood management plan and dealing more effectively with waste as key priority areas. The Council's progress towards mitigating and adapting to climate change is now within the remit of the Planning, Development & Infrastructure Committee. Each report presented to the Highland Council's strategic committees is required to identify any and all climate change implications.

The Council introduced its first Carbon Management Plan in 2005, and in 2013, launched the Carbon CLEVER initiative. Carbon CLEVER sets a goal of a carbon neutral Inverness in a low carbon Highlands by 2025. Various papers on Carbon CLEVER and its associated projects and initiatives have been presented to full Council meetings, as well as strategic and area committees.

In April 2012, the Highland Council published its first climate change adaptation strategy for the Highland Region: "Adapting to Climate Change in Highland". This document was approved at a meeting of the Highland Council. The document aims to gather evidence, present regional information, and equip relevant decision makers with the appropriate tools to adapt to the effects of a changing climate. The document was developed in consultation with multiple stakeholders and with guidance and advice from Adaptation Scotland.

The Highland Council has five directorates: Care and Learning, Finance, Corporate Development, Development and Infrastructure and Community Services. The Council's Climate Change team, consisting of a Climate Change Officer and a Climate Change Coordinator, is responsible for facilitating, reporting and promoting climate change actions across the Council, and is the primary point of contact for climate change issues. The Climate Change team sits within the Environment team in the Development & Infrastructure Service, and provides support to all Council Services. Reports on Climate Change and associated initiatives are generally taken to Planning, Development & Infrastructure Committee; however, papers are often presented to Resources Committee and Area Committees. Ultimately, all Committees report back to full Council.

2b How is climate change action managed and embedded in the organisation?

The Highland Council's Carbon Management Plan 2013 - 2020 (CMP) provides a framework for monitoring and reducing carbon emissions from the Council's internal operations. A number of key teams are responsible for taking actions to meet specific targets within the plan. The Climate Change team works collaboratively with services across the Council to develop and implement carbon reduction strategies. A Carbon Working Group (CWG), comprised of key officers from multiple services, helps to facilitate this interaction, considers progress towards the targets set out in the CMP, and any other climate change related issues or developments. The Council is currently reviewing the scope and governance arrangements around the CWG with a view to further embed low carbon behaviours and practices within the organisation.

The Climate Change team has a strategic overview of the Highland Council's progress to reduce carbon emissions, and sits within the Environment team in the Development & Infrastructure Service. The team acts as a centre of expertise on climate change for the Council, and works collaboratively with teams from all Services. Reports on climate change produced by the team are reviewed by the Executive Leadership Team, which includes the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Service Directors, the Head of Policy & Reform, and the Business Manager, before being presented to and scrutinised by the appropriate committee, for approval by Elected Members. Committee minutes are then approved by full Council.

In 2010, the Council introduced mandatory climate change screenings for all committee papers, covering all committees and all subject matters. This was amended in 2013 to also incorporate any potential Carbon CLEVER implications.

The Highland Council has taken a number of steps to embed climate change action across the organisation. This includes staff engagement and awareness activities including climate change and sustainability training for new staff, an annual programme of events and campaigns focused on climate change including Earth Hour, Cycle to Work Week, the Step Count Challenge, behaviour change initiatives on energy saving and active travel utilising the ISM behaviour change tool, national and European campaigns, as well as an IT switch-off campaign.

The Highland Council is also working on embedding climate change and sustainability guidelines in its new sustainable procurement framework, as well as working with Heads of Service and Elected Members to provide information on climate change issues and how these issues could impact different agendas across the Council.

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

Wording of objective	Name of document
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dealing with our Waste: We will develop plans to meet our obligations as a result of the landfill ban of biodegradable municipal waste by 1st January 2021. • Community Resilience Planning: The Council will work with Scottish and Southern Energy and other utility companies to deliver improved resilience planning for our communities including planning for extreme weather events. • Fairer fuel and energy: We will work with UK and Scottish Governments and energy suppliers to promote fair domestic fuel pricing for the Highlands and a fairer system for targeting energy efficiency funding based on levels of fuel poverty. • Helping communities reduce their energy use and costs: The Council, with partners, will support communities to reduce their energy use and associated carbon emissions and costs. 	Highland First w.e.f. August 2015
Climate change is identified as a cross-cutting theme across the Council programme, through commitment to the goals of the SCCD (relevant to the reporting year 2014/15)	Working Together for the Highlands 2012-2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage sustainably the outstanding natural heritage of the Highlands to optimise the economic, health and learning benefits; • To increase and develop the use of renewable energy; • A carbon neutral Inverness in a low carbon Highlands by 2025; • Reducing fuel poverty; • Supporting communities to be resilient to extreme weather events; and • Improving access to the outdoors. 	Single Outcome Agreement

2d Does the organisation have a climate change plan or strategy? If yes, provide the name and/or link to any such document.

The Council adopted its first Carbon Management Plan in 2005/6, and is now on its third iteration. The Carbon Management Plan 2013-2020, was adopted in 2013, and expands on the ambition and scope of the previous two plans, including setting more ambitious carbon reduction targets, and targeting a wider range of emissions both from internal Council emissions, as well as reporting on community-wide emissions from Council houses and municipal waste (although reduction targets are not set against these). This focused attention has helped to embed climate change awareness across the Council, with climate change being adopted as a cross-cutting theme in the Working Together for the Highlands 2012-2017 programme, adopted in 2013 and relevant for the reporting year 2014/15. Outcomes and actions are also detailed in the Single Outcome Agreement. These commitments have continued with the new Council Programme Highland First, adopted in August 2015, with a focus on supporting communities reduce their energy costs, reducing fuel poverty, improving the management of waste, and building long-term resilience with our communities to cope with events such as flooding, which have the potential to be impacted by climate change.

2e Does the organisation have any plans or strategies covering the following areas that include climate change? Provide the name of any such document and the timeframe covered.

Topic area	Name of document	Time period	Comments
Adaptation	Adapting to climate change in Highland	2012-2020	
Business travel	Carbon Management Plan	2013-2020	
Staff Travel	Carbon Management Plan	2013-2020	
Energy efficiency	Carbon Management Plan	2013-2020	
Fleet transport	Carbon Management Plan	2013-2020	
Information and communication technology	Carbon Management Plan	2013-2020	The Council is currently in a procurement exercise to appoint a new ICT provider. The expectation is that the annual emissions reporting will be a contractual requirement. The current provider is in a contract extension period so will not be undertaking any reporting for 2015/16.
Renewable energy	Carbon Management Plan	2013-2020	
Sustainable/renewable heat	Carbon Management Plan	2013-2020	
Waste management	Carbon Management Plan	2013-2020	
Water and sewerage	Carbon Management Plan	2013-2020	
Land Use	Highland wide Local Development Plan, adopted 2012 (currently being revised); Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan, adopted 2015; Land allocations within extant Local Development Plans including: • West Highland and Islands Local Plan, 2010; • Sutherland Local Plan, June 2010; • Ross and Cromarty East Local Plan, 2007; • Wester Ross Local Plan, June 2006; and • Caithness Local Plan, 2002.		

	Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the Highland & Argyll Local Plan District (LPD01) (2016 to 2022). Various Supplementary Guidance & site specific Development Briefs.		
Other			

2f What are the organisation's top 5 priorities for climate change governance, management and strategy for the year ahead? Provide a brief summary of the organisation's areas and activities of focus for the year ahead.

- Priority 1: Work will continue to embed carbon management across the Council and to reduce carbon emissions from our own estate. This will include: maintaining the good progress in reducing emissions from business travel and fleet; continued water resource management; a continued programme of LED street lighting improvements throughout our estate; a re-focus on reducing energy use from our buildings through our capital programme (energy efficiency improvements and office rationalisation) and targeted action in those buildings showing an increase compared to the previous year and those buildings with the highest energy consumption; refreshing the climate change and sustainability training provided to new staff; work with services across the Council to investigate potential opportunities for achieving carbon and cost savings; and improving our approach to measuring waste from offices and buildings. Much of this work will utilise the Scottish Government's ISM Behaviour Change tool in analysing the challenges we face, and in identifying the best interventions.
- Priority 2: Work with the Council's redesign board to identify opportunities for rationalisation, and associated reductions in consumption of energy / water / fleet fuel use etc.
- Priority 3: Supporting the delivery of the Highland First Programme commitment to help communities reduce their energy usage and costs. This encompasses the Council's commitment to improve energy efficiency in Council housing. The Council is responsible for 13,899 Council houses with total carbon emissions related to energy use of 52,297 tCO₂e, 2015/16. The Council is committed to improving the energy efficiency of Council houses to help alleviate fuel poverty, with reduced carbon emissions being a co-benefit. Scottish Government has announced a new Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (EESH) to be reached by 2020, which supersedes the Scottish Housing Quality Standards (SHQS), with more stringent standards to be achieved. Council housing stock has been being assessed and is currently 65% compliant with EESH. The Council is investing £4.3m in 2016/17 towards improving the energy efficiency of its housing stock.
- Priority 4: Following work carried out with the University of the Highlands & Islands and other partners in respect of baselining & monitoring emissions for the Highland region, we will look to revise and update our carbon management plan to better align with the needs of both our own organisation and the wider region. It will also be important to revise our 2020 targets if the Scottish Government decides to do likewise, as is widely expected. We will also explore the potential of area-wide emissions monitoring. To date, this has included working with Fife and Perth & Kinross Councils on utilising and

adapting the Scottish Heat Map into a comprehensive energy map that can be used to develop areas for strategic interventions with regard to district heating schemes or renewable energy potential.

- **Priority 5:** Work with all services and officers throughout the Council to implement robust data gathering processes in respect of our CMP project register.

It will also be critical to increase public awareness and support for reducing area wide carbon emissions. This will be achieved through regular engagement, such as continued updates of our Twitter account, regular press releases, and attendance at various regionally important events.

2g Has the organisation used the Climate Change Assessment Tool or equivalent tool to self-assess its capability / performance? If yes, please provide details of the findings of the self-assessment.

The Climate Change conducted an initial run of the CCAT tool in 2015. There are plans to hold a wider forum to go through the tool in early to mid 2017 with key officers involved in the carbon management process, elected members, and the senior leadership team in order to get a comprehensive view across different sections of the organisation.

Results from the first run indicate a need to improve the carbon management project register, which will be a significant focus over the next 12 months. The tool also indicated a need to improve communication about carbon management and climate change throughout the organisation, and to senior leadership. Strategies for developing and improving this area will also be examined and implemented over the next year, especially in relation to climate change / Carbon CLEVER monitoring on all committee reports.

2h Supporting information and best practice. Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the organisation in relation to governance, management and strategy.

In 2015/16, leadership on climate change was demonstrated by the Council's Climate Change team and through its Carbon CLEVER initiative, which sets area-wide carbon emissions targets, and provides a framework for coordinating collaborative action on climate change issues across the Highlands. A particular success story was the Carbon CLEVER Community grant fund; a £200k capital fund for local community groups to bid in to for funding to support local climate change projects which were relevant and important to them, and which resulted in carbon savings.

3 Corporate Emissions, Targets and Project Data

3a Corporate emissions from start of baseline year to end of report year

Reference year	Year	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total	Units
Baseline	2011/12	24,913	37,031	4,635	66,579	tCO ₂ e
Year 1	2012/13	25,218	38,234	4,218	67,670	tCO ₂ e
Year 2	2013/14	21,024	37,858	4,519	63,401	tCO ₂ e
Year 3	2014/15	20847	38722	4274	63843	tCO ₂ e
Year 4	2015/16	20254	39323	4088	63665	tCO ₂ e

Emissions are higher than reported in table 3B as these figures are taken from the Carbon Management Plan Report, using the Defra conversion factors from 2011/12.

3b Breakdown of emissions sources

Emission source	Scope	Consumption data	Units	Emission factor	Units	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Grid Electricity (generation)	Scope 2	56539553	kWh	0.46219	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	26,132.0	Buildings
Grid Electricity (generation)	Scope 2	19029710	kWh	0.46219	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	8,795.3	Street lighting
Natural Gas	Scope 1	29730985	kWh	0.18445	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	5,483.9	Space heating
Burning Oil (Kerosene)	Scope 1	29636577	kWh	0.24657	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	7,307.5	Space heating
Petrol (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	26886	litres	2.19440	kg CO ₂ e/litre	59.0	Fleet use
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	2098061	litres	2.58390	kg CO ₂ e/litre	5421.2	
Gas Oil	Scope 1	563202	litres	2.90884	kg CO ₂ e/litre	1,638.3	Gritting fleet
Water - Supply	Scope 3	608210	m ³	0.34400	kg CO ₂ e/m ³	209.2	Water to all buildings
Water - Treatment	Scope 3	463983	m ³	0.70800	kg CO ₂ e/m ³	328.5	Water to all buildings
Refuse Municipal to Landfill	Scope 3	1364	tonnes	459.00000	kg CO ₂ e/tonne	626.1	Waste to landfill - non schools
Refuse Municipal to Landfill	Scope 3	2784	tonnes	459.00000	kg CO ₂ e/tonne	1,277.9	Waste to landfill - schools
Mixed recycling	Scope 3	247	tonnes	21.00000	kg CO ₂ e/tonne	5.2	Recycling - non schools
Mixed recycling	Scope 3	557	tonnes	21.00000	kg CO ₂ e/tonne	11.7	Recycling - schools
Car - petrol (average)	Scope 3	6273481	miles	0.30780313 3	kg CO ₂ e/mile	1,931.0	Grey fleet mileage - based on average value as only mileage is recorded on expenses claims

Car - petrol (average)	Scope 3	943920	miles	0.30780313 3	kg CO2e/mile	290.5	Car hire mileage - based on average value as only mileage is recorded.
Bus (local bus, not London)	Scope 3	10768	passenger km	0.10883	kg CO2e/passenger km	1.2	Coach and bus staff travel
Ferry (average passenger)	Scope 3	5940	passenger km	0.116089	kg CO2e/passenger km	0.7	Staff travel
Short-haul flights (average passenger)	Scope 3	208676	passenger km	0.16972	kg CO2e/passenger km	35.4	Staff travel
Rail (National rail)	Scope 3	518609	passenger km	0.04506	kg CO2e/passenger km	23.4	Staff travel
Taxi (regular)	Scope 3	512	passenger km	0.174807	kg CO2e/passenger km	0.1	Staff travel
Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	Scope 3	52749692	kWh	0.03816	kg CO2e/kWh	2,012.9	Buildings
Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	Scope 3	19029710	kWh	0.03816	kg CO2e/kWh	726.2	Street Lighting
					Total	62,317.2	

3c Generation, consumption and export of renewable energy

Technology	Total generated (kWh)	Total consumed by the organisation (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	Comments
Wind	21,000	21,000	0	Estimate as not metered
Solar PV	14,700	14,700	0	Estimate, based on PVs where consumption is

				regularly measured.
Biomass	23,000,000	23,000,000	0	

3d Organisational targets

Name of target	Type of target	Target	Units	Scope of target	Baseline year	Baseline figure	Units	Completion year
Carbon Management Plan	annual	3	% (per annum)	All emissions	2011/12	66,579	tCO2e	2019/20
Carbon CLEVER - A carbon neutral Inverness in a low carbon Highlands by 2025	absolute			All emissions	2011/12			

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

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

If the organisation does not have any information for an emissions source, enter "Unknown".

If the organisation does not include the emissions source in its carbon footprint, enter "N/A".

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity		Projects were implemented to reduce carbon emissions in this area, and these have successfully reduced consumption.
Natural gas		
Other heating fuels	1,391	Projects were successfully implemented to reduce carbon emissions in this area, primarily replacing oil heating systems with biomass boilers. There has been an associated decrease in usage, as a result.
Waste		We estimate that our emissions have decreased.
Water and sewerage		
Business Travel		
Fleet transport		Route optimisation, installation of new Euro 6 engines, reduction of service provision.

3f Detail the top 10 carbon reduction projects implemented by the organisation in the report year

Provide details of the top 10 projects (based on estimated emissions savings) implemented in the report year.

Project name	Funding source	First full year of CO2e savings	Are these savings figures estimated or actual?	Capital cost (£)	Operational cost (£/annum)	Project lifetime (years)	Primary fuel/emission source saved	Estimated carbon savings per year (tCO2e)	Estimated costs savings (£/annum)
Caol Campus - energy upgrades	Capital	2015	Estimated		60,000	25	Gas Oil	420	
Noss Primary - energy upgrades	Capital	2015	Estimated		36,000	25	Gas Oil	200	12,000
Golspie High School - energy upgrades	Capital	2015	Estimated	300,000	53,000	25	Gas Oil	260	
Ullapool High School - energy upgrades	Capital	2015	Estimated	200,000	12,000	25	Grid Electricity	81	12,000
Miller Primary School - energy upgrades	Capital	2015	Estimated			25	Gas Oil	76	
Kingussie Court House - energy upgrades	Capital	2015	Estimated			25	Grid Electricity	57	
Wick Offices - Market Square - energy upgrades	Capital	2015	Estimated			25	Grid Electricity	57	
Kilteran - energy upgrades	Capital	2015	Estimated			25	Gas Oil	50	
Strathconon - energy upgrades	Capital	2015	Estimated			25	Gas Oil	28	
Wick Offices - Social Work - energy upgrades	Capital	2015	Estimated			25	Grid Electricity	25	

3g Estimated decrease or increase in emissions from other sources in the report year

If the organisation's corporate emissions increased or decreased for any other reason in the report year, provide an estimate of the amount and direction.

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate changes		Decrease	Office/school rationalisation in Wick
Service provision		Decrease	Consolidated services online such as SharePoint
Staff numbers		Decrease	A voluntary redundancy offer was heavily subscribed, with 100.5 FTEs departing in March 2016.

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

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity	600	A programme of energy efficiency improvements, incorporating heating, lighting and water upgrades, is proposed for roll out in 2016/17, across the Council's estate.
Natural gas		
Other heating fuels		There is a continuing programme to replace oil-fired heating systems with biomass boilers. This has helped to reduce carbon emissions from oil use by 43% since 2011/12.
Waste	10	The Council uses Warplt (an asset redistribution portal) to promote the re-use of assets rather than procuring new, in order to reduce costs and reduce carbon emissions. To date, the Council estimates savings at £25,000, with a 7.5tCO ₂ e reduction in CO ₂ e.
Water and sewerage	10	Supply and install new taps and aerators at HQ
Business Travel		Reduced travel budgets will continue to reduce staff travel and associated travel emissions.
Fleet transport		
Total	620	

3i Estimated decrease or increase in emissions from other sources in the year ahead

If the organisation's corporate emissions are likely to increase or decrease for any other reason in the year ahead, provide an estimate of the amount and direction.

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO₂e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate changes			The programme of office rationalisation is on-going, with the most significant currently being undertaken in Wick. It is expected that there will be significant carbon savings once these projects are completed although these savings have not yet been quantified.
Service provision			The Council is committed to pursuing its 'digital first' communication priority scheme to reduce the number of visits to service centres. This will help reduce carbon emissions relating to in-person visits and staffing requirements at service points, but this has not been quantified. Officers can also now video conference in to many Area committees, taking away the requirement to attend in person, which significantly reduces both grey fleet mileage and public transport costs / associated emissions.
Staff numbers			Uptake of the Council's voluntary redundancy scheme was significant, with 100.5 FTEs leaving The Council in 2015/16, and a further 176 FTEs leaving in 2016/17. This will have a knock-on effect in terms of energy usage, business travel, waste and associated emissions from 2016/17 onward.

3j Total carbon reduction project savings since baseline year

If the organisation has data available, estimate the total emissions savings made from projects since the organisation's baseline year.

Total savings	Total estimated emissions savings (tCO₂e)	Comments
Total project savings since baseline year	-	

3k Supporting information and best practice

Highland Council has developed and implemented a number of projects aimed at targeting climate change across the organisation. Many of these projects are aimed at achieving cost reductions as well as carbon savings. Recognising the significance of energy use on corporate carbon emissions, the programme Carbon Saving Capital Works for Council Buildings and Properties seeks to replace expensive, carbon-intensive oil-based and electric heating systems with biomass boilers, which continued throughout 2015/16. There are now multiple systems in place, generating an income of approximately £ 622,822 per year for the Council through Renewable Heat Incentive payments. The leadership the Council has shown in developing and championing this technology has helped to create a sustainable supply chain in Highland for these systems.

The programme to replace old style sodium street lights with more energy efficient LEDs will also produce significant carbon and cost savings. The initial pilot of this project has already shown some of these benefits, which will continue as the Highland-wide roll-out occurs over the next 5 years. Reducing electricity consumption and moving all properties towards automated metering (some properties are still on estimated supplies), will enable better reporting and help reduce payments under the CRC scheme.

Staff engagement on climate change issues has also been a key focus of work for 2015/16, with the Council participating in a number of national and international schemes and campaigns. This includes being awarded runner-up Local Authority of the Year for WWF's Earth Hour, and a series of events designed to promote active travel, including European Mobility Week and Cycle to Work Week, which included free bike maintenance checks through partnership with Velocity Cafe & Cycling Workshop, a local social enterprise. Fuel efficient driver training has been undertaken by staff across Highland who drive significant distances on Council business. In addition, work to refresh the Green Ambassador scheme, and on improving how climate change is embedded across the Council through the induction process, has also been undertaken and will be a key focus in 2016/17 and 2017/18.

4 Adaptation

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

The Highland Council produced the Adapting to Climate Change in Highland report in 2012. This report contained an assessment of the potential risks and benefits of different climate change scenarios on the Highlands, as well as identifying priority action areas.

The Highland Council considers current and future climate-related risks in a number of its development and planning processes, primarily through the use of UKCPO9 climate change scenarios to predict changes to various risks to new developments and current infrastructure. Areas of focus include flood risk management, coastal and marine planning, and sustainable design, which all have specific planning guidelines and supplementary guidance associated with them aimed at assessing future sustainability as part of the planning process.

There are other strategies in place for managing risk which may or may not include climate-related risks. For example the Emergency Planning Unit conducts regular risk assessments at a variety of geographic scales across Highland, in collaboration with partner agencies including the NHS, Police and Fire Services and other local authorities in the region. These assessments are consequence-based, for example when considering a power outage or a coastal pollution incident the cause is less important than the response. However these response plans cover a number of areas

which are expected to be influenced by climate change, for example an increase in winter storms could mean an increased chance of power outages in rural communities.

Climate change was the subject of the NHS Highland Director of Public Health's annual report for 2014/15, and this prompted discussion on these links at the Community Planning Partnership (CPP). The report focused on a range of issues including:

- the changing climate and its impact on health and on global inequalities, and related mitigation and adaptation measures
- the impact of the modern obesogenic environment
- the significance of the natural environment and physical activity as contributors to good health
- the importance of developing sustainable health and social care services, including a more mobile and flexible workforce and increased levels of care at home
- heightened Highland/rural risks such as fuel poverty, private water supplies and vulnerability to extreme weather events
- the need to extend impact assessments of new development proposals to include the impact on human health and the views and expectations of local communities.

Many of the key suggestions highlighted by the report to address the impacts future climate change may have on public health issues are already being addressed through current Council and CPP policies and practices. The report highlighted the various links between climate change adaptation and healthcare, including the issue of fuel poverty, future energy security, the impacts of severe weather events, and the need for integrated transport systems, particularly in rural areas. The underlying message of developing community resilience is also being taken forward through community resilience planning.

The Council's Climate Change team will be involved in the work of the Adaptation Learning Exchange for Community Engagement task group throughout 2016/17, which will help identify how we can better create climate ready, fair and healthy communities throughout the region.

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

There are two components that need to work together in order to effectively manage climate-related risks, namely future forecasting and prediction of potential climate-related impacts based on best available climate modelling, accompanied by developing strategies to manage these long-term risks and acute or emergency response plans to immediate impacts.

From its role as a planning authority, the Highland Council takes steps to manage climate-related risks from new developments and to existing infrastructure. This is primarily managed for new developments through the planning process and the policies contained in the Highland-wide Local Development Plan, which is currently being reviewed and updated. Reviews of the risks to existing infrastructure are carried out on a per project basis, with the support of relevant Council services such as the Flood Risk Management Team as well as external partners such as SEPA.

The Flood Risk Management Team manages a dynamic risk-based system of watercourse inspections and implements remedial/ maintenance works as necessary to reduce flooding. Monthly targets for priority inspections are met and monitored using performance indicators, and the development of our first Local Flood Risk Management Plan is complete. The publication of our Local Flood Risk Management

Plan in June 2016 will help to raise awareness of flood risk in communities and the riparian responsibilities towards watercourse maintenance. Community Councils will be informed in due course of the publication and further initiatives to raise awareness and increase resilience in communities which will be developed over coming years. Annual reporting on progress will follow publication.

Development of a Highland-wide Surface Water Management Plan commenced in 2015/2016 and will continue over the coming years with completion required before Plan publication in 2022.

The Highland Council is partnering with Marine Scotland on the development of Local Marine Spatial Plans for the 3 marine regions that Highland borders. The first of these is the Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters Marine Spatial Plan. These plans include policies on coastal processes and flooding, well-being, quality of life and amenity of coastal communities and identify climate change as an over-arching theme.

The Emergency Planning Unit provides acute response plans and strategies for events that may or may not have a climate component. For example flooding may be exacerbated by heavier winter rainfall (as predicted in the models presented in the Adapting to Climate Change in the Highlands report), but the emergency response is a generic document that is not concerned with the cause but rather the consequence of a particular emergency.

Over the last 12 months, good progress has been made in helping and encouraging communities to prepare local community resilience plans, which focus on steps communities can take to help themselves in the event of extreme weather events, as well as providing for vulnerable members of the community, or those who will become vulnerable in the event of prolonged power cuts or disruptions to water supply or essential transport links.. This has been achieved by Emergency Planning and Ward Managers working with Scottish & Southern Energy Power Distribution's (SSEPD) staff to increase the adoption of plans within communities. Several communities made successful bids against SSE's Resilient Communities Fund, obtaining grants of up to £20,000 to support community resilience projects. Over 40 communities are now engaged in community resilience planning. SSE has led in this process and have recently had their efforts acknowledged in a recent SSEPD news article. The fund has reopened for 2016/17 and communities will be encouraged to make applications to the fund later this year.

4c What action has the organisation taken to adapt to climate change? Include details of work to increase awareness of the need to adapt to climate change and build the capacity of staff and stakeholders to assess risk and implement action.

The Highland Council has a joint focus on climate change adaptation. The first is to work with local communities to raise awareness about a range of different issues from flood risk management to biodiversity that has a climate change component. The second is a focus on the Council's responsibility to ensure the provision of basic services and infrastructure in the face of particular risks or threats.

The majority of engagement work is promoted through the Council's Environment Team. The Countryside Rangers work with wider community, schools and initiatives to promote natural, built, and cultural heritage. Climate change is woven through the whole programme of activities and forms part of risk assessment for their facilities. The Access Team safeguards access and implements access related projects across the Highlands. They deal with climate change adaptations on a regular basis, for example conducting risk assessments for particular sites in terms of the impact of sea level

rises, or from increasing frequency of storm damage and flooding. On the basis of these risk assessments, the Access Team focuses on adapting routes and materials used to mitigate effects of climate change. The Forestry Team is currently working on a new Tree Strategy, which specifically references the potential impacts of climate change on management needs for the Council's tree resource.

The Highland Council is also a partner in Flows to the Future, an initiative to restore peatland in Caithness, and broaden understanding of the importance of peatland ecology, as well as the carbon benefits provided by well-managed peatlands. Additionally, a number of strategies are being developed related to natural resource management, including a land use strategy, a revision of the peatland strategy, and a forest and woodland strategy that will all take climate change into account.

With regard to ensuring the provision of essential services, and fulfilling the Council's role as a planning authority and emergency responder, there are a number of different services that are impacted directly and indirectly by climate change. For example, the Emergency Planning, Flood Prevention, and Planning teams all consider potential climate change impacts as part of their risk assessment and project planning processes. This varies depending on particular circumstances, but may include assessing flood risk based on UKCP09 climate scenarios while designing flood prevention schemes, or the potential impact of more frequent severe winter storms on power and water supplies, particularly to vulnerable rural communities. Additionally, as mentioned in section 4a, the Council is working with community groups to develop community resilience plans, to help communities take steps to protect themselves in advance of, and during extreme weather events.

4d Where applicable, what progress has the organisation 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”)?

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

(a) The Programme aims to address impacts identified for Scotland in the UK-wide climate change risk assessment which are not otherwise addressed by the UK-wide National Adaptation Programme through policy in relation to reserved matters.

Objective	Objective reference	Theme	Policy ref.	Delivery progress made	Comments
Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on the natural environment.	N1	Natural Environment	N1-10	Flood Risk Management Plan (2016-2022) published on 22/06/16. Highland-wide Surface Water Management Plan	Draws together multiple datasets to support flood risk management in the Highlands.
Support a healthy and diverse natural environment with capacity to adapt.	N2	Natural Environment	N2-2	Highland-wide Local Development Plan. policies 28 (Sustainable Design), 51 (Trees and Development), 55 (Peat and Soils), 56 (Travel), 64 (Flood Risk), 67 (Renewable Energy Developments), 74 (Green Networks), 75 (Open Space).	Updates to the Highland-wide Local Development Plan in response to the new Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) - main issues report consultation now complete.
			N2-18	Flood Risk Management Plan published in 2016; works with communities on local community resilience plans to address flooding	
			N2-20	Highland Biodiversity Action Plan; Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters National Marine Spatial Plan (due March 2016)	Highland Council will work with partner organisations to develop 3 Marine Spatial Plans for the National Marine Areas identified adjacent to Highland

Objective	Objective reference	Theme	Policy ref.	Delivery progress made	Comments
Sustain and enhance the benefits, goods and services that the natural environment provides.	N3	Natural Environment			
Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on buildings and infrastructure networks.	B1	Buildings and infrastructure networks	B1-13	Flood Risk Management Plan (2016-2022) published on 22/06/16.	
Provide the knowledge, skills and tools to manage climate change impacts on buildings and infrastructure.	B2	Buildings and infrastructure networks			
Increase the resilience of buildings and infrastructure networks to sustain and enhance the benefits and services provided.	B3	Buildings and infrastructure networks	B3-3	Highland-wide Local Development Plan (adopted 2012)	Being updated following public consultation.
			B3-7	Annual Standard Delivery Plan, reported on to Community Services committee details the implementation strategy for the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS).	Since 2007 the Council have been working towards achieving the SHQS. Scottish Government has announced a new Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (EESH) to be reached by 2020, which supersedes the Scottish Housing Quality Standards (SHQS), with more stringent standards to be achieved. Council housing stock has been being assessed and is currently 65% compliant with EESH. The Council is investing £4.3m in 2016/17 towards improving the energy efficiency of its housing stock.

Objective	Objective reference	Theme	Policy ref.	Delivery progress made	Comments
			B3-8	Annual Standard Delivery Plan, reported on to Community Services committee details the implementation strategy for the Scottish Housing Quality Standard.	All social housing meets the tolerable standard outlined.
			B3-6	The Council's Energy and Sustainability Team oversees the delivery of the HEEPS-ABS programme, in collaboration with E.ON	Intended to assist home owners to improve the energy efficiency of their properties and effect energy and cost savings to individuals. The Council scheme allows householders to access measures that are carried out on an area based format. All areas of the Highlands are being targeted over the course of the scheme.
Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on people, homes and communities.	S1	Society			
Increase the awareness of the impacts of climate change to enable people to adapt to future extreme weather events.	S2	Society	S2-5	The Emergency Planning Team and Flood Risk Management Team are both working with communities and partner organisations to develop local community resilience plans.	
Support our health services and emergency responders to enable them to respond effectively to the increased pressures associated with a changing climate.	S3	Society	S3-6	Emergency Planning Team in collaboration with emergency responders has put in place a comprehensive evaluation strategy to assess performance after each training exercise/ event. The NHS Highland Director of Public Health's annual report on climate change (see section 4a) also provides a number of actions to support public	These evaluations are not specifically about climate related risk, but are about responding more effectively whatever the scenario, which may include a variety of situations that could be impacted by climate change. Many of the actions related to public health, climate change and community resilience are either already in place or being developed

Objective	Objective reference	Theme	Policy ref.	Delivery progress made	Comments
				health issues that may be influenced by climate change.	by the CPP.

4e What arrangements does the organisation have in place to review current and future climate risks?

The Highland Council uses the UKCP09 climate change scenarios to inform future planning decisions, and incorporates any changes in these scenarios into the relevant decision making processes. Examples of this are illustrated in section 4c and 4g. The Emergency Planning Unit is continually assessing preparedness to a variety of acute risks that will be impacted by climate change. They are also currently working on developing Community Resilience Plans with support from partners to allow communities to assess their own unique risks and prepare contingency plans for these risks. This includes risks from severe weather and other risks which will be exacerbated by future climate change, although the plans are more generic and do not specifically reference future climate risks.

4f What arrangements does the organisation have in place to monitor and evaluate the impact of the adaptation actions? Please provide details of monitoring and evaluation criteria and adaptation indicators used to assess the effectiveness of actions detailed under Question 4(c) and Question 4(d).

There are different strategies for monitoring and evaluation depending on the specific nature of the threat or sector being addressed. This can be in the form of implementing policies or strategies in response to national legislation, that contain specific indicators as required. As much of the future climate change adaptation considerations are done through risk assessment processes, the monitoring and evaluation processes are included as part of individual project requirements.

4g What are the organisation's top 5 climate change adaptation priorities for the year ahead?

Much work around climate change adaptation focuses on working with communities on community resilience projects across Highland in a number of areas including flooding, biodiversity, and emergency planning. Each sector involved in climate-related risk assessment has their own priorities within these broad areas. There is also significant investment from the Council's capital programme into flood alleviation schemes, with approximately £30 million committed over the next 7 years.

- Priority 1: Work with emergency response partners to develop community resilience plans alongside local communities to help assess what communities can do to prepare for and mitigate the impacts of severe weather events, particularly for vulnerable individuals (or those who will become vulnerable in the event of prolonged power cuts or disruptions to water supply).
- Priority 2: Implement a capital programme to support adaptation projects within the Council. A proposal in this respect will be presented to Members at Planning, Development and Infrastructure Committee in November, 2016.
- Priority 3: Work with colleagues to support the Adaptation Learning Exchange for Community Engagement, and to develop tools and resources for adaptation / community engagement. This will be achieved through the sharing of knowledge and expertise, building the capacity of organisations who are already working to support climate-ready communities, and supporting and encouraging collaboration between community and public sector organisations.
- Priority 4: Developing Surface Water Management Plans in accordance with the requirements laid out in the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009.
- Priority 5: Continue to invest in and implement flood alleviation schemes across Highland. This includes continuing the programme of assessing watercourses to investigate whether maintenance would substantially reduce the flood risks.

4h Supporting information and best practice Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the organisation in relation to adaptation.

The Council has recognised the importance of partnership working in order to most effectively address the challenges related to climate change adaptation. The Biodiversity Team, in collaboration with the Highland Biodiversity Partnership, has focused on developing and conducting public consultation of the Biodiversity Action Plan. The Biodiversity Action Plan specifically references the importance of climate change as a factor to drive environmental change in Highland. For example, working with the Invasive Species Forum to deal with the threat of new species moving north due to climate change.

A Highland Environment Forum meeting was held during 2015 on the theme of marine environments. It acknowledged and evidenced that climate change is already evident in marine environment in Highland, for example species are expanding their ranges northwards, alongside the loss of more northern species.

The Highland Biodiversity Partnership ran the Seashore Project from 2012 until December 2015. The project has had significant community engagement and highlighted the importance of climate change on the marine environment.

The Historic Environment Team is currently developing and implementing new management techniques to be used where peatland restoration is being undertaken to ensure that important historic environments and archaeology is preserved or maintained during peatland restoration projects.

5 Procurement

5a How do procurement policies contribute to compliance with climate change duties?

The Council has had a Sustainable Procurement Policy in Place since 2005 when it was endorsed by the Highland Council Sustainable Development Select Committee. This has been updated in line with legislative freedoms and the 2015-20 version of the Procurement Policy and Strategy was approved at Resources Committee in August 2015. A Procurement Improvement programme is now in its third phase includes a Sustainable Procurement work stream which will: establish what this means to the Council in the context of the Procurement Reform Act and the Community Empowerment Act.

Assess the Council's current position; Assess what needs to change in order to meet the needs of the new regime and to deliver sustainability and community benefits; Consider means of assessing sustainability impacts of the Council's commitments and requirements including the new Scottish Government toolkit; Consider the usefulness of the new sustainable procurement self- assessment framework; and make recommendations for an approach to assessing and building in sustainability in respect of each project. The Flexible Framework status was updated in September 2015.

Since late 2015, following a meeting between Chief Executives of Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, and Highland Councils, officers have been working to develop a Business Case to explore opportunities for a shared procurement service across the three councils. This will build on the existing shared service between Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils. Combined, the three councils have a revenue spend of circa £1bn that is commissioned on goods and services. Capital expenditure is above this. The sheer scale of this spend should provide the catalyst to drive efficiencies and reduce emissions in each organisation.

The vision is to “deliver innovative, cost effective, and high quality strategic procurement services that maximise best value from all commercial relationships, exploiting new opportunities, whilst ensuring a robust and effective governance framework in support of the wider strategic, financial and operational needs of the individual Councils and their partners.”

5b How has procurement activity contributed to compliance with climate change duties?

Participation on National collaborative contracts/ frameworks have contributed to sustainability principally in provision of utilities and particularly in support of the Council's Biomass Heat provision. 2015-16 heat generation was 23GWh and this is a 35% increase on 2014-15; CRC saving of £78,294.

5c Supporting information and best practice Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the organisation in relation to procurement.

See section 5a.

6 Validation and Declaration

6a Internal validation process

Corporate emissions data is compiled by 6 teams across the Council. This data is validated by each service prior to being submitted to the Climate Change team. The Climate Change team then provides an additional 'sense check', scrutinising the data for consistency with previous year's reporting. Requirements for the data are carefully discussed with each team, and a written process tailored to each specific team has been developed to ensure consistency in the type and scope of data provided each year, along with an agreed person responsible for delivering the data to the Climate Change team. Data is stored securely with both the service providing the data, and with the Climate Change team. Data on staff travel is subject to internal scrutiny through the Finance Service.

6b Peer validation process

No peer validation is undertaken.

6c External validation process

Individual services that supply data to the Climate Change team have additional audit and scrutiny requirements for their data. For example, the majority of the energy use data provided is scrutinised under the CRC process, while waste data is reported to SEPA. The Council held the Carbon Trust Standard until April 2015, and follows the processes put in place during this process.

6d No Validation Process Indicate this in the space provided and the reasons why this has not been undertaken.

6e Declaration

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

Name: Keith Masson
Role in the organisation: Climate Change Officer
Date: 14/10/16

End of Required Section

2a Targets

Please detail your wider influence targets

Table 2

RPP Sector	Action Type	Description	Base-line year	Comments
All_Sectors	Master-planning	A carbon neutral Inverness in a low carbon Highlands by 2025	2011	A baseline emissions inventory for developing a monitoring and evaluation framework is in the process of being completed.
Waste_and_Resource_Efficiency	Enhanced recycling	Compliance with the Zero Waste Scotland Plan, including 70% recycling rate with less than 5% of waste going to landfill by 2025.	2011	Measurement is percentage of waste being recycled, re-used or sent to landfill.
Homes_and_Communities	Energy Efficiency - Combined	Compliance with the Scottish Housing Quality Standards and the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing	2015	Percentage of houses complying with the new standards.
Energy	Other	Highland Renewable Energy Strategy and Planning Guidance		<p>Recognition of the need for cleaner forms of energy with minimal CO2 emissions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for energy savings and efficiency, based on cleaner energy; • Balance between social, economic and environmental interests; • The importance of local involvement in any renewables industry and the retention of associated wealth; • Retention of the regional diversity, scenic qualities and local distinctiveness of landscapes; • The importance of protecting biodiversity, including rare and

				<p>endangered habitats and species;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of maximising employment and income; • The aspiration for viable energy self sufficiency, with a reliable supply; • The need to integrate renewables within the existing energy framework; • Recognition of energy poverty and the aim of eradicating it; • Utilisation of the valuable, high calibre energy resources available in Highland
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3 Policies and Actions to Reduce Emissions

Please detail any of the specific policies and actions which are underway to achieve your emission reduction targets

Table 3, part 1

No.	RPP Sector	Action Type	Description	Start year for policy/action implementation	Year that the policy/action will be fully implemented	Annual CO ₂ saving once fully implemented (tCO ₂)	Status
1.	Energy	Other	Replacing street lights with LED lanterns	2014	2020	5,000.0	In Implementation
2.	Homes_and_Communities	Energy Efficiency - Combined	Energy efficiency improvements in council housing	2004	2020		In Implementation
3.	Waste_and_Resource_Efficiency	Enhanced recycling	The Highland Council is committed to achieving the goals outline in Zero Waste Plan achieving a 70% recycling rate.	2012	2025		In Implementation
4.	Transport	Decarbonising Public Transport	Expanding electric vehicle charging point provision across Highland	2013	2017		In Implementation

Table 3, part 2

No.	RPP Sector	Action Type	Description	Metric/ indicators for monitoring progress	Delivery Role	During project/ policy design and implementation, has ISM or an equivalent behaviour change tool been used?	Value of Investment (£)	Primary Funding Source for Implementation of Policy/ Action (please provide additional description in 'Comments')	Accountable body	Comments
1.	Energy	Other	Replacing street lights with LED lanterns	Reduction in energy consumption	Direct delivery	No	16,000,000	Capital investment	The Highland Council	
2.	Homes_and_Communities	Energy Efficiency - Combined	Energy efficiency improvements in council housing	Reduction in energy consumption	Direct delivery	No	60,000,000	Capital investment	The Highland Council	This programme is not directly aimed at targeting carbon emissions reductions, but will have emissions reduction implications.
3.	Waste_and_Resource_Efficiency	Enhanced recycling	The Highland Council is committed to achieving the goals outline in Zero Waste Plan achieving a 70% recycling rate.	Reduction in waste to landfill, increased recycling rates	Direct delivery	No		Capital investment (THC) and revenue (SG)	The Highland Council	Funding is coming from Council capital and revenue funding and from Scottish Government

No.	RPP Sector	Action Type	Description	Metric/ indicators for monitoring progress	Delivery Role	During project/ policy design and implementation, has ISM or an equivalent behaviour change tool been used?	Value of Investment (£)	Primary Funding Source for Implementation of Policy/ Action (please provide additional description in 'Comments')	Accountable body	Comments
4.	Transport	Decarbonising Public Transport	Installation of electric vehicle charging point at Inverness bus station	Number of charging points	Joint venture	No		Transport Scotland / Capital investment (THC)	Transport Scotland The Highland Council	These programmes are not directly aimed at targeting carbon emissions reductions, but will have emissions reduction implications.

4 Partnership Working, Communications and Capacity Building

Please detail your Climate Change Partnership, Communication or Capacity Building Initiatives below.

Table 4

Key Action Title	Action Type	Organisation's project role	Lead Organisation	Private Partners	Public Partners	3rd Sector Partners	Outputs	Total Investment into Partnership
Education	Skills / Capacity Building	Participant	University of Highlands and Islands (UHI)				Establishing a Low Carbon Institute at UHI	£250,000

Key Action Title	Action Type	Organisation's project role	Lead Organisation	Private Partners	Public Partners	3rd Sector Partners	Outputs	Total Investment into Partnership
Communications	Partnership working of climate change or sustainability	Participant	Highland Environment Forum		SNH, Highland Council		Building and maintaining links across organisations and professionals working on environmental issues in Highland. Collaborative working to deliver the Environment theme of the Highland Single Outcome Agreement	
Investment	Partnership working of climate change or sustainability	Lead				Community groups across Highland	Distributing £200,000 in grant funding to community groups and organisations across Highland to support projects that mitigate or adapt to climate change.	£200,000
Other	Multi organisation Communications	Participant	Scottish Cities Alliance		Local authorities representing all 7 Scottish Cities		A key theme of SCA is "Sustainable Cities", which focuses on cities making the shift to a low carbon economy by maximising resource efficiencies. Being a SCA member provides opportunities for partnership working and sharing good practice with the other cities in Scotland.	

Key Action Title	Action Type	Organisation's project role	Lead Organisation	Private Partners	Public Partners	3rd Sector Partners	Outputs	Total Investment into Partnership
Other	Partnership working of climate change or sustainability	Participant	Community Planning Partnership		NHS Highland, Police, Fire Service, Highlife Highland, Cairngorms National Park Authority, Scottish Government, SNH, UHI	Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Highland Third Sector Interface,	Delivering the goals outlined in the Single Outcome Agreement.	The Council contributes funding across the goals of the SOA.
Communications	Partnership working of climate change or sustainability	Supporting	Highland Environment Network		Highland Council	Highland Environment Network	Dissemination of environmental information with a focus on climate change to the Highland community	
Communications	Partnership working of climate change or sustainability	Lead		68 signatories from public, private and third sector including. Private sector includes Inverness Caledonian Thistle FC, Tomatin Distillery, and Korrie Renewables	68 signatories from public, private and third sector including. Public sector includes SNH, Cairngorms National Park Authority, SEPA, NHS Highland and UHI.	68 signatories from public, private and third sector including. Third sector includes Sleat Community Trust, Transition Black Isle, and Isle of Eigg Trust	Declaration signatories commit to: Take action to reduce the carbon emissions from their organisations Work with signatories in the Highlands and share information to promote good practice Motivate and work with others to take action to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to the potential impacts of climate change Produce a short annual update of actions taken and progress achieved towards reducing carbon	

Key Action Title	Action Type	Organisation's project role	Lead Organisation	Private Partners	Public Partners	3rd Sector Partners	Outputs	Total Investment into Partnership
							emissions, so that this good practice can be shared.	

5. Other Notable Reportable Activity

Please detail key actions relating to Food and Drink, Biodiversity, Water, Procurement and Resource Use in the table below

Table 5

Key Action Title	Key Action Description	Organisation's Project Role	Impacts	Comments
Biodiversity	Flow to the Future project	Supporting	Restoring Flow Country peatlands in Caithness, including the construction of a visitors centre to promote education about the importance of peatlands.	
Water	Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters Marine Spatial Plan	Participant	Developing integrated marine and coastal management strategies, prioritising local planning needs and taking a coherent approach to ecosystem management.	