



Item: 13

Policy and Resources Committee: 26 November 2024.

Climate Change Reporting Duties.

Report by Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.

1. Overview

- 1.1. The Council has duties in relation to climate change as set out in Part 4 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and related reporting duties as set out in The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2020 and as further described in the body of this report. Preparation and submission of the annual Climate Change Duties report fulfils the Council's obligations under this legislation.
- 1.2. The Climate Change Duties Report, attached as Appendix 1, summarises actions undertaken by the Council during the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 in order to fulfil its climate change duties and is due for submission to the Scottish Government by 30 November 2024.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that members of the Committee:
 - i. Approve the Climate Change Duties Report, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, for submission to the Scottish Government.

3. Background

- 3.1. All of Scotland's 32 local authorities signed Scotland's Climate Change Declaration in 2007. As signatories to the Declaration, each local authority is committed to the following actions:
 - Providing effective leadership, governance and management on climate change.
 - Reducing the authority's corporate greenhouse gas emissions from its estate, services and functions.
 - Acting to reduce emissions from the local authority area.

- Assessing the risks of climate change impacts and working with others, to adapt to the likely impacts of climate change.
 - Delivering effective partnership working and climate change communications, including producing an annual statement of plans, activities and achievements.
- 3.2. The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 introduced legislation to enforce the requirements of the Declaration and Part 4 of the Act, which came into force on 1 January 2011, places duties on public bodies relating to climate change. These duties require that the Council must, in exercising its functions, act to:
- Contribute to the delivery of emission reduction targets (mitigation).
 - Help deliver any statutory climate change adaptation programme (adaptation).
 - Do this in a way that it considers most sustainable (acting sustainably).
- 3.3. In December 2020, an update to the Scottish Government climate change plan 2018-2032 – ‘Securing a green recovery on a path to net zero’ – legislation was strengthened to require public bodies to prepare reports on compliance, with climate change duties for submission containing details on the following:
- A target date for achieving zero direct emissions of greenhouse gases or such other targets that demonstrate how the body is contributing to Scotland achieving its emissions reduction targets.
 - Any targets for reducing indirect emissions of greenhouse gases.
 - How the Council aligns its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emissions reduction targets.
 - How the Council will publish or otherwise make available its progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets.
 - How the Council is contributing to Scotland’s Adaptation Programme.
- 3.4. The Council is statutorily required to provide the above in annual reports from reporting year 2021/22 onwards, as part of The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2020.
- 3.5. The Public Bodies Climate Change reporting mechanism provides a basis for tracking public sector action on climate change and driving continuous improvement. The reporting platform introduces a standard methodology to improve data consistency. Reports and analysis are publicly available, increasing accountability and transparency, and making it easier for members of the public and other parties to understand an organisation’s climate performance.

4. Council Commitments

- 4.1. Orkney Islands Council has a number of commitments to Climate Change, and these are progressed in line with the Council's 2023-2028 Delivery Plan. 'Protecting our Environment and combating Climate Change' is included in the Council Plan as one of five core principles. The priority themes in the Council Plan are built upon these core principles, stating that these will guide future decision making relating to all the Council's aims.
- 4.2. Climate Change Duties Reports previously submitted by the Council are available at <https://sustainableScotlandNetwork.org/reports/orkney-islands-council>.

For Further Information please contact:

Nick Blyth, Climate Change Strategy Officer, extension 3314, Email nick.blyth@orkney.gov.uk

Implications of Report

1. **Financial:** There are no financial implications from the report's recommendations.
2. **Legal:** Under The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 as amended, duties are placed on the Council, in the exercise of its functions, to contribute to the delivery of emission reduction targets, help deliver any statutory climate change adaptation programme and do this in a way that it considers most sustainable. In accordance with the legislation passed under the 2009 Act as amended, the Council is also under a duty to report annually on compliance with its climate change duties.
3. **Corporate Governance:** The development and submission of the Council's climate change annual report supports good governance and transparency regarding the Council's progress and performance.
4. **Human Resources:** None.
5. **Equalities:** No direct implications.
6. **Island Communities Impact:** The report section on Climate Change Adaptation includes commentary on Council plans that could support future adaptation and resilience.
7. **Links to Council Plan:** The report references the Council Plan and Delivery Plan, with commitments that are supportive of climate change action and the following strategic priorities:
 - Growing our economy.
 - Strengthening our Communities.
 - Developing our Infrastructure.
 - Transforming our Council.

- 8. Links to Local Outcomes Improvement Plan:** The report references the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Community Planning in Orkney, supporting improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the following Local Outcomes Improvement Plan priorities:
 - Cost of Living.
 - Sustainable Development.
 - Local Equality.
- 9. Environmental and Climate Risk:** Significant focus for this report.
- 10. Risk:** None directly. The report section on Adaptation is relevant to Climate Change impacts.
- 11. Procurement:** None directly. The report includes a section on Sustainable Procurement.
- 12. Health and Safety:** None directly.
- 13. Property and Assets:** None directly.
- 14. Information Technology:** None directly.
- 15. Cost of Living:** None directly.

List of Background Papers

None.

Appendix

Appendix 1 – Draft annual report – Orkney Islands Council Climate Change Duties 2023 – 2024.

Appendix 1

Orkney Islands Council – Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report – 2023-24

The following pages set out the draft submission for OIC, for 2023-24. Reports for earlier years are published on the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) website

<https://sustainablesotlandnetwork.org/reports>. The sections are as follows (for full descriptions, template sections and notes see the link provided).

- Boundary Info
- Part 1 Profile of reporting body
- Part 2 Governance, Management and Strategy
- Part 3 Emissions
- Part 4 Adaptation
- Part 5 Procurement
- Part 6 Validation
- Part 7 Recommended Reporting – Reporting on wider influence

Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Compliance Reporting Template 2023/24 FY

Please answer all questions below with respect to the public body's reporting boundary for the reporting period. The information is intended to improve data coverage and inform analysis, in particular, to help identify emission categories. There are 3 response options:

- YES - where data is available and is reported
- NA - where a category is relevant but no data is available
- NO - the category is not relevant

Any points of clarification can be added in the comments field for the corresponding emission source(s) in Table 3) on the Emissions tab.

Category	Question	Select from
Owned estate	Are any buildings owned by the public body?	Yes
Managed services	Are building services managed on behalf of another public body, (i.e. shares or leases owned)?	Yes
Leased premises - public	Are building services managed and provided by another public body?	Yes
Leased premises - private	Are building services managed and provided by a private landlord?	NA
Sweetening	Are sweeteners added to beverages?	Yes
Fleet and equipment	Are any vehicles or fossil-fueled machinery or equipment owned, leased, or used on a regular or frequent basis?	Yes
Refrigerants/R-gases	Are there any air conditioning or refrigeration systems that use the refrigerant gas (A2L used)?	Yes
Medical gases	Are medical gases used?	NA
Business travel - private	Do staff incur private business travel by private car?	Yes
Business travel - flights	Do staff undertake any business travel by plane?	Yes
Home working	Do staff work from home - including abroad?	Yes
Supply chain	Are any goods or services purchased?	Yes
Land use	Are more than 10 hectares of land owned or managed for public services provision including for research or recreation?	Yes
Waste services	Is the public body responsible for collecting household or municipal waste?	Yes

PART 3 Profile of Reporting Body

1a Name of reporting body

Provide the name of the reporting body (e.g. local authority, health board, etc.)

Orkney Islands Council

1b Type of body

Select from the options below

Local Government

1c Highest number of full-time equivalent staff in the reporting financial year

1709

1d Metrics used by the body

Specify the metrics that the body uses to assess its performance in relation to climate change and sustainability

Metric	Unit	Comments
Please select from a drop down box		
Other (please specify in comments)	Total Emissions	T000e as per Carbon management Programme baseline

1e Overall budget of the body

Specify approximate £ amount for the reporting year

Budget	Budget Comments
£180,777,580	Approved budget figure for this financial year

1f Report type

Check the report type (you can tick the alternative columns provided for a climate change reporting type)

reporting type	Report year comments
Financial/Calendar/Other	Financial

1g Context

Provide a summary of the body's nature and functions that are relevant to climate change reporting

Orkney Islands Council provides the public with a range of services that are statutorily required of Scotland's local authorities. Additionally, the Council provides a range of inter-island ferries and air flights to link the North and South Islands of Orkney with the Orkney Mainland.

Municipal waste is either recycled or shipped to Shetland for incineration which powers a district heating scheme in the main town of Lerwick.

The authority provides pilotage and towage services for oil and gas at Flotta oil terminal and provides a base within Scapa Flow for ship to ship transfers of oil. It also provides a berth for visiting cruise liners. The Council supports the development of a number of renewable energy projects including, on and offshore wind, solar, heat, green hydrogen and tidal innovations locally. Priority themes in the Council Plan are built upon core principles and "Protecting our Environment and combating Climate Change" is one of the 5 core principles. The plan states that these will guide future decision making relating to all of the Council's aims. Climate change is therefore embedding as a core consideration into a range of OIC plans and strategies both in relation to mitigation and adaptation (for example the Road Management and Maintenance Plan indicates that the effects of climate change must also be considered in planning for both roads maintenance and for emergency response). The Council is engaged and supporting developing initiatives for net zero transition, such as the Islands Centre for Net Zero (a significant and emergent collaboration) and other Islands Deal initiatives along with Carbon Neutral Islands. In addition, Orkney College in Kirkwall is both part of Orkney Islands Council and one of the 12 Academic Partners of the University of the Highlands and Islands.

Governance and management

2a How is climate change governed in the body?

Provide a summary of (the roles performed) by the body's governance bodies and members in relation to climate change. If any of the body's activities in relation to climate change sit outside its own governance arrangements (in relation to, for example, land use, adaptation, transport, business travel, waste, information and communication technology, procurement or behaviour change), identify these activities and the governance arrangements. Provide a diagram / chart to outline the governance structure within the body.

Climate Change objectives are established at the Council's Policy and Resources Committee and agreed at full Council. A new Orkney Islands Council Plan 2023-28 was agreed by the Committee on 21 February 2023 along with a delivery plan, including the following reference on Climate Change and the Climate Emergency:

"Underpinning all of our plans is the Council's commitment to combat climate change, having joined councils around the world in declaring a climate emergency in 2019. The opportunity to grow our green and blue economies with land and sea-based renewable energy projects will give Orkney a head start in the race to net zero, reducing energy use whilst simultaneously boosting employment. We will update the Council's own estate to reduce our carbon footprint, improve the energy efficiency of our social housing and facilitate affordable measures to upgrade cold homes and combat fuel poverty".

The new Orkney Community Plan (LOIP) 2023-30 was agreed at the Orkney Partnership Board meeting of 14 March 2023. The planning horizon includes a commitment to net zero and there is more detail as to how we plan to achieve it under the section on Sustainable Development. The Orkney Partnership working groups and governance can be seen on these pages :

<https://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/communityplanning/index.asp>

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

is allocated to the body's senior staff, departmental heads etc. If any such decision-making sits outside the body's own governance arrangements (in relation to, for example, land use, adaptation, transport, business travel, waste, information and communication technology, procurement or behaviour change), identify how this is managed and how responsibility is allocated outside the body. Provide a diagram to show how responsibility is allocated to the body's senior staff, departmental

Action on Climate change has been managed through the carbon management programme and the strategic environmental impact assessment (SEA) process. Other policies and projects have been developed and delivered on an ad hoc basis per policy or project. The Council is also a facilitating member of the Orkney Community Planning Partnership which establishes and maintains Orkney's Community Plan. The Council's risk register has been updated to include Climate Change.

The Council Plan and Delivery Plan, together set out the key priorities for the Council over the next five years, including milestones for Climate Change and Net Zero (and are supplemented / supported by Directorate plans). Priorities were developed following feedback from the public, as well as reflecting national priorities set by both the Scottish and UK Governments, the core services which the Council provides day to day and new duties arising from recent legislation.

https://www.orkney.gov.uk/media/320prb6/council_plan.pdf

Climate change strategy within Orkney Islands Council is led by its Development and Marine Planning team which, in turn, forms part of the Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure Directorate. An officer working group with representation across services and Directorates has been established.

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

Winding-up objective	State of achievement
We will work towards becoming net zero	The Council Plan 2023-2028
Orkney is on track to become net zero by 2030	The Council Plan 2023-2028
We have reduced the carbon used during the course of our direct and indirect activities	The Council Plan 2023-2028
We have grown our green and blue economies	The Council Plan 2023-2028
Everyone in Orkney has reduced their carbon footprint (the greenhouse gases generated by their actions)	The Council Plan 2023-2028

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

If yes, provide the name of any such document and details of where a copy of the document may be obtained or accessed.

Climate Change milestones and commitments are embedded in the Council's Strategic Plan and Delivery Plan (2023-2027). The Council is also to develop a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan and in the 2023-2024 financial year, work commenced as summarised in a report to the Council's Policy and Resources Committee (September 2023).

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

Provide the name of any such document and the time frame covered.

Topic area	Name of Document	Time period
Adaptation	Local Flood Risk Management Plan	2020-2028
Business travel	Carbon Management Programme	2016-2026
Staff Travel	Carbon Management Programme	2016-2026
Energy efficiency	Carbon Management Programme	2016-2026
Fleet transport	Carbon Management Programme	2016-2026
ICT	N/A	
Renewable energy	Carbon Management Programme	2016-2026
Sustainable/renewable heat	Carbon Management Programme	2016-2026
Waste management	Orkney and Shetland Waste Plan	
Water and sewerage	Xixwall Surface Water Management Plan	
Land Use	Local Development plan	
Other (please specify in comments)	The Council Plan	
Please select from drop down box	The Council Delivery Plan	
Please select from drop down box	Procurement Strategy 2023-2028	
Water and sewerage	Orkney Flood Risk Management Plan	
Please select from drop down box	Orkney Harbours Master Plan	
Land Use	Verge Maintenance Plan	

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

Provide a brief summary of the body's areas and activities of focus for the year ahead.

For the year 2023-24 these include the following - 1) Finalise the Orkney Sustainable Energy Strategy Action Plan 2) Commence development of the Council Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 3) Commence work on the Coastal Change Adaptation Plan 4) Continue to support the County's energy transition, for example by the development of community wind projects and 5) supporting the growth of Climate Change and Net Zero elements of the Islands Growth Deal.

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

If yes, please provide details of the key findings and resultant action taken.

In 2023, a seminar session was held on Climate Change, which included presentations by the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) and the Improvement Service and elected members were introduced to the Sustainable Scotland Network's Climate Emergency Leaders Checklist (which is understood to have replaced the Resource Efficient Scotland tool for this context).

2h Supporting information and best practice

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

In September, the Council's Policy and Resources Committee received and approved a report, outlining steps (including principles and timeline) for the development of the Council's Climate Change Strategy - <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/media/akqorobh/item-24-climate-change-strategy.pdf>

3a Emissions from the start of the year which the body uses as a baseline (for its carbon footprint) to the end

Reference year	Year	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total	Units	Comments
Baseline Year	2006/07	16,202	5,773	549	22,523.90	tCO ₂ e	
Year 1 carbon footprint	2007/08	15,695	5,992	563	22,249.70	tCO ₂ e	
Year 2 carbon footprint	2008/09	15,617	5,606	495	21,717.40	tCO ₂ e	
Year 3 carbon footprint	2009/10	16,251	5,955	550	22,756.80	tCO ₂ e	
Year 4 carbon footprint	2010/11	15,997	5,443	550	21,990.50	tCO ₂ e	
Year 5 carbon footprint	2011/12	15,033	5,507	470	21,010.50	tCO ₂ e	
Year 6 carbon footprint	2012/13	15,853	5,780	428	22,061.50	tCO ₂ e	
Year 7 carbon footprint	2013/14	14,674	6,543	457	21,675.20	tCO ₂ e	
Year 8 carbon footprint	2014/15	16,531	7,030	649	24,209.60	tCO ₂ e	
Year 9 carbon footprint	2015/16	16,293	6,998	692	23,982.50	tCO ₂ e	
Year 10 carbon footprint	2016/17	16,278	5,320	1,049	22,647.30	tCO ₂ e	
Year 11 carbon footprint	2017/18	16,370	4,535	1,128	22,033.10	tCO ₂ e	
Year 12 carbon footprint	2018/19	16,345	3,391	1,023	20,748.30	tCO ₂ e	
Year 13 carbon footprint	2019/20	16,059	2,869	978	19,905.50	tCO ₂ e	
Year 14 carbon footprint	2020/21	14,287	2,743	646	17,676.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 15 carbon footprint	2021/22	16,267	2,744	723	19,734.00	tCO ₂ e	Estimate added for home working
Year 16 carbon footprint	2022/23	15,418	2,584	1,192	19,194.47	tCO ₂ e	Waste and T+D now counted as scope 3
Year 17 carbon footprint	2023/24	14,303.90	2,901.01	1,181.67	18,386.58	tCO ₂ e	

3b Breakdown of emission sources

Emission Type	Emission source	Consumption data	Units	Emission factor	Units	Emission (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity	Electricity: UK	14,009,500	kWh	0.20707	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	2901.00725	electricity metered
Electricity	Transmission & Distribution	14,009,500	kWh	0.01792	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	250.38175	
Fuels	Gas oil	869,846	litres	2.75541	kg CO ₂ e/litres	2396.78148	
Fuels	LPG	140,126	litres	1.55713	kg CO ₂ e/litres	218.19409	
Transport - car	Average car - UK	1,099,666	km	0.16664	kg CO ₂ e/km	183.24662	
Transport - public	Flights - Dome	1,154,834	passenger.km	0.27258	kg CO ₂ e/passenger.km	314.78094	
Transport - public	Flights - Intern	95,737	passenger.km	0.17580	kg CO ₂ e/passenger.km	16.83056	
Transport - public	Ferry - Average	22,112	passenger.km	0.11270	kg CO ₂ e/passenger.km	2.49198	
Fuels	Marine gas oil	2,915,255	litres	2.77139	kg CO ₂ e/litres	8079.30498	ferry fleet
Fuels	Marine gas oil	439,500	litres	2.77139	kg CO ₂ e/litres	1219.02537	Tugs
Fuels	Marine gas oil	177,335	litres	2.77139	kg CO ₂ e/litres	491.45423	harbour craft
Fuels	Aviation spirit	140,000	litres	2.33116	kg CO ₂ e/litres	326.36277	inter island service
Fuels	Diesel (average)	120,000	litres	2.51206	kg CO ₂ e/litres	301.44767	public buses
Fuels	Diesel (average)	506,486	litres	2.51206	kg CO ₂ e/litres	1272.32519	Construction emissions
Waste	Household/Municipal	416	tonnes	497.04471	kg CO ₂ e/tonne	206.97737	% estimate as OfC waste
Waste	Paper and board	443	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonne	9.43519	% estimate as OfC waste
Waste	Household/Municipal	1,364	tonnes	21.28081	kg CO ₂ e/tonne	29.03638	% estimate as OfC waste
Homeworking	Homeworking	394,240	FTE Working Hours	0.33378	kg CO ₂ e/FTE.Y	131.55990	
Other	Other (please specify)	36,300		1.0000000		36.300	Shipping of Orkney's total waste to

3c Generation, consumption and export of renewable energy

Technology	Electricity	Renewable Heat		Comments
	the body (kWh)	consumed by	Total exported	
Wind	158,740			
Ground Source Heat Pump		2,916,380		GSHPs + 1 Sea Pump
Solar PV	173,412			

3d Organisational targets

Name of target	Target	Year used as baseline	Baseline figure	Units of baseline	Target completion year	Progress against date	Comments
Carbon Management Programme	42 percent reduction	2005/06	25,156	Tonnes	2025/26	5	The progress is reported as annual % reduction (over last 12 Months). Following adoption of the Council Plan with net zero objectives and targets, a new baseline will be established.
Q4 Council Plan Net Zero	On Course for Net Zero by 2030	Please select from drop down		Other (please specify in column)	2030/31		The 5 year plan has set a target to be on course for net zero by 2030 - this will require new baseline.
Percentage of Council dwellings that are energy efficient	80% by 2027/28	2020/21		Please select from drop down	2027/28		Newly adopted 5 year plan has set a target to improve energy efficiency from 80% to 80% in Council dwellings over the period.
CO2 Emissions area wide per capita	7 tonnes	2020/21	14	Tonnes	2027/28		New 5 year plan has set this target based on per capita area wide emissions.
CO2 Emissions area wide emissions within scope of Local Authority per capita (in tonnes)	5 tonnes	2020/21	4	Tonnes	2027/28		New 5 year plan sets this target - CO2 area wide emissions within scope of Local Authority per capita (in tonnes)
Percentage of dwellings in Orkney in fuel poverty	13	2020/21	31	Other (please specify)	2027/28		New 5 year plan sets this fuel poverty target.

3da

How will the body align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emission reduction targets?

Spending on climate related projects is undertaken by service areas within the local authority. Significant spend on climate related projects relates to the Local Authority's development of the 'strategic projects' – onshore wind projects at Hoy, Quairness and Faray. In addition a further capital spend relates to a replacement energy efficient 40 bed Care home and a new nursery building.

Otherwise, the budgets are set and each service has discretion on how they spend their budgets and achieve reductions in emissions. This can be seen, for example, through the purchase of electric vehicles, or the installation of insulation and photovoltaic panels at Council houses.

The Repairs and Maintenance outturn budget monitoring reports will give evidence of repairs and remedial works undertaken. The Capital Expenditure outturn details the Council's capital projects and progress. Progress and spending in relation to Energy Efficiency Standards for Social Housing is reported via the Council chamber on an annual basis.

3db

How will the body publish, or otherwise make available, its progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets?

publication of annual carbon emissions through Scottish Government reporting and also report to elected representatives Policy and Resources Committee (currently every November) - <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Council/C/policy-and-resources.htm> – Also, use of branding and Council webspace to communicate Climate Change

3e Estimated Total Carbon Savings in the report year

Estimated total annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) from projects implemented by the body in the report year		
Emissions source	Carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity	10	Heat Pumps
Natural gas		
Other heating fuels	22	Town Oil Heating Systems upgraded to improved efficiency in challenging (historic) buildings
Waste		
Wastewater/sewage		
Travel		
Fleet transport		Continue to expand electric vehicle fleet as part of vehicle replacement programme & new fleet chargers at Council offices
Other (please specify in comments)		Street Lighting - Average annual electricity consumption per lantern has reduced from 324kwh in 2019 to 157kwh in 2024. LED now upgraded & 95% of lighting

3f Detail top 10 carbon reduction projects

Project name	Funding source	Year (or year of completion)	Are there further carbon savings at annual?	Capital cost (£)	Estimated carbon savings per year (tCO ₂ e/annum)	Comments
St Andrews School	Capital Project	2023/24	Estimated	£105,780	10	Oil system replaced with new Heat Pumps - At same time the building size increased 50%
Stremness Town Hall	Capital Project	2024/25	Estimated	£24,800	2	Oil heating system replaced / updated in historic building (more efficient oil based system)
St Magnus Cathedral	Capital Project	2024/25	Estimated	£28,350	18	Oil heating system replaced / updated in historic building (more efficient oil based system)

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

No Entries Made

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

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity	28	Kirkwall Nursery - Heat Pumps displacing former oil heating

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

No Entries Made

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

Total savings	Total estimated emissions savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Total project savings since baseline year		This will be updated in 2024/25 submission

3k Supporting Information and best practice

Emissions associated with water are not yet included in baseline or in annual reports (in section 3a / 3b). This is being reviewed in 2024, as part of OIC inventory scope and baseline emissions review (Delivery Plan action). It is likely that these emissions will be included from 2024/25 onwards, potentially along with other sources.

PART 4 - ADAPTATION

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

Orkney Islands Marine Region State of the Environment Assessment 2020 (<https://www.orkney.gov.uk/our-services/planning-and-building/development-and-marine-planning-policy/marine-planning/state-of-the-environment-assessment/>) provides a snapshot of the physical, environmental, social and economic condition of the Orkney Islands marine region, including a summary of significant pressures and impacts from climate change.

The Council worked with SEPA and Scottish Water to develop flood risk management actions to be delivered in Orkney between 2022 and 2028. These were published by SEPA in the 2nd Cycle Flood Risk Management Plan for the Orkney Local Plan District in January 2022. The Orkney Local Flood Risk Management Plan (<https://www.orkney.gov.uk/media/4nd1ko1/orkney-local-flood-risk-management-plan-2022-2028.pdf>) published by Orkney Islands Council in December 2022, identifies what actions are to be undertaken locally and how they are to be funded.

In April 2022, Scottish Flood Survey (SFF) inspected and later provided Property Flood Reports for a number of houses on the Orkney mainland and linked isles. Following the April visit, the South Ronaldsay and Burray Flood Group (SRBFG) was initiated by the community, assisted by SFF. From the summer of 2022, the SRBFG worked, with regular meetings, toward the development of a community flood plan.

The Council continues to work with SEPA and Scottish Water to gather data to ensure that the best information on climate and drainage is available as flood risk management actions are undertaken. The Council will continue to raise awareness of flood risk at every opportunity, including school visits and at public events in conjunction with partners such as SEPA, SFF and Custrans. The Council will continue to raise awareness of flood risk at every opportunity, including school visits and at public events in conjunction with partners such as SEPA, SFF and Custrans. The Council will continue to promote the SEPA Floodline in all flood related press releases.

Marine Spatial Planning Addressing Climate Effects (MSPACE) is a UKA funded project that aims to drive forward the capability of the four UK nations in designing and implementing economically viable and socially acceptable climate-smart marine spatial plans (MSP). The project is designed to support ambitions of government policy, the industrial sector, and communities to ensure sustainable management of marine resources and improve the marine environment for the next generation. The Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan is a case study within the project. The MSPACE team is working with OIC to provide data and modelling to inform future marine policy and how economic sectors will need to adapt under future climate scenarios. OIC Marine Planning team has participated significantly in the development of the project outputs.

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

During Summer 2023-24, the Council has worked with the Marine Directorate of the Scottish Government to secure ministerial sign-off of the Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan - Consultation Draft. The Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Delegation of Functions (Regional Marine Plan for the Scottish Marine Region for the Orkney Islands) Direction (2020). Public authorities are required to take any authorisation or enforcement decision in accordance with the appropriate regional marine plan, unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise. Public authorities are also required to have regard to the appropriate regional marine plan in making any decision which relates to the exercise by them of any function capable of affecting the Scottish marine area. The plan includes Objective 2 - A rapid and just transition to a low-carbon economy is supported to achieve net-zero commitments and Objective 3 - Mitigation of and adaptation to climate change is supported. These objectives will be delivered via the implementation of a suite of relevant policies including General Policy 3 - Climate Change which, when adopted, will require public authorities to give significant weight in decision making to the global climate crisis including measures for mitigation and adaptation, when considering proposals for development and/or activities in the Orkney Islands marine region. A consultation on the draft plan will be delivered during Summer 2024 with onward adoption anticipated in 2024.

The Council worked with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) on the development of the revised coastal flood warning system for Orkney. This SEPA system has been live since September 2018. The coastal flood warning system drives public alerts and warnings and operational discussions between the Council and SEPA at times of heightened flood risk.

The Kirkwall Harbour Flood Protection Scheme and associated works were completed in 2018. Operation of the scheme is triggered when Kirkwall threshold values are reached in the SEPA coastal Flood Early Warning System. Forecasts of significant flooding can lead to QLEEG, the Orkney Local Emergency Co-ordinating Group, being convened. If appropriate then a multi-agency response across multiple locations, using assets from HMCG, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Police Scotland and the Council can be initiated. Each event is reviewed with any lessons learnt incorporated in the respective plan.

The Council is working with consultants to develop water and flooding guidance to developers in Orkney in order to ensure that flood risk management requirements are met, and make sure that opportunities for environmental enhancement, promotion of biodiversity and mitigation of the effects of future climate change are not missed.

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

Council officers participated in a national steering group led by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) to prepare guidance for local authorities to prepare Coastal Change Adaptation Plans. The resulting Coastal Change Adaptation Guidance was published in February 2023. OIC anticipates work will commence on the Orkney Coastal Change Adaptation Plan (CCAP) from the end of 2024/start of 2025 following the appointment of a consultant. This will be taken forward in accordance with the new Scottish Coastal Change Adaptation Plan Guidance implementing a Dynamic Adaptive Pathways approach that is both flexible and responsive to changes on the ground. Taking forward a CCAP has been approved by Council as part of the agreed actions under the QLEFMP (Flood Risk Management Plan). The CCAP will provide a strategic level assessment identifying coastal management policies for Orkney's coastal zone, taking account of natural processes and the risks to people, property, transport and service infrastructure and how these factors will change over time due to climate change. The Council has received funding support from the Scottish Government Coastal Change Adaptation component of the General Capital Grant in Year 1 (2022-23) the Council allocated £160k of this funding towards a coastal LiDAR survey to inform coastal adaptation planning in Orkney. In 2023, £66k was secured to deliver a Communications and Engagement Plan and activities case study as part of the coastal change adaptation planning process and in 2023-24 a further £111k was allocated to prepare the Orkney Coastal Change Adaptation Plan. A Communications and Engagement Plan is required to enable public agencies, communities, businesses, landowners and wider stakeholders to effectively communicate and collaborate to address the impacts of sea level rise driven erosion and flooding in Orkney's coastal areas. Clear communication on how sea level rise is anticipated to impact on coastal property, infrastructure, land and habitats is required, as is communicating the uncertainty in the timescale of change. The Plan will help to build understanding and sustain collaborative relationships between the key stakeholders. Further to this, communities and other stakeholders have valuable information to contribute on how the coast behaves, how assets will be affected and how the coast can be adapted to accommodate change.

Consultants have been appointed to complete the Kirkwall Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP). Work commenced in August 2024 with completion programmed for Spring 2025.

The Kirkwall Surface Water Management Plan is a key action from the Local Flood Risk Management Plan and is to be developed in consultation with flood risk partners. The work to complete the Kirkwall SWMP includes detailed studies of key individual sub-catchments within Kirkwall town and use planning.

4d Where applicable, what contribution has the body made to helping deliver the Programme?

On further info added (see 4 a-c above)

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

Flood risk management actions take place on a 6 year repeating cycle as required by the 2009 Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act. The national-level Flood Risk Management Plan for the Orkney Local Plan District, produced by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, is followed within 12 months by the Orkney Local Flood Risk Management Plan, produced by Orkney Islands Council.

A Local Flood Risk Management Plan Interim Report is to be published by the Council 3 years into each Local Flood Risk Management Plan 6 year cycle and at the end of each cycle, a Local Flood Risk Management Plan Final Report is to be published.

Planning and preparatory work for the next Flood Risk Management cycle, informed by new data and outputs from earlier and current cycles, takes place concurrent with the current cycle.

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

In addition to the 6 year do/review cycle under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act, adaptive actions to come from the Orkney Coastal Change Adaptation Adaptive Plan will be based on adaptive pathways and have identified trigger points for following actions. As such, monitoring and review will be central to these adaptive actions.

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

- 1) Publish the Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan - Consultation Draft for formal public consultation and progress a monitoring and evaluation framework to keep the plan under review.
- 2) Commence Coastal Change Adaptation Plan for all of Orkney, including engagement programme - (Make appointments and commence work)
- 3) Complete the Kirkwall Surface Water Management Plan
- 4) Develop appropriate flood risk guidance for developers.
- 5) Continue to engage with key organisations that could support the development of climate change adaptation for the Orkney Islands, supporting the ambition for adaptation established in the Orkney Partnership

4h Supporting information and best practice

The Communications and Engagement Plan and associated activities will pilot a best practice approach to communication and engagement in the preparation of a Coastal Change Adaptation Plan. This will provide valuable lessons for other coastal local authorities to take forward CCAPs in accordance with the new Scottish CCAP guidance. The lessons learned will be of value for any future update to the CCAP guidance to enable the delivery of best practice.

PART 5 – PROCUREMENT

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

The Sustainable Procurement Strategy (February) 2022 is now in place following a period of public consultation incorporating updates to climate change and sustainability legislative changes. These included: The Equality Act 2010, the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012, The Fairer Scotland Duty, Equality Act (Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010) – commenced 2018, The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Order 2015, Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019, Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2020. The updated Sustainable Procurement Policy has incorporated the Scottish Procurement Policy Note issued by the Scottish Government, taking account of Climate and Circular Economy Considerations (SPPN) 01/2021 and the Implementation of Fair Work First in Scottish Procurement (SPPN) 03/2021. The Sustainable Procurement Strategy 2022 includes the introduction of the Orkney Islands Council Sustainable Procurement Impact Assessment (SPiA) screens climate related action in section 2, as follows:

2.Climate Change: Will the procurement minimise contribution to climate change and support goods, services and works that are well-adapted to the consequences of a changing climate. YES/NO.

Following a public consultation which took place over Summer 2023 the Procurement Strategy 2023 -2028 has been approved by the General Council in December 2023. The new Procurement Strategy 2023 – 2028 is aligned with the new Council Plan 2023-2028 and makes reference to the Council’s Commitment to Net Zero and also the inclusion of the latest SPPN Public Procurement – taking account of climate and circular economy considerations: SPPN 3/2022 and also referring for the new requirement for bidders to provide details of their climate change action plan in accordance with the new guidance on “relevant” and “priority” contract assessment to consider scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions.

A further review of the Council’s Sustainable Procurement Strategy will take place in 2024 and a public consultation over summer 2024, to align with the new Procurement Strategy 2023 and 2028, Council Plan 2023 – 2028 and the more recent work of the Council’s Climate Change Team and the cross Council Climate Change Working Group action plan and the new SG guidance as referred to in the para above.

21.1. Sustainability, Climate Change and Net Zero Targets.

The Council is conscious that its procurement decisions must take account of the social, economic and environmental impact it has on the people and communities of Orkney and elsewhere. Within the latest Council 5-year plan, net zero objectives have been added along with the following aspirational statements -

- Orkney is on track to become net zero by 2030.
- We have reduced the carbon used during the course of our direct and indirect activities.
- We have grown our green and blue economies.
- Everyone in Orkney has reduced their carbon footprint (the greenhouse gases generated by their actions).

Council commitment:

- To embed sustainability into the procurement process where it is relevant to the subject matter of the contract and to comply with the Council’s Sustainability Duty where this is appropriate.
- Implementation of the Scottish Government 10 steps to Sustainable Procurement to assist sustainability and other responsible procurement themes using the Scottish Government Toolkit at Sustainable Procurement ([sustainableprocurementtools.scot](https://www.sustainableprocurementtools.scot))
- To engage with the local supplier base to develop Community Benefit Clauses to maximise the potential of the local economy to compete for Council business for the economic benefit and sustainability of Orkney.
- To implement the use of Community Benefit / Sustainable Procurement Award Criteria in contracts as appropriate.
- Draw on best sustainable procurement practice in Scotland and engage with suppliers to develop and implement carbon management criteria in support of the reduction of direct and indirect emissions (integrating alongside the Council’s developing Climate Change strategy).
- To implement any recommendation relevant to procurement from the Council’s Climate Change Action Plan when this is developed accompanied by relevant commitments and targets.
- To improve streamlining of reporting by cross referencing the Procurement Annual Report with the Climate Change Duties Report in greater detail.

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

Procurement activity has contributed to compliance with climate change duties by the implementation of the Sustainable Procurement Policy and the Sustainable Procurement Impact Assessment (SPiA) and the introduction of the sustainable procurement award criteria into relevant contracts. Engagement with service areas at the SPiA stage at the procurement/commodity strategy stage early on in the procurement process and at the development of the specification stage of the procurement process are now providing opportunities to address climate change impact in order to develop suitable award criteria dependent of the subject matter of the contract. The SG guidance re requirement to include expanded 5c Environment question in the SPD has been introduced, to include climate change plans including Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions as appropriate where a contract has been identified as either “relevant” or a “priority” contract.

Delivery of the commitments made in this policy will be supported through the implementation of the Council’s Procurement Strategy 2021 to 2023 and the Council’s Procurement Annual Report. Progress against the stated objectives is monitored and reported on an annual basis as part of the Procurement Service Improvement Action Plan 2021 to 2023 via the Council’s Performance Management System.

5c Supporting Information and best practice

The current Sustainable Procurement Policy outlines how the Council takes a responsible and sustainable approach to procurement, and is being reviewed in 2024 and will be subject to a public consultation in summer 2024 to ensure it is supporting continually developing Council approaches on Climate Change and remains in accord with emerging Scottish Government Policy, reflected in the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, COP 26 and beyond, as appropriate.

Examples of good practice in procurement, exist within building refurbishment and also in supply side emission calculations associated with transport, haulage contracts and major projects being developed for a new deep water quay and the community wind farm project.

The detailed risks and opportunities in the sustainable procurement tools align with Scotland’s National Performance Framework (NPF) and Scotland’s National Outcomes and Indicators, achieving a line of sight between procurement activity and local and national strategic priorities:

- Climate Change.
- Materials.
- Waste.
- Hazardous Materials.
- Biosecurity.
- Biodiversity.
- Heritage.
- Water.
- Employment, Skills and Training.
- Communities.
- Equality.
- Fair Work.
- Fairly and Ethically Traded.
- Health and Wellbeing.
- Security and Crime

PART 6 - VALIDATION AND DECLARATION

6a Internal Validation Process

Briefly describe the body's internal validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

The Internal Audit Team of the Council carried out a review of a draft submission and supporting evidence in October 2024. Work included identifying the sources of information contained in the report, reviewing that the information submitted is in accordance with the underlying evidence held on source systems, and checking with the relevant guidance. This has helped confirm that there are robust systems in place to produce the report and that there is evidence for the calculation of the emissions in the report to be considered accurate.

6b Peer Review Validation Process

Briefly describe the body's peer validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

N/A see 6A

6c External Validation Process

Briefly describe the body's external validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

N/A see 6A - There was no external validation undertaken in year, however consultants will be independently checking data as part of a baseline review study (scheduled in 2024/25).

6d No Validation Process

N/A see 6A -

6e Declaration

Name:	Hayley Green
Role in the body:	Corporate Director Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure
Date:	

7 Recommended Reporting – Reporting on Wider Influence (Orkney emissions)

Q1 Historic Emissions (from DESNZ data set)

Note : territorial emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4) and nitrous oxide (N2O) are provided, but not fluorinated gases, which are also included in the UK territorial greenhouse gas emissions statistics. Prior to the 2005 to 2020 publication the statistics covered emissions of carbon dioxide only

Orkney Islands													
Full													
Sector	2014	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Units
Total Emissions	114.51	111.57	116.09	101.84	101.45	98.09	18.89	31.51	33.83	1.83	75.30	75.34	ktCO2e
Industry and commercial	22.54	35.41	22.58	30.29	17.52	13.03	0.63	12.91	11.73	10.12	10.12	10.60	ktCO2e
Domestic	65.63	58.78	64.01	56.87	51.83	48.10	40.51	40.86	38.96	37.49	37.33	36.71	ktCO2e
Transport total	50.35	38.88	30.02	31.61	33.29	36.97	34.62	33.63	33.95	25.15	37.86	38.58	ktCO2e
Per Capita	10.23	10.74	10.28	10.47	10.31	10.02	17.86	16.38	16.64	15.68	15.11	15.11	ktCO2e

Q2 Targets

Sector	Description	Type of Target (units)	Baseline value	Start year	Target/End year	Latest Year Measured	Comments
All Sectors	Orkney is on track to become net zero by 2030	Please select from drop-down		Please select from drop-down	Please select from drop-down	Please select from	Ork Council Plan / Delivery plan

2b - Does the organisation have an overall mission statement, strategies, plans or policies outlining ambition to influence emissions beyond your corporate boundaries? If so, please detail below.

The primary documents of note are the Council Plan and Council delivery Plan (2023) - which both outline the ambition towards net zero in the Orkney Islands. Also the Orkney Community Planning Partnership local Outcomes Improvement Plan (2023-2027). In addition Orkney Islands Council has facilitated and participated in the development of a number of community strategies that have an impact on climate change action in the region. These include:

- Orkney Sustainable Energy Strategy (2017-2025) - <https://www.orkei.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Orkney-Sustainable-Energy-Strategy-2017-2025-1.pdf>
- Orkney Hydrogen Strategy - https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Files/Strategic_Projects/Hydrogen%20projects/Hydrogen%20strategy.pdf#:~:text=The%20Orkney%20hydrogen%20strategy%20sets%20a%20aid%20development,an%20increased%20resilience%20in%20the%20local%20energy%20system
- Orkney Electric Vehicle Strategy (2018-2023) - <https://www.orkei.co.uk/draft-orkney-electric-vehicle-strategy-2017-2021/>
- Orkney Sustainable Tourism Strategy
- Strategic Tourism and Infrastructure Development Plan - <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Files/Committees-and-Agendas/Development%20and%20Infrastructure/D/2022/D/15-02-2022/Item%2016%20%20Strategic%20Tourism%20Infrastructure%20Development%20Plan.pdf>
- Orkney Energy Action Plan
- Island Growth Deal - Islands Centre for Net Zero - Orkney Achieves Net Zero by 2030 - <https://www.islandsdeal.co.uk/leading-way-low-carbon-future/islands-centre-net-zero> (The Islands Centre for Net Zero project will be supported with joint investment of up to £16.5 million from the UK Government and Scottish Government (UK £16 million/SC £0.5 million).
- The Scapa Flow Future Fuels Hub project will be supported with investment of up to £6.5 million from the Scottish Government - <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Files/Council/Our%20Future/Islands%20Deal%20Programme.pdf>

Q3 Policies and Actions to Reduce Emissions

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

No Response made here – but see Q2b above and Q4 below

Q4 Partnership Working, Communications and Capacity Building

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

Partnership type	Organisation	Organisation's programme	Lead Organisation and its programme/mission	Partner Institute	Local Partner	Local Contact Name	Local Support	Notes
Partnership working	Supporting the Delivery Partnership Strategic Development Delivery Group	Lead		EMEC	All Public sector bodies including ORO, NIE Water, and NHS in Orkney	Wendy OREF	Local climate implementation Plan (2020) signed and will be published supporting other climate programmes and community work activities	Supporting the delivery partnership strategic development delivery group. This is a partnership of public sector bodies in Orkney. The group is working on a range of projects to reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency. The group is also working on a range of projects to improve energy efficiency in public sector buildings. The group is also working on a range of projects to improve energy efficiency in public sector buildings.
Partnership working	Supporting the Carbon Neutral Islands Initiative	Supporting	Orkney Islands Council		All local public sector bodies	Christine Energy Scotland	Carbon neutral buildings (CAB)	Supporting the Carbon Neutral Islands Initiative. This is a partnership of public sector bodies in Orkney. The group is working on a range of projects to reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency. The group is also working on a range of projects to improve energy efficiency in public sector buildings. The group is also working on a range of projects to improve energy efficiency in public sector buildings.
Partnership working	Supporting the Islands Councils Local Climate Change Action Plan	Principal	Orkney Islands Council	EMEC, Aquatics, Health, Water, University	Orkney Islands Council, Orkney Islands Council, Orkney Islands Council, Orkney Islands Council	Christine Energy Scotland	Net Zero Transition	Supporting the Islands Councils Local Climate Change Action Plan. This is a partnership of public sector bodies in Orkney. The group is working on a range of projects to reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency. The group is also working on a range of projects to improve energy efficiency in public sector buildings. The group is also working on a range of projects to improve energy efficiency in public sector buildings.
Partnership working	North Isles Leadership Partnership	Participating	Orkney Islands Council					https://www.nip.co.uk/
Partnership working	North Isles Coastal Forum	Participating	Scottish Fisheries Forum		Orkney Islands Council, Orkney Islands Council, Orkney Islands Council, Orkney Islands Council		Women's networking North Isles Orkney. This is a partnership of public sector bodies in Orkney. The group is working on a range of projects to reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency. The group is also working on a range of projects to improve energy efficiency in public sector buildings. The group is also working on a range of projects to improve energy efficiency in public sector buildings.	

Partnership Working	Orkney Renewable Energy Forum	Participant	N/A	EMEC / Aquifers / various	Orkney Islands Council	Community Energy Scotland	Various - awareness, sustainable energy strategies, networking and consultation responses	Wide and open membership - https://www.oref.co.uk/
Partnership Working	Orkney Nature Network and Delivery Group	Lead			The delivery group currently comprises OIC as lead, with NHS Orkney, UHI Orkney, Scottish Water, HIAL, NatureScot and Crown Estate Scotland as members.		Nature Networks on public land can support a move away from heavily managed uniform spaces to diverse spaces that contribute to biodiversity and carbon sequestration and also providing places for people.	Scottish Biodiversity Strategy requires every local authority to have a nature network of locally driven projects. Within the Policy Framework: Scotland's public bodies will be exemplars, supporting delivery on their land. The Council is working to the definition in the policy framework that "A nature network connects together nature-rich sites, including restoration areas and other environmental projects, through a series of areas of suitable habitat, habitat corridors, and stepping-stones". The Council is coordinating a nature network delivery group for Orkney, commencing preparatory work in 2023-24.
Partnership Working	Arctic Engagement including partnership working with the Nordic Atlantic Cooperation and Sisimuit Movement	Lead					There is a strong focus on place based sustainable development working with the Nordic Atlantic Cooperation (NORA) and UNESCO through the SISIMUIT Movement our World Heritage Site Gateway Project and other Islands Deal Projects including a small fund to support communities work collaboratively around areas that support making the North Atlantic a better place. Research, Innovation, Community Led Development, its location and experience as 'remote islands' and shared cultural heritage are key areas that enable opportunities for collaboration and partnership working.	The UK and Scottish Government have frameworks focussed on Arctic, acknowledging that what happens in the Arctic does not stay in the Arctic. The impact of climate change affects communities globally with the Arctic experiencing some of the biggest changes that will have indirect and significant consequences from a social environmental and economic perspective. The post of Service Manager Sustainable Regeneration and Arctic was established in 2022 with a focus on ensuring Orkney Islands Council maintains awareness of the conversations and contributes to the international dialogue engaging with a range of organisations internationally and working in partnership with UK and Scottish Government.

Partnership Working	Active Travel in Orkney	Lead			Range of organisations including Orkney Islands Council, NHS Orkney, Voluntary Action Orkney, Hitrans, and Sustrans		A key part of the Sustainable Travel Group's work has been to establish a baseline for walking and cycling in Orkney, so that we can understand which things Orkney residents would value most. This has led to the publication of the Orkney Travel Matters report. In related developments, in April, the Kirkwall community celebrated the official opening of Pappdale East Park. Delivered by OIC, the project attracted investment from a range of funders including Transport Scotland via Sustrans, NatureScot and the Council's Crown Estate Fund. The park is made up of a network of paths and landscaping features. These include a burn, walking, wheeling, and cycling routes, as well as native shrubs and trees and a wildflower meadow for enhanced biodiversity.	A Sustainable Travel Group was formed in December 2021, with the overall aim to make efficient use of investment in active and sustainable travel by joining up Council plans and strategies, and identifying funding and delivery mechanisms. The group brings together people across a range of organisations including Orkney Islands Council, NHS Orkney, Voluntary Action Orkney, Hitrans, and Sustrans.
Partnership Working	Orkney Energy Stakeholder Group	Participant		EMEC	OIC departments and HIE	Community Energy Scotland and the Orkney Renewable Energy Forum	Received report from OREF for a Draft Orkney Energy Strategy Action Plan	Orkney Islands Council established the Orkney Energy Stakeholder Group, with a remit to a) oversee development and review of the Orkney Energy Strategy and b) to oversee development and delivery of an action plan to progress the Orkney Energy Strategy. In 2024/25 it is proposed that the membership will be extended and further developments include formation of sub-groups to focus on action plan.
Partnership Working	Net Zero Living / Pathfinder	Participant			OIC with partners		Each project will receive Innovate UK funding of between £2 million and £5 million to run practical demonstrator projects to show how the non-technical barriers to implementing carbon cutting measures can be overcome.	A joint decarbonisation project between Orkney and Shetland was awarded £4.9 million in funding by Innovate UK. The Rural Energy Hubs project is one of seven projects selected from across the UK for Innovate UK's £25 million Net Zero Living programme. The Net Zero Living programme will run from 1 February 2024 to 31 October 2025. In addition to Orkney and Shetland, Leicestershire, Liverpool, York, Bristol, Rossendale, and Peterborough have also received funding.
Partnership Working	Orkney Native Wildlife Project	Supporting			OIC with partners		Building a biosecure future for the whole of Orkney by preventing stoats from colonising any new islands, and preventing their return once the eradication is complete.	The Orkney Native Wildlife Project exists to safeguard Orkney's native wildlife against invasive stoats. - https://www.orkneynativewildlife.org.uk/project .

Q5) Please detail key actions relating to Food and Drink, Biodiversity, Water, Procurement and Resource Use in the table below

Project Title	Description	Department / Project Role	Comments
Research	Community wind farm project - up to £2m of development costs with a grant from Orkney. This site has submitted the planning permission (approved). This initiative supports the local energy and energy demand connection between Orkney and the Scottish mainland. The project also has the potential to generate significant revenue for the community in Orkney.	Lead	https://www.orkney.gov.uk/
Research	Orkney Islands Council participates in and supports a number of high profile research projects including BISHIT - BIODIVERSITY in Small scale participation - evidence of research and collaboration project. These demonstrate the application and use of green hydrogen services such as residential energy use including heat, power and transport (battery, hydrogen and fuel cell). There are also green hydrogen projects in development such as 200bar on mobile storage units (1.25m storage) and 100bar on site. The Council owns and operates the urban hydrogen fuel cell bus as a pilot project. (Approved)	Supporting	http://www.bishit.eu/
Research	The Orkney Research Centre for Infrared Cameras (ORC) is a small military project which is now an improved home for Orkney's wildlife and nature research and education centre. ORC LLP is a joint venture between Orkney Islands Council (ORC) and Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE)	Supporting	http://www.orkneyresearch.co.uk/
Research	Orkney's warm homes grant scheme launched, offering small to medium sized Orkney businesses grants up to 50% on energy efficiency improvements to improve performance and lead to carbon reduction and from the business. This scheme is used plans ORC financial grants to be used generated local in research and application.	Lead	Support Orkney's businesses in de-carbonising vehicles and reduce emissions.
Research	The Council has an in partnership with Orkney. This means approximately 100 tonnes of thermal production. The Council also works with the Salt Water Energy (SWE) project for producing from sea farming energy.	Supporting	
Research	Orkney Islands Council is a partner in the first (using pattern in the Orkney 20, 5m RePLE). Orkney funded project RePLE Orkney is pioneering an integrated affordable low carbon energy system for the future (RePLE) (Resilient Energy for Orkney) Orkney is a £20 million project aiming to create an Integrated Energy System (IES) in Orkney. Scotland. Funded by UKRI through the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund, the project is led by the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) with co-commercial partners including Aquatec, BMS, Commercial Energy, Scottish Hydro Electric, Orkney Islands Council and Orkney Islands Council.	Supporting	https://www.orkney.gov.uk/