

Stephen Brown (Chief Officer)

Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership

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Agenda Item: 14

Integration Joint Board

Date of Meeting: 18 February 2026.

Subject: Climate Change Duties Report.

1. Purpose

1.1. To provide Members with sight of the Climate Change Duties Report submitted to Scottish Government.

2. Recommendations

The Board is invited to note:

2.1. The Orkney Integration Joint Board Public Sector Report on Compliance with Climate Change Duties for 2024, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, which was submitted to the Scottish Government by the deadline of 30 November 2025.

2.2. Analysis of NHS Orkney and Orkney Islands Council's Climate Change Duties Reports, as detailed in sections 5 and 6 of this report.

3. Background

3.1. The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and the subsequent Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2015 requires significant public bodies to prepare a report on their compliance with climate change duties. This includes 'An integration joint board established by order under section 9(2) of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.

3.2. Integration Joint Boards (IJBs) are required to submit the report on or before 30 November.

3.3. The climate change duties report is a Scottish Government prescribed standard template, identical to that for all public bodies, such as local authorities and health boards, including NHS Orkney and Orkney Islands Council. Consequently, the Guidance accompanying the 2015 Order recognised that much of the standard report template related to the policies, procedures, and services of the NHS board and local authority, rather than IJBs. As such, it was further recognised in the Guidance that there would be a significant degree of proportionality in completion of the report.

4. Orkney IJB Climate Change Duties Report

4.1. The Climate Change Duties report, attached as Appendix 1, covers the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. It should be noted that previous iterations covered the Calendar Year. However, it was decided to bring the Orkney IJB in line with their service delivery partners, NHS Orkney and Orkney Islands Council, to allow more effective scrutiny.

4.2. Almost the entirety of the report relates to policies and emissions associated with the employment of staff, ownership and occupation of buildings, plant and vehicles, and the delivery of services. Consequently, the content of the report is very limited. As noted at section 3.3, Scottish Government recognises this in the Guidance issued to health and social care partnerships.

4.3. Scottish Government issued further guidance for completion of the report template, specific to IJBs, in 2023. This included a request for information around governance, as well as the NHS Board and local authority areas responsible for service delivery. Governance information is now included in IJB's report.

4.4. Scottish Government completed a consultation on new guidance for all public bodies, in 2025. Much of this guidance relates to the request that Scope 3 emissions are now included in their reporting information.

4.5. Scope 3 emissions are defined as all indirect emissions that occur in the upstream and downstream activities of an organisation, such as purchased goods and services, business travel, employee commuting, waste disposal, transportation, and distribution.

4.6. In common with Scope 1 and 2 emissions, the IJB's service delivery partners account for Scope 3 emissions in their respective Climate Change Duties Reports.

4.7. Officers of the health and social care partnership continue to contribute to the Council's Climate Change Working Group. This included contributing to preparation of the Council's response to the consultation on draft guidance, referred to at section 4.4 above.

4.8. As in recent years, the Climate Change Duties Reports of the IJB's service delivery partners, NHS Orkney and Orkney Islands Council are included at Appendices 2 and 3. Some of the highlights of these reports are detailed in sections 5 and 6 below.

5. NHS Orkney Climate Change Duties Report

5.1. NHS Orkney's Climate Change Duties Report covers the business year 2024/25.

5.2. The report is not submitted to the Board of NHS Orkney for approval, but rather it is taken to the Sustainability Steering Group, on completion, for information purposes.

5.3. The Sustainability Steering Group has responsibility for monitoring:

- Climate Change Mitigation.
- Climate Change Adaptation.
- Sustainability Assessment Tool.
- Sustainability Action Campaign.
- Biodiversity Reporting.
- Other environmental issues e.g. plastics, air pollution.
- Waste Management.
- Sustainable Procurement.

5.4. NHS Orkney has a Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan, is in the process of implementing an Environmental Management Policy and follows the national NHS Scotland Climate Emergency and Sustainability Strategy.

5.5. NHS Orkney declared its top five priorities for climate change governance, management, and strategy, for 2025/26 as:

- Continue working on our transition to Net Zero including action on greenhouse gases.
- Focusing on use of Greenspace.
- Sustainable Care.
- Reduce Waste.
- Widening Engagement on the climate change agenda.

5.6. NHS Orkney has received funding to decarbonise all sites outwith The Balfour. This work is ongoing and, at the end of the project, all NHS Orkney-owned buildings will be using renewable heat sources.

5.7. NHS Orkney's record indicated an increase compared to the previous year's figures, primarily owing to re-baselining. This was in line with good practice and better reflected national guidance. It was noted, however, that this would ensure more accurate reporting, in future.

5.8. NHS Orkney has declared that all properties would be Net Zero by the end of 2025. They also declared that their entire transport fleet will be electric by the end of 2025.

5.9. NHS Orkney declared their Climate Change Adaption Priorities for 2025/26 to be:

- Review the Adaptation Action plan from the Climate Change Risk Assessment Tool and seek support (including resources) from the Board of NHS Orkney for implementation.
- Update NHS Orkney Value and Sustainability Development Action Plan and NHS Orkney Waste Management Action Plan to reflect (Climate Change Risk Assessment template and the Sustainability Assessment Tool and the Scottish Government Climate Change Strategy 2018-2032).

- Decarbonise all owned properties by 2025.
- Decarbonising fleet.
- Develop green spaces at all sites.

6. Orkney Islands Council Climate Change Duties Report

6.1. The Orkney Islands Council Climate Change Duties Report 2024/25 was recommended for approval by the Council's Policy and Resources Committee on 25 November 2025 and ratified by Council at the General Meeting on 9 December 2025.

6.2. The report covers the financial year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

6.3. The report included a re-baselining of the Council's Greenhouse Gas emissions, starting from the previous year of 2023/24. This was in line with good practice and better reflected national guidance, as well as the inclusion of a group of emissions that had not been included previously.

6.4. The Council's emissions record indicated an increase of just over 12% compared to the previous year's figures, primarily owing to the re-baselining, referred to at section 6.3. It was noted, however, that this would ensure more accurate reporting, in future.

6.5. Emission sources that increased in 2024/25 included ferries, harbour craft, tugs, and construction. This underlined the need for the Council to identify new means to cut emissions.

6.6. Independent consultants have been appointed to assist the Council in its journey towards net zero and will include further strategies for identifying means of reducing emissions. This study, due to complete very shortly, will establish climate action scenarios, and will provide a foundation for future policy and project activities for the Council.

6.7. The Council declared its top five priorities for climate change governance, management, and strategy, for 2024/25 as:

- Finalise the Orkney Sustainable Energy Strategy Action Plan and establish an Energy and Enterprise Task group
- Work towards the Council Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan with the completion of an independent consultant study on net zero transition.
- Commence work on the Coastal Change Adaptation Plan
- Continue to support the Council's energy efficiency and transition. Examples include building and fleet decarbonisation and the development of community wind projects.
- Supporting the County's decarbonisation, working with Community Planning partners, Carbon Neutral Islands and through Climate Change and net zero elements of the Islands Growth Deal.

6.8. The new care facility in Kirkwall was specifically mentioned as an example of how the Council has aligned its plans with reducing emissions and delivering emission target reductions.

6.9. The report identified a number of measures being undertaken to address climate change-related flood risks. These include an improved coastal flood warning system, developed in partnership with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, as well as preparation of an Orkney Coastal Change Adaption Plan.

7. Contribution to quality

Please indicate which of the Orkney Community Plan 2025 to 2030 values are supported in this report adding Yes or No to the relevant area(s):

Resilience: To support and promote our strong communities.	Yes.
Enterprise: To tackle crosscutting issues such as digital connectivity, transport, housing and fuel poverty.	No.
Equality: To encourage services to provide equal opportunities for everyone.	Yes.
Fairness: To make sure socio-economic and social factors are balanced.	Yes.
Innovation: To overcome issues more effectively through partnership working.	Yes.
Leadership: To involve partners such as community councils, community groups, voluntary groups and individuals in the process.	No.
Sustainability: To make sure economic and environmental factors are balanced.	Yes.

8. Resource and financial implications

8.1. There are no resource or financial implications directly related to this report.

9. Risk, equality and climate change implications

9.1. Officers do not consider there are any risk, equality or climate change implications associated with this report, which is reporting on performance.

9.2. The Board's Climate Change Duties Report for 2024 was completed in line with the practical guidance published by the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN), which is available at [Sustainable Scotland Network - The Sustainable Scotland Network](#).

9.3. Although the Board has no direct responsibility for the delivery of services and assets such as buildings, IT systems and equipment, vehicles remain with the constituent authorities, NHS Orkney and Orkney Islands Council, the Board retains the responsibility to ensure compliance with the climate change duties in respect of its strategic and financial planning, as well as performance management.

10. Direction required

Please indicate if this report requires a direction to be passed to:

NHS Orkney.	No.
Orkney Islands Council.	No.

11. Escalation required

Please indicate if this report requires escalated to:

NHS Orkney.	No.
Orkney Islands Council.	No.

12. Authors and contact information

12.1. Stephen Brown (Chief Officer), Integration Joint Board. Email: stephen.brown3@nhs.scot, telephone: 01856873535 extension 2601.

12.2. Lynda Bradford (Head of Health and Community Care), Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership. Email: lynda.bradford@orkney.gov.uk, telephone: 01856873535 extension 2601.

12.3. Shaun Hourston-Wells (Policy and Performance Manager), Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership. Email: shaun.hourston-wells@orkney.gov.uk, telephone: 01856873535 extension 2414.

13. Supporting documents

13.1. Appendix 1: Orkney IJB Climate Change Duties Report.

13.2. Appendix 2: NHS Orkney Climate Change Duties Report.

13.3. Appendix 3: Orkney Islands Council Climate Change Duties Report.

Appendix 1 – Climate Change Duties – IJB response details 2024/25

The following pages set out the submission for the IJB, for 2024-25. 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).

- 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

Emissions source/activity		Select from dropdown list
Owned estate	Are any buildings owned by the public body?	No
Natural gas	Is natural gas used to heat any of the owned estate	No
Other heating & fuels	Are other heating fuels used on any of the owned estate	No
Managed services	Are building services managed on behalf of another public body that shares or leases space?	No
Leased premises -public	Are building services managed and provided by another public body?	No
Leased premises - private	Are building services managed and provided by a private landlord?	No
Purchased heat and steam	Is heat or steam purchased to supply any of the owned estate	No
Fleet and equipment	Are any vehicles or fossil-fueled machinery or equipment owned or leased, excludes short-term or infrequent hires?	No
Refrigerants/F-gases	Are there any air conditioning or refrigeration systems that require refrigerant gas top-ups?	No
Medical gases	Are medical gases used?	No
Business travel - private	Do staff undertake business travel by private car?	No
Business travel - flights	Do staff undertake any business travel by plane?	No
Homeworking	Do any staff work from home - including hybrid?	No
Supply chain	Are any goods or services purchased?	No
Land use	Are more than 10 hectares of land owned or managed for public services provision, including for research or recreation?	No

PART 1 – Profile of Reporting Body

- 1a) Name – Orkney IJB
- 1b) Type – Integration Joint Boards
- 1c) Highest number of employees (FTE) in the reporting year – 0
- 1d) Metrics used by the body –
- 1e) Overall budget of the body – £66,706,000
- 1f) Reporting type – This report covers the Financial Year 2024/2025. It should be noted that previous iterations covered the Calendar Year. However, it was decided to bring the Orkney IJB in line with their service delivery partners, Orkney Islands Council and NHS Orkney, to allow more effective scrutiny.

1g Context

Orkney IJB is the health and social care partnership in Orkney responsible for commissioning community health and social care services. There is just one local authority and one NHS Board in Orkney.

All community health services are commissioned from NHS Orkney, with all social care services commissioned from Orkney Islands Council.

The accountability and responsibility for climate change governance, management and strategy in relation to the delivery of Council and Health Board services (including community health and social care) lies with Orkney IJB's partner statutory bodies, Orkney Islands Council (OIC) and NHS Orkney. Both OIC and NHS Orkney submit a Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report.

We will continues to work with colleagues in the Council and Health Board to identify opportunities to operate more efficiently and sustainably.

In summary, Orkney IJB does not employ any staff, own or occupy any buildings, nor deliver any services, so information regarding these areas will be recorded, as appropriate, by Orkney Islands Council or NHS Orkney.

Further details can be found in OIC's and NHS Orkney's Climate Change Duties' Reports.

Part 2 – Governance, Management and Strategy

2a) How is climate change governed in the body?

As stated at 1g, on the previous page, Orkney IJB does not employ any staff, own or occupy any buildings, nor deliver any services. As such, all responsibility for Climate Change Duties rests with the relevant service delivery authority, i.e. Orkney Islands Council or NHS Orkney. The respective Climate Change Reports will be found on the Sustainable Scotland Network website, once published: <https://sustainablesotlandnetwork.org/reports/orkney-islands-council> and <https://sustainablesotlandnetwork.org/reports/nhs-orkney>

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

Orkney Islands Council has established a Climate Change Officers Group, to oversee implementation of the Council's Climate Change Strategy. An officer representing the health and social care partnership represents the interests of the IJB, on the group. This is predominantly in relation to delivery of social care services.

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

N/A

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

The Orkney IJB has a nominated officer, who represents the IJB on a cross-service climate change working group, at Orkney Islands Council.

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

Topic area	Name of document	Link	Time period covered	Comments
Adaptation	N/A			
Business travel	N/A			
Staff Travel	N/A			
Energy efficiency	N/A			
Fleet transport	N/A			
ICT	N/A			
Renewable energy	N/A			
Sustainable/renewable heat	N/A			
Waste management	N/A			
Water and sewerage	N/A			
Land Use	N/A			
Other (please specify in comments)	N/A			

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

N/A – see 1g.

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

N/A

2h) Supporting information and best practice

N/A

Part 3 – Emissions

3a) Tables

Reference year	Year	Year type	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total	Units
Baseline Year	2005/06	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 1 carbon footprint	2006/07	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 2 carbon footprint	2007/08	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 3 carbon footprint	2008/09	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 4 carbon footprint	2009/10	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 5 carbon footprint	2010/11	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 6 carbon footprint	2011/12	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 7 carbon footprint	2012/13	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 8 carbon footprint	2013/14	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 9 carbon footprint	2014/15	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 10 carbon footprint	2015/16	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 11 carbon footprint	2016/17	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 12 carbon footprint	2017/18	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 13 carbon footprint	2018/19	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 14 carbon footprint	2019/20	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 15 carbon footprint	2020/21	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 16 carbon footprint	2021/22	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 17 carbon footprint	2022/23	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 18 carbon footprint	2023/24	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e
Year 19 carbon footprint	2024/25	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e

3b) Please see the comments in Section 2, on the previous page

3c) General Consumption and export of renewable energy

Please see comments in Section 2, on the previous page

3d) Organisational Targets

N/A

3da	How will the body align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emission reduction targets?
	Provide any relevant supporting information.
	Please refer to this year's Climate Change Returns from both Orkney Islands Council and NHS Orkney.

3db	How will the body publish, or otherwise make available, it's progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets?
	Provide any other relevant supporting information, including links to published reports. Referencing this report is unnecessary and an inadequate response.
	The IJB is not responsible for any emmissions. With services delivered by Orkney Islands Council and NHS Orkney, please refer to their respective Climate Change Returns, once published.

3e) Projects and changes

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity		
Natural gas		
Other heating fuels		
Waste		
Water and sewerage		
Travel		
Fleet transport		
Other (please specify in comments)		Please see the comments in Section 2, on the previous page.

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

N/A

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

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate changes		Please select from drop down box	2023 emmissions were 0, so there is no increase or decrease
Service provision		Please select from drop down box	See above
Staff numbers		Please select from drop down box	See above
Other (please specify in comments)		Please select from drop down box	See above

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

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity		
Natural gas		
Other heating fuels		
Waste		
Water and sewerage		
Travel		
Fleet Transport		
Other (please specify in comments)		Please see earlier comments

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

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate changes		Please select from drop down box	2023 emissions were 0, so there is no increase or decrease.
Service provision		Please select from drop down box	2023 emissions were 0, so there is no increase or decrease.
Staff numbers		Please select from drop down box	2023 emissions were 0, so there is no increase or decrease.
Other (please specify in comments)		Please select from drop down box	2023 emissions were 0, so there is no increase or decrease.

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		2023 emissions were 0, so there is no increase or decrease.

3k) Supporting information and best practice

Orkney IJB does not employ any staff, own any buildings, nor deliver any services. As such, all responsibility for Climate Change Duties in this respect rests with the relevant service delivery authority, i.e. Orkney Islands Council or NHS Orkney.

Part 4 – Adaptation

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

No. Orkney IJB does not employ any staff, own any buildings, nor deliver any services. As such, all responsibility for Climate Change Duties rests with the relevant service delivery authority, i.e. Orkney Islands Council or NHS Orkney.

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

Please see the response at 4a

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

Please see the response at 4a

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

Please see the response at 4a

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

Please refer to the Orkney Islands Council and NHS Orkney Climate Change Returns.

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

Please refer to the Orkney Islands Council and NHS Orkney Climate Change Returns.

4g) what are the body’s top 5 climate change adaptation priorities for the year ahead?

N/A

4h) Supporting information and best practice

N/A

Part 5 – Procurement

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

Responsibility for procurement, and the associated climate change duty considerations, rests with the two authorities from whom Orkney IJB commission their services: Orkney Islands Council and NHS Orkney. We would refer readers to the respective Climate Change Duties reports from the two authorities.

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

Please see the response at 5a

5c) Supporting information and best practice

N/A

Part 6 Validation and Declaration

6a) Internal validation process

This report contains no data; however, the structure and content of this return reflects previous iterations of this report, as well as the 2023 guidance .

6b) Peer validation process

The scope and approach of responses from other health and social care partnerships continue to reflect those of the Orkney IJB.

6c) External validation process

The responsibility for reporting continues to rest with those bodies from whom services are commissioned: Orkney Islands Council and NHS Orkney. Officers have contacted colleagues from Orkney Islands Council and NHS Orkney with responsibility for completing and returning the Climate Change Duties Reports, on behalf of the respective organisations, in previous years, with both authorities agreeing that the appropriate responses in respect of the services that they deliver, on behalf of Orkney's IJB, will be included in their respective reports. This situation remains as in previous years.

6d) No Validation Process

N/A

6e) Declaration

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

Name:	Shaun Hourston-Wells
Role in the body:	Policy and Performance Manager
Date:	28/11/2025

Date in format (dd/mm/yyyy)

Part 7 Recommended Reporting –Reporting on Wider Influence

Q1) Historic Emissions (Local Authorities Only)

N/A

Q2a) Targets

N/A

Q2b) Does the body have an overall mission statement, strategies, plans or policies outlining ambition to influence emissions beyond its corporate boundary?

No

Q3) Policies and Actions to Reduce Emissions

N/A

Q4) Partnership Working, Communications and Capacity Building

Please detail climate change partnerships, communications or capacity building initiatives below

Key Action Type	Description	Organisation's project role	Lead Organisation (if not reporting organisation)
Please select from drop down box	Officers representing the Orkney LIB continue to contribute towards the Orkney Islands Council Climate Change Working Group.	Please select from drop down box	Lorkney Islands Council

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

N/A

Q6) Please provide information on any other climate change-related activity that is not noted elsewhere in the template

N/A

Appendix 2 – Climate Change Duties – NHS Orkney response details 2024/25

The following pages set out the submission for the IJB, for 2024-25. 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).

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- Part 1 Profile of reporting body
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- Part 3 Emissions
- Part 4 Adaptation
- Part 5 Procurement
- Part 6 Validation

Emissions source/activity		Select from dropdown list
Owned estate	Are any buildings owned by the public body?	Yes
Natural gas	Is natural gas used to heat any of the owned estate	No
Other heating & fuels	Are other heating fuels used on any of the owned estate	Yes
Managed services	Are building services managed on behalf of another public body that shares or leases space?	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?	Yes
Purchased heat and steam	Is heat or steam purchased to supply any of the owned estate	No
Fleet and equipment	Are any vehicles or fossil-fueled machinery or equipment owned or leased, excludes short-term or infrequent hires?	Yes
Refrigerants/F-gases	Are there any air conditioning or refrigeration systems that require refrigerant gas top-ups?	Yes
Medical gases	Are medical gases used?	Yes
Business travel - private	Do staff undertake business travel by private car?	Yes
Business travel - flights	Do staff undertake any business travel by plane?	Yes
Homeworking	Do any staff work from home - including hybrid?	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

Emissions source/activity		Select from dropdown list
Owned estate	Are any buildings owned by the public body?	No
Natural gas	Is natural gas used to heat any of the owned estate	No
Other heating & fuels	Are other heating fuels used on any of the owned estate	No
Managed services	Are building services managed on behalf of another public body that shares or leases space?	No
Leased premises -public	Are building services managed and provided by another public body?	No

Leased premises - private	Are building services managed and provided by a private landlord?	No
Purchased heat and steam	Is heat or steam purchased to supply any of the owned estate	No
Fleet and equipment	Are any vehicles or fossil-fueled machinery or equipment owned or leased, excludes short-term or infrequent hires?	No
Refrigerants/F-gases	Are there any air conditioning or refrigeration systems that require refrigerant gas top-ups?	No
Medical gases	Are medical gases used?	No
Business travel - private	Do staff undertake business travel by private car?	No
Business travel - flights	Do staff undertake any business travel by plane?	No
Homeworking	Do any staff work from home - including hybrid?	No
Supply chain	Are any goods or services purchased?	No
Land use	Are more than 10 hectares of land owned or managed for public services provision, including for research or recreation?	No

PART 1 – Profile of Reporting Body

- 1a) Name – NHS Orkney
- 1b) Type – National Health Service
- 1c) Highest number of employees (FTE) in the reporting year – 597.2
- 1d) Metrics used by the body –

Metric	Units	Value
Population size served	population	22020.00
Floor area	m2	29588.00
Patient bed nights	number of patient bed nights	12860.00

- 1e) Overall budget of the body – £88,447,704
- 1f) Reporting type – 2024-25

1g Context

NHS Orkney is one of 14 NHS Scotland territorial boards. Orkney is an archipelago off the north eastern coast of Scotland. Although Orkney is geographically isolated, the islands are well served by transport links to mainland Scotland. The Balfour is the main health care facility along with 16 health centres throught the mainland and islands. Patients requiring specialist treatment are sent to the Scottish Mainland, usually Grampian, Highland or GGC.

Part 2 – Governance, Management and Strategy

2a) How is climate change governed in the body?

NHS Orkney has an established Sustainability Steering Group which meet quarterly. The group comprises of representation from

- Property Environmental and Quality
- Engineering & Systems
- Energy
- Facilities
- Waste Management
- Procurement
- Transport

- Primary Care
- Secondary Care
- Community Care
- Clinical frontline services
- Finance
- Workforce/HR
- Quality of Care
- Contract Management
- Dental
- Anaesthetists
- Public Health
- Robertsons Facility Management
- NHS Orkney Sustainability Champion(s)
- Infection Control
- Theatre
- Pharmacy

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

The group will report on

- Climate Change Mitigation
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Sustainability Assessment Tool
- Sustainability Action Campaign
- Biodiversity Reporting
- Other environmental issues e.g. plastics, air polution
- Waste Management
- Sustainable Procurement

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

Wording of objective	Name of document
Biodiversity Report	NHS Orkney Biodiversity Report
CCRA	Climate Change Risk Assessment & Adaptation Planning Tool
	Annual Climate Change and Sustainability Report
	Whole System Planning & Business Continuity Plan

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

NHS Orkney have a Climate Change Risk Assessment & Adaptation Plan. A copy of the plan is saved on the internal document storage drive

NHS Orkney are in the process of implementing an Environmental Management Policy

NHS Orkney follows the national NHS Scotland Climate Emergency & Sustainability Strategy

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

Topic area	Name of document
Adaptation	Climate Change Adaptation Plan
Business travel	Active and Sustainable Travel Strategy
Staff Travel	Active and Sustainable Travel Strategy
Energy efficiency	Energy Strategy & Balfour Energy Action Plan
Fleet transport	
ICT	Technology Enabled Care Strategy
Renewable energy	Energy Strategy & Balfour Energy Action Plan
Sustainable/renewable heat	Energy Strategy & Balfour Energy Action Plan
Waste management	Waste Policy
Water and sewerage	
Land Use	Whole System Planning & Business Continuity Plan

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

- Continue working on our transition to net zero including action on greenhouse gases
- Focusing on use of Greenspace
- Sustainable Care
- Reduce Waste
- Widening Engagement on the climate change agenda

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

NHS Orkney complete the Public Bodies Climate Change Report annually

2h) Supporting information and best practice

NHS Orkney supports flexible working, with the option to work condensed hours; this can reduce the need to travel to work. Microsoft Teams has made this easier to attend national meetings rather than travel off island.

Recycling is encouraged throughout the mainland properties. The catering team add an additional charge for disposable containers to encourage staff to re-use containers

NHS Orkney are reviewing their ground maintenance contracts and are looking at more sustainable options e.g. no mow areas with wild flowers

The Balfour achieved BREEAM status

NHS Orkney have procured a waste treatment plant which processes clinical waste on site reducing the need for the waste to be shipped off island for treatment

NHS Orkney have received funding to decarbonise all sites outwith The Balfour which means all of NHS Orkney's owned buildings are using renewable heat sources.

Part 3 – Emissions

3a) Tables

Reference year	Year	Year type	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total	Units	Comments
Baseline Year	2005/06	Financial/Calendar/Other	1,294.00	682.00	594.00	2,570.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 1 carbon footprint	2006/07	Financial/Calendar/Other	1,373	636	567	2,576.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 2 carbon footprint	2007/08	Financial/Calendar/Other	1,473	441	93	2,007.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 3 carbon footprint	2008/09	Financial/Calendar/Other	1,162	431	98	1,691.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 4 carbon footprint	2009/10	Financial/Calendar/Other	442	2,147	166	2,755.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 5 carbon footprint	2010/11	Financial/Calendar/Other	928	1,011	176	2,115.00	tCO ₂ e	
Year 6 carbon footprint	2011/12	Financial/Calendar/Other	629	983	148	1,760.20	tCO ₂ e	
Year 7 carbon footprint	2012/13	Financial/Calendar/Other	528.72	877	136.59	1,542.31	tCO ₂ e	
Year 8 carbon footprint	2013/14	Financial/Calendar/Other	341.18	967.86	156.23	1,465.28	tCO ₂ e	
								We are now reporting additional aspects of emissions, which provides a more accurate picture of our environmental impact.
Year 9 carbon footprint	2014/15	Financial/Calendar/Other	63.61	1,047.57	1,873.11	2,984.29	tCO ₂ e	As a result, the overall totals have increased, but this reflects a more complete and transparent approach to emissions reporting.
Year 10 carbon footprint	2015/16	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e	
Year 11 carbon footprint	2016/17	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e	
Year 12 carbon footprint	2017/18	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e	
Year 13 carbon footprint	2018/19	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e	
Year 14 carbon footprint	2019/20	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e	
Year 15 carbon footprint	2020/21	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e	
Year 16 carbon footprint	2021/22	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e	
Year 17 carbon footprint	2022/23	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e	
Year 18 carbon footprint	2023/24	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e	
Year 19 carbon footprint	2024/25	Financial/Calendar/Other				-	tCO ₂ e	

3b) Breakdown of emissions sources

Emission Type	Emission source	Scope	Consumption data	Units	Emission factor	Units	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)
Electricity	Transmission and distribution - EL	Scope 3	5,058,886	kWh	0.01830	kg CO2e/kWh	92.57761
Electricity	Electricity: UK	Scope 2	5,058,886	kWh	0.20705	kg CO2e/kWh	1047.44235
Fuels	Burning oil (Kerosene)	Scope 1	257,749	kWh	0.24677	kg CO2e/kWh	63.60472
Water	Water supply	Scope 3	30,305	cubic metres	0.08000	kg CO2e/cubic metres	2.42440
Water	Water treatment	Scope 3	6,636	cubic metres	0.17000	kg CO2e/cubic metres	1.12812
Waste	Clinical Waste - Orange Stream	Scope 3	32	tonnes	273.00000	kg CO2e/tonnes	8.59950
Waste	Clinical Waste - Yellow Stream	Scope 3	0	tonnes	297.00000	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.06059
Waste	Clinical Waste - Other	Scope 3	2	tonnes	1000.00000	kg CO2e/tonnes	1.63738
Transport - car	Average car - Diesel	Scope 3	5,611	miles	0.27334	kg CO2e/miles	1.53371
Transport - car	Average car - Petrol	Scope 3	39,907	miles	0.26473	kg CO2e/miles	10.56458
Transport - car	Average fleet car - Battery Electric	Scope 3	150,057	miles	0.00000	kg CO2e/miles	0.00000
Waste	Glass - Recycled	Scope 3	0	tonnes	6.41061	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.00047
Waste	Metal: mixed cans - Recycled	Scope 3	0	tonnes	6.41061	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.00163
Waste	Paper and board: board - Recycled	Scope 3	2	tonnes	6.41061	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.01050
Waste	Plastics: average plastic rigid - Recycled	Scope 3	0	tonnes	6.41061	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.00102
Waste	WEEE - mixed - Landfill	Scope 3	0	tonnes	8.88386	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.00255
Waste	Household/Municipal/Domestic waste	Scope 3	0	tonnes	6.41061	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.00202
Waste	Clinical Waste - Red Stream	Scope 3	0	tonnes	1000.00000	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.22849
Transport - car	Average fleet car - Battery Electric	Scope 3	1,915	miles	0.00000	kg CO2e/miles	0.00000
Transport - car	Average car - Diesel	Scope 3	52,727	miles	0.27334	kg CO2e/miles	14.41240
Transport - car	Average car - Petrol	Scope 3	69,295	miles	0.26473	kg CO2e/miles	18.34447
Transport - car	Average car - Hybrid	Scope 3	3,397	miles	0.20288	kg CO2e/miles	0.68918
Waste	Clinical Waste - Red Stream	Scope 3	0	tonnes	1000.00000	kg CO2e/tonnes	0.22849

3c) General Consumption and export of renewable energy

Technology	Renewable Electricity	
	Total consumed by the body (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)
Air Source Heat Pump		
Solar PV	11,059	

3d) Organisational Targets

Name of target	Type of target	Target	Units	Boundary/scope of target	Year used as baseline
Climate Emergency and Sustainability Strategy	Absolute	All owned properties to be Net Zero by 2025	total % reduction	Energy use in buildings	2015/16
Transport - Electric Vehicles	Absolute	NHS Fleet by 2025	total % reduction	Transport	2015/16

3da) How will the body align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emission reduction targets?

NHS Orkney will take advantage of any external funding that is available for Capital and Revenue.

- 1. Heat Network Fund
- 2. Energy Saving Trust - eBike Grant Fund – Active Travel

- 3. Transport Scotland – Switched on Fleets – Electric Vehicles
- 4. Green Exercise Partnership – Greenspace

3db) How ill the body publish, or otherwise make available, its progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets?

Scottish Government, NHS Assure and NHS Scotland have developed a climate change annual report which will be used by NHS Orkney. This report is available to all NHS staff.

3e) Projects and changes

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity		
Natural gas		
Other heating fuels		
Waste		
Water and sewerage		
Travel		
Fleet transport		
Other (please specify in comments)		

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

Nil return

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

Nil return

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

Nil return

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

Nil return

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

Nil return

Part 4 – Adaptation

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

NHS Orkney have completed the following

- Biodiversity Report
- Climate Change Risk Assessment & Adaptation Plan
- Environmental Management System (in progress)
- Annual Climate Emergency & Sustainability Report

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

NHS Orkney have a Climate Change Risk Assessment & Adaptation Plan which is regularly reviewed

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

NHS Orkney actively promote Earth Hour & encourage recycling

Cycle to work

EV infrastructure

NHS Orkney are reviewing ground maintenance

Have developed green space and installed polytunnels for staff and public

Decarbonising NHS Orkney Estate

Producing Net Zero Route Map

Fleet Decarbonisation

NHS Orkney Sustainability and Environmental Group establishment is making key managers and staff more aware of Climate Change

Ensure full engagement in the participation by all relevant staff in the Climate Change Risk Assessment tool (CCRA)

Ensure business continuity plans (BCP) consider the risks identified within the Climate Change Risk Assessment(CCRA) are considered.

Plans to introduce a celebration garden and green gym

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

NHS Orkney have an established a Sustainability Steering group with representation from all departments

NHS Orkney have a Net Zero Route Map

NHS Orkney have CCRA (which will be reviewed annually)

NHS Orkney's BCPs will reflect the outcomes of the CCRA

NHS Scotland have produced a Climate Emergency and Sustainability Strategy 2022-26

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

Following completion of the Climate Change Risk Assessment template (HFS) and the Climate Change Adaptation Action plan it is targeted to review this annually. The Action plan will be monitored by the NHS Orkney Sustainability Steering Group for progress against the targets on a regular basis and reported to the Finance and Performance Committee on an Annual basis. This Tool is currently projected to be updated on a 3 yearly basis.

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

NHS Orkney Sustainability Steering Group will evaluate and monitor the impact of the climate change adaption plans

NHS Orkney Sustainability Steering Group reports to the Finance and Performance Committee on an annual basis or as required (exception reporting).

NHS Scotland have developed a Climate Change Emergency and Sustainability Strategy and NHS Orkney will consider this and develop its action plan in response to the Strategy and work towards the goals and targets of the strategy

4g) what are the body’s top 5 climate change adaptation priorities for the year ahead?

1. Review the Adaptation Action plan from the Climate Change Risk Assessment Tool and seek support (including resources) from NHS Orkney Board for implementation.
2. Update NHS Orkney Value & Sustainability Development Action Plan and NHS Orkney Waste Management Action Plan to reflect (Climate Change Risk Assessment template and the Sustainability Assessment Tool and the SG Climate Change Strategy 2018-2032).
3. Decarbonise all owned properties by 2025
4. Decarbonising fleet
5. Develop green spaces at all sites

4h) Supporting information and best practice

1. Review the Climate Change Risk Assessment.
2. Review Adaptation Action plans from the Climate Change Risk Assessment Tool

Part 5 – Procurement

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

Procurement Strategy - Scottish Model of Procurement / Supplier's Charter / SFIs / Sustainable Procurement Policy

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

Procurement sits on the NHS Sustainability Group and National Procurement led Sustainability Group for HB's.

The Continual programme to upgrade pool cars to reduce emissions, is ongoing with the purchase of electric vehicles.

NHS Orkney has been successful in being awarded grant funding from SG to help us achieve net zero across our full estate by 2025.

NHS Orkney's catering team strive to procure local produce wherever possible to reduce food miles.

NHS Orkney's Medical Physics Department & Estates are training local staff to provide specialist maintenance services to avoid contractors travelling on island

5c) Supporting information and best practice

Strategy informs, expertise required, specification, criteria including sustainability/community benefits - templates can be provided if required. Follow applicable Regulations/Scottish Government Statutory Guidance/Procurement Journey Best Practice

Part 6 Validation and Declaration

6a) Internal validation process

Much of the information contained within this report is submitted to Scottish Government via the Business Continuity & Whole System Infrastructure Planning, eSight and National Benchmarking.

6b) Peer validation process

Data is reviewed by the Head of Facilities and NPD Contract & the Sustainability Steering Group

6c) External validation process

Nil return

6d) No Validation Process

Nil return

6e) Declaration

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

Name:	Teresa Marwick
Role in the body:	Estates Compliance Officer
Date:	25/09/2025

Date in format (dd/mm/yyyy)

Appendix 3 - Climate Change Duties - Council's draft response details 2024/25

The following pages set out the draft submission for OIC, for 2024-25. Reports for earlier years are published on the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) website <https://sustainableScotlandNetwork.org/reports>. The sections are as follows (for full descriptions, template sections and notes see the link).

- 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

Emissions source/activity		dropd
Owned estate	Are any buildings owned by the public body?	Yes
Natural gas	Is natural gas used to heat any of the owned estate	No
Other heating & fuels	Are other heating fuels used on any of the owned estate	Yes
Managed services	Are building services managed on behalf of another public body that shares or leases space?	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?	No
Purchased heat and steam	Is heat or steam purchased to supply any of the owned estate	No
Fleet and equipment	Are any vehicles or fossil-fueled machinery or equipment owned or leased, excludes short-term or infrequent hires?	Yes
Refrigerants/F-gases	Are there any air conditioning or refrigeration systems that require refrigerant gas top-ups?	Yes
Medical gases	Are medical gases used?	No
Business travel - private	Do staff undertake business travel by private car?	Yes
Business travel - flights	Do staff undertake any business travel by plane?	Yes
Homeworking	Do any staff work from home - including hybrid?	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?	?

PART 1 - Profile of Reporting Body

- 1a) Name – Orkney Islands Council
- 1b) Type – Local Authority
- 1c) Highest number of employees (FTE) in the reporting year – 1629
- 1d) Metrics used by the body – Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide equivalent (TCO2e)
- 1e) Overall budget of the body – £112,303,000
- 1f) Reporting type – Financial year

1g CONTEXT

Orkney Islands Council provides the public with a range of services that are statutorily required of Scotland's local authorities, such as housing, social care, education, waste collection, planning and roads. Orkney Islands Council is also a leading partner in the Orkney Community Planning Partnership, with a statutory duty to facilitate collaboration with other public bodies, local communities, and businesses.

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. 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 several local renewable energy projects including, on and offshore wind, solar, heat, green hydrogen, and tidal innovations. Municipal waste is either recycled or shipped to Shetland for incineration which powers a district heating scheme in the main town of Lerwick.

Priority themes in the Council Plan are built upon 5 core principles, one of which is 'Protecting our Environment and combating Climate Change'. The plan states that these principles will guide future decision making relating to all of the Council's aims. Climate change is therefore embedded 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 in 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.

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. The Council collects emissions data for the college which will be included within its overall net zero projections, however, in relation to annual submissions on Climate Change Duties, emissions from Orkney College are separately reported into the Sustainable Scotland Network platform and are therefore not within this submission.

PART 2- Governance, Management and Strategy

2a) How is climate change governed in 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>

A mid-term review of the Council Plan is to take place during winter 2025-26. This will be an opportunity to update the Climate Change objectives and commitments noted above.

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

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 as and when opportunities have arisen to introduce these across the Council's range of activities. The Council is also a facilitating member of the Orkney Community Planning Partnership which establishes and maintains Orkney's Community Plan. The Council's Corporate risk register has been updated to include Climate Change and is reviewed regularly.

The Council Plan and Delivery Plan, together set out the key priorities for the Council 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/32oprrbo/council_plan.pdf

Climate change strategy within Orkney Islands Council is led by the Council's Climate Strategy Officer, reporting Directly to the Head of Planning and Regulatory Services, forming part of the Infrastructure and Organisational Services Directorate. An officer working group with representation across services and Directorates has been established and is led by this team.

Both the Council's Corporate Asset Management Plan 2019-2023 and its Fleet and Plant Asset Management Plan 2013-2018 highlight energy performance as one of the key drivers which, when correctly interpreted, offer the 'building blocks' for sound decision making. The Corporate Asset Management Plan establishes an asset management framework to drive the development of service plans and promotes the principles of corporate reporting and investment prioritisation.

A Capital Planning and Asset Management Strategy Group provides co-ordination, direction and operational asset management planning; and the Corporate Leadership Team, acting as an Officers' Capital Working Group, provides an oversight of the management of corporate assets within the Council, as well as a decision-making gateway to ensure that management decisions are undertaken in a corporate manner. Significant work is already underway in several of ten sectoral asset categories, where implementation of the energy database system monitoring and recording energy and water usage as part of the carbon emissions reduction programme are included under the Property category.

The Fleet and Plant Asset Management Plan reports on asset management performance, providing energy performance and environmental impact data for the Council's fleet vehicles and plant equipment.

The Council's Economic Development Service promotes innovation in renewable energy generation and usage to support climate change mitigation throughout Orkney. It also, on behalf of the wider Orkney Community, facilitated the consultation and drafting of the Orkney Sustainable Energy Strategy which was launched in September 2017, and which aspires to lead a transition to a low carbon economy.

The Council's Sustainable Procurement Strategy is separately updated in section 5.

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

Wording of objective	Name of document	Document Link
We will work towards becoming net zero	The Council Plan 2023-2028	https://www.orkney.gov.uk/your-council/our-plans/council-plan/
Orkney is on track to become net zero by 2030	The Council Plan 2023-2028	https://www.orkney.gov.uk/your-council/our-plans/council-plan/
We have reduced the carbon used during our direct and indirect activities	The Council Plan 2023-2028	https://www.orkney.gov.uk/your-council/our-plans/council-plan/
We have grown our green and blue economies	The Council Plan 2023-2028	https://www.orkney.gov.uk/your-council/our-plans/council-plan/
Everyone in Orkney has reduced their carbon footprint (the greenhouse gases generated by their actions)	The Council Plan 2023-2028	https://www.orkney.gov.uk/your-council/our-plans/council-plan/
Orkney Islands Council shall be a Net Zero Local Authority, collaborating and innovating for a just transition where Orkney's economy, communities and natural environment all prosper. We will focus on: Action and Ownership, Collaboration and Co-ordination, Transparency and Sustainability (see weblink provided for the full text).	OIC Web Page and Council minutes (Nov 2024) Council Climate Change and Net Zero Vision	https://www.orkney.gov.uk/your-council/our-future/climate-change/

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

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 work is underway including a consultant study, as summarised in a report to the Council's Policy and Resources Committee (September 2024). This study, due to complete winter 2025-26, will establish a baseline assessment together with climate action scenarios and will provide a foundation for future policy and project activities for the Council.

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

Topic area	Name of document	Comments
Adaptation	Local Flood Risk Management Plan	
Business travel	Carbon Management Programme (CMP)	
Staff Travel	CMP	
Energy efficiency	CMP	
Fleet transport	CMP	
ICT	N/A	
Renewable energy	CMP	
Sustainable/renewable heat	CMP	
Waste management	Orkney and Shetland Waste Plan	
Water and sewerage	Kirkwall Surface Water Management Plan	
Land Use	Local Development plan	
Other (please specify in comments)	The Council Plan and the Orkney Local Development Plan	Strategic Plans for the Council including the use of land and buildings
	The Council Delivery Plan	Complements the Council Plan and includes delivery milestones for Climate Change and other strategic aims
	Procurement Strategy 2023-2028	See also section 5 of this submission
	Orkney Flood Risk Management Plan	
Water and sewerage	Orkney Harbours Master Plan	
Other		Ambitious blueprint that provides a framework for the long-term future of the islands, in particular looking at facilities that ensure the decarbonisation of the industry.
Land Use	Verge Maintenance Plan	Inhibit the growth of dangerous weeds (weeds Act 1959), to manage the roadside verges in a manner that promotes biodiversity by conserving, wherever possible, special wildlife habitats and wild flowers.
Transport	Local Transport Strategy	Launched in May 2024
Heat and Energy Efficiency	Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES)	August 2024

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

For the year 2024-25 these include the following –

1. Finalise the Orkney Sustainable Energy Strategy Action Plan and establish an Energy and Enterprise Task group
2. Work towards the Council Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan with the completion of independent consultant study on net zero transition.
3. Commence work on the Coastal Change Adaptation Plan
4. Continue to support the Council's energy efficiency and transition. Examples include building and fleet decarbonisation and the development of community wind projects.
5. Supporting the County's decarbonisation, working with Community Planning partners, Carbon Neutral Islands and through 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?

Not used within the reporting year. 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

In September 2024, the Council's Policy and Resources Committee received a report, updating on the development of the Council's Climate Change Strategy and agreeing a Council vision statement on Climate Change. An independent study has been progressed during 2025 with a final baseline and scenarios report due to be concluded winter 2025-26.

The Council supports the ambition for Orkney as set out by the Orkney Partnership in their Climate Change vision statement.

<https://www.orkney.gov.uk/media/zueasc55/item-13-climate-change-and-net-zero.pdf>

PART 3 - Emissions 3a) and 3b) Tables

Year	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total	Units	Comments
2005/06				-	tCO ₂ e	New Baseline is 2023/24
2006/07	16,202	5,773	549	22,523.90	tCO ₂ e	
2007/08	15,695	5,992	563	22,249.70	tCO ₂ e	
2008/09	15,617	5,606	495	21,717.40	tCO ₂ e	
2009/10	16,251	5,955	550	22,756.80	tCO ₂ e	
2010/11	15,997	5,443	550	21,990.50	tCO ₂ e	
2011/12	15,033	5,507	470	21,010.50	tCO ₂ e	
2012/13	15,853	5,780	428	22,061.50	tCO ₂ e	
2013/14	14,674	6,543	457	21,675.20	tCO ₂ e	
2014/15	16,531	7,030	649	24,209.60	tCO ₂ e	
2015/16	16,293	6,998	692	23,982.50	tCO ₂ e	
2016/17	16,278	5,320	1,049	22,647.30	tCO ₂ e	
2017/18	16,370	4,535	1,128	22,033.10	tCO ₂ e	
2018/19	16,345	3,381	1,023	20,748.30	tCO ₂ e	
2019/20	16,059	2,869	978	19,905.50	tCO ₂ e	
2020/21	14,287	2,743	646	17,676.00	tCO ₂ e	
2021/22	16,267	2,744	723	19,734.00	tCO ₂ e	From this year, additional estimate added for home working
2022/23	15,418	2,584	1,192	19,194.47	tCO ₂ e	Waste and T+D emissions now counted as scope 3
2023/24	13,560.00	2,878.00	5,178.00	21,616.00	tCO ₂ e	New Baseline YEAR - figures now updated / reflect increased scope of GHG inventory
2024/25	14,274.10	2,456.60	4,899.88	21,630.58	tCO ₂ e	

Emission Type	Emission source	Consumption	Units	Emission factor	Units	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity	Electricity: UK	11577298	kWh	0.20705	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	2397.07955	Minus recharge/OIC only
Electricity	Electricity: UK	125,778	kWh	0.20705	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	26.04233	Tenants use
Electricity	Transmission and distribution -	11,703,076	kWh	0.01830	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	214.16629	OIC + Tenants
Fuels	Burning oil (Kerosene)	864,007	litres	2.54015	kg CO ₂ e/litres	2194.70738	
Fuels	LPG	129,086	litres	1.55713	kg CO ₂ e/litres	201.00368	
Transport - car	Average car - Unknown	2,417,776	km	0.16691	kg CO ₂ e/km	403.55099	Commute estimate
Transport - car	Average car - Unknown	971,145	km	0.16691	kg CO ₂ e/km	162.09378	Business
Transport - public	Flights - Domestic, to/from UK -	883,300	passenger.km	0.27257	kg CO ₂ e/passenge	240.76100	
Transport - public	Flights - Long-haul, to/from UK -	127,650	passenger.km	0.20011	kg CO ₂ e/passenge	25.54398	
Transport - public	Ferry - Foot passenger	8417	passenger.km	0.01871	kg CO ₂ e/passenge	0.15748	
Please select from dr	Electricity: UK	9,393,842	kWh	0.20705	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	1944.99499	Social Housing estimate
Fuels	Marine gas oil	3067723	litres	2.77139	kg CO ₂ e/litres	8501.85684	Ferries
Please select from dr	Marine gas oil	525,985	litres	2.77139	kg CO ₂ e/litres	1457.70957	Tugs
Fuels	Marine gas oil	187333	litres	2.77139	kg CO ₂ e/litres	519.17280	H. Craft
Electricity	Electricity: UK	244,048	kWh	0.20705	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	50.53014	Ferries
Electricity	Transmission and distribution -	244,048	kWh	0.01830	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	4.46608	Ferries
Fuels	Aviation spirit	123,500	litres	2.33116	kg CO ₂ e/litres	287.89826	Inter isle
Fuels	Diesel (average biofuel blend)	491,248	litres	2.51279	kg CO ₂ e/litres	1234.40306	Buses
Electricity	Electricity: UK	43,441	kWh	0.20705	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	8.99446	vehicles
Fuels	Diesel (average biofuel blend)	116,598	litres	2.51279	kg CO ₂ e/litres	292.98629	Constn
Fuels	Burning oil (Kerosene)	100,209	litres	2.54015	kg CO ₂ e/litres	254.54589	Kero
Fuels	Gas oil	3,601	litres	2.75541	kg CO ₂ e/litres	9.92223	Constn
Fuels	Diesel (average biofuel blend)	333,174	litres	2.51279	kg CO ₂ e/litres	837.19630	Fleet
Waste	Household/Municipal/Domestic	8,976	tonnes	6.41061	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	57.54164	EFW
Waste	Glass - Landfill	1,341	tonnes	8.88386	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	11.90997	landfill largely inert
Waste	Paper and board: mixed - Recyc	2,587	tonnes	6.41061	kg CO ₂ e/tonnes	16.58425	
Water	Water supply	209,390	cubic metres	0.08000	kg CO ₂ e/cubic me	16.75120	
Water	Water treatment	57,596	cubic metres	0.17000	kg CO ₂ e/cubic me	9.79135	
Homeworking	Homeworking (office equipmen	375,760	FTE Working Hour	0.33378	kg CO ₂ e/FTE Work	125.42117	Estimate
Other	Other (please specify in comments)					69.800	Waste by Sea estimate
Other	Other (please specify in comments)					5.000	F Gas estimate
Other	Other (please specify in comments)					48.000	Isles buses estimate

3c) Generation Consumption and export of renewable energy

Technology	Renewable Electricity		Renewable Heat		
	Total consumed by the body (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	Total consumed by the body (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	Comments
There are 11 categories including ASHP					
Wind	212,093				
Ground Source Heat Pump			2,973,714		10No GSHP installations
Solar PV	238,031				
Water Source Heat Pump			57,628		1No SSHP installations
Air Source Heat Pumps					OIC do not have monitoring equipment on ASHP's
Any others ? Solar Thermal?					

3d) Targets

Name of target	Type of target	Target	Units	Boundary/ scope of target	Year used as baseline	Baseline figure	Units of baseline	Target year
Carbon Managt. Programme	Percentage	42 percent reduction	annual % reduction	Other (please specify in comments)	2005/06	26,136	tonnes	2025/ 26
OIC Council Plan Net Zero		On Course for Net Zero by 2030	Other (please specify in comments)	Other (please specify in comments)	Please select from drop down box		Other (please specify in comments)	2030 /31
Percentage of Council dwellings that are energy efficient	Percentage	90% by 2027/2028	Other (please specify in comments)	Energy use in buildings	2020/21		Please select from drop down box	2027/ 28
CO2 emissions area wide per capita	Other (please specify in comments)	9	Other (please specify in comments)	All emissions	2020/21	11	tonnes	2027 /28
CO2 emissions area wide emissions within scope of Local Authority per capita (in tonnes)	Other (please specify in comments)	4	Other (please specify in comments)	Please select from drop down box	2020/21	5	tonnes	2027 / 28
Percentage of dwellings in Orkney in fuel poverty	Percentage	19	total % reduction	Other (please specify in comments)	2020/21	31	Other (please specify in comments)	2027 /28

3da	How will the body align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emission reduction targets?
	<p>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, Quanterness and Faray. In addition, a further capital spend relates to a replacement energy efficient 40 bed Care home and a new nursery building.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p>

3db	How will the body publish, or otherwise make available, it's progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets?
	<p>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</p> <p>Also, use of branding and Council webspace to communicate Climate Change</p>

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

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity		
Natural gas		
Other heating fuels		
Waste		
Water and sewerage		
Travel		A 50kW vessel charger has been installed in Kirkwall harbour, which is being used to recharge an experimental passenger hydrofoil which it is hoped will be able to add to the Orkney Ferries provision, on completion of the sea trials.
Fleet transport		
Other (please specify in comments)		Street Lighting - Average annual electricity consumption per lantern has reduced from 344kwh in 2014 to 157kwh in 2024. LED now upgraded = 95% of lighting
Any others ?		

3f) Detail Top 10 Carbon Reduction Projects (projects estimated to deliver highest carbon savings during the reporting year)

Project name	Fund source	First full year of CO ₂ e savings	Are these savings figures estimated or actual?	Capital cost (£)	Operation cost £/annum	Project lifetime (years)	fuel/ emission source saved	Estimate carbon savings per year (tCO ₂ e /annum)	Comments
Kirkwall Nursery	Capital Project	2024/25	Estimated	£2,650k	£27k	30yr	Heating Oil	20	New build nursery building incorporating zero direct emission heating and on site renewables. Replaces old oil boiler heated nursery building.
Marine Services Garage	Capital Project	2024/25	Estimated	£340k		30yr	Electricity	3	Refurbishment of lab and office space, installation of 15kW PV panels on roof

3g)	Estimated decrease or increase in the body's emissions attributed to factors (not reported elsewhere in this form) in the report year			
	If the emissions increased or decreased due to any such factor in the report year, provide an estimate of the amount and direction			
	Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO₂e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
	Estate changes		Please select from drop down box	
	Service provision		Please select from drop down box	<p>We are currently trialling an electric bin lorry which is adding to the electrical consumption but saving diesel, early stage of trial so data is not available.</p> <p>We are undertaking sea trials of a new passenger hydrofoil ferry again trial is at early stage and data is not available</p>

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	34	Smiddybrae Care home DHW immersion heater replaced with Water to water heat pump
Other heating fuels	29 10	Hope primary school replacement of oil heating with ASHP Kirkwall Care home new build with GSHP to replace existing building with Oil Fired heating

3i) Estimated decrease or increase in emissions from other sources in the year ahead - If the body'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 (tCO ₂ e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate			Potential to reduce OIC emissions - if any OIC properties are sold / rationalised.

3j) – Total carbon reduction project savings since the start of the year which the body used as a baseline for its carbon footprint - if the body has data available, estimate the total emissions savings made from projects since the start of that year ("the baseline year").

Total savings	Total estimated emissions savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Total project savings since baseline year		This will be updated in 2025/26 submission

3k) Further Information -- Supporting information and best practice -- Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to corporate emissions, targets and projects.

Emissions associated with water and wastewater have now been included in our reporting, in addition waste figures include all waste collected from the Orkney area not just those associated with council activities. We have also received data from the operator of the bus service for the first time and this has proven to be significantly higher than the estimate previously used. The Authority has a contracted independent study in progress that will further address net zero scenarios and projections for Orkney Islands Council. Phase 1 of this study has completed, and this has led to a re-baselining of the Council's emissions inventory. As a consequence, additional emission sources are now being quantified and included within the Council's annual emissions.

PART 4 - Adaptation

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

The Council's Corporate risk register has been updated to include Climate Change. The Council Pension Fund has its own risk register (Risk 19) that includes climate risk and has updated its investment strategy to reflect climate risk modelling.

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.

As part of preparation for the review of the Local Development Plan, work is underway to prepare an Evidence Base Report which includes considering climate related baseline information and summarises the risks from climate change and what the potential implication of these risks could be. This has seen the compilation of existing data sources which are highlighted in the topic paper. Consideration is given in the topic paper to the significant pressures and impacts climate change could have on how we plan future development and highlights potential measures and actions for the next Local Development Plan to address.

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/4ndl1ko1/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 Forum (SFF) inspected and later provided Property Flood Reports for several houses on the Orkney mainland and linked isles. Following the April visit, the South Ronaldsay and Burray Flood Group (SRBFG) was initiated by this community, assisted by SFF. From the summer of 2022, the SRBFG worked, with regular meetings, toward the development of a community flood plan. The community has, as of 2025, not taken the Flood Group forward. However, the template for working relationships and a locally developed flood plan is in place and could be transferable to other at-risk communities around Orkney.

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 the Walk Wheel Cycle Trust. The Council will continue to raise awareness of flood risk at every opportunity, including school visits and at public events in conjunction with partners. The Council will continue to promote the SEPA Flood line in all flood related-press releases.

Marine Spatial Planning Addressing Climate Effects (MSPACE) is a UKRI 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 Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan is a case study within the project. MSPACE utilises state of the art analyses of climate change impact modelling projections to consider how climate change will affect the conservation, fisheries, and aquaculture sectors. The models enable the identification of climate change hotspots for these sectors, where climate pressures drive an ecosystem into a new state beyond its natural variability, and refugia areas that exhibit long term resilience to climate change. When completed in December 2025, the MSPACE programme will include recommendations for climate-smart marine spatial planning which will inform future marine planning in Orkney."

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

The Orkney Islands Regional Marine 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. The draft Plan, and supporting assessments, were deposited for formal public consultation from 1 August to 25 October 2024. A detail consultation analysis has been carried out and the final Plan will be considered for adoption by Scottish Minister in early 2026. 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, 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.

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 OLECG, 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 surface water and flooding guidance to developers in Orkney 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.

Once published, the Orkney Coastal Change Adaptation Plan and the Kirkwall Surface Water Management Plans will manage climate risks associated with coastal flooding and erosion and surface water flooding resulting from increased rainfall, respectively. [?](#)

As part of the Planning Act there is a duty for Local Authority to prepare a Trees and Woodland strategy. A draft Strategy was out for public consultation between January and March 2025. The draft Strategy sets out the multiple benefits obtained from trees and woodland and includes consideration of climate change.

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 (CCAPs). The resulting Coastal Change Adaptation Guidance was published in February 2023. Consultants were appointed and work commenced on the Orkney CCAP in May 2025, with completion anticipated at the end of 2026. This is being 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 OLFRRMP (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.

A Communications and Engagement Plan is being developed alongside ongoing work on the CCAP to enable public agencies, communities, businesses, landowners, and wider stakeholder 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 (KSWMP). Work commenced in August 2024 with completion anticipated by the end of 2025. The KSWMP 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 to inform land use planning. "

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

No further Info added here- See sections 4a-c above also following sections. All sections outline activity that is contributory to the Climate Change Programme.

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

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?

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)

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?

Provide a summary of the areas and activities of focus 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) Continue work towards planned completion of the Coastal Change Adaptation Plan for Orkney in 2026/27

- 3) Publish the Kirkwall Surface Water Management Plan
 - 4) Develop appropriate surface water and flood risk guidance for developers.
 - 5) Continue to engage with key organisations and networks that could support the development of climate change adaptation for the Orkney Islands, pursuing the adaptation ambition in the Council's Climate Change Vision statement.
-

Further information

4h) Supporting information and best practice

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to adaption.

The Council's Climate Change vision statement approved in 2024, includes 'building our resilience and adapting to the changing climate' as a key focus. Adaptation is also a central objective within the Orkney Community Planning Partnership's Climate Change Vision (also agreed in 2024). This calls for 'Orkney to play a leading part in achieving a Just Transition where our economy, communities and natural environment all prosper and benefit, building their resilience, and adapting to the changing climate.'

In November 2024, Orkney Islands Council joined the Public Sector Climate Adaptation Network (PSCAN), which is managed by Adaptation Scotland. This network brings together over 60 public bodies to collaborate, share learning, and benchmark progress on climate change adaptation. PSCAN is a key initiative to help Scotland adapt to climate change by fostering collaboration among public sector organizations.

In April 2024, Orkney Islands Council responded to the Scottish National Adaptation Plan (SNAP 3) consultation, highlighting a range of issues and considerations for islands context. The Council's response to the consultation is available on the Scottish Government Consultation page / Citizen Space.

PART 5 - Procurement

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

Provide information relating to how the procurement policies of the body have contributed to its compliance with climate changes duties.

"The Sustainable Procurement Strategy (December) 2024 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 2024 includes 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 took 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 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.scotland.nhs.uk/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?

Provide information relating to how procurement activity by the body has contributed to its compliance with climate changes 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 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 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 2023 to 2028 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 2023 to 2028 via the Council’s Performance Management System.

5c) Supporting information and best practice

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to procurement.

The current Sustainable Procurement Policy 2024 outlines how the Council takes a responsible and sustainable approach to procurement, is referenced in all procurement documentation and is reviewed as necessary 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 in supply side emission calculations associated with transport and recent large scale capital projects.

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

The validation of data this year has been supported by external consultant study – see below 6C. Narrative contributions are developed and checked, with service leads and relevant officers across the Council.

6b) Peer validation process

N/A see 6C

6c) External validation process

Data validation this year has been assisted through the independent consultancy study, working with Council Officers, to help review the Councils GHG baseline. This has helped in updating some existing data sources (e.g. replacing earlier estimate for buses with fuel data). Some other data sources at this stage are estimates (e.g. commuting). The consultants checked and confirmed some of the Councils calculation methods, such as the approach for calculating an emissions estimate from shipping of waste to Shetland.

6d) No Validation Process

N/A

6e) Declaration

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

To be signed – Director of Infrastructure and Organisational Development

PART 7 - Recommended Reporting – Reporting on Wider Influence

Q1 Historic Emissions (Local Authorities Only)

Local Authority:(Please State)	Orkney Islands									
DESNZ Dataset:(full or sub-set)	Full									
Source	Sector	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Units
DESNZ Sectors	Total Emissions	104.2	99.7	96.8	91.8	81.6	84.9	78.9	74.2	ktCO ₂ e
	Industry and Commercial	12.7	11.4	12.3	11.2	9.3	10.5	9.9	8.9	ktCO ₂ e
	Domestic	53.3	49.6	47.8	45.2	44.0	43.7	38.0	35.4	ktCO ₂ e
	Transport total	38.2	38.6	36.8	35.5	28.3	30.7	31.0	30.0	ktCO ₂ e
	Per Capita	18.7	18.1	17.3	17.1	16.4	16.6	15.9	15.7	ktCO ₂ e

Q2a) Targets - Please detail any wider influence targets

- Orkney is on track to become net zero by 2030 (Council Plan and Delivery Plan)

Q2b) 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 this in the box below.

- The five year Council Plan and Council delivery Plans (2023) - outline the ambition towards net zero in the Orkney Islands. Also, the Orkney Community Planning Partnership Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (2023-2027).

- In 2024 the Council agreed a new vision statement on climate change available to view on the Council's webpage – <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/your-council/our-future/climate-change/>. This link also includes the Orkney Community Planning Partnership's Climate Change Vision Statement (which was also agreed in 2024).
- Orkney Islands Council continues to facilitate and participate in the development of a number of community strategies that have an impact on climate change action in the region.

Q3) Partnership Working, Communications and Capacity Building - Please detail your Climate Change Partnership, Communication or Capacity Building Initiatives below

Description	Orgs project role	Lead Org (if not reporting organisation)	Private Partners	Public Partners	3rd Sector Partners	Outputs	Comments
Supporting the Orkney Partnership	Participant	All Public sector community planning partners		Orkney Islands Council, NatureScot, NHS Orkney	Voluntary Action Orkney (VAO) / OREF	Local Outcome improvement Plan (LOIP) SDDG	In Orkney LOIP delivery groups include a Sustainable Development Group - SDDG with a focus on climate change.
Orkney Energy Stakeholder Group	Participant		EMEC	OIC departments and HIE (also local Universities)	Community Energy Scotland and the Orkney Renewable Energy Forum		OIC 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 it extended membership and formed an (action plan) sub-group
Supporting the Carbon Neutral Islands (CNI) Initiative	Supporting	Scottish Government		All island Local Authorities in Scotland	Community Energy Scotland	Carbon neutral islands by 2040	CNI is a programme for government commitment aimed at supporting six islands to become carbon neutral by 2040. Hoy is one of the six pilots' islands.

Description	Orgs project role	Lead Org (if not reporting organisation)	Private Partners	Public Partners	3rd Sector Partners	Outputs	Comments
Supporting the Islands Centre for Net Zero (ICNZ) ICNZ.org	Participant	N/A	EMEC, Aquatera Heriott-Watt University	Orkney Islands Council, Shetland Islands Council and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	Community Energy Scotland	Net Zero Transition	ICNZ is a pan-island distributed innovation centre, funded through the Islands Deal, that will support Orkney, Shetland and the Outer Hebrides in the energy transition
Net Zero Living / Pathfinder				OIC with partners		Innovate UK funding 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 Net Zero Living programme will run from 1 February 2024 to 31 October 2025.
Active Travel in Orkney	lead			OIC, NHS Orkney, Hitrans,	VAO and Sustrans	We are delivering infrastructure interventions at schools to encourage more children and adults to make every journey through active travel and working to introduce more sustainable travel modes within the Heart of Orkney Neolithic World Heritage Site.	The Council's work in Active travel has continued working with our Transport Partnership HITRANS and the Walk, Wheel and Cycle Trust (formerly known as Sustrans), Historic Environment Scotland and the Community through the activities of the Local Place Plan work.
North Isles Landscape Partnership	Participant	OIC / Historic Environment Scotland		Orkney Islands Council, HIE, RSPB, NatureScot		Various - including North Isles Active Travel, community wildlife recording and educational projects.	https://www.nilps.co.uk/
Orkney Renewable Energy Forum (OREF)		N/A	EMEC / Aquatera		Community Energy Scotland	Various sustainable energy strategies in the area, networking and consultation response.	https://www.oref.co.uk/
Orkney Nature Network and Delivery Group		Lead - OIC Coordinating		OIC as lead, with NHS Orkney, UHI Orkney, Scottish Water, HIAL, NatureScot and Crown Estate		Nature Networks help support a move away from heavily managed spaces to more diverse multifunctional spaces / contribute to biodiversity and carbon sequestration and space for people.	The Scottish Government Scottish Biodiversity Strategy requires every local authority to have a nature network of locally driven projects. A nature network delivery group for Orkney, commenced preparatory work in 2023.

Description	Orgs project role	Lead Org (if not reporting organisation)	Private Partners	Public Partners	3rd Sector Partners	Outputs	Comments
				Scotland as members.			
Arctic including Nordic Atlantic Cooperation and Sisimuit Movement (UNESCO and Government)						Focus on place based sustainable development. Research, Innovation, Community Led Development, its location and experience as 'remote 'islands' and shared cultural heritage are areas that enable opportunities for collaboration and partnership working.	Impact of climate change affects communities globally with the Arctic experiencing some of the biggest changes that will have indirect and significant consequences. The post of Service Manager Sustainable Regeneration and Arctic has 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 Government.
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 .

Other notable reportable activity

Q4) Please detail key actions relating to Food and Drink, Biodiversity, Water, Procurement and Resource Use in the table below

Key Action Type	Key Action Description
Resource Use	Orkney Islands Council is developing Orkney Community Wind Farms to secure a new interconnector for Orkney, to generate significant income and harness Orkney's natural resources. The project consists of three developments – Quanterness, Hoy and Faray. Each wind farm will contain six turbines that are 149 metres in height from base to blade tip. Each of the three sites have up to 30MW consented. Orkney Community Wind Farms
Resource use	In 2024 as part of Net Zero Living Phase 2 Orkney Islands Council received funding to decarbonise transport. This focused on trialling an electric refuse collection vehicle (eRCV) and installation of rapid EV charger infrastructure. Alongside the eRCV funding has also supported the infrastructure install for electric ferry trials which on arrival of the ferries will be minimum three years.
Other	Marine Services are part-funding a PhD student who is analysing historical rocky shore data and collecting current data from set sites in Orkney. The Title of the PhD is: "Rocky shore biodiversity: Separating the effects of anthropogenic impacts from natural variation and climate change impacts" Thomas started the PhD research in October 2024.
Resource Use	Working with Community Planning Partnership, local environment groups and the Highland and Islands Climate Hub, a circular economy initiative commenced in 2024 - initially looking at awareness and local information for promoting reuse and resource efficiency.
Resource Use	The Council works in partnership with Restart who reuse approximately 100 tonnes of material per annum. The Council also works with the Salvation Army who collect textiles for recycling from our Recycling centres.