



Item: 19

Policy and Resources Committee: 25 November 2025.

Climate Change Reporting Duties.

Report by Director of Infrastructure and Organisational Development.

1. Overview

- 1.1. The Council has duties in relation to climate change as set out in Part 4 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and related reporting duties as set out in The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2020 and as further described in this report. Preparation and submission of the annual Climate Change Duties report fulfils the Council's reporting obligations under this legislation.
- 1.2. The Climate Change Duties Report, attached as Appendix 1, summarises actions undertaken by the Council during the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 in order to fulfil its climate change duties.
- 1.3. The Climate Change Duties Report is due for submission to the Scottish Government, via the Sustainable Scotland Network's (SSN) reporting platform, by 30 November 2025. As in previous years, officers will also notify SSN that further confirmation (should this be necessary) will be sent following the General Meeting of the Council to be held on 9 December 2025.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that members of the Committee:
 - i. Approve the Climate Change Duties Report, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, for submission to the Scottish Government, by the deadline of 30 November 2025.

3. Background

- 3.1. In December 2020, an update to the Scottish Government climate change plan 2018-2032 – 'Securing a green recovery on a path to net zero' – legislation was strengthened to require public bodies preparing reports on compliance, with climate change duties to also contain details on the following:

- A target date for achieving zero direct emissions of greenhouse gases or such other targets that demonstrate how the body is contributing to Scotland achieving its emissions reduction targets.
- Any targets for reducing indirect emissions of greenhouse gases.
- How the Council aligns its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emissions reduction targets.
- How the Council will publish or otherwise make available its progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets.
- How the Council is contributing to Scotland's Adaptation Programme.

3.2. The Public Bodies Climate Change reporting mechanism provides a basis for tracking public sector action on climate change and driving continuous improvement. The reporting platform introduces a standard methodology to improve data consistency and includes guidance.

3.3. In February 2025, the Government launched a consultation on draft statutory guidance.

3.4. Orkney Islands Council was one of 83 public bodies that submitted a response to the Scottish Government's consultation on updated statutory guidance for public bodies on their climate change duties. The Council response emphasised a range of issues, including the need for greater inclusion of island-specific examples, particularly regarding fuel poverty, peripherality, and coastal impacts. The response proposed for flexibility in greenhouse gas accounting to reflect local renewable contributions, and the need for clearer, more tailored guidance for smaller public bodies. In September 2025, the Government published an independent review of the consultation responses.

4. Key Points

4.1. Orkney Islands Council has several commitments to Climate Change, and these are progressed in line with the Council's 2023-2028 Delivery Plan. 'Protecting our Environment and combating Climate Change' is included in the Council Plan as one of five core principles. The priority themes in the Council Plan are built upon these core principles, stating that these will guide future decision making relating to all the Council's aims.

4.2. Appendix 1 sets out the draft response content for Orkney Islands Council's annual report on Climate Change duties for the year 2023/24.

- 4.3. This year's draft submission includes a re-baselining of the Council's Greenhouse Gas emissions (starting from the previous year of 2023/24). This revision is in line with good practice and follows directly from the outputs from the Council's independent study (further information on this is available in a separate report). As a result, the Council's emissions record indicates an upward step change in 2023/24 of just over 12% compared to the previous year reporting. It is important to note that this is primarily due to the re-baselining which following the independent study is now more consistent to national guidance. In resetting the base for this year, future reporting will therefore be more accurate / comparable than in the past. Notwithstanding this increase in emissions scope to include new sources, one existing source that shows a significant increase in emissions is public buses. This appears entirely due to improved data (fuel use) in place of an earlier estimate.
- 4.4. Irrespective of re-baselining from 2023/24, this year's report shows that the Council's emissions in 2024/25 are broadly the same as the previous year (new baseline year). This is counter to the trend in recent years of small but regular annual reductions. Emission sources that increased in 2024/25 include ferries, harbour craft, tugs, and construction. This further indicates that the Council will need to identify new means to cut emissions. The next phase of the independent consultant's report will include further information in this respect.

5. Legislative position

- 5.1. The Council has legal duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to contribute to achieving Scotland's national climate change targets. The duties are set out in section 44(1) of the 2009 Act and require that a public body must, in exercising its functions, act –
 - (a) in the way best calculated to contribute to the delivery of emissions reduction targets (i.e. mitigation)
 - (b) in the way best calculated to help deliver any statutory climate change adaptation programme

and do this in a way that it considers most sustainable.
- 5.2. The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2015 mandates annual reporting in respect of the section 44 Climate Change Duties introduced by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

5.3. The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019, and the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, established a legal framework for Scotland's climate change policies and targets. The 2019 Act significantly increased the ambition of Scotland's emissions reduction targets, aiming for net-zero emissions by 2045. As outlined in paragraph 3.1, the Council is required to provide certain additional details in annual reports from reporting year 2021/22 onwards, as part of The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2020.

For Further Information please contact:

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

Implications of Report

1. **Financial:** No financial implications arising directly from the recommendations of the report. Any actions arising from the draft response, attached at Appendix 1, should be met from within existing approved budgets, or from successful external funding applications.
2. **Legal:** None directly
3. **Corporate Governance:** The development and submission of the Council's climate change annual report supports good governance and transparency regarding the Council's progress and performance.
4. **Human Resources:** None directly.
5. **Equalities:** None.
6. **Island Communities Impact:** Not required.
7. **Links to Council Plan:** The proposals in this report support and contribute to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the following Council Plan strategic priorities:
 - Growing our economy.
 - Strengthening our Communities.
 - Developing our Infrastructure.
 - Transforming our Council.
8. **Links to Local Outcomes Improvement Plan:** The proposals in this report support and contribute to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the following Local Outcomes Improvement Plan priorities:
 - Cost of Living.
 - Sustainable Development.
 - Local Equality.
 - Improving Population Health.
9. **Environmental and Climate Risk:** Significant focus for this report

10. **Risk:** None directly. The report appendix section on Adaptation is relevant to Climate Change risks
11. **Procurement:** The report appendix includes procurement updates in the draft submission
12. **Health and Safety:** None directly.
13. **Property and Assets:** None directly
14. **Information Technology:** None directly.
15. **Cost of Living:** None directly

List of Background Papers

Sustainable Scotland Network's Reporting Platform and guidance -

<https://sustainablescotlandnetwork.org/ssn-manual/reporting>

Draft Statutory guidance February 2025 – <https://www.gov.scot/publications/climate-change-duties-draft-statutory-guidance-public-bodies-consultation/documents/>

Independent analysis of the draft statutory guidance consultation responses – September 2025- <https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781806431281>

Appendix

Appendix 1- Climate Change Duties – Council's draft response details for 2024/25.

Appendix 1 - 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?
Natural gas	Is natural gas used to heat any of the owned estate
Other heating & fuels	Are other heating fuels used on any of the owned estate
Managed services	Are building services managed on behalf of another public body that shares or leases space?
Leased premises -public	Are building services managed and provided by another public body?
Leased premises - private	Are building services managed and provided by a private landlord?
Purchased heat and steam	Is heat or steam purchased to supply any of the owned estate
Fleet and equipment	Are any vehicles or fossil-fueled machinery or equipment owned or leased, excludes short-term or infrequent hires?
Refrigerants/F-gases	Are there any air conditioning or refrigeration systems that require refrigerant gas top-ups?
Medical gases	Are medical gases used?
Business travel - private	Do staff undertake business travel by private car?
Business travel - flights	Do staff undertake any business travel by plane?
Homeworking	Do any staff work from home - including hybrid?
Supply chain	Are any goods or services purchased?
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 The Council Delivery Plan	Strategic Plans for the Council including the use of land and buildings Complements the Council Plan and includes delivery milestones for Climate Change and other strategic aims See also section 5 of this submission
Water and sewerage	Procurement Strategy 2023-2028	
Other	Orkney Flood Risk Management Plan Orkney Harbours Master Plan	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/passenger.km	240.76100	
Transport - public	Flights - Long-haul, to/from UK -	127,650	passenger.km	0.20011	kg CO ₂ e/passenger.km	25.54398	
Transport - public	Ferry - Foot passenger	8417	passenger.km	0.01871	kg CO ₂ e/passenger.km	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	Constrn
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	Constrn
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 equipment)	375,760	FTE Working Hour	0.33378	kg CO ₂ e/FTE Wor	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		Comments
	Total consumed by the body (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	Total consumed by the body (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	
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	<p>How will the body align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emission reduction targets?</p>
	<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	<p>How will the body publish, or otherwise make available, its progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets?</p>
	<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 (tCO ₂ e)	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 OLFRMP (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)
- 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	ktCO2e
	Industry and Commercial	12.7	11.4	12.3	11.2	9.3	10.5	9.9	8.9	ktCO2e
	Domestic	53.3	49.6	47.8	45.2	44.0	43.7	38.0	35.4	ktCO2e
	Transport total	38.2	38.6	36.8	35.5	28.3	30.7	31.0	30.0	ktCO2e
	Per Capita	18.7	18.1	17.3	17.1	16.4	16.6	15.9	15.7	ktCO2e

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 Heriot-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. <u>Orkney Community Wind Farms</u>
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.