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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Environment and Regeneration Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>2 March 2017</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Corporate Director, Environment, Regeneration and Resources</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>ER&amp;R/CMT/SJ/</b>
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<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Scottish Government Climate Change Reporting</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the performance data submitted to the Scottish Government with respect of climate change reporting required under the Climate Change (Scotland Act) 2009.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 From December 2015, local authorities, along with other 'major players' in the public sector, are required to report annually on their performance and action with respect to climate change. This falls under the Public Bodies Duties section of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. The Scottish Government provided a reporting template with which climate change information covering 2015/16 was to be reported by end November 2016.
- 2.2 The Council successfully completed the reporting template by the deadline. The data submitted shows that from a baseline of 2012/13, the Council has been reducing its carbon emissions year on year. In 2015/16, the Council showed a reduction in carbon emissions of 22.5% since the baseline. This has mainly been a result of reduced energy consumption in the Council's buildings.
- 2.3 The Scottish Government is currently analysing all submitted reports and is expected to publish a report on this in March 2017. The analysis is expected to influence future policy on climate change. The Council will also receive feedback on its own climate change report.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 It is recommended the Committee note the Council's climate change performance, particularly with regard to the reduction of carbon emissions.

**Stuart W. Jamieson**  
**Head of Regeneration and Planning**

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Up until December 2014, as part of its commitment to the Scottish Climate Change Declaration, the Council voluntarily submitted annual information on its action and performance with respect to climate change to the Sustainable Scotland Network. In 2015 the Scottish Government enacted powers given in the Public Bodies Duties section of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to introduce mandatory annual reporting on climate change for 'major players' in the public sector. Local authorities are deemed to be public sector major players.

## 5.0 THE COUNCIL'S CLIMATE CHANGE PERFORMANCE

5.1 The data submitted by the Council shows that from a baseline of 2012/13, the Council has been steadily reducing its carbon emissions year on year. In 2015/16, the Council had reduced its emissions by 22.5% since 2012/13. The emissions figures within the reporting template are broken down into what are termed 'Scopes'. Scope 1 refers to 'direct' emissions from, for example, the use of natural gas for heating; Scope 2 refers to 'indirect' emissions in the form of electricity use; Scope 3 refers to indirect emissions from, for example, the use of water, business travel by employees and waste. With regard to Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions, the Council has performed well reducing these by around 25%. With regard to Scope 3 emissions, these show an increase of around 15%. However, emissions are more heavily weighted towards Scopes 1 and 2 and, therefore, the high overall reduction figure.

5.2 The Council has managed to reduce its Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions through a range of measures. In particular, its building rationalisation and new build/refurbishment programme has reduced the number of operational buildings alongside improving energy efficiencies of its building portfolio. The Council is also replacing its street lamps with LEDs that use around half the electricity of the previous lamps.

5.3 The Scottish Government received 145 completed reporting templates from the 150 public sector bodies to which mandatory reporting was applicable. Analysis of the information provided in the reports is being carried out with a subsequent report expected in March or April. The Council has also requested individual feedback on its own report submission. The analysis will be used by the Scottish Government to inform the future direction of climate change policy and legislation and funding and support programmes.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

### Finance

6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

#### Financial implications

##### One off costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

##### Annually Recurring Costs/Savings

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From	Other Comments
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

## **Legal**

6.2 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

## **Human Resources**

6.3 There are no direct human resource implications arising from this report.

## **Equalities**

6.4 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

## **Repopulation**

6.5 There are no direct repopulation implications arising from this report.

## **7.0 CONSULTATIONS**

7.1 The data provided in the reporting template was derived from consulting relevant Council staff and partner organisations.

7.2 **Chief Financial Officer:** no requirement to comment.

7.3 **Head of Legal and Property Services:** no requirement to comment.

7.4 **Head of Organisational Development, HR and Communications:** no requirement to comment.

## **8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 The completed Scottish Government climate change reporting template for the Council.