



April 25th, 2024

Chairperson: Councillor C McCready

Vice-Chairperson: Councillor R Carlin

Aldermen: J Baird, M Gregg, S Skillen, J Tinsley

Councillors: S Burns, P Catney, G Hynds, P Kennedy, J Lavery BEM, A McIntyre, M McKeever, R McLernon, N Parker

Ex Officio:

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan

Deputy Mayor, Councillor G McCleave

Notice Of Meeting

A meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Committee will be held on **Wednesday, 1st May 2024 at 6:00 pm** for the transaction of the undernoted Agenda.

For those Members attending this meeting remotely, the Zoom details are included in the Outlook invitation that has been issued.

Hot Buffet will be available in Members Suite from 5.15pm for Committee Members.

David Burns
Chief Executive

Agenda

1.0 Apologies

2.0 Declaration of Interests

- (i) conflict of interest on any matter before the meeting (Members to confirm the specific item)
- (ii) pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest (Member to complete disclosure of interest form)

3.0 Report by the Acting Director of Environmental Services

3.1 LHLH / KNIB – Small Grants Funding 2023 / 2024 Report

For Noting

- 📄 *Item 3.1- LHLH-KNIB- Small Grants Funding.pdf* *Page 1*

- 📄 *Item 1 ADES - LHLH-KNIB Small Grants Funding Report 2023 - 2024.pdf* *Page 3*

3.2 Change to June 2024 Environment & Sustainability Committee Start Time

For Decision

- 📄 *Item 3.2 - Report June Committee Date Change.pdf* *Page 9*

4.0 Report by the Head of Service (Building Control and Sustainability)

4.1 Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024

For Noting

- 📄 *Item 4.1 - BC Report - Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations NI 2024 (Copy 2).pdf* *Page 11*

- 📄 *Item 4.1 - Appendix 1BC - Letter to Specified Bodies - The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024.PDF* *Page 13*

- 📄 *Item 4.1 - Appendix 2BC - Letter to Specified Bodies - Annex A - The Climate Change (Reporting bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024.pdf* *Page 16*

- 📄 *Item 4.1 - Appendix 3BC - Letter to Specified Bodies - Annex B (FAQs) The Climate Change (Reporting bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024.PDF* *Page 22*

5.0 Report by the Acting Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk and Emergency Planning)

5.1 Eat Well Spend Less Event

For Noting

📄 *Item 5.1 - EH Report - Eat Well Spend Less Event.pdf*

Page 32

6.0 Confidential Report from the Acting Director of Environmental Services

6.1 Tender for the provision of a service for the recycling and recovery of residual and bulky waste from Council Household Recycling Centres (Ref STA23/24-043)

For Decision

Confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

7.0 Any Other Business



Committee:	Environment & Sustainability
Date:	1 st May 2024
Report from:	Acting Director of Environmental Services

Item for:	Noting
Subject:	LHLH / KNIB – Small Grants Funding 2023 / 2024 Report

1.0	<p><u>Context</u></p> <p>Since 2018 Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council annually invests £20,000 to the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful (KNIB) ‘Live Here Love Here’ (LHLH), campaigns which includes a Small Grants Scheme open to volunteer groups who wish to complete an environmental or community improvement project in their local area. A total of up to £10,000 of LCCC’s investment is redistributed in grants to community groups in the Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council area. The remaining funding is directed towards collaborative campaign communications, annual third party media impact research and contribute to the support Lisburn and Castlereagh community groups receive through the NI wide campaigns that are delivered under the Live Here Love Here umbrella such as the BIG Spring Clean and Adopt A Spot.</p> <p>This report provides an update in respect of how the Council’s investment to the KNIB grant scheme was allocated and includes a brief description of some of the projects undertaken by the various volunteer groups across the City.</p>
2.0	<p><u>Background and Key Issues</u></p>
2.1	<p>The LHLH / KNIB Small Grants Scheme has successfully supported 89 groups to deliver green-up projects in their area, to the value of £113,760.00.</p>
2.2	<p>Locally, this is what it means to Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council. For 2023 / 2024 funding was provided for 6 community groups through the Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme totalling £7,107 (as detailed in Appendix 1 ADES)</p>
2.3	<p>The LHLH Manager had advised that it was a great pleasure to deliver the small grants scheme for another successful year. With the support from the grant partners, we are delighted to provide funding to so many community groups. The Small Grants Scheme is a fantastic opportunity for grassroots organisations to access the funding they need to create and develop green spaces that forward solutions to our pollution, nature and climate crises.</p>
3.0	<p><u>Recommendation</u></p> <p>It is recommended that Members note the attached appendix – Appendix 1 ADES – which provides the project summary, funding for and impact for the six community groups.</p>

4.0	<p><u>Finance and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>	
5.0	<p><u>Equality/Good Relations and Rural Needs Impact Assessments</u></p>	
5.1	Has an equality and good relations screening been carried out?	No
5.2	<p>Brief summary of the key issues identified and proposed mitigating actions <u>or</u> rationale why the screening was not carried out</p>	
5.3	Has a Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) been completed?	No
5.4	<p>Brief summary of the key issues identified and proposed mitigating actions <u>or</u> rationale why the screening was not carried out.</p>	

Appendices:	Appendix 1 ADES
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Small Grants Funding 2023/24 Report

The Small Grants Scheme successfully supported 89 groups to deliver green-up projects in their area, to a value of £113,760.00

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council investment for 2023/24 provided funding for 6 community groups through the Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme:

LHLH Code	Council	Amount Offered	Amount Paid	Group name
LCC-087	Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council	1290	935.52	St. John's Parish Church, Upper Kilwarlin
LCC-089	Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council	785	782.65	Newtownbreda Community Association
LCC-094	Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council	2000	2000	Crewe United FC
LCC-095	Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council	700	700	Old Warren Community Association
LCC-096	Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council	1560	1524	Killowen Primary School
LCC-098	Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council	1165	1165	The Friends of Parkview

St Johns Parish Church Upper Kilwarlin

Project Summary: To further bond the community and encourage elderly and young to plant and celebrate nature together, a small fund would go a long way to improve this neglected space.

Funding for: Land clearance, soil, wildflower planting, tools & bins

Impact

This was a country road had become a dumping ground for DFI and telecommunication installers. It was not maintainable and with help from LHLH it is now a beautifully manicured bus top for a dozen daily users, it has road signs lit and lawn with seasonal bulbs and flowers to attract insects and a better sense of well-being for the community.

- **No of Volunteers: 8**
- **Volunteer Hours worked: 40**
- **Land area improved: 0.25 acres**



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Newtownbreda Community Association

Project Summary: Our established garden requires a more efficient watering/ irrigation system.

Funding for: Water irrigation system

Impact

This Irrigation Project has enhanced the upkeep of our garden and enabled us to grow a successful crop of tomatoes, peppers and salad vegetation throughout the summer. It has released our volunteers to make better use of their time learning and passing on new gardening skills to our diverse community.

- **No of Volunteers: 50**
- **Volunteer Hours worked: 500**
- **Land area improved: 0.2 acres**

Crewe United FC

Project Summary: We have been building a biodiversity space at our club over the past 2 years. As part of that project we have established a wildflower meadow, allotments, planted c3000 new trees and hedgerows and linked in to strategies such as the All Ireland Pollinator strategy etc. to increase the amount and diversity of species at our site. This project would see the planting of 2,500 additional trees at our club as part of our Environmental Plan for the site.

Funding for: Native trees (2500)

Impact

The location of this natural heritage project is a piece of land that was acquired by the club 2 years ago. It was marshy, boggy land with little use, even for agriculture. With this project we extending the service provision which is much needed in the local community.

It has helped turn the site into an area that is accessible to all, and provide ownership and pride to the local community through allotment use, the volunteer group set up, being able to take walks and enjoy the environment through the project.

The project will continue to improve mental health and well-being, include older people within our users, promote positive physical health through the walking trail created using the trees and our



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project contributing to these aims is important to us.

The projects allow us to link with the many local schools to assist them with learning about our natural heritage and biodiversity and seeing at first hand the project we will develop and the wide variety of native species that we are enhancing.

- **No of Volunteers: 546**
- **Volunteer Hours worked: 273**
- **Land area improved: 1 acre**

Old Warren Community Association

Project Summary: Raised beds at 3D Youth Centre be planted out with flowering plants to help pollinators for insects connect the young people to nature-based activities. Young people will run a mini pilot project for young people to build wooden planters with the support of the men's and hens shed which will be filled with flowers that can be donated to vulnerable people, including older people, in community.

Funding for: Bulbs, compost and planters

Impact

This project has been good to give young people a sense of environment - during the project the River Lagan flooded so we had to plant at the youth centre and then will locate at the community garden when it is cleared. It was great and we had a volunteer who worked for Groundwork so was excellent!

- **No of Volunteers: 4**
- **Volunteer Hours worked: 12**
- **Land area improved: 1 acre**





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Killowen Primary School

Project Summary: Our project consists of fixing the school's Market Garden area, primarily repairing the twelve-year-old polytunnel which has suffered two large tears in the past year and has weakened substantially. Additionally, we require hard-core stones to replace the paths in the Market Garden area, as new paths have been created and we have not had the funds to fully complete them.

Funding for: Polytunnel and stones for pathway

Impact

This grant has allowed us to redevelop our garden area into a safe and clean area to teach the children how to grow and take care for plants, compost materials and gets the children out of the classroom to learn outdoors. The impact will be that the children learn more about the world around them and develop an interest in environmental issues.

- **No of Volunteers: 30**
- **Volunteer Hours worked: 10**
- **Land area improved: 1 acre**



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The Friends of Parkview

Project Summary: On completion of our previous major project within the school grounds of installing 2 forest school sites, we recognised that one area adjacent to the Senior Forest School had similar potential to be rejuvenated. Clearing two sheds and a greenhouse from a wheelchair access pathway highlighted the potential to add raised growing beds along the forest school fence line where nothing currently grows. This would create an opportunity for the planting of a sensory wildlife corridor which would enhance the pupil's experience of transitioning to the forest school site.



Funding for: Planters, decking planters, sensory plants and fruit bushes, accessible potting benches



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Impact

This project has enhanced a disused growing garden of the school. Specifically it has created a social area for the older pupils aged 16-19 where they can learn to grow their own food, cook with it and donate their produce to the local community. As our school is for pupils with severe needs we've kept this as appealing to the pupils as possible - growing mostly fruit bushes and herbs and raising the raised beds for wheelchair users.

- **No of Volunteers: 30**
- **Volunteer Hours worked: 60**
- **Land area improved: 0.5 acre**

"It's been a great pleasure to deliver the Small Grants Scheme for another successful year. With support from the grant partners, we are delighted to provide funding to so many community groups. The Small Grants Scheme is a fantastic opportunity for grassroots organisations to access the funding they need to create and develop green spaces that forward solutions to our pollution, nature and climate crises.Lynda Surgenor, LHLH Manager

The LHLH & KNIB team look forward to your continued support.

Committee:	Environmental & Sustainability
Date:	1 May 2024
Report from:	Director of Environmental Services (Acting)

Item for:	Decision
Subject:	Change to June 2024 Environmental & Sustainability start time
1.0	<p><u>Background</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The regular scheduled monthly Regeneration and Growth Committee coincides with the Council's proposed D-Day celebrations in June. 2. In liaison with Members' Services and the Director of Regeneration and Growth, it has been suggested that the June meeting of the Regeneration and Growth Committee be rescheduled to 7pm, following the meeting of the Environmental and Sustainability Committee. 3. To facilitate a 7pm start of the Regeneration and Growth Committee, Members are being asked to agree that the Environmental and Sustainability commence at 5.30pm to allow business to conclude prior to the rescheduled Regeneration and Growth Committee. <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Within the Standing Orders the determination of date and time of Committee is for the Committee to determine. Thus, to alter the commencing times of the other Committees would require agreement across both Committee memberships. 2. The Director of Environmental Services has reviewed the schedule for the Environmental and Sustainability Committee for June and it would appear that a 7pm commencement time for the Regeneration and Growth Committee can be accommodated.
2.0	<p><u>Recommendation</u></p> <p>It is recommended that the Committee approve a 5.30pm start time for the Environmental and Sustainability Committee on Wednesday 5 June 2024 to facilitate the rescheduled Regeneration and Growth Committee starting at 7pm on the same evening to accommodate D-Day celebrations.</p>
3.0	<p><u>Finance and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>No additional resource implications.</p>
4.0	<p><u>Equality/Good Relations and Rural Needs Impact Assessments</u></p>

4.1	Has an equality and good relations screening been carried out?	No
4.2	Brief summary of the key issues identified and proposed mitigating actions or rationale why the screening was not carried out Change of Committee start time request only.	
4.3	Has a Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) been completed?	No
4.4	Brief summary of the key issues identified and proposed mitigating actions or rationale why the screening was not carried out. Change of Committee start time request only.	

Appendices:	None
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Committee:	Environment & Sustainability
Date:	1 st May 2024
Report from:	Head of Service – Building Control & Sustainability

Item for:	Noting
Subject:	Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024

1.0	<u>Background and Key Issues</u>
1.1	The Council received correspondence from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) on 12 th April 2024 indicating that under the terms of section 42 of the Climate Change Act (NI) 2022 it would be laying the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024 before the Northern Ireland Assembly at the earliest opportunity. See Appendix 1BC for the full correspondence.
1.2	It is anticipated that the Regulations will come into operation in May 2024 with ‘a district council’ being included within the Schedule of Reporting Bodies.
1.3	The Regulations sets a requirement and reporting timelines for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change adaptation reports – first report to be submitted to the Department by 31st March 2026. • Climate change mitigation reports – first report to be submitted to the Department by 31st October 2025.
1.4	The Regulations set out what is required to be contained within those reports, the recurring timeframes and submission dates. The Regulations are attached in Appendix 2BC for Members information.
1.5	Development of an online portal with appropriate training is also to be provided, the Department refers to Question 5 of the Frequently asked Questions which indicates provision of support. FAQ is attached in Appendix 3BC for Members information.
1.6	DAERA has indicated that they will provide guidance through ‘co-design’ with public bodies to enable these bodies to collect and produce the necessary data and reports.
1.7	The nominated Council Officers look forward to the continued engagement with DAERA, along with our partners, in relation to the co-designing of requirements including support from the Department to deliver on the Regulations.
1.8	Officers will use the opportunity through this engagement, to again, raise with the Department, financial support for implementing and the ongoing requirements for these duties in Public Body Reporting.

2.0	<p><u>Recommendation</u></p> <p>It is recommended that Committee notes the report in relation to the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024 and the legislative dates for submission of adaptation and mitigation reports.</p>	
3.0	<p><u>Finance and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are financial implications for councils in complying with the Regulations. The compiling of the reports, action plans and annual GHG measurement will involve considerable Officer time. The full scale of the commitment required is not fully understood as yet.</p>	
4.0	<p><u>Equality/Good Relations and Rural Needs Impact Assessments</u></p>	
4.1	Has an equality and good relations screening been carried out?	No
4.2	<p>Brief summary of the key issues identified and proposed mitigating actions or rationale why the screening was not carried out</p> <p>Third party/ Central Government Legislation</p>	
4.3	Has a Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) been completed?	No
4.4	<p>Brief summary of the key issues identified and proposed mitigating actions or rationale why the screening was not carried out.</p> <p>Third party/ Central Government Legislation</p>	

<p>Appendices:</p>	<p>Appendix 1BC – Covering Letter from department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs</p> <p>Appendix 2BC – Regulations – The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024</p> <p>Appendix 3BC – Frequently Asked Questions and Answers</p>
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Climate Change and Science Innovation Group

Climate Change and Green Growth Policy Division

Your reference
Our reference



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Climate Change and Green Growth
Policy Division

Clare House

303 Airport Road West

Sydenham Intake

Belfast BT3 9ED

Telephone: 028 90524561

Email: jane.corderoy@daera-ni.gov.uk

12th April 2024

Dear Public Body,

Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024 – New Climate Change Reporting Duties for Your Organisation

I am writing to confirm with you that your public body organisation is specified as a 'Reporting Body' within the Schedule of the attached draft Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024, as having climate change reporting duties placed upon it.

A copy of the draft Regulations, which have recently been agreed by the Northern Ireland Executive, is attached in Annex A for your information. The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs ('DAERA') intends to make and lay these Regulations at the earliest opportunity in the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Annex B of this letter contains some frequently asked questions and corresponding answers for your information on what the Regulations require and what they mean for you which we hope will address any immediate concerns that you may have.

Context

Making and bringing into operation these Regulations delivers on DAERA's legal requirement to do so under section 42 of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 ('the Act'). The Regulations put in place a climate change reporting framework for the specified public bodies, which can enable them to take informed, and timely climate action. The aim of this is to make public bodies more sustainable and give them the

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opportunity to provide a positive example and exploit the opportunities that early and effective climate action can deliver.

Operational date of the Regulations, and when reporting is required.

The Regulations will come into operation in early May 2024, 21 days after they are laid by DAERA in the Northern Ireland Assembly. The duties placed on the scheduled list of public bodies cover climate change reporting requirements on both adaptation and mitigation. However, reporting by public bodies will not be required immediately and they will not be required at exactly the same time. The first mitigation report by the public bodies will be required to be submitted to DAERA by October 2025. The first adaptation report is not due until March 2026. Mitigation reports will then be required on a 3-yearly cycle, and the adaptation reports will be required on a 5-yearly cycle.

The timing and frequency of reporting is to allow, and enable, your organisation to collect the necessary data, and for DAERA to develop and provide practical support to help you and the other organisations specified in the Regulations to report.

Support will be provided by DAERA through the provision of guidance co-designed with public bodies themselves. DAERA is also working on developing a reporting template which will again be informed by and co-designed with the specified public bodies. Training and an online portal for reporting bodies will also be put in place to make the process as straightforward as possible. Further information on timings and frequency of reporting is in Annex B at Question 6, and 'support' to public bodies at Question 9.

Consultation, and pre-consultation engagement

Your organisation had been previously contacted by DAERA regarding our consultation (which ran for an extended 10-week period from March 2023 until June 2023) on the development and making of these Regulations. The consultation can be found at Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations. The summary of responses received to the consultation can be found at Summary of Responses and Next Steps: Consultation on Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations. This summary of responses document also includes the detail on, and the outcome of, DAERA's pre-consultation engagement workshops undertaken with public bodies in the later quarter of 2022 which informed the development and content of the consultation.

Reporting Bodies

The Act does not require all public bodies to have reporting duties placed on them by the Regulations. A balanced approach has been applied to these first set of Regulations to minimise the risk of undue burden, by requiring only those public bodies which are large-sized organisations to report (40 organisations in total, which can be viewed [here](#)). Large-sized public bodies are more likely the highest emitters, and they can help most in contributing to ensuring a climate resilient and sustainable Northern Ireland, while also having the capacity to deliver on reporting requirements and show leadership in climate action. Details of the definition of a 'public body' under the meaning of the Act, and the criteria used to identify who should be required to report under this first set of Regulations, is detailed in the attached Annex B at Question 5.

Please note that DAERA is committed to reviewing these first set of Regulations, at a future point, to explore expanding them through amending regulations, including the

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scope of bodies required to report. In the interim the Department intends to promote voluntary reporting from those public bodies not specified in the Regulations. It is clear from the consultation that there are many public body organisations that are keen to assess and report on their climate change risks, and actions to address these risks and reduce their emissions, including developing adaptation and mitigation plans. However, not all of these organisations come within scope of these first set of Regulations. The voluntary reporting is therefore a way for those bodies, that are not specified in the regulations, to develop their experience and skills for reporting.

What does DAERA require from you now?

After the Regulations are laid, DAERA's preparation work will then commence on the co-design of technical guidance including a reporting template, development of an online portal, and development and provision of training, to help public bodies meet their reporting duties.

In the interim, we would be grateful if you could please provide DAERA (at: climatechangediscussion@daera-ni.gov.uk), with the name and contact details of a nominated person(s) for your organisation for future direct engagement on matters regarding the requirements set by the Regulations.

DAERA looks forward to working with you on these important matters. Reporting will give the bodies an opportunity to show continued leadership on climate action within the public sector, providing positive examples and shared learning of what effective climate action can deliver, which is benefit to us all. If you have any issues or queries about these matters, you can contact the Public Body Reporting team at climatechangediscussion@daera-ni.gov.uk, or please call Arlene McGowan on (028) 9056 9484.

Yours faithfully,



Jane Corderoy

Director

Climate Change and Green Growth Policy Division

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 STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2024 No. [TBC]**CLIMATE CHANGE****The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024***Made* []2024*Coming into operation* []2024

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 42(1) of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022⁽¹⁾.

In accordance with subsection (7) of that section the Department has consulted such public bodies, and such other persons, as it considered appropriate before making these Regulations.

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024.

(2) These Regulations come into operation on _____ [NOTE: a date 21 days after the Regulations are laid in the Assembly will be entered here].

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations—

“climate change adaptation report” means a report under regulation 4;

“climate change mitigation report” means a report under regulation 5;

“publish” means publish in electronic form;

“reporting body” means a body specified in the Schedule;

“sent” means sent in electronic form.

⁽¹⁾ 2022 c. 31

Reporting bodies

3.—(1) The Schedule (reporting bodies) has effect.

(2) Reporting bodies are specified public bodies for the purposes of section 42(1) of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022.

Climate change adaptation reports

4.—(1) Every reporting body must prepare reports which include—

- (a) an assessment of the current and predicted impact of climate change in relation to its functions;
- (b) a statement of the body's proposals and policies for adapting to climate change in the exercise of its functions;
- (c) a statement of the time-scales for implementing those proposals and policies; and
- (d) an assessment of the progress made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any previous climate change adaptation report.

(2) The first report must relate to the period of four years beginning with 1st January 2026.

(3) Subsequent reports must relate to the period of five years beginning immediately after the end of the period to which the previous report relates.

(4) Reports must be prepared and sent to the Department not later than one month after the end of the period to which the previous report relates, or in the case of the first report 31st March 2026.

Climate change mitigation reports

5.—(1) Every reporting body must prepare reports which include—

- (a) a statement, in respect of each of the three preceding financial years, of the amounts and the sources of the body's greenhouse gas emissions;
- (b) a statement of the body's proposals and policies for reducing those amounts and otherwise for mitigating the effects of climate change in the exercise of its functions;
- (c) a statement of the time-scales for implementing those proposals and policies; and
- (d) an assessment of the progress made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any previous climate change mitigation report.

(2) A report must, unless the Department otherwise agrees, use—

- (a) as the reporting body's greenhouse gas baseline year the financial year ending 31st March 2025, and
 - (b) as the reporting body's baseline greenhouse gas emission amounts the amounts in that year.
- (3) The first report must be prepared and sent to the Department not later than 31st October 2025.
- (4) Subsequent reports must be prepared and sent to the Department every third year not later than 31st October.
- (5) In relation to the first report—
- (a) paragraph (1)(a) has effect as if the words “each of the three preceding financial years” were “the financial year ending 31st March 2025”;
 - (b) paragraph (2) does not apply.
- (6) References in this regulation to a financial year are to be construed in accordance with section 39(6)(e) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954⁽²⁾ whether or not a body uses that financial year.

Guidance

- 6.—(1) The Department may issue guidance to reporting bodies on their functions under these Regulations.
- (2) The Department may publish any guidance issued under paragraph (1).

Matters to which reporting bodies must have regard

7. Reporting bodies must have regard to (among other things) the following, so far as relevant—
- (a) the most recent report under section 56 of the Climate Change Act 2008⁽³⁾ (report on impact of climate change);
 - (b) the most recent programme under section 60 of that Act (programme for adaptation to climate change for Northern Ireland);
 - (c) the desirability of co-ordinating the proposals and policies referred to in regulation 4(1)(b) or 5(1)(b) with corresponding proposals and policies in other parts of the United Kingdom, in the Republic of Ireland or elsewhere; and
 - (d) guidance under regulation 6.

⁽²⁾ 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)

⁽³⁾ 2008 c. 27

Co-operation in preparation of reports

8. A reporting body or any other public body may co-operate with another reporting body in the preparation of a report under these Regulations.

Joint reports

9. Two or more reporting bodies may prepare a joint report under these Regulations.

Corrected reports

10. – (1) If it appears to a reporting body or to the Department that a report sent to the Department by the reporting body requires correction, the reporting body must send a corrected report to the Department as soon as practicable.

(2) A corrected report must state the reasons for each correction.

Publication of reports

11. Every reporting body and the Department must publish any report sent by the reporting body to the Department under these Regulations.

*A senior officer of the
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs*

Regs. 2, 3(1)

SCHEDULE REPORTING BODIES

Education

Education Authority

An institution of further education within the meaning of Article 2(2) of the Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 ⁽⁴⁾

Queen's University of Belfast

University of Ulster

Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment

Health and social care

A Health and Social Care Trust

Regional Agency for Public Health and Social Well-being

Regional Business Services Organisation

Miscellaneous

Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute

Board of Trustees of the National Museums and Galleries of Northern Ireland

A district council

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Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service

Northern Ireland Housing Executive

Northern Ireland Library Authority ("Libraries NI")

Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company

Northern Ireland Water Limited

Police Service of Northern Ireland

Probation Board for Northern Ireland

⁽⁴⁾ S.I. 1997/1772 (N.I. 15)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations specify certain public bodies (“reporting bodies”) for the purposes of section 42(1) of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (regulation 3 and the Schedule).

Regulation 4 requires a reporting body to prepare prospective reports on how it is adapting to climate change in the exercise of its functions (a “climate change adaptation report”). The first report covers the four years beginning 1st January 2026 and subsequent reports cover periods of five years.

Regulation 5 requires a reporting body to prepare a report every three years on how it is reducing its greenhouse gas emissions and otherwise mitigating the effect of climate change in the exercise of its functions (a “climate change mitigation report”).

Regulation 6 enables the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to issue guidance to reporting bodies on their functions under these Regulations.

Regulation 7 requires reporting bodies to have regard to certain matters including the most recent report on the impact of climate change under section 56 of the Climate Change Act 2008 and the most recent programme for adaptation to climate change under section 60 of that Act.

Regulation 8 provides for co-operation in the preparation of reports and regulations 9 and 10 provide for joint reports and corrected reports.

Regulation 11 requires any report sent by a reporting body to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs under these Regulations to be published in electronic form by the reporting body and by the Department.

Annex B**The Climate Change (Reporting bodies) Regulations 2024: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers****Index:**

- Question 1: Why are the Regulations being brought forward?
- Question 2: When and how often will reporting be required?
- Question 3: What information will the reports need to contain?
- Question 4: What are the other requirements/allowances set by the Regulations?
- Question 5: What support will be provided to you for meeting your reporting duties, and when?
- Question 6: Why must the Regulations wait for 21 days before coming into operation, after they are made and laid in the Assembly?
- Question 7: How were the Regulations informed?
- Question 8: What was the UK Climate Change Committee's advice to DAERA?
- Question 9: What criteria was used to identify which organisations should be specified to have climate change reporting duties placed on them by the Regulations?
- Question 10: Will other public bodies be required to report in the future?
- Question 11: What next?

Question 1: Why are the Regulations being brought forward?

Ans: Section 42 of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 ('the Act') requires DAERA to make new Regulations, which will place climate change reporting duties on specified public bodies. The Regulations are crosscutting and so the content of the Regulations in **Annex A** has been agreed by the Northern Ireland Executive, who have also agreed that DAERA should make and lay them in the Assembly and bring them into operation.

Question 2: When and how often will reporting be required?

Ans: There are two types of reports which you will be required to provide under your reporting duties set by the Regulations, and these are - 'climate change mitigation' reports and 'climate change adaptation' reports. The required content of these reports is discussed in question 3 below. Detailed guidance, which will be co-designed with reporting bodies, and training, will be provided to you on the requirements and on how to meet your reporting duties.

The timings and frequency of reporting are set in the Regulations (Annex A), specifically regulation 4 for adaptation, and regulation 5 for mitigation.

The following provides an explanation of the timings and frequency of reports:

Regulation 4: Adaptation Reports

- Your first 'adaptation report' **must be submitted to DAERA by 31st March 2026** (the period which the first report will cover is 4 years* beginning from 1st January 2026).
- Your second and subsequent adaptation reports will be on a 5-yearly cycle*.
- Your second adaptation report will therefore begin from 1st January 2030, and must be submitted to DAERA by 31st January 2030.
- Your third adaptation report will begin from 1st January 2035. This third report must be submitted to DAERA by 31st January 2035; and so on for subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports.

*[*N.B. The frequencies and timings are set to align with, in order to aim to inform, the development of the 5-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessments which are required under the UK Climate Change Act 2008 – these risk Assessments include detail on the current and projected climate change risks and impacts to Northern Ireland (see question 10 for more detail).]*

Regulation 5: Mitigation Reports

- Your mitigation reports will be on a 3-yearly cycle.
- Your **first ‘mitigation report’ must be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2025.**
- Your second mitigation report must therefore be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2028.
- Your third mitigation report must be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2031, and so on for subsequent reports every 3 years.

Question 3: What information will the reports need to contain?

Ans: The Regulations (Annex A) set the requirements on what your reports must contain. The requirements are set under regulation 4(1) which relates to adaptation, and regulation 5(1) which relates to mitigation. Please note that DAERA intends to develop and co-design guidance with reporting bodies to help them meet their reporting duties. This will include technical detail and guidance on what is reported, and how it is reported, for both adaptation and mitigation. Further detail on support to be provided to you to help you to meet your reporting duties is discussed under question 5.

Adaptation reports

The first (4 year) adaptation report, and the subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports are required to include your public body's:

- (i) current and predicted impact of climate change in relation to its functions; and
- (ii) proposals and policies for adapting to climate change in the exercise of its functions, including the timescales for implementing these proposals and policies.

Second and subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports are also required to include your public body's:

- assessment of the progress it has made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any of its previous climate change adaptation reports.

Mitigation Reports

The first mitigation report is required to include your public body's:

- amounts and sources of greenhouse gas emissions, in respect of the financial year beginning 1st April 2024 and ending 31st March 2025; and
- its proposals and policies for reducing its emissions in the exercise of its functions, including timescales for implementing those proposals and policies.

The second and subsequent 3-yearly mitigation reports are required to include your public body's:

- amounts and sources of greenhouse gas emissions in respect of each of the three preceding financial years (1st of April – 31st March) [*For example: Your public body's second mitigation report, to be submitted to DAERA by October 2028, will include the amounts and sources of its greenhouse gas emissions in respect of the three preceding financial years – i.e. from 1st April 2025 until 31st March 2028.*];
- proposals and policies for reducing its emissions in the exercise of its functions, including the timescale for implementing those proposals and policies; and
- assessment of the progress it has made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any of its previous climate change mitigation reports.

The Regulations require that a mitigation report must use as a baseline, the body's greenhouse gas emissions and sources which were reported in its first mitigation report, for the financial year beginning 1st April 2024 and ending 31st March 2025. This baseline will be used for assessing and reporting on progress. The Regulations also allow for an alternative baseline to be used, however, this will require agreement with DAERA.

For the support in place to help you with the reporting, and especially the first reports please see the answer to question 5 below.

Question 4: What are the other requirements/allowances set by the Regulations?

Ans: The Regulations:

- require the reporting bodies to have regard to certain matters (if relevant) when reporting, including, for example – the most recent 5-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessment, required under the UK Climate Change Act 2008, which contains climate change risks and impacts to Northern Ireland (see regulation 7, Annex A);
- allow co-operation in preparation of reports, and/or joint reporting, between two or more reporting bodies to meet their reporting requirements (see regulation 8 and 9 respectively, Annex A);
- allow for corrections to be made to the reports, after they are submitted to DAERA (see regulation 10, Annex A); and
- require publication of a body's own reports on its website and also on DAERA's website (see regulation 11, Annex A).

Question 5: What support will be provided to you for meeting your reporting duties, and when?

Ans: To help your organisation meet its reporting duties under the Regulations, DAERA will provide the following practical support:

- Technical, co-designed guidance on how to complete climate change reports.
- Co-development of a reporting template containing a list of climate change questions for your organisation to answer.
- Provision of an online climate change reporting portal, for you to enter your data into, to create your reports and make subsequent reporting as easy as possible.
- Provision of training on how to complete climate change reports to meet your reporting duties.

DAERA is undertaking preparation work to bring forward this support as soon

as possible. Support will be provided at the earliest opportunity and ahead of the reporting submission dates. DAERA may contact you regarding input to the co-design developmental work regarding this support.

DAERA also, intends as part of its co-development of support, where possible and as appropriate, to ensure a streamlined and consistent approach to reporting, where public bodies are required to report on climate change elsewhere. For example, we have already engaged with the Department of the Economy regarding their Energy Carbon Data Repository System. We recognise as streamlined and consistent approach as possible, in order to avoid any duplication of process, is very important for public bodies and for the success of the reporting.

Question 6: Why must the Regulations wait for 21 days before coming into operation, after they are made and laid in the Assembly?

Ans: The Regulations are subject to the ‘negative resolution’ procedure under the Act. This means that they are required to be ‘laid’ in the Assembly for 21 days, before they can become operational.

Question 7: How were the Regulations informed?

Ans: The following have helped to inform the development of the Regulations:

- advice from the UK Climate Change Committee (the statutory independent expert advisers on climate change, to the Northern Ireland government);
- the outcome of DAERA’s public consultation on developing the Regulations; and
- the outcome of the pre-consultation workshops with public bodies which informed the consultation’s development.

The consultation can be found at: [Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations.](#)

The summary of responses received to consultation, including findings from the pre-consultation workshops with public bodies, can be found at: [Summary of Responses and Next Steps: Consultation on Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations](#)

Question 8: What criteria was used to identify which organisations should be specified to have climate change reporting duties placed on them by the Regulations?

Ans: The Climate Change Act (NI) 2022 ('the Act'), in section 42, requires DAERA to make new Regulations which will set 'climate change reporting duties' on 'specified public bodies'. The Act's definition of a public body in section 42, is very wide - it can be: "*a person or body with functions of a public nature*" and "*a person who is a statutory undertaker within the meaning of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011*". The Act does not require all public bodies to report under the Regulations. DAERA therefore is applying a phased and balanced approach, in which these first set of Regulations will focus on large-sized organisations being required to report. DAERA intends to explore at a future point, bringing forward amending Regulations, to expand the scope of these first set of Regulations, including the scope of who is required to report.

The following criteria, which has been informed by the consultation and the pre-consultation workshops with public bodies, was used to identify the bodies which are specified in these first set of Regulations as having reporting duties placed on them:

Public Bodies:

- (i) with 250 or more staff (based on full-time equivalent (FTE) data or total of permanent staff),
- (ii) which are listed authorities in Schedule 3 to the Public Services Ombudsman Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 and/or in the list of organisations subject to the

- Department of Finance's public procurement policy,
- (iii) whose remit/functions do not fall under reserved or excepted matters, or they are not North/South government dual funded, and
 - (iv) which are not a Registered Housing Association, a General Practitioner, nor a Northern Ireland Civil Service department and their Executive agency(ies) (due to the more extensive requirements* placed on these departments by other sections of the Act).

**The Act sets a range of duties on Northern Ireland departments including that they must all contribute to delivering the Act's emissions reduction targets and carbon budgets (i.e. caps or limits on the level of emissions which are permitted over a 5-year period). The Act places a range of reporting requirements on departments in that regard, including developing and publishing sectoral plans, climate action plans and progress reports and statements. Section 42 of the Act has a much narrower scope, in that the Regulations required by this section can only be made to require public bodies to report solely on climate change.*

Question 9: Will other public bodies be required to report in the future?

Ans: DAERA intends, at a future point, to review these Regulations (after they are made and are operational). The Review will include exploring the making of amending Regulations to expand the scope of the Regulations including who is required to report.

Question 10: What was the UK Climate Change Committee's advice to DAERA?

Ans: The following is the UK Climate Change Committee's ('the CCC') advice to DAERA on the timing and frequency of climate change reporting by public bodies, with which the Regulations (in Annex A) are aligned:

General Advice from the CCC

Actions and especially policy, for both tackling the causes of climate change (i.e. mitigation) and adapting to its impacts and risks, can have long lead-in times before they are embedded, and the results and benefits are seen. This is particularly true of adaptation.

CCC Advice on Adaptation Reporting

5-yearly reporting is considered an appropriate interval at which to reassess climate risks, as the type and magnitude of climate risks facing an organisation are unlikely to change significantly on a year-to-year basis. Likewise, the observation that adaptation actions take time to identify, fund and implement, similarly supports 5-yearly adaptation reporting, to provide meaningful updates on progress and to identify new adaptation priorities. They have also said that 5-yearly reporting removes the risk of overly burdensome and unnecessary reporting and is consistent with similar reporting in other nations e.g. the adaptation reporting power under the UK Climate Change Act (2008).

Timing: The CCC recommended that the timing of provision of the adaptation reports by public bodies should align with development of the CCC's five-yearly evidence reports, which inform the five-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessment ('CCRA') required under the UK Act 2008. This is because the information collected under the regulations could be used to help inform these CCC evidence reports. The CCC also advised that public bodies should provide a risk assessment and an adaptation action plan at the same time. They said this is necessary to provide better insight, and full understanding into whether climate risks will be appropriately managed by a particular specified public body.

- DAERA has set adaptation reporting for every 5 years (which also aligns with the outcome of the consultation – see question 7 above).¹

¹ The first adaptation report will cover a 4-year period, and second and subsequent adaptation reports will be 5-yearly. The frequencies and timings are set to align with, in order to aim to inform, the development of the 5-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessments required under the UK Climate Change Act 2008.

CCC Advice on Mitigation Reporting

The CCC have said that reporting every 5 years on mitigation should be a minimum. However, they also advised that every 5 years would likely be too infrequent to drive the rapid progress needed to see any difference in cutting emissions, and it would not be enough to build a robust database (for mitigation). It was also their perspective that reporting every year (annual reporting) on mitigation by public bodies would not be necessary.

- DAERA has set mitigation reporting for every 3 years (which also aligns with the outcome of the consultation see question 7 above).

Question 11: What next?

Ans: Once you have provided to DAERA, your body's nominated person(s) contact details, we will be in touch with that person to initiate engagement and regularly as the support referred to in question 5, is being developed, implemented and delivered.



Committee:	Environment & Sustainability
Date:	1 st May 2024
Report from:	Head of Service (Acting) - Environmental Health, Risk and Emergency Planning

Item for:	Noting
Subject:	Eat Well Spend Less Event

1.0	<p><u>Background and Key Issues</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council’s Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning Service Unit initiated and delivered the Eat Well Spend Less Event in the Island Hall at Lagan Valley Island on 15th March 2024. The purpose of this event was to support Community Groups and members of the public to provide safe, nutritious food on a budget. In collaboration with the Council’s Community Development & Resources Service Unit local community groups and others were invited to attend the event and transport was arranged for Community Groups in the Dundonald and Carryduff areas. The event consisted of a Food Safety presentation by Robert Lamont, (Environmental Health Manager), Nutritious Food on a Budget presentation by Vanessa McMinn from Safefood, and a cookery demonstration by local chef and TV personality Paula McIntyre. The event was attended by 197 Community Group volunteers and members of the public, who were provided with a free Cookery Book – 101 Square Meals provided by Safefood, recipes provided by Paula McIntyre and fridge thermometers provided by LCCC. A video production company was employed to video and edit the event so that those unable to attend can be provided with a link to the information and demonstration. Positive feedback was received from a number of attendees after the event. Councillor Caleb McCready (Chair of Environment & Sustainability Committee) opened and closed the event. 	
2.0	<p><u>Recommendation</u></p> <p>It is recommended that Members note the report.</p>	
3.0	<p><u>Finance and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>	
4.0	<p><u>Equality/Good Relations and Rural Needs Impact Assessments</u></p>	
4.1	Has an equality and good relations screening been carried out?	No
4.2	Brief summary of the key issues identified and proposed mitigating actions <u>or</u> rationale why the screening was not carried out	No associated equality impact

4.3	Has a Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) been completed?	No
4.4	Brief summary of the key issues identified and proposed mitigating actions <u>or</u> rationale why the screening was not carried out.	No associated rural needs impact

Appendices:	None
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