



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Annual Sustainable Development Report

29 September 2022

Reference: SPCB (2022) Paper 56

Executive summary

1. The SPCB are invited to review the Sustainable Development Annual Report as part of the planned programme of senior management review of Sustainable Development.

Issues and options

2. Statutory Duties and legal climate targets: under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, passed by the Scottish Parliament, we have duties to contribute to greenhouse gas emissions reductions, climate adaptation programmes, and to embed Sustainable Development into our business.
3. The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2015 requires public bodies such as the SPCB to report annually on compliance with the climate change duties. The public bodies reporting duties were amended in 2020, to ensure that within annual reports the following is given:
 - a. Target date for achieving zero direct emissions of greenhouse gases, or such other targets that demonstrate how the SPCB is contributing to Scotland achieving its emissions reduction targets.
 - b. Targets for reducing indirect emissions of greenhouse gases.
 - c. Information on how the SPCB will align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute towards delivering its emissions reduction targets.
4. The 2021-2022 Sustainable Development Annual Report provides a status update on key aspects of Sustainable Development.

5. 2021/22 saw a real shift in our progress on Sustainability at the Scottish Parliament. It is the first year of performance against our new long term target of a 66% (based on 2005/06 levels) reductions in emissions and a good start on this journey has been made with a reduction of 69%, of course this is partly down to the continuing effects of the Covid pandemic and we are mindful that there may be some rising in emissions as we return more services back to the Parliament building.
6. However we are using the opportunity of the new parliamentary session and the change in culture and behaviours brought about by the pandemic to evolve our New Ways of Working project and adopt different working patterns which are more sustainable from both an environmental and social point of view.
7. Our new Carbon Management Plan, which takes us up to 2025/26, is published [here](#) and maps out the projects planned and costs required over the next few years to reach our target of a 66% reduction in emissions.
8. We are on track to reach Net Zero by 2038 (which is the latest date recommend for public sector bodies to achieve Net Zero outlined [here](#)), but aim to reach this sooner if practical and cost effective.

Governance

9. The SPCB 'portfolio' member for Resilience and Sustainability is Claire Baker MSP
10. [Strategic and delivery planning](#), [equalities](#), [health & safety](#), [environmental](#), [legal](#) matters have been considered and all the necessary actions have been taken.
11. The Governance of Sustainable Development sits with the Sustainable Development Programme Board and this Board has reviewed the Annual Sustainable Development Annual Report

Publication Scheme

12. The Annual Sustainable Development Report will be published on the Parliament's website once agreed by the SPCB.

Decision

13. The SPCB are asked to review the Annual Sustainable Development Report

Resilience and Sustainability Office

7th September 2022