



Consultation on Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations

Abridged version

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Abbreviations

CCC	The UK Climate Change Committee are the statutory, independent, expert advisors on climate change to the UK government and the governments of the UK devolved administrations (including Northern Ireland).
DAERA	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.
GHGs	Greenhouse gases with the seven main gases being: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulphur hexafluoride and nitrogen trifluoride.
NICCAP	Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Programme - this is a 5-year programme which sets out Northern Ireland Departments' response to the risks and opportunities identified for Northern Ireland in the most recent 5-year UK Climate Change Risk Assessment as required by the UK Climate Change Act 2008.
North South Implementation Bodies	North/South Implementation Bodies were set up by Order under the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, and each of the six bodies operate on an all-island basis. While having a clear operational remit, all operate under the overall policy direction of the North/South Ministerial Council, with clear accountability lines back to the Council and to the Oireachtas and the Northern Ireland Assembly.
'The Act'	The Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022.
UK Act	The Climate Change Act 2008.
UK	United Kingdom.
UK CCRA	UK Climate Change Risk Assessment - these are 5-yearly reports which set out the current and predicted risks and impacts of climate change to the UK (including Northern Ireland). These reports are required to be developed and laid in the UK parliament by the UK government as required by the UK Climate Change Act 2008.

Introduction

Climate change is an unprecedented challenge for everyone, including Northern Ireland, and a climate emergency was declared by the Northern Ireland Assembly in February 2020. In June 2022, the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 received Royal Assent. This Act sets out Northern Ireland's framework for tackling climate change and reducing emissions, by setting (among other things) challenging targets to deliver net zero emissions ('net zero') in Northern Ireland by the year 2050. The Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is leading on the development of Northern Ireland's first 5-year climate action plan (CAP) as required under the Act. The CAP will contain the Northern Ireland departments' policies and proposals to meet the first 5-year carbon budget for the years 2023-27 (which is a limit on the amount of emissions Northern Ireland can emit) and it will set our longer-term pathway towards net zero by 2050.

DAERA is also leading on developing a Green Growth Strategy for a returning Northern Ireland Executive to agree. This strategy will set out the Executive's multi-decade approach to balancing climate action, with a clean environment and the economy. It will aim to set a long-term vision for tackling the climate crisis in Northern Ireland in the right way and it will be underpinned by the provisions of the Act, with which it must closely align.

Public bodies have an important role to play in helping to achieve the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions which are needed and indeed now required by law. They are also key in helping Northern Ireland to be climate-adaptable and resilient, both for now and for future generations. Many public organisations are already doing good work to reduce emissions and tackle climate change risks and impacts, at their own local and organisational level. Indeed, some organisations such as local councils have declared their own climate emergencies, and some have already set their own challenging emissions reduction targets. The important role of public bodies in tackling climate change is recognised by the Act, by requiring new law (regulations) to be made, which will set a requirement for specified public bodies to report on climate change. Reporting by public bodies can help them increase their contribution to Northern Ireland both tackling the causes of climate change and adapting to its impacts. Reporting can do this by driving and informing more rapid and effective action.

DAERA would like to thank those who attended their pre-consultation workshops (undertaken in the last quarter of 2022) regarding the requirements to make the new regulations. This consultation is a more in-depth stakeholder engagement exercise, which will continue to gather the views of public bodies, as well as other stakeholders and members of the public, to help shape and inform the development of the upcoming regulations.

DAERA value your views and encourage you to carefully consider this document, and to participate in this consultation through answering the questions which are posed throughout, to help us prepare good quality, well-informed regulations. Please note a more detailed version of each question can be found in annex 1 of the full-length consultation. The consultation also includes supporting documents which can be found at the DAERA consultation [webpage](#), for anyone who wants extra background information on climate change and reporting, the benefits from reporting and also frequently asked questions and answers.

How to Respond to this Consultation

This consultation will run for an extended 10-week period from **31st March 2023** to **9th June 2023**. We encourage early responses, and responses should be no later than **11.59pm on 9th June 2023**.

You can respond to the full consultation survey online through [Citizen Space Hub](#).

You can also access the online survey from the DAERA consultation [webpage](#).

To request a copy of this document in another format (such as paper copy, large print, braille or other languages), or tell us what you think, you can contact us through the following methods:

Email: You can obtain a response template by emailing the consultation team at: climatechangediscussion@daera-ni.gov.uk

If a large volume of email responses is received, they may take significantly longer to process than online responses.

Telephone: 028 9056 9291 / 9246 and talk to one of the consultation team.

For those with hearing difficulties, a message can be left on DAERA's Text Relay service. Making a call from a textphone dial 18001 + 028 9056 9291 / 9246.

Post: Climate Change Public Body Reporting
Climate Change and Green Growth Policy Division
2nd Floor, Klondyke Building
1 Cromac Avenue
Gasworks Business Park
Belfast
BT7 2JA

Please note: This document is an 'abridged' version of the consultation which contains less detail than the full-length consultation document. If you would like more detail, you may find the full-length version better suited to your needs. Both documents are available on the DAERA consultation [webpage](#).

1. Background

The [Climate Change Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2022](#) ('the Act') under [section 42](#), sets requirements for the Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs ('DAERA') to make new law ('regulations'), which will require specified public bodies to report on climate change. The Act also requires that these new regulations must be made and become operational before 6th December 2023.

2. Aim and Scope

The aim of this consultation is to ask your views on what the future regulations, which will require climate change reporting by specified public bodies, should look like. The consultation's scope **does not cover agreed or confirmed policy of DAERA, the Northern Ireland Executive or any other department**. Rather the consultation seeks your views to help inform policy development and decisions by a future DAERA minister and Northern Ireland Executive.

The future regulations are required to stay within the scope of section 42 of the Act and cannot cover other issues or matters which some might consider desirable. Therefore, the **scope of this consultation aims to remain within the scope of section 42 of the Act**.

Views collected from this consultation will be used to help achieve the aim of developing well-informed regulations which will enable a fit-for-purpose climate change reporting regime for public bodies in Northern Ireland, which will:

- **Encourage and incentivise climate action and progress;**
- **Ensure accountability** of specified public bodies - through transparency of disclosure of their required climate change information;
- **Enable focus and effective use of resources** - an effective reporting regime should help drive, inform and enable meaningful rapid climate action, without being a barrier to, or taking resources away from, carrying out that action;
- **Be timely and of good quality** (in terms of questions asked and data received) to enable gathering of the most effective and useful information;
- **Help deliver desired effects and benefits** - for public bodies in terms of informing and driving rapid action in tackling climate change impacts and its causes (i.e. greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions). Also, it should help inform government's

understanding on how well Northern Ireland is tackling climate change, so that well informed policy, actions and interventions can be made; and

- **Be a reporting regime which can evolve and be updated at the pace required** - to accommodate and align with changes in data/information needs and availability, and reporting abilities, as well as future changing policy and advancements in climate change understanding and technology.

The consultation also aims to gather views on any potential future support a specified public body might need to help them deliver on their climate change reporting duties.

3. Section 42 - Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022

3.1 What is a ‘public body’?

The Act defines a ‘public body’, in section 42(2), as:

“(a) a person or body with functions of a public nature”; and

“(b) a person who is a statutory undertaker within the meaning of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (see section 250 of that Act)”

There is no standard, agreed definition for ‘functions of a public nature’ or ‘public bodies’ within other Northern Ireland law or policy. However, various definitions of public body type organisations tend to cover one or more of four main themes - in that a public body is:

- created** by government;
- not directly **controlled** by government, but has a (variable) level of accountability to government;
- providing a service** to the public or to government; and
- at least partially funded** by government.

DAERA undertook a policy and legislation review to help identify which organisations could be defined as a ‘public body’ within the meaning of section 42 of the Act, as the Act does not identify who they are. This research identified over 400 public bodies which could, potentially, be a ‘public body’ within the meaning of section 42 of the Act. They cover a wide range and scope of organisations, with vast differences in sizes and functions.

3.2 Requirements for Climate Change Reporting Duties

Section 42 of the Act sets out what the regulations must and can include. The Act provides powers for the new regulations to require 'specified' public bodies to provide 'climate change reports' covering:

- i. an assessment of their current and predicted impacts of climate change, in relation to their functions;
- ii. a statement of their proposals and policies to address those impacts identified, and to reduce the body's GHG emissions;
- iii. their timescales for implementing those proposals and policies; and
- iv. an assessment of their progress made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any previous reports.

There are also powers in the Act for the future regulations to require public bodies, when they are creating their climate change reports, to consider the three matters below:

- 1) The most recent UK Climate Change Risk Assessment ('CCRA'). These CCRA's are 5-yearly UK government reports which set out the current and predicted climate change risks and impacts to the UK (including Northern Ireland). They are required to be produced by the UK government under the UK Climate Change Act 2008.
- 2) The most recent 5-year Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Plan, ('NICCAP'). The NICCAP's are Northern Ireland departments' 5-yearly programmes containing their response (plans, policies and actions) to address the risks and impacts to Northern Ireland, which are identified in the most recent UK CCRA.
- 3) The desirability of co-ordinating the body's proposals and policies (on both adaptation and mitigation) with corresponding proposals and policies of bodies in other parts of the United Kingdom, in the Republic of Ireland or elsewhere.

The future regulations can also:

- a) set the time periods which the reports must cover;
- b) set dates when the reports must be prepared and submitted by the specified bodies;
- c) provide allowances for co-operation between public bodies in the preparation of a report; and
- d) provide allowances for the preparation of a joint report by two or more specified public bodies.

4. Content of Reports and Reporting Cycles

This section covers matters relating to what the specified public bodies climate change reports are required to contain, as well as discussion on how frequently and when reporting might be required. This section also refers to example draft regulations within appendix 1, to help inform views on the matters discussed in this section, by showing what the regulations could look like for illustration purposes only.

4.1 Expert Advice on Frequency and Timing of Reporting

The UK Climate Change Committee ('CCC') are the independent, statutory, expert advisors on climate change, to both the UK-wide government and to the UK devolved governments of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The CCC have said that climate change mitigation and adaptation actions, and especially policy, can have long lead-in times before they are embedded and the results and benefits of those actions can be seen. This is particularly true for actions and policies on adapting to climate change. The CCC have provided the following advice (received by DAERA) regarding the timing of reporting cycles for adaptation and mitigation to be set within the future regulations.

CCC Advice on Adaptation Reporting

Frequency: The CCC have advised that reporting on adaptation should take place every 5 years. They have said that 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, because adaptation actions take time to identify, fund and implement, setting 5-yearly adaptation reporting helps to provide meaningful updates on progress and identifying 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 power¹ under the UK Act.

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 CCRA's. This is because the information collected under the future regulations could be used to help inform these CCC evidence reports. The CCC have said that they would need to receive the first of these adaptation reports from specified public bodies, at the latest, by January 2025 - March 2025, so they can be incorporated into the evidence base which will inform the next (and fourth) UK CCRA.

¹ The UK Climate Change Act 2008 gives the UK Secretary of State the power to direct reporting authorities (bodies with "functions of a public nature" and "statutory undertakers") to produce reports on what they are doing to adapt to climate change. The power is referred to as the "Adaptation Reporting Power".

The CCC have also advised that a risk assessment and an adaptation action plan within the scope of section 42 of the Act should be provided at the same time by a public body when reporting. 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.

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.

4.2 Frequency and Timing for Adaptation Reports - The Example Draft Regulations

Regulation 4 of the example draft regulations, in appendix 1, shows the type of legal provisions which would require 5-year adaptation reports to be developed by specified bodies, and that these reports must be submitted to DAERA. Consultees should note that there are many possible variations of reporting timing and cycles which could be set within the future regulations. The example draft regulations provide just one version of many of these variations.

Regulation 4 would require the following:

The first reporting cycle

- The first adaptation reports developed by specified public bodies would cover the period from 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2029.
- These first reports would be required to be submitted to DAERA by 31st January 2025.

The second reporting cycle

- The second adaptation reports developed by specified public bodies would cover the period from 1st January 2030 to 31st December 2034.
- These second reports would be required to be submitted to DAERA by 31st January 2030.

The third and subsequent reporting cycles

- The third and subsequent adaptation reports would repeat the cycle described for the second reporting cycle in terms of being submitted every five years consecutively after the previous report.

Discussion

Frequency and timing of submissions of adaptation reports: The example regulations align with the expert independent CCC's advice in section 4.1 in terms of:

- reports will be available on time to inform the CCC's evidence reports for the 5 yearly UK CCRA's and NICCAPs required under the UK Act;
- reporting frequency aims to be enough that progress of actions and impacts could be viewed/assessed in comparison to previous reports;
- reporting frequency is expected to minimise the risk of overly burdensome reporting; and
- climate risk assessment and adaptation plans are reported together at the same time.

Timing of when the first adaptation report is due: The Act requires the regulations to be operational before 6th December 2023. The timing of the submission of the first adaptation report by public bodies to DAERA in the example regulations aims to:

- I. allow for a reasonable period for any required training and capacity building within public bodies;
- II. allow time for public bodies to gather the information needed and to secure their own necessary organisational approvals and validations prior to submitting their reports;
- III. be achievable for the wide range of types and sizes of public bodies that will be required to report with varying resource availability; and
- IV. inform the CCC's evidence report for the future fourth UK CCRA.

4.3 Frequency and Timing for Mitigation Reports - The Example Draft Regulations

Regulation 5 of the example draft regulations (in appendix 1) shows the type of provision that would require mitigation reports to be prepared by specified bodies, and that these reports must be submitted to DAERA. Consultees should note that there are many possible variations of reporting timing and cycles which could be set within the future regulations. The example draft regulations provides just one version of many of these variations.

Regulation 5 would require the following:

The first reporting cycle

- The first mitigation reports developed by public bodies would be required to be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2025.
- The public bodies GHG emissions data to be provided within these reports, would cover the financial year period of 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

The second reporting cycle

- The second mitigation reports developed by public bodies would be required to be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2027.
- The public bodies GHG emissions data to be provided within these reports would cover two financial year periods i.e. from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026, and from 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2027.

The third and subsequent reporting cycles

- The third and subsequent mitigation reports would repeat the cycle described for the second reporting cycle in terms of being submitted biennially (every two years) after the previous report.
- The third and subsequent reports shall include the relevant two financial year periods (1st April to 31st March) of GHG emissions data following chronologically from the previous report.

Discussion

Frequency and timing of submission of mitigation reports: This example aligns with the expert independent CCC's advice in section 4.1 in terms of:

- reporting is more frequent than every five years, but not as frequently as every year (but aims to be frequent enough to inform and drive climate change);
- reporting frequency aims to be enough that progress of actions and impacts could be viewed/assessed in comparison to previous reports; and
- reporting frequency is expected to minimise the risk of overly burdensome reporting.

Timing of when the first mitigation report is due: The Act requires the regulations to be operational before 6th December 2023. The timing of the submission of the first mitigation report by public bodies to DAERA in the example regulations aims to:

- I. allow for a reasonable period for any required training and capacity building within public bodies;
- II. allow time for public bodies to gather the information needed and to secure their own necessary organisational approvals and validations prior to submitting their reports; and
- III. be achievable for the wide range of types and sizes of public bodies that will need to report with varying resource availability.

4.4 Consultation Questions

We would welcome your responses to the following questions 1 - 6:

- 1. How often do you think specified public bodies should provide their adaptation reports?**
- 2. When should specified public bodies be required to provide their first adaptation report?**
- 3. How often do you think specified public bodies should provide their mitigation reports?**
- 4. When should specified public bodies be required to submit their first mitigation report?**
- 5. Do you agree that the time period for which emissions data must be provided, by specified public bodies in their mitigation reports, should cover financial years? (i.e. periods from 1st April to 31st March)?**
- 6. If you have any other views on the frequency and timing of reporting which should be set under the future regulations, please provide them below.**

5. Which Public Bodies Should be Specified in the Regulations

Two potential methods for specifying which public bodies should have reporting duties, are discussed in this section - an 'exemptions approach' and a 'criteria-based proportionality approach'.

5.1 Exemptions Approach

One approach for identifying which public bodies should be specified as having to report is **developing an opt-out process** which is also referred to as an '**exemptions approach**'. This would involve the future regulations initially listing all public bodies as having a requirement to report, with additional provisions which would allow these bodies to choose or to apply to opt-out of reporting. Applying an exemptions approach **would be highly complex**, and would need to be done in a way which would still ensure that the requirements of section 42 of the Act would be met, using methods which would be effective for all of the broad varieties of public bodies, with their different types of functions and sizes, etc.

The complexities of developing a thoroughly considered, fit for purpose **exemptions approach**, to be placed in the regulations, **would present a significant risk to being able to deliver** the required new regulations **within the statutory timelines** (i.e. before 6th December 2023). An exemptions approach to climate change public body reporting is not used in any other government jurisdictions (more details are within sections 1.5 and 4.4 of the full consultation document).

5.2 Criteria-based Proportionality Approach

The development and application of a criteria-based proportionality approach is currently being explored, to identify who should be required to report under the new regulations. This is because, **a criteria-based proportionality approach** would likely have **lower levels of complexities** than an exemptions approach, and therefore **a lower risk** in terms of **delivering the regulations within the statutory timelines**. Also, **it is an approach which is used in other jurisdictions** in relation to climate change reporting by public bodies (more details are within section 1.5 of the full consultation).

Placing reporting duties in a proportionate manner would aim to ensure that the duties are applied where they will be most effective in supporting, driving and encouraging climate action and to help deepen understanding of how and where to target climate actions most effectively.

A criteria-based proportionality approach would aim to ensure that the reporting duties under the new regulations are targeted in a way that most benefits Northern Ireland by ensuring that:

- key bodies are required to report, such as potential major contributors of GHG emissions, major influencers on others in terms of tackling climate change (i.e. influencing communities or other organisations to reduce emissions or to adapt), or critical service providers; and
- reporting will provide the most meaningful data to inform the development of government policies and actions on climate change.

An example of a proportionality approach (i.e. criteria) is provided below, in points 1-6 of this section. For more information, see annex 4 of the full-length consultation document which provides in-depth discussions of each of the criteria. *(Please note that the use of a criteria-based proportionality approach does not represent any confirmed government policy or position, rather that these 'suggestions' are provided as a starting point for discussion of these issues.)*

Example proportionality criteria

Public bodies to be specified in the future regulations, in order to place reporting duties on them, could be those which:

1. have high impact and/or influence;
2. have large estates and/or large numbers of staff;
3. have large expenditure;
4. have auditing or regulatory functions;
5. are a critical/key infrastructure or service provider; and
6. are not a Northern Ireland government department (or one of their Executive agencies)* but they do fall within one or more of the other criteria (criteria 1-5).

*(*The Act outside of section 42, already places much wider climate change duties, and a range of reporting requirements against those duties, on Northern Ireland departments.)*

5.3 Example List of Specified Public Bodies

The schedule in the example draft regulations in appendix 1 contains an example of a list of public bodies which could have reporting duties placed upon them. The bodies listed in this schedule are suggested to potentially fall under one, or more, of the example proportionality criteria (set out in points 1- 6 in section 5.2). However, it has not yet been possible to obtain

complete, exact or entirely up-to-date information, like the size of annual budgets and staff numbers, for all of the bodies in the example list. The views collected from this consultation will however inform which public bodies should be listed in the future regulations as having reporting duties placed on them. Therefore, the example draft list in the schedule is for discussion purposes only, is subject to change and is not exhaustive.

5.4 Consultation Questions

We would welcome your responses to the following questions 7 - 10:

- 7. How do you think the specified public bodies (who will have a duty to report under the regulations) should be identified?**
- 8. If a criteria-based proportionality approach is used in the future regulations, which criteria do you think should be included for specifying public bodies?**
- 9. Do you agree that all of the public bodies listed, in the schedule of the example draft regulations, should be required to report under the future regulations?**
- 10. (For North/South Implementation Bodies) Do you foresee any practical problems with dividing up the exercise of your functions in Northern Ireland, in order to report under the future regulations?**

6. Reporting Duties - Further Elements to be Included in the Regulations

6.1 Co-operation and Joint Reports

There may be times when public bodies have a need for co-operation in the preparation of their reports under the future regulations. An example would be a situation where one or more of the specified public bodies may need to share relevant data and information with another body, to help that body populate their report. The provision in regulation 8 of the example draft regulations (in appendix 1) provides an illustration of the type of provision which could help deliver on this need.

There may also be times when it is more appropriate for two or more public bodies to provide a single, joint report to meet their climate change duties. Regulation 9 of the example draft regulations gives an illustration of how this could be potentially provided for in the future

regulations. Including this in the future regulations could help ensure the accuracy of reported data, by avoiding 'double-accounting' of actions taken, which could happen where the functions or actions of two (or more) public bodies overlap.

6.2 The Form of the Reports

The example draft regulations in appendix 1 illustrate the type of provisions which would require public bodies to submit their reports in an electronic format to DAERA (see regulation 4(4), and the definition of the term 'sent' in the regulations).

DAERA is exploring the provision of a digital, online portal after the regulations are made, for public bodies to enter their relevant data into, to help them meet their climate change reporting duties. It would be envisioned that the portal would provide the electronic 'form' and 'template' of the reports to be submitted to DAERA.

6.3 Publication of the Reports

There are many reasons why it is important that the reports are made available to the public. These include but are not limited to:

- the public's information awareness on climate change action by these bodies;
- enabling accountability and transparency by those specified public bodies; and
- promoting and sharing best practice, to support ongoing improvements in the effectiveness of climate actions, etc. across all public bodies.

Regulation 10 in the example draft regulations (see appendix 1) illustrates the type of provision that could provide for publication of the reports by DAERA.

6.4 Supporting Guidance

The development of supporting guidance for specified public bodies, on how to comply with their reporting duties, is being considered by DAERA. Such guidance would include detail or instructions to the specified bodies on how they should prepare and populate their reports. This would include guidance on the types of information and data to be provided, what the reporting boundaries are, the methodologies and tools to be used, etc. It is expected that any supporting guidance to the regulations would also cover how the online reporting portal (see section 6.2), is used by public bodies.

It is typical for guidance of this nature to be published after the regulations on which it is based have been finalised and come into operation. Such guidance would be expected to be published in adequate time before the first report is due for submission.

The example draft regulations in appendix 1 include an illustration of the type of provision (see regulation 6) which would enable DAERA to develop and issue supporting guidance to public bodies.

6.5 Consultation Questions

We would welcome your responses to the following questions 11 - 14:

- 11. Do you think that the future regulations should allow flexibility for public bodies to share data and/or information with each other, in order to comply with their reporting duties?**
- 12. Do you think that the future regulations should allow flexibility for two or more public bodies to provide a single, joint report?**
- 13. Which format do you think the future regulations should require reports to be submitted in?**
- 14. Where do you think the future regulations should require reports to be published?**

7. Reporting Template

7.1 Development of a Reporting Template

DAERA is considering developing a reporting template after the regulations are made, for public bodies to use to assist them in delivering on their climate change reporting duties. The reporting template would contain a series of questions covering the required climate change reporting matters and themes set out in the regulations. These questions would direct the specified public bodies on what type of information and data they would need to provide within their reports, under their climate change reporting duties.

It would be expected that the reporting template would be included in both supporting guidance once developed and embedded into a future online reporting portal.

Attached in appendix 2 is an example of a draft reporting template with a list of climate change questions which are expected to be within the scope of section 42 of the Act. This template is for illustrative purposes only, to help inform views on what a reporting template could contain.

7.2 Consultation Questions

We would welcome your responses to the following questions 15 - 16:

15. **(For organisations) Do you think that your organisation could currently provide the level of detail requested in the example draft reporting template?**
16. **Are there any questions in the example draft reporting template, which you think should be amended, removed or any further questions to be added?**

8. Other Consultation Questions

We would welcome your responses to the following questions 17 - 21:

17. **What type of support do you think may be required to help specified public bodies meet their reporting duties under the future regulations?**
18. **Should public bodies be required to validate the information in their reports before they are submitted to DAERA under the future regulations? (A requirement for reports to be signed off by the organisation's senior management for example.)**
19. **(For organisations) If the future regulations place climate reporting duties on your organisation, please provide an estimate of what the resource implications might be (for example cost, staff numbers, time etc.).**
20. **If you have any further comments in respect of any of the issues raised in this consultation, please provide them below.**
21. **If you have any other comments on any important issues, which you feel have not been adequately covered in this consultation, please provide them below.**

9. Publication of Responses

9.1 Confidentiality

The Department will publish a summary of responses following completion of the consultation process. Your response, and all other responses to the consultation may be disclosed on request. The Department can refuse to disclose information only in exceptional circumstances.

Before you submit your response, please read the paragraphs below on the confidentiality of consultations as these provide guidance on the legal position of any information given by you in response to this consultation. Any confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system in e-mail responses will not be treated as such a request.

9.2 Data Protection

Section 8(e) of the Data Protection Act 2018 permits processing of personal data when necessary for an activity that supports or promotes democratic engagement. Information provided by respondents to this consultation exercise will be held and used for the purposes of the administration of this current exercise and subsequently disposed of, in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulation.

9.3 Freedom of Information

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority (the Department in this case). This right of access to information includes information provided in response to a consultation. The Department cannot automatically consider as confidential information supplied to it in response to a consultation. However, it does have the responsibility to decide whether any information provided by you in response to this consultation, including information about your identity, should be made public or treated as confidential. This means that information provided by you in response to the consultation is unlikely to be treated as confidential, except in very particular circumstances.

The Lord Chancellor's Code of Practice on the Freedom of Information Act provides that:

- the Department should only accept information from third parties in confidence if it is necessary to obtain that information in connection with the exercise of any of the Department's functions and it would not otherwise be provided;
- the Department should not agree to hold information received from third parties 'in confidence' which is not confidential in nature;
- acceptance by the Department of confidentiality provisions must be for good reasons, capable of being justified to the Information Commissioner.

Appendix 1: Example Draft Regulations

An example of draft regulations is provided below, for illustrative purposes.

STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2023 No. XXX

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Climate Change Reporting (Specified Public Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2023

Made []2023

Coming into operation []2023

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 (Specified Public Bodies)] Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2023.

(2) These Regulations come into operation on *[date to be inserted]*.

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;

“sent” means sent in electronic form;

“specified public body” means a public body specified in the Schedule.

(1) 2022 c. 31

Specified public bodies

3. The public bodies specified in the Schedule 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 specified public 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 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 under these Regulations.
- (2) The first report must relate to the period of five years beginning with 1st January 2025.
- (3) Subsequent reports must relate to the period of five years beginning immediately after the end of the period to which the previous report related.
- (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 related, or in the case of the first report 31st January 2025.

Climate change mitigation reports

5. (1) Every specified public body must prepare reports which include -
- (a) a statement, in respect of each of the two preceding financial years, of the body's total greenhouse gas emissions and of their sources;
 - (b) a statement of the body's proposals and policies for reducing those totals [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 under these Regulations.

- (2) An assessment under paragraph (1)(d) must compare the totals and sources mentioned in paragraph (1)(a) with -
 - (a) the totals and sources mentioned in the previous report;
 - (b) the total and sources mentioned in the first report.
- (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 other year not later than 31st October.
- (5) In relation to the first report -
 - (a) paragraph (1)(a) has effect as if the words “two preceding financial years” were “preceding financial year”;
 - (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) [FN (2) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)] whether or not a body uses that financial year.

Guidance

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

Matters to which specified public bodies must have regard

7. Specified public 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) [FN (3) 2008 c. 27] (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.

Co-operation in preparation of reports

8. Public bodies may co-operate in the preparation of a report under these Regulations.

Joint reports

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

Publication of reports

10. The Department must publish reports under these Regulations in electronic form.

A senior officer of the

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

SCHEDULE

Reg. 3

SPECIFIED PUBLIC BODIES

Arts and Culture

Armagh Observatory and Planetarium

Arts Council of Northern Ireland

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

Northern Ireland Museums Council

Built Environment

Historic Buildings Council

Historic Monuments Council

Maze / Long Kesh Development Corporation

Economic Development

Invest Northern Ireland

Strategic Investment Board Limited

Education

Council for Catholic Maintained Schools

Any Diocesan Education Committee of the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools

Education Authority Board

General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland

Governing Body of Belfast Metropolitan College

Governing Body of Northern Regional College
Governing Body of North West Regional College
Governing Body of South Eastern Regional College
Governing Body of South West College
Governing Body of Southern Regional College
Governing Body of Stranmillis University College, Belfast
Governing Body of Open University in Ireland
Governing Body of Queen's University of Belfast
Governing Body of St Mary's University College, Belfast
Governing Body of Ulster University
Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education

Equality

Equality Commission for Northern Ireland

Health, Social Care and Emergency Services

Any Health and Social Care Trust
Regional Business Services Organisation
Health and Social Care Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority
Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service
Northern Ireland Social Care Council
Public Health Agency

Housing

Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Any of the following housing associations -
Abbeyfield and Wesley Housing Association
Alpha Housing Association
Apex Housing Association
Arbour Housing Association
Ark Housing Association (NI) Limited
Clanmil Housing Association Limited
Choice Housing Ireland Limited
Connswater Homes Limited
Habinteg Housing Association (Ulster) Limited
Newington Housing Association Limited
North Belfast Housing Association Limited
Radius Housing Association
Rural Housing Association Limited
Triangle Housing Association Limited
Woodvale and Shankill Community Housing Association

Infrastructure

Belfast Energy Storage Company Limited
Belfast Gas Transmission Limited
Belfast Harbour Commissioners
Bord Gais Energy Limited
Budget Energy Limited
Click Energy
Coleraine Harbour Commissioners
Construction Industry Training Board
Coolkeeragh ESB Limited
Drainage Council for Northern Ireland
Electric Ireland
EP Ballylumford Limited
EP Kilroot Limited
Firmus Energy Limited
Harbour of Carlingford Lough Improvement Commissioners
Islandmagee Energy Limited
Londonderry Port and Harbour Commissioners
Moyle Interconnector Limited
Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited
Northern Ireland Fishery Harbour Authority
Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company
Northern Ireland Water Limited
Operator of Belfast International Airport
Operator of City of Derry Airport
Operator of George Best Belfast City Airport
Phoenix Natural Gas Limited - Distribution
Power Northern Ireland
SGN Natural Gas Limited - Distribution
SSE Airtricity Energy Supply (Northern Ireland) Limited
SSE Renewables UK Limited
Short Brothers Plc
SONI Limited
Warrenpoint Harbour Authority

Local Government

Any district council

North South Implementation Bodies

Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission
InterTradelreland
Waterways Ireland

Policing

Northern Ireland Police Fund
Northern Ireland Policing Board
Police Service of Northern Ireland

Regulation and Audit

Charity Commission for Northern Ireland
Northern Ireland Audit Office
Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation

Others

Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute
Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside
Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland
Institute of Public Health in Ireland
The Livestock and Meat Commission for Northern Ireland
Tourism Northern Ireland
Sport Northern Ireland

Interpretation

In this Schedule -

“Health and Social Care trust” means a Health and Social Care trust established under Article 10 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1991(4) [FN (4) S.I.1991/194 (N.I.)];

“housing association” means a registered housing association within the meaning of Article 3 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1992 (5) [FN S.I.1992/1725 (N.I. 15)];

“operator” means an airport operator within the meaning of the Airports (Northern Ireland) Order 1994 (6) [FN (6) S.I.1994/426 (N.I. 1)].

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These regulations specify certain public 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 specified body to prepare a prospective report every five years on how it is adapting to climate change in the exercise of its functions (a “climate change adaptation report”).

Regulation 5 requires a specified body to prepare a report every two years on how it has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions and otherwise mitigated the effect of climate change in the exercise of its functions (a “climate change mitigation report”).

Appendix 2: Example Draft Reporting Template

An example draft reporting template is provided below for illustrative purposes.

PART 1 - PROFILE OF REPORTING ORGANISATIONS <i>(The questions in this part relate to both adaptation and mitigation reports only)</i>	
1.1	The name of the organisation(s) to which this report relates.
1.2	The type(s) of the organisation(s) (e.g. local council, energy supplier, auditor, etc.)
1.3	Title of the report (an 'adaptation report' or a 'mitigation report').
1.4	Reporting cycle of this report (i.e. is this report the first, second or third report, etc.)
1.5	Date of submission of this report.
1.6	Person(s) responsible for this report (i.e. name, job title and email address).
1.7	Overall budget of the organisation - specify approximate £/annum for the most recent completed financial year (1st April - 31st March).
1.8	Average number of full-time equivalent staff in the organisation for the most recent completed financial year (1st April - 31st March).
1.9	Describe your organisation's: a) functions; b) size of estate; c) fleet size; and d) type and level of influence on other organisations or communities, to reduce emissions and/or adapt to climate change.

PART 2 - CLIMATE CHANGE MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

(The questions in this part relate to both adaptation and mitigation reports only)

2.1 GOVERNANCE - The approach taken by the organisation to governance, management and strategy for climate change.

- a) If the organisation has a climate change plan or strategy, provide the name of the document and a hyperlink of where a copy can be accessed, or attach a copy to this report.
- b) Set out the structure of the organisation's climate change governance including:
 - an outline of the governance structure, and if relevant, a summary of the roles of any external bodies/organisations (in Northern Ireland, UK, Republic of Ireland or elsewhere);
 - a summary of the key climate change roles undertaken by the governance bodies and/or management of the organisation;
 - a summary of how the body's decision-making in relation to climate change action is managed, and how responsibility is allocated to the organisation's senior staff, departmental heads, etc.
- c) Does the organisation have specific climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives in its corporate plan or similar document? Provide a brief summary of the objectives if they exist.
- d) Does the organisation report on climate change into any other external reporting regimes or to a sector standard? If yes, state which one(s).

PART 3 - ADAPTATION: CLIMATE CHANGE RISK ASSESSMENTS AND ADAPTATION ACTION PLANS AND PROGRESS

(The questions in this part relate adaptation reports only)

3.1 CLIMATE CHANGE RISK ASSESSMENT

Provide details of the current and future risks posed to the organisation by climate change, and how these risks could impact its functions by completing the requests below:

- a) Has the organisation used a shared/joint risk assessment to inform its answers to 3.1(b) to (j) below? If yes, state who is the lead organisation on the assessment and provide a hyperlink to or attach a copy of the document.
- b) Identify and provide a title for each risk, with description, if relevant.
- c) Provide an impact score for each risk, i.e. likelihood or severity of risk.
- d) Explain how each risk relates to the functions, services, assets and/or investments (if relevant) of the organisation.
- e) State the estimated timeframe for when the impact of each risk is due to become an issue needing action: Current (< 5yr), Medium (5-10yr), Long (10-25yr), or Longer (25yr+) term.
- f) Has the organisation calculated how each risk might change, by the years 2050 and 2100, in light of various climate scenarios? If yes, describe.
- g) State the owner of each risk [e.g. name/team name (including role) in charge of managing the risk].
- h) For each risk identified under 3.1(b), state if there are any similar risks identified/title under the high-level objectives in:
 - the most recent UK Government's Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA);
 - the most recent Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Programme (NICCAP).
- i) If the answer to 3.1(h) is yes, specify the title of the similar risks.
- j) For each risk identified under part 3.1, state if management of the risk is fully within the control of the organisation, or if management of the risk depends on other organisations. If dependent on other organisation(s), state which organisation(s) and describe the dependency.

PART 3 - ADAPTATION: CLIMATE CHANGE RISK ASSESSMENTS AND ADAPTATION ACTION PLANS AND PROGRESS

3.2 ADAPTATION ACTION PLAN

- a) Set out the organisation's current and planned proposals, policies and actions (now referred to as 'actions'), for managing/addressing each climate change risk identified in the risk assessment (3.1), by providing:
 - i. The specific climate change risk(s) which each action is intended to address.
 - ii. How each action will address the associated risk(s).
 - iii. The timescales for implementing each action.
 - iv. Which actions are a priority, to be addressed before the next report is developed.
 - v. The owners of each action. [E.g. name/team name (including role) in charge of implementing and managing the action.]
 - vi. Are any of the chosen actions coordinated with other organisations - locally, in other parts of the UK, the Republic of Ireland or elsewhere? If yes, which actions and specify how they are coordinated?
 - vii. Detail of any metrics which have been used to assess progress in the organisation's management of its climate-related risks and impacts.
- b) If any of the information requested in 3.2(a) is not available, provide the reason why, and (if appropriate) when it is expected to become available.
- c) Do the organisation's adaptation actions have any co-benefits (or risks, if applicable) for reducing emissions? If yes, provide a brief explanation.

3.3 PROGRESS MADE IN COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS REPORT(S)

(This section is applicable only to the second, and subsequent adaptation reports)

- 3.3.1 Provide an assessment of the progress made by the organisation, in regard to implementing the adaptation action plan, set out in its previous adaptation report, by completing the requests below:
 - a) For each proposal, policy and action of its previous plan, set out what progress has been made, i.e. completion date, ongoing or expected completion date if relevant, etc.
 - b) The contribution which each proposal, policy and action of the previous plan has made so far, towards addressing or managing its identified climate change risks (if possible).

3.3 PROGRESS MADE IN COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS REPORT(S)

3.3.2 If any commitments and/or timescales provided in the previous adaptation action plan were not met, provide the following:

- a) Why they were not met, i.e. what the barriers were.
- b) How the organisation plans to address those barriers going forward.
- c) When the organisation plans to deliver on the commitment/timescale, if still required/relevant.
- d) If the commitment/timescale is no longer required or relevant, please state why.

3.4 ADAPTATION CASE STUDIES

Details of up to five examples (case studies) of best practice, in adaptation actions taken by your organisation, can be provided.

Suggested areas of focus:

- When the action took place / if it is ongoing.
- Where the action took place.
- How the action was funded (e.g. by local government etc.).
- Which climate change risks/impacts were the adaptation actions focused on?
- How did the actions make a difference to addressing these risk and impacts?
- What are the key lessons from the case study?
- Whether there are future plans to build on this work under the case study, and if so, what they involve.
- A web link for further information on the case study and any contact details for further information if appropriate.

PART 4 - MITIGATION: EMISSIONS STATEMENTS AND EMISSION REDUCTION PLANS AND PROGRESS

(The questions in this part relate to mitigation reports only)

4.1. BASELINE YEAR AND EMISSIONS STATEMENTS

NOTE: In relation to 4.1.1 and 4.1.2, the body's 'baseline year' for emissions statements is from 1st April 2024 - 31st March 2025. This 'baseline year' within the emissions statements, shall include the body's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions levels and sources for this period.

4.1.1 EMISSIONS STATEMENTS - FOR THE FIRST REPORTS

State the GHG emissions of the organisation for the baseline year as follows:

- a) The **direct** GHG emissions - Scope 1: Total GHG emissions from the organisation's owned or controlled sources, e.g. boilers, furnaces, vehicles.
- b) The **indirect** GHG emissions - Scope 2: Total GHG emissions from the organisation's offsite energy suppliers, e.g. electricity for steam, heating or cooling.
- c) The **indirect** GHG emissions - Scope 3: Total GHG emissions of the organisation - as a consequence of the organisation's activities, which occur from sources not owned or controlled by it. (Including business travel.)
- d) Breakdown of GHG emission sources.
- e) If data is not available for 4.1.1(a) above, state:
 - i. Which data is unavailable.
 - ii. Why it is unavailable.
 - iii. When it is expected to be available.
- f) Has the organisation generated any renewable energy? If yes, provide a short description of the energy generation activity, the amount of energy generated and whether the energy was used or exported by the organisation.
- g) Has the organisation had any involvement in district heating schemes? If yes provide a summary of the involvement, including whether the heat is used or exported by the organisation.

PART 4 - MITIGATION: EMISSIONS STATEMENTS AND EMISSION REDUCTION PLANS AND PROGRESS

4.1.2 EMISSIONS STATEMENTS - FOR SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT REPORTS

State the organisation's GHG emissions and sources for the two financial years, following chronologically from the previous report, by providing:

- a) The **direct** GHG emissions - Scope 1: Total GHG emissions from the organisation's owned or controlled sources, e.g. boilers, furnaces, vehicles.
- b) The **indirect** GHG emissions - Scope 2: Total GHG emissions from offsite energy suppliers, e.g. electricity for steam, heating or cooling.
- c) The **indirect** GHG emissions - Scope 3: Total GHG emissions of the organisation - as a consequence of the organisation's activities, which occur from sources not owned or controlled by it. (Including business travel.)
- d) Breakdown of emission sources.
- e) If emissions data is not available for any year between the baseline year and the current reporting period, explain:
 - i. Which data is unavailable.
 - ii. Why it is unavailable.
 - iii. When it is expected to be available.
- f) Has the organisation generated any renewable energy? If yes, provide a short description of the energy generation activity, the amount of energy generated and whether the energy was used or exported by the organisation.
- g) Has the organisation had any involvement in district heating schemes? If yes provide a summary of the involvement, including whether the heat is used or exported by the organisation.
- h) If the organisation seeks to amend the levels or sources for its baseline year, then provide:
 - The relevant emissions data relating to the new baseline year or levels or sources;
and
 - The reasons for seeking this change.

PART 4 - MITIGATION: EMISSIONS STATEMENTS AND EMISSION REDUCTION PLANS AND PROGRESS

4.2 MITIGATION ACTION PLAN (i.e. Emissions Reduction Plan)

Set out the organisation's proposals, policies and actions (now referred to as 'actions') for reducing its emissions in the exercise of its functions, by providing:

- a) Any target(s) the organisation has set itself to reduce its GHG emissions levels and the year in which it aims to achieve the target(s).
- b) The organisation's actions to reduce its emissions and the timescales for implementation of these actions.
- c) How the actions under 4.2(b) will contribute to achieving the organisation's targets provided under 4.2(a).
- d) Which actions are a priority, to reduce the organisation's emissions before the next report is due to be submitted.
- e) The owners of each action provided under 4.2(b). [E.g. the name/team name (including role) in charge of implementing and managing the 'actions'.]
- f) If possible, an assessment of the predicted emissions savings from the actions provided under 4.2(b).
- g) Are any of the chosen actions, provided under 4.2(b), coordinated with other organisations - locally, in other parts of the UK, the Republic of Ireland or elsewhere. If yes, which actions and specify how they are coordinated.
- h) Confirmation of whether there are any projected reductions or increases in emissions due to any estimated growth/reduction of the organisation, e.g. related to changes in staff numbers, estates, service provisions.
- i) Confirmation of whether any of the actions provided under 4.2(b) have co-benefits or risks for adaptation action? If yes, provide a brief explanation.
- j) Confirmation of whether the organisation intends to use carbon credit purchases to offset its emissions. If yes, please provide details.

PART 4 - MITIGATION: EMISSIONS STATEMENTS AND EMISSION REDUCTION PLANS AND PROGRESS

4.3 PROGRESS MADE IN COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS REPORTS

(This section is applicable only to the second, and subsequent mitigation reports)

4.3.1 Provide an assessment of the progress made by the organisation towards reducing the levels and sources of emissions in comparison with:

- a) The baseline year; and
- b) The previous report (if applicable).

4.3.2 Provide an assessment of the progress made by the organisation towards implementing its previous emissions reduction plan by providing:

- a) The progress made towards implementation (i.e. completion date / expected completion date) for each proposal, policy and action.
- b) The contribution that the proposal, policy and action of the plan(s) has made so far, towards achieving any target(s) it has set itself.

4.3.3 If any commitments and/or timescales provided in the previous plan(s) were not met, explain:

- a) Why they were not met, i.e. what the barriers were.
- b) How the organisation plans to address those barriers going forward.
- c) When the organisation plans to deliver on the commitment/timescale, if still required/relevant.
- d) If the commitment/timescale is no longer required or relevant, please state why.

4.4 EMISSIONS REDUCTION CASE STUDIES

Details of up to five examples (case studies) of best practice, in mitigation actions taken by your organisation, can be provided.

Suggested areas of focus:

- When the action took place or if it is ongoing.
- Where the action took place.
- How was the action funded (e.g. by local government, private, etc.)?
- What were the key policies developed/actions taken to reduce emissions?
- How did the actions make a difference to addressing the reduction of emissions?
- What are the key lessons from the case study?
- Whether there are any future plans to build on this work under the case study? If yes, describe what these plans are.
- Provide a web link for further information on the case study and any contact details for further information.

5 - VALIDATION OF REPORT

(The questions in this part relate to both adaptation and mitigation reports)

- a) Has a senior figure or group in the organisation approved this report to be submitted to DAERA? If yes, provide evidence (e.g. a signed statement).
- b) Has the organisation applied any other validation process to this report? If yes, provide details of the validation (e.g. peer reviewed, or other external validation), and which data was validated.

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