

# Midlothian Integration Joint Board



**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 2.00 pm**

## **Climate Change Report under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.**

**Item number: 5.12**

### **Executive summary**

This paper summarises the IJB's responsibility to produce a Climate Change Report under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

#### **Board members are asked to:**

Approve the Midlothian Integration Joint Board Climate Change Report 2016/2017 for submission to Sustainable Scotland Network (Appendix 1).

## Climate Change Report under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

### 1 Purpose

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- 1.1. This paper summarises the IJB's responsibility to produce a Climate Change Report under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

### 2 Recommendations

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- 2.1 Approve the Midlothian Integration Joint Board Climate Change Report 2016/2017 for submission to Sustainable Scotland Network (Appendix 1).

### 3 Background and main report

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#### Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Requirements and Background

- 3.1 In 2009 the Scottish Parliament passed the Climate Change (Scotland) Act. Part 4 of the Act states that a *“public body must, in exercising its functions, act: in the way best calculated to contribute to the delivery of (Scotland's climate change) targets; in the way best calculated to help deliver any (Scottish adaptation programme); and in a way that it considers most sustainable”*.
- 3.2 The three elements of the public bodies climate change duties are:
- **Mitigation - Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions**
    - The first element of the duties is that, in exercising their functions, public bodies must act in the way best calculated to contribute to delivery of the Act's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. Reducing emissions is referred to as climate change *mitigation*.
    - The Act has set an interim target of a 42% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 and an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, on a 1990 baseline. The long-term targets will be complemented by annual targets, set in secondary legislation.
  - **Adaptation - Adapting to the Impacts of a Changing Climate**
    - The second element of the duties is that public bodies must, in exercising their functions, act in the way best calculated to deliver any statutory adaptation programme. The first statutory adaptation programme – Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Programme (SCCAP) – was published in 2014. While public sector bodies will

have varying degrees of influence in relation to adaptation, all public bodies need to be resilient to the future climate and to plan for business continuity in relation to delivery of their functions and the services they deliver.

- **Acting Sustainably - Sustainable Development as a Core Value**

- The third element of the duties places a requirement on public bodies to act in a way considered most sustainable. This element of the duties is about ensuring that, in reaching properly balanced decisions, the full range of social, economic and environmental aspects are taken into account, and that these aspects are viewed over the short and long term.

3.3 The *Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2015* came into force in November 2015 as secondary legislation made under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. The Order requires bodies to prepare reports on compliance with climate change duties. This includes 'An integration joint board established by order under section 9(2) of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014(c)'.

#### **4 Current Climate Change Reports**

4.1 Both of the constituent authorities submit reports to the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) and these are published [online](#). Links to the partners' plans are available in the report.

4.2 Midlothian Council

4.3 NHS Lothian

#### **5 Integration Authority Climate Change Report 2016/2017**

5.1 As the Midlothian Health and Social Care Partnership Integration Joint Board has no responsibility for staff, buildings or fleet cars the report does not contain a great deal of detail and aspects related to staff, buildings or fleet cars will be contained within constituent authorities reports.

5.2 In many sections readers are directed to read the constituent partners Climate Change Reports.

#### **6 Policy Implications**

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6.1 This report does not relate to the Midlothian Health and Social Care Partnership local outcomes and Strategic Plan priorities however it is a legislative requirement as a public body.

#### **7 Equalities Implications**

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7.1 The contents of this report do not require an EQIA because this is a statutory duty the IJB must carry out.

## 8 Resource Implications

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- 8.1 As the reporting requirements are limited the resources implication has been limited.
- 8.2 In future years a support services agreement will need to be reached to ensure a business partner approach to completing this report for the Integration Authority.
- 8.3 It should be noted if the remit of Health and Social Care partnerships should change the resources required to compile a similar report would increase.

## 9 Risk

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- 9.1 The approval of the Climate Change report will ensure the Integration Joint Board meets its requirements under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

## 10 Involving people

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- 10.1 The climate change report and this paper have been discussed and agreed with relevant leads in the partner bodies.

## 11 Background Papers

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