



Climate Change Adaptation Reporting Guidance for Public Bodies

Annex A: Summary of the Adaptation Requirements of The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024



Department of
Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

An Roinn
Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe

Department o'
Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers

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This annex provides a summary of the adaptation reporting requirements of [The Climate Change \(Reporting Bodies\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2024](#) ('the Regulations').

The different elements contained within the Regulations, in accordance with and in scope of section 42 of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, are as follows:

1. Climate change reporting duties are set on a Scheduled list of 40 large-sized (250 or more staff) 'specified' public bodies.
2. Requirements for the content of reports, and timing and frequency of reporting are set as follows:

Regulation 4:

(a) From the first adaptation report onwards, adaptation reports are required to include the public body's:

- i) assessment of the 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 timescales for implementing those proposals and policies.

(b) The second and subsequent adaptation reports are also required to include the public body's assessment of its progress towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any of its previous climate change adaptation reports.

(c) The first adaptation report must relate to the period of 4 years beginning with 1st January 2026 (*i.e. 1st January 2026 to 31st December 2029*).

(d) The second and subsequent adaptation reports must relate to the period of 5 years, starting from the end of the period covered by the previous report. *[For example: A public body's second adaptation report, will relate to the period of 1st January 2030 to 31st December 2035.]*

- (e)** The first adaptation reports are required to be submitted to DAERA by 31st March 2026, and then the second adaptation report is required to be submitted by 31st January 2030, with all subsequent reports required to be submitted on 31st January, at five-yearly intervals.
- (f)** In adaptation reporting, public bodies must have regard to the following, so far as relevant (see [regulation 7](#)):
- i) the most recent UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (report under section 56 of the Climate Change Act 2008);
 - ii) the most recent Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Programme (programme under section 60 of the Climate Change Act 2008);
 - iii) the desirability of co-ordinating their adaptation actions (to address/manage their climate change impacts, risks and opportunities) with corresponding proposals and policies in other parts of the United Kingdom, in the Republic of Ireland or elsewhere; and
 - iv) DAERA's guidance, produced under regulation 6.
3. There is provision for DAERA to produce guidance to assist public bodies in meeting their reporting duties (see [regulation 6](#)).
4. The Regulations allow for corrections to be made to the reports after they are submitted to DAERA (see [regulation 10](#)); and
5. The Regulations set a duty on DAERA to publish the reports received, and for the specified public bodies to publish their own reports (see [regulation 11](#)).

Climate Change Legislation and Policy Division
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
Clare House
303 Airport Road West
Sydenham Intake
Belfast
BT3 9ED

Telephone: 028 9081 6611

Email: ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk

www.daera-ni.gov.uk



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
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An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
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