



# Climate Change Adaptation Reporting Guidance for Public Bodies

## Annex D: Generic Questions to Help Inform a Climate Change Impact Assessment and Adaptation Actions



Department of  
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# Generic Questions to Help Inform a Climate Change Impact Assessment and Adaptation Actions

## Introduction

This annex provides a series of questions, as an optional resource, to help a reporting organisation think about what they may include or consider in its approach to fulfilling their duties under the Regulations, with regard to:

- assessing its current and predicted impact of climate change in relation to their functions (i.e. undertaking a climate change impact assessment); and
- developing actions on how they can adapt to climate change in the exercise of their functions.

This annex is provided as a supplement to the following sections and chapters within the associated guidance document ('Climate Change Adaptation Reporting Guidance'):

- 'Climate Change Impact Assessment – Requirements and Approaches';
- 'Climate Change Adaptation Action – Requirements and Approaches';
- 'Chapter 3: Climate Change Impact Assessment'; and
- 'Chapter 4: Climate Change Adaptation Actions'.

The questions below are intended to prompt thinking by a reporting organisation, they are optional, for their internal use and are not embedded within the online portal, i.e. answers to these questions are not required to be provided to DAERA.

The following questions to consider are non-exhaustive, illustrative lists and may not be relevant to every organisation.

## **Identifying risks and impacts to the organisation's functions**

1. What are the organisation's functions, aims, and objectives?
2. Which of these functions, aims, and objectives will be affected by the current and possible future impacts of climate change?
3. Does the organisation have monitoring and evaluation processes in place to measure performance against delivery of functions, strategic objectives, outcomes, etc. (i.e. a potential source of the organisation's performance data)?
4. What is the current level of business preparedness for managing the current impacts of climate change and/or extreme weather events (i.e. potential source of data)?
5. What are the current processes in place to assess business risks in the organisation (i.e. potential sources of data on previous impacts on the organisation's functions, from the effects of climate change)?

## **Assessing risks – identifying risks which impact on the organisation's functions**

6. What are the main criteria against which climate impacts and risks are assessed and prioritised (e.g. financial, social, environmental impacts, impact on ability of organisation to continue its daily business, impact on ability to deliver against objectives, etc.)?
7. Has the organisation assessed how impacts on the organisation's functions could affect its service users / key stakeholders (e.g. through stakeholder engagement / consultation)?
8. Does the organisation's assessment of climate risks and impacts take account of both the short term and longer-term effects of climate change on its functions?

## **Actions to address risks and impacts**

9. What criteria will the organisation use to decide on which actions are the most appropriate to address its risks and impacts (e.g. affordability, flexibility for future refinement, timescales for completion, timescales for achieving reduction of risk, potential disruption to service provision during implementation, etc.)?

- 10.** How will the organisation manage the implementation of its adaptation actions (e.g. inclusion of adaptation in the organisation's overall decision-making processes, allocation of responsibilities, etc.)?
- 11.** What benefits does the organisation anticipate will result from its adaptation actions?
- 12.** How will the organisation measure success of its adaptation actions? (e.g. which key performance indicators or similar will be applied)?

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