

From: [Climate PBR](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Bcc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: EIR / 6519 - Climate Change Reporting Information
Date: 04 August 2026 10:24:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email below regarding the EIR request received by Derry City and Strabane District Council in relation to the mitigation and adaptation reports submitted under the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024 ("the Regulations").

The Public Body Reporting Team is currently undertaking a quality assurance review of all mitigation and adaptation reports received from public bodies. As part of this process, where it appears to either the Department or a reporting body that a submitted report requires correction, Regulation 10 provides a mechanism for the reporting body to submit a corrected report. The purpose of this process is to support the accuracy, completeness and integrity of information reported under the Regulations and to ensure that any information ultimately published reflects the most accurate information reasonably available at the time.

There is nothing within the Regulations that prevents the Council from publishing its own submitted report. However, it should be noted that reports may be subject to correction prior to publication under Regulation 11. Following completion of the quality assurance process and receipt of any corrected reports, the Department intends to publish the reports on its website, with reporting bodies also expected to publish their reports at broadly the same time.

While the Regulations do not prescribe a statutory timeframe for publication, it is currently anticipated that mitigation reports will be published later this year, with adaptation reports following in early 2027.

It may be helpful to consider obtaining legal advice, if this has not already been sought, in determining the most appropriate course of action in relation to this matter. However, if you have any further queries, or would like to discuss further please give me a call,

Kind regards

Climate Change Public Body Reporting Team

Climate Change Legislation and Policy Division | Climate Change, Science & Innovation Group | Clare House | 303 Airport Road West | Belfast | BT3 9ED

Tel: [REDACTED]

Email: ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2026 09:46
To: Climate PBR <ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk>
Subject: EIR / 6519 - Climate Change Reporting Information

CAUTION – This email has been received from outside the NICS network. If you have any concerns, please report for investigation.

Hi

Please see FOI below received by Derry City & Strabane District Council – in particular the queries regarding copies of reports submitted to DAERA. I would appreciate some guidance as to whether such reports can be made available at this time given that the department is working through submissions.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]
Derry City & Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road
Derry
BT48 7NN

www.derrystrabane.com



From: Save The Moat <savethemoat@gmail.com>
Sent: 07 July 2026 07:26
To: foi <foi@derrystrabane.com>
Subject: Request for Climate Change Reporting Information

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in relation to Derry City and Strabane District Council's obligations under The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024.

I understand that these Regulations place climate reporting duties on specified public bodies, including councils, and require the publication of reported data and information.

I note that the Council's Corporate / Improvement Plan 2026–27 states that the "DAERA Public Body Report - Mitigation Report & Adaptation Report" has been submitted.

However, I have been unable to locate the actual reports on the Council's website.

Please therefore provide the following:

1. A copy of the Council's Climate Change Mitigation Report submitted to DAERA;
2. A copy of the Council's Climate Change Adaptation Report submitted to DAERA;
3. The greenhouse gas baseline data used for the mitigation report;
4. Any appendices, datasets, committee papers, working documents or supporting documents relating to these reports;
5. The date on which each report was submitted to DAERA;
6. The exact webpage where the Council has published these reports and associated data;
7. Confirmation of whether the reports have also been published on DAERA's website;
8. If the reports have not yet been published, an explanation as to why, and confirmation of when they will be made publicly available.

Given that this information relates to emissions, climate change, public authority measures and environmental policy, please treat this request as a request for environmental information under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Kind regards,

Ann-Louise Bresnahan

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Concluding Remarks

1. My name is Jane Corderoy, and I am the acting Deputy Secretary for the Climate Change, Science and Innovation Group here in DAERA.
2. Thank you again to everyone for joining us today. I hope you have found the event both valuable and inspiring, and that you are leaving with a real sense of what has been achieved collectively, as well as ideas to carry forward into your own organisations.
3. As we have seen throughout the presentations, and particularly in the case studies and journeys showcased, there is a lot to be proud of. The stories shared today highlight not just compliance with statutory reporting requirements, but genuine progress,

innovation, and commitment to climate action across the public sector. It is clear to me that there is a shared determination to drive forward the climate agenda across Northern Ireland.

4. As Katrina highlighted in her opening remarks, this first reporting cycle represents a significant milestone. The level of engagement, collaboration, and co-design during this process has been truly impressive. I want to take this opportunity to sincerely congratulate all of you on reaching this point, and to thank you for the effort, dedication, and partnership that made it possible.
5. Collectively, your work shows what can be achieved when there is a shared commitment to act. It is already making a meaningful difference, embedding sustainability into

organisational culture, driving behaviour change, and strengthening transparency and accountability.

6. The data and insights you are generating are helping to shape decision-making and will play an important role in informing wider climate action across the region.
7. As we close today, we are also looking firmly to the future. This is just the beginning of an ongoing, iterative process. We are now moving into the next phase, building on the strong foundations that you have all worked so hard to establish.
8. Our team has already begun a detailed review of the submitted reports. This includes a thorough quality control and quality assurance process, through which we will work

collaboratively with each of you to agree any necessary collective amendments, alongside shaping our approach to publication.

9. We will also be preparing a high-level synopsis of both the mitigation and adaptation reporting, submitted through this first cycle, which we look forward to sharing with you in due course.
10. At the same time, we will continue to refine and improve the reporting process, our guidance, systems, and digital platform, so that they evolve with your needs, reflect advances in climate science, and incorporate what we are all learning together.
11. Most importantly, we look forward to continuing this journey with you. By working in partnership, we can strengthen and enhance climate reporting so that it truly supports

informed, timely action, helping you to reduce emissions, adapt to impacts, and unlock opportunities for sustainable growth.

12. Ultimately, the work you are doing is a vital contribution to delivering Northern Ireland's transition to a net zero, climate-resilient future, one that is fair, inclusive, and sustainable for all.
13. Before I let you go, I want to briefly draw your attention to another important development - last month we launched the public appointment process for the Just Transition Commission for Northern Ireland.
14. The Commission will play an important role in supporting a fair and just transition, and I would encourage anyone with relevant experience across any of the 12 mandated sectors to consider applying. The application

window remains open until 25 June 2026, and further information is available on the DAERA website.

15. Thank you again for your commitment, your leadership, and the progress you have made. And I look forward to what we will achieve together in the next phase.

From: [Climate PBR](#)
Bcc:

Subject: CM: Public Body Reporting: Update and Next Steps Following Completion of the First Mitigation and Adaptation Reporting Cycles
Date: 10 June 2026 11:13:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Public Body,

RE: CLIMATE CHANGE (REPORTING BODIES) REGULATIONS (NI) 2024 – Update Following Completion of the First Mitigation and Adaptation Reporting Cycles

Ahead of DAERA's PBR Celebration event tomorrow morning (11 June 2026 at Parliament Buildings, Stormont), please find below an outline of the proposed next steps in relation to the first cycle of Mitigation and Adaptation Reports received under the Regulations.

While this programme of work will take time to complete, it is already actively underway and being progressed at pace in parallel by the Public Body Reporting (PBR) team.

Next Steps by DAERA:

1. Quality Assurance (QA) Review

- A review of all submitted mitigation and adaptation reports is underway.
- If any potential issues or queries regarding a report are identified as a result of this review, the relevant organisation will be contacted as appropriate, by the PBR team via ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk with further information.
- The review of mitigation reports is likely to be completed first, with adaptation reports following in due course.
- All public bodies will be notified on completion of each separate review process (i.e. notified for mitigation; and for adaptation).

2. Amendments to Public Body Reports

- An internal process is being established with our digital providers to support the implementation of any necessary and agreed changes to already submitted reports.
- If **your organisation has already contacted the PBR helpdesk regarding an amendment to a submitted report**, please be assured that these requests have been received and recorded. The PBR team will be in contact in due course regarding next steps for applying any appropriate amendments.

3. Analysis of Public Body Reports and Development of Synopsis Reports of Findings

- Analysis of the reports is underway and will be updated to reflect any appropriate and agreed amendments made following completion of the QA review (see above) and/or **those** identified by the public body itself.
- Analysis of the mitigation reports, and the resulting synopsis report, is likely to be completed first, with adaptation following in due course.
- High-level findings will be published in synopsis reports (developed by DAERA) – one each for both the mitigation and adaptation reporting cycles.

4. Publication of Reports

- DAERA will let you know in advance before publishing the reports and the relevant Synopsis Reports of Findings
- DAERA will share with each public body a PDF version of their submitted report, which the department intends to publish with GDPR-sensitive information and any questions (and associated responses) intended for DAERA's administrative use removed.

5. Review of Reporting Cycles

- DAERA intend to carry out an evaluation of the reporting cycles, including the online portal, reporting questions, guidance, and training, to inform a programme of improvement and potential expansion for future reporting rounds.
- The PBR Team in DAERA will be in contact in due course to invite your participation. The aim will be to gather feedback and identify shared learning from your experience of the first reporting cycles, helping to inform potential improvements for future cycles.

Thank you for your continued input and commitment to PBR reporting. We will continue to keep you informed of progress on the above next steps, as appropriate.

Kind regards,

Climate Change Public Body Reporting Team

Climate Change Legislation and Policy Division | Climate Change, Science & Innovation Group | Clare House | 303 Airport Road West | Belfast | BT3 9ED

Tel: +44 (0)28 90816611

Email: ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk



From: [Climate PBR](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: PBR correspondence with [REDACTED] Adaptation Report - Request to make Minor Amendments
Date: 27 May 2026 15:58:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Hi team,

Just an update on the [REDACTED] and the request to make minor amendments to their adaptation report.

I got speaking to [REDACTED] this afternoon and assured her that:

- we had logged her request to make the changes;
- we are still reviewing and working through all the reports; and
- we would not be publishing the reports until any requested amendments have been made.

I also told her that our focus at the minute was on the celebration event on 11th June and that after the event we would be looking at our corrections policy and will be in touch in due course.

[REDACTED]

Climate Change Public Body Reporting Team

Climate Change & Green Growth Policy Division | Climate Change, Science & Innovation Group | Clare House | 303 Airport Road West | Belfast | BT3 9ED

Tel: +44 (0)28 90816611

Email: ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 May 2026 15:27
To: Climate PBR <ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: PBR Response: [REDACTED] Adaptation Report - Request to make Minor Amendments

CAUTION – This email has been received from outside the NICS network. If you have any concerns, please report for investigation.

Hi there

Can I just check that these minor amendments can be made to our report.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

From: Climate PBR <ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk>
Sent: 31 March 2026 16:36
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: PBR Response: [REDACTED] Adaptation Report - Request to make Minor Amendments

Hi [REDACTED]

RE: [REDACTED] Adaptation Report – Request to Make Minor Amendments

Thank you for your email. We can arrange for you to re-access your report to make the necessary corrections. We will be in touch shortly with the details.

Kind regards,

Climate Change Public Body Reporting Team

Climate Change Legislation and Policy Division | Climate Change, Science and Innovation Group | Clare House | 1st Floor, 303 Airport Road West, Belfast, BT3 9ED.

[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 March 2026 13:15
To: Climate PBR <ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk>
Subject: Adaptation Report

Good afternoon

The [REDACTED] submitted our adaptation report yesterday and [REDACTED] has come back today to make some minor amendments to the report.

Is there anyway we can get these changes made?

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



From: [Climate PBR](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Bcc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Climate Change Public Body Reporting - Adaptation Report Received
Date: 30 March 2026 13:01:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024

This email is to confirm that the Climate Change Adaptation Report for [REDACTED] was successfully submitted and received by DAERA on **30th March 2026**, under the above Regulations.

Next Steps

Review and publication

- DAERA will review all submitted reports and will publish them in line with the Regulations in due course.
- You will be notified in advance when the Department expects to publish your organisation's report. Please be aware that publication may take some time to allow for development of the digital publication platform, and to allow DAERA to complete its review and analysis of each submitted report.

Corrections requested by your organisation

- If your organisation identifies a need to correct its report after submission, please contact the PBR Team via the helpdesk below as soon as practicable for further information and guidance.
- Please note that any corrections made to submitted reports will also be published.

Corrections identified by DAERA

- If DAERA identifies any potential issues within your organisation's report, including where a correction may be required, we will contact you as soon as is practicably possible with further information and guidance.

If you have any queries regarding this email, please contact the PBR Team via the helpdesk:

Email: ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk

Telephone: 028 9081 6611

Kind regards,

Climate Change Public Body Reporting Team

Climate Change Legislation and Policy Division | Climate Change, Science & Innovation Group | Clare House | 303 Airport Road West | Belfast | BT3 9ED

Tel: +44 (0)28 90816611

Email: ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk



From: [Climate PBR](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Climate Change Public Body Reporting - Mitigation Report Received
Date: 30 October 2025 14:18:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024

Notification of receipt of Climate Change Mitigation Report

This is to confirm that the Climate Change Mitigation Report for [REDACTED] was successfully submitted and received by DAERA on 30th October 2025 in accordance with the above Regulations.

Please note the **next steps** following submission of mitigation reports are:

- **Review and publication:**

DAERA will now review all submitted reports and publish them in line with the Regulations in due course. You will be pre-notified when the department expects your organisation's report to be published. Please note that publication may take some time to allow for development of the digital publication platform, and for DAERA's review and analysis of each submitted report.

- **Corrections required by your organisation:**

If your organisation identifies a need to correct their report after submission, please contact the PBR team at ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk as soon as possible, clearly outlining the reason for each correction requested.

DAERA will consider all requests for corrections, and if agreed, we will contact you and arrange for the online portal to be opened to allow application and submission of amendments to the report. Please note that corrections to reports are also required to be published.

- **Corrections identified by DAERA:**

If DAERA identifies any issues, such as where it thinks a correction may be required within your organisation's report, we will contact you as soon as practically possible in that regard.

If you have any queries, contact the PBR team at:

Email: ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk
Telephone: 028 9081 6611

Kind regards,

Climate Change Public Body Reporting Team

Climate Change Legislation and Policy Division | Climate Change, Science & Innovation Group | Clare House | 303 Airport Road West | Belfast | BT3 9ED
Tel: +44 (0)28 90816611
Email: ClimatePBR@daera-ni.gov.uk



From the Permanent Secretary
Katrina Godfrey

Your reference
Our reference



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Depairtment o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

[email address of Public Body]

23 January 2026

Office of the Permanent Secretary
First Floor, Clare House
303 Airport Road West
Sydenham Intake
Belfast BT3 9ED
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Dear [Name of Public Body Representative]

**THE CLIMATE CHANGE (REPORTING BODIES) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND)
2024 - COMPLETION OF THE FIRST MITIGATION REPORTING CYCLE**

I am writing to say thank you to you and your team for the contribution of your organisation to the first climate change mitigation reporting cycle under the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024.

I recognise that this has been a new and challenging process, with your organisation completing mitigation reporting within a short timeframe. Your contribution has been particularly valuable at a time when Northern Ireland has become the first region in the UK to establish a fully digital platform for climate change reporting. The level of engagement, collaboration, participation, and positive co-design demonstrated across our public bodies has been exceptional.

It is also clear that reporting in this way is laying the foundation for continuous improvement, demonstrating public sector leadership, and providing data and insight that will help to inform wider climate action and the broader agenda within your sector and across Northern Ireland.

Thank you again for the leadership you have provided in this area and please do pass on my thanks and the thanks of the Public Body Reporting Team here in DAERA to everyone in your own teams who has been involved in this work.

Finally, I have attached some information on next steps which I hope is helpful.

Yours sincerely

KATRINA GODFREY

Next Steps: Reporting Requirements and Support Measures

Mitigation: DAERA is undertaking a review of all of the reports received for this first mitigation reporting cycle, along with developing a synopsis of high-level findings. The reports received will be published in due course, in accordance with the Regulations, along with the synopsis of findings. You will be notified of the publication dates at the earliest possible stage.

Adaptation: As you prepare and collect your data for the first adaptation reporting cycle under the Regulations, please note that reports are due to be submitted by 31st March 2026. To support your preparation, DAERA has already shared preliminary, draft co-designed adaptation questions (the blueprint for the online portal) along with accompanying guidance. DAERA has recently delivered an in-person adaptation training event (with assistance from Climate NI and guest speakers from the Met Office and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council) to further assist public bodies in this process. Further information on the event, including the slide deck of presentations, can be accessed online via the following DAERA webpage: [Climate Change Adaptation Training for Public Bodies](#)

The department, working closely with its digital developer suppliers, is finalising the expansion of the online portal to ensure readiness for adaptation data entry by the end of January 2026. Please begin preparing now, using the draft questions and guidance already shared, and have your adaptation data ready for entry into the portal as early as possible. This will help to reduce reporting pressures and support us all in working together towards the March 2026 submission deadline.

Programme of Improvement: DAERA intends to carry out a review of both first reporting cycles to gather feedback and inform a programme of improvement for the second and future cycles under the Regulations, including enhancements to the online portal. DAERA will reach out to those bodies that reported for their insights on user experience.

Annex B

The Climate Change (Reporting bodies) Regulations 2024: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Index:

- Question 1: Why are the Regulations being brought forward?
- Question 2: When and how often will reporting be required?
- Question 3: What information will the reports need to contain?
- Question 4: What are the other requirements/allowances set by the Regulations?
- Question 5: What support will be provided to you for meeting your reporting duties, and when?
- Question 6: Why must the Regulations wait for 21 days before coming into operation, after they are made and laid in the Assembly?
- Question 7: How were the Regulations informed?
- Question 8: What was the UK Climate Change Committee's advice to DAERA?
- Question 9: What criteria was used to identify which organisations should be specified to have climate change reporting duties placed on them by the Regulations?
- Question 10: Will other public bodies be required to report in the future?
- Question 11: What next?

Question 1: Why are the Regulations being brought forward?

Ans: Section 42 of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 ('the Act') requires DAERA to make new Regulations, which will place climate change reporting duties on specified public bodies. The Regulations are crosscutting and so the content of the Regulations in **Annex A** has been agreed by the Northern Ireland Executive, who have also agreed that DAERA should make and lay them in the Assembly and bring them into operation.

Question 2: When and how often will reporting be required?

Ans: There are two types of reports which you will be required to provide under your reporting duties set by the Regulations, and these are - 'climate change mitigation' reports and 'climate change adaptation' reports. The required content of these reports is discussed in question 3 below. Detailed guidance, which will be co-designed with reporting bodies, and training, will be provided to you on the requirements and on how to meet your reporting duties.

The timings and frequency of reporting are set in the Regulations (Annex A), specifically regulation 4 for adaptation, and regulation 5 for mitigation.

The following provides an explanation of the timings and frequency of reports:

Regulation 4: Adaptation Reports

- Your first 'adaptation report' **must be submitted to DAERA by 31st March 2026** (the period which the first report will cover is 4 years* beginning from 1st January 2026).
- Your second and subsequent adaptation reports will be on a 5-yearly cycle*.
- Your second adaptation report will therefore begin from 1st January 2030, and must be submitted to DAERA by 31st January 2030.
- Your third adaptation report will begin from 1st January 2035. This third report must be submitted to DAERA by 31st January 2035; and so on for subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports.

*[*N.B. the frequencies and timings are set to align with, in order to aim to inform, the development of the 5-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessments which are required under the UK Climate Change Act 2008 – these risk Assessments include detail on the current and projected climate change risks and impacts to Northern Ireland (see question 10 for more detail).]*

Regulation 5: Mitigation Reports

- Your mitigation reports will be on a 3-yearly cycle.
- Your **first ‘mitigation report’ must be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2025.**
- Your second mitigation report must therefore be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2028.
- Your third mitigation report must be submitted to DAERA by 31st October 2031, and so on for subsequent reports every 3 years.

Question 3: What information will the reports need to contain?

Ans: The Regulations (Annex A) set the requirements on what your reports must contain. The requirements are set under regulation 4(1) which relates to adaptation, and regulation 5(1) which relates to mitigation. Please note that DAERA intends to develop and co-design guidance with reporting bodies to help them meet their reporting duties. This will include technical detail and guidance on what is reported, and how it is reported, for both adaptation and mitigation. Further detail on support to be provided to you to help you to meet your reporting duties is discussed under question 5.

Adaptation reports

The first (4 year) adaptation report, and the subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports are required to include your public body's:

- (i) 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 the timescales for implementing these proposals and policies.

Second and subsequent 5-yearly adaptation reports are also required to include your public body's:

- assessment of the progress it has made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any of its previous climate change adaptation reports.

Mitigation Reports

The first mitigation report is required to include your public body's:

- (i) amounts and sources of greenhouse gas emissions, in respect of the financial year beginning 1st April 2024 and ending 31st March 2025; and
- (ii) its proposals and policies for reducing its emissions in the exercise of its functions, including timescales for implementing those proposals and policies.

The second and subsequent 3-yearly mitigation reports are required to include your public body's:

- (a) amounts and sources of greenhouse gas emissions in respect of each of the three preceding financial years (1st of April – 31st March) [*For example: Your public body's second mitigation report, to be submitted to DAERA by October 2028, will include the amounts and sources of its greenhouse gas emissions in respect of the three preceding financial years – i.e. from 1st April 2025 until 31st March 2028.*];
- (b) proposals and policies for reducing its emissions in the exercise of its functions, including the timescale for implementing those proposals and policies; and
- (c) assessment of the progress it has made towards implementing the proposals and policies set out in any of its previous climate change mitigation reports.

The Regulations require that a mitigation report must use as a baseline, the body's greenhouse gas emissions and sources which were reported in its first mitigation report, for the financial year beginning 1st April 2024 and ending 31st March 2025. This baseline will be used for assessing and reporting on progress. The Regulations also allow for an alternative baseline to be used, however, this will require agreement with DAERA.

For the support in place to help you with the reporting, and especially the first reports please see the answer to question 5 below.

Question 4: What are the other requirements/allowances set by the Regulations?

Ans: The Regulations:

- require the reporting bodies to have regard to certain matters (if relevant) when reporting, including, for example – the most recent 5-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessment, required under the UK Climate Change Act 2008, which contains climate change risks and impacts to Northern Ireland (see regulation 7, Annex A);
- allow co-operation in preparation of reports, and/or joint reporting, between two or more reporting bodies to meet their reporting requirements (see regulation 8 and 9 respectively, Annex A);
- allow for corrections to be made to the reports, after they are submitted to DAERA (see regulation 10, Annex A); and
- require publication of a body's own reports on its website and also on DAERA's website (see regulation 11, Annex A).

Question 5: What support will be provided to you for meeting your reporting duties, and when?

Ans: To help your organisation meet its reporting duties under the Regulations, DAERA will provide the following practical support:

- Technical, co-designed guidance on how to complete climate change reports.
- Co-development of a reporting template containing a list of climate change questions for your organisation to answer.
- Provision of an online climate change reporting portal, for you to enter your data into, to create your reports and make subsequent reporting as easy as possible.
- Provision of training on how to complete climate change reports to meet your reporting duties.

DAERA is undertaking preparation work to bring forward this support as soon

as possible. Support will be provided at the earliest opportunity and ahead of the reporting submission dates. DAERA may contact you regarding input to the co-design developmental work regarding this support.

DAERA also, intends as part of its co-development of support, where possible and as appropriate, to ensure a streamlined and consistent approach to reporting, where public bodies are required to report on climate change elsewhere. For example, we have already engaged with the Department of the Economy regarding their Energy Carbon Data Repository System. We recognise as streamlined and consistent approach as possible, in order to avoid any duplication of process, is very important for public bodies and for the success of the reporting.

Question 6: Why must the Regulations wait for 21 days before coming into operation, after they are made and laid in the Assembly?

Ans: The Regulations are subject to the ‘negative resolution’ procedure under the Act. This means that they are required to be ‘laid’ in the Assembly for 21 days, before they can become operational.

Question 7: How were the Regulations informed?

Ans: The following have helped to inform the development of the Regulations:

- advice from the UK Climate Change Committee (the statutory independent expert advisers on climate change, to the Northern Ireland government);
- the outcome of DAERA’s public consultation on developing the Regulations; and
- the outcome of the pre-consultation workshops with public bodies which informed the consultation’s development.

The consultation can be found at: [Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations.](#)

The summary of responses received to consultation, including findings from the pre-consultation workshops with public bodies, can be found at: [Summary of Responses and Next Steps: Consultation on Climate Change Reporting by Specified Public Bodies - Developing New Regulations](#)

Question 8: What criteria was used to identify which organisations should be specified to have climate change reporting duties placed on them by the Regulations?

Ans: The Climate Change Act (NI) 2022 ('the Act'), in section 42, requires DAERA to make new Regulations which will set 'climate change reporting duties' on 'specified public bodies'. The Act's definition of a public body in section 42, is very wide - it can be: "*a person or body with functions of a public nature*" and "*a person who is a statutory undertaker within the meaning of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011*". The Act does not require all public bodies to report under the Regulations. DAERA therefore is applying a phased and balanced approach, in which these first set of Regulations will focus on large-sized organisations being required to report. DAERA intends to explore at a future point, bringing forward amending Regulations, to expand the scope of these first set of Regulations, including the scope of who is required to report.

The following criteria, which has been informed by the consultation and the pre-consultation workshops with public bodies, was used to identify the bodies which are specified in these first set of Regulations as having reporting duties placed on them:

Public Bodies:

- (i) with 250 or more staff (based on full-time equivalent (FTE) data or total of permanent staff),
- (ii) which are listed authorities in Schedule 3 to the Public Services Ombudsman Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 and/or in the list of organisations subject to the

- Department of Finance's public procurement policy,
- (iii) whose remit/functions do not fall under reserved or excepted matters, or they are not North/South government dual funded, and
 - (iv) which are not a Registered Housing Association, a General Practitioner, nor a Northern Ireland Civil Service department and their Executive agency(ies) (due to the more extensive requirements* placed on these departments by other sections of the Act).

**The Act sets a range of duties on Northern Ireland departments including that they must all contribute to delivering the Act's emissions reduction targets and carbon budgets (i.e. caps or limits on the level of emissions which are permitted over a 5-year period). The Act places a range of reporting requirements on departments in that regard, including developing and publishing sectoral plans, climate action plans and progress reports and statements. Section 42 of the Act has a much narrower scope, in that the Regulations required by this section can only be made to require public bodies to report solely on climate change.*

Question 9: Will other public bodies be required to report in the future?
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Ans: DAERA intends, at a future point, to review these Regulations (after they are made and are operational). The Review will include exploring the making of amending Regulations to expand the scope of the Regulations including who is required to report.

Question 10: What was the UK Climate Change Committee's advice to DAERA?

Ans: The following is the UK Climate Change Committee's ('the CCC') advice to DAERA on the timing and frequency of climate change reporting by public bodies, with which the Regulations (in Annex A) are aligned:

General Advice from the CCC

Actions and especially policy, for both tackling the causes of climate change (i.e. mitigation) and adapting to its impacts and risks, can have long lead-in times before they are embedded, and the results and benefits are seen. This is particularly true of adaptation.

CCC Advice on Adaptation Reporting

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, the observation that adaptation actions take time to identify, fund and implement, similarly supports 5-yearly adaptation reporting, to provide meaningful updates on progress and to identify 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 power under the UK Climate Change Act (2008).

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 Climate Change Risk Assessment ('CCRA') required under the UK Act 2008. This is because the information collected under the regulations could be used to help inform these CCC evidence reports. The CCC also advised that public bodies should provide a risk assessment and an adaptation action plan at the same time. 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.

- DAERA has set adaptation reporting for every 5 years (which also aligns with the outcome of the consultation – see question 7 above).¹

¹ The first adaptation report will cover a 4-year period, and second and subsequent adaptation reports will be 5-yearly. The frequencies and timings are set to align with, in order to aim to inform, the development of the 5-yearly UK Climate Change Risk Assessments required under the UK Climate Change Act 2008.

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.

- DAERA has set mitigation reporting for every 3 years (which also aligns with the outcome of the consultation see question 7 above).

Question 11: What next?

Ans: Once you have provided to DAERA, your body's nominated person(s) contact details, we will be in touch with that person to initiate engagement and regularly as the support referred to in question 5, is being developed, implemented and delivered.