

# Public Bodies - Climate Change Reporting

This form is your annual report, required under the Climate Change (Public Bodies' Reporting Requirements) Regulations 2022 (as amended by the Climate Change (Public Bodies' Reporting Requirements) Amendment Regulations 2023).

This report relates to compliance with the climate change duties set out in Section 21 of the Climate Change Act 2021.

The climate change duties are:

- (1) *A public body, in performing its duties, must act in the way that it considers best to contribute to –*
- (a) *the meeting of the net zero emissions target by*
  - (b) *the meeting of any interim target;*
  - (c) *supporting the just transition principles and the climate justice principle;*
  - (d) *sustainable development, including the achievement of the United Nations sustainable development goals; and*
  - (e) *protecting and enhancing biodiversity, ecosystems and ecosystem services.*

Please complete this form and submit it to: [publicbodiesclimate@gov.im](mailto:publicbodiesclimate@gov.im) along with any supporting documents.

Public bodies' climate change reporting does **not** feed into the national GHG inventory.  
 It is intended to provide an overview of climate action within the public sector and ensure that the climate change duties are understood and being implemented.  
 The report therefore focusses on a small number of high-level indicators.  
 It is not a full-scale, detailed emissions report, which would need to be undertaken by a suitably experienced emissions auditor.

Guidance is included throughout and FAQs are included on a separate tab.  
 However, if you have any queries about how to complete this form please email: [publicbodiesclimate@gov.im](mailto:publicbodiesclimate@gov.im)

**>>>> In each section relevant to your public body ONLY complete the GREEN fields <<<<**

Only complete the sections (tabs) relevant to your category of public body, as follows:

Category A	Category B	Category C
More than 150 fte stationed employees	Between 16 and 150 fte stationed employees	Inactive or 15 or fewer fte stationed employees
Introduction	Introduction	Introduction
Reporting Period	Reporting Period	Category C
Baseline (if baseline year different to reporting period)	Governance & Behaviour	
Governance & Behaviour	Missing & Estimated Data (if applicable)	
Missing & Estimated Data (if applicable)		

Q-11

## PUBLIC BODY INFORMATION

Name of public body (choose from drop down)	Garff (Local Authority)
Contact phone number	861241
Contact email address	admin@garff.im
Number of fte stationed employees	12

# CATEGORY C ONLY

Only fill in the GREEN fields

## Q-C1

### FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

Only category C public bodies should complete this question.

Has the public body remained financially inactive throughout the reporting period?	No
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## Q-C2

### CLIMATE ACTION

Only category C public bodies should complete this question.

Has the public body taken any action to reduce its emissions, or in relation to any other aspect of the climate change duties, during the reporting period?	Yes
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Description of action	Relevant climate change duty	In progress/complete	Supporting document?
Purchase of electric powered maintenance machinery	Emissions reduction	In progress	See attached Report
Reducing heating of offices and Sheltered Complex	Emissions reduction	In progress	See attached Report
Installation of storage heaters in offices	Emissions reduction	In progress	See attached Report
Grouping of operational vehicle movements	Emissions reduction	In progress	See attached Report
Uptake of Cycle to Work Scheme	Emissions reduction	In progress	See attached Report
Staff use of active travel to work where possible	Emissions reduction	In progress	See attached Report
Staff use of electric cycles for worktravel where possible	Emissions reduction	In progress	See attached Report
Grass now cuttings used to make compost	Biodiversity and Ecosystems	In progress	See attached Report
Other actions listed in attached report	Emissions reduction	In progress	See attached Report

## Q-C3

### PLANS AND STRATEGIES

Only category C public bodies should complete this question.

Has the public body prepared any plans, strategies or other similar documents relating to reducing its emissions or any other aspect of the climate change duties?	
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Name of plan/strategy/document	Relevant climate change duty	In progress/complete	Supporting document?
Being formalised: To reduce emissions	Emissions reduction	In progress	See attached Report
Being Finalised: To enhance biodiversity/ecosystems	Biodiversity and Ecosystems	In progress	See attached Report
Plan social inclusion in policy development and actions	Fair Change	In progress	See Section C attached Plan
Plan to take responsibility now	Sustainable Development	In progress	See attached Report

## Q-C4

### HIGHLIGHTS

Only category C public bodies should complete this question.

Are there any actions or initiatives taken by the public body over the reporting period, in relation to the climate change duties, that you would like to highlight?
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If so, please describe the action, project or initiative:	These actions are set out in the accompanying report, but of the achieved duties the move to battery operated maintenance tools is important as it has reduced emissions and help to safeguard the health of operatives.
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To which aspect of the climate change duties does the action, project or initiative relate?	Emission reduction and just transition (for the operatives and public)
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Please briefly explain why you have chosen to highlight this action, project or initiative:

Although small scale we feel it is an important step and will encourage us to further actions to meet our climate change duties.

25<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**Name of Local Authority: Garff District Commissioners** (Category C Public Body)

**Contact Telephone: 861241**

**Email: [Admin@garff.im](mailto:Admin@garff.im)**

**Number of Employees: 12**

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## **(DRAFT) Garff Commissioners Plan for its Response to Address its Climate Change Duties**

Introduction: This plan sets out the following:

1. What the Authority is already doing and will continue to do.
  2. That the Deputy Clerk is the principal officer in ensuring that the Climate Change Response is implemented across the organisation.
  3. That the previously informal approach to Climate Change will be made central to all the Authority's planning at both Board and Operational Level. The Authority's approach to Health and Safety was made central to operations and has become part of the organisation's culture – the intention is to undertake a similar process with the Authority's response to its Climate Change responsibilities and duties.
  4. That 'quick-win' and some intermediate and long term response actions have already been implemented.
  5. That an ongoing scheduled Review Process will be implemented.
  6. That the Policies created will follow the SMART acronym and be specific, measurable, agreed, realistic, and time-bound.
  7. That the policies will be ethical and responsible with clear review dates.
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### **A. The Authority's Climate Change Objectives**

1. To make consideration of Climate Change duties/objectives central to discussion.
2. To ensure decisions are made in terms of both policy decisions by the Board and operational decisions taken on a daily and ongoing basis by officers, maintenance staff, the sheltered housing manager and staff at the complex.
3. These decisions to principally consider how low emission sustainable emissions can be best enabled.
4. To monitor and review the plan that demonstrates how the Authority is responding to the climate crisis.

5. To ensure that 'fair change' principles are integral to the Authority's plan.
  6. To procure an electric vehicle for the maintenance team within a 36 month period.
  7. To continue to identify means to reduce burning of fossil fuels for heating of built facilities at the Cool Roi Housing Complex, at the Commissioners Offices, and at the properties rented to private organisations.
  8. To include encouragement for residents to think of transitioning to net zero in all public announcements of policy or actions being taken by the Authority and by Government.
  9. Build climate change actions into staff training programmes; for both the organisation and for individual staff in their wider lives outside of the workplace.
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#### **B. Actions already taken:**

- 1) Purchase of electric hedge-cutters, leaf-blowers, chainsaws, power drills, etc.
  - 2) New practise to reduce unnecessary parts of Commissioners buildings, particularly the offices and at the Sheltered Housing complex.
  - 3) Installation of storage heaters in some rented offices in the Commissioners building.
  - 4) 'Consolidation planning' for operational vehicle journeys to reduce mileage.
  - 5) Uptake of the 'cycle to work' scheme.
  - 6) Staff use of public transport, cycles, and walking where possible to travel to work.
  - 7) Retention of grass cuttings and other vegetation to produce compost for public gardens and other areas.
  - 8) Use of 'benign' pesticides. Use of more efficient battery powered mist pesticide spray equipment where possible.
  - 9) Use of peat free compost.
  - 10) Reducing vehicle movements by contractors by minimising hedge-cutting, road-sweeping where possible.
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#### **C. The Authority's Ongoing Implementation Plan**

- 1) Strategy development meeting taking place 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at Board Meeting. MR issued report.
- 2) Climate Change Response Strategy Meeting scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
- 3) Sourcing and procurement electric maintenance vehicles within the next 36 months.
- 4) ongoing actions to reduce the use of oil for winter heating
- 5) ongoing actions to reduce water consumption across the organisation
- 6) continued programme purchasing of battery powered rather than fossil fuel machinery: i.e chainsaws, hedge-cutters, strimmers, and grass cutting mowers.
- 7) Further reduction of paper generation through issue of documents electronically and use of large screen monitor to display documents such as plans and correspondence at Board and other meetings. Officers to make use of 'twin-screen' system to reduce paper generation.

- 8) 'No-dig' policy to be implemented in garden to reduce release of CO2.
  - 9) Identification of areas where 're-wilding' can take place such as verges, etc. To include planting of wildflowers/cornflowers as mitigation/compensation.
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D. How the Authority intends to bring the latter under its control.

- Review the Authority's plan on a six monthly basis.
  - Offer further encouragement for staff to take up the 'cycle to work scheme', to walk or take public transport to work.
  - The Board to consider financial encouragements to subsidise taking public transport to work.
  - Ensure that a more sustainable heating system is installed in the builds of the new sheltered housing and Commissioners' Offices.
  - Ensure that other sustainable measures are designed into these new builds.
  - Install sustainable heating systems and other facilities when Commissioners current properties are the subject of refurbishment programmes.
  - Ensure that actions continue to implement sustainable biodiversity practice into the operations of the Commissioners (i.e continued use of 'benign' pesticides. Slug repellent, and consider further metering of water supply systems across the organisation, etc)
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## **Conclusion**

It is the view of the Commission that the above report demonstrates that going forward there is a desire in the organisation to:

- Identify emission sources.
- Identify areas where the largest reductions can be achieved (vehicle movements, heating systems, etc).
- Identify those that can be easily and act.
- Analyse how other actions can be done differently.
- Include these measures in the organisations plan and review on a six month basis and include all actions taken to support the plan.
- Include clear timings for implementation in the plan and clear indication of how success will be measured.
- Act proactively at both Board and Operational level to enable more sustainable choices to be made.
- Ensure that research is undertaken to make the most effective decision in terms of sustainability.
- Make staff aware of the policies and actions and ensure they are central to debate of climate change matters.
- Work with all staff and the Board to develop the climate change policy and actions through monthly Board meeting discussions, policy and purchasing decisions, and weekly/daily operational interactions/training with maintenance and housing staff.
- Communicate the plan, actions and successes to the public.

