3c Climate Change Duties

o Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform members in regard to new responsibilities being placed on public sector bodies in respect of their duties and responsibilities in relation to the Climate Change Act.

o Background

The Scottish Government has written to all major players in the public sector, of which Nestrans is regarded as one along with local authorities, universities and colleges, NHS Boards and other organisations.

A letter was received from the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform dated 29 June, regarding **Public Bodies Duties Reporting** of annual climate change performance information. The Scottish Government intend to prepare the first statutory reports in 2016, but are currently asking major players to trial the "Required" Reporting form using this new format to produce a *2014/15* report.

RTPs' reports will need to be proportionate, and can be published through our own procedures, but are requested to be submitted to the Sustainable Scotland Network by autumn this year. This trial exercise is intended to pave the way for *2015/16* reports to be published by each major player (which includes local authorities, Regional Transport Partnerships and other public bodies) and submitted online to the Scottish Government by 31 October 2015 (subsequently extended to 30 November 2015).

Future years' reporting will be a requirement, as opposed to this year's trial.

o Nestrans' Reporting

Scottish Environment Network, who are the Government Agency coordinating responses, have produced guidance and a template for completion. The template includes 56 activities along with relevant Carbon emission factors for each activity to produce an estimate of the total carbon impact of each organisation.

Of these, it is considered that Nestrans should report on 20 activities, and an estimate for 2014 is included in the table below. The other 36 activities are not relevant to the organisation (e.g. HGV fleet, coal use, etc. and should be taken as zero returns).

Nestrans also monitors and reports on Staff Travel to Work. As this is a significant activity in terms of contribution to greenhouse gases and decisions could impact on this, this element has been included under "other" in the template.

Table: Nestrans' Carbon Emissions Reporting 2014

	emissionsource1	2014	Units	Emission factor	Units	kg CO2e
1	Grid Electricity (generation)	100	kWh	0.49426	kg CO2e/kWh	49.43
2	Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	100	kWh	0.04322	kg CO2e/kWh	4.32
9	Water - Supply	100	m3	0.3441	kg CO2e/m3	34.41
26	Refuse Commercial & Industrial to Landfill	0.012	tonnes	199	kg CO2e/tonne	2.39
30	Paper & Board (Mixed) Recycling	0.52	tonnes	21	kg CO2e/tonne	10.92
32	Glass Recycling	0.06	tonnes	21	kg CO2e/tonne	1.26
33	Plastics (Average) Recycling	0.006	tonnes	21	kg CO2e/tonne	0.13
34	Metal Cans (Mixed) & Metal Scrap Recycling	0	tonnes	21	kg CO2e/tonne	-
41	Domestic flight (average passenger)	10,429	passenger km	0.29316	kg CO2e/ passenger km	3,057.23
42	Short-haul flights (average passenger)	0	passenger km	0.16625	kg CO2e/ passenger km	-
44	Rail (National rail)	28,304	passenger km	0.04738	kg CO2e/ passenger km	1,341.04
45	Car - diesel (average)	0	passenger km	0.18546	kg CO2e/ passenger km	-
46	Car - petrol (average)	3,277	passenger km	0.19388	kg CO2e/ passenger km	635.27
47	Car - hybrid (average) mileage	0	passenger mile	0.216344	kg CO2e/ passenger mile	-
48	Car - LPG (average) mileage	0	passenger mile	0.336047	kg CO2e/ passenger mile	-
49	Van - average up to 3.5 tonnes (unknown fuel)	1,648	km	0.250923	kg CO2e/km	413.51
53	Bus (local bus, not London)	1,051	passenger km	0.10946	kg CO2e/ passenger km	115.04
54	Taxi (black cab)	0	passenger km	0.21877	kg CO2e/ passenger km	-
55	Taxi (regular)	49.9	passenger km	0.17755	kg CO2e/ passenger km	8.86
56	Ferry	0	passenger km	0.116082	kg CO2e/ passenger km	-
Other	Staff Travel to Work	14,130	km	various	kg CO2e/km	1,747.40
	TOTAL					**7,421.14**

An estimate has therefore been produced that the Carbon Dioxide equivalent of Nestrans activities in 2014 was 7,421 kg CO2 equivalent. Nestrans has seven full-time staff, so this can reasonably be approximated to around 1,060 kg CO2 equivalent per staff member.

It is intended that Nestrans will collaborate with other Regional Transport Partnerships to share methodologies and peer check whether these data are commensurate with similar organisations.

o Nestrans' Responsibilities and Duties

In addition to reporting on activities, the Public Bodies Duties require consideration of three elements:

- Mitigation and reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions;
- Adaptation to the impacts of Climate Change; and
- Acting Sustainably, with sustainable development as a Core Value.

As members will be aware, Nestrans' Vision for Transport specifically mentions sustainability as one of three core principles balanced with economic and social objectives, and the Regional Transport Strategy contains an Objective "to reduce the impacts of transport on climate…."

Other policies and strategies follow these principles and in terms of specific policies, Nestrans adopts the Procurement and other procedures from Aberdeenshire Council. Again, an appropriate proportionate response to these responsibilities will be prepared, peer checked with other RTPs and discussed with Scottish Environment Network before being submitted to the Scottish Government as trial reporting before their deadline of 31 October 2015.

o Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board:

a) Note the report and the requirement for Nestrans to report on its activities and policies in respect of Climate Change Duties.

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