

Climate Change Duties Report

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform and update members about SEStran’s responsibilities, as a public body, in relation to the Climate Change Act (Scotland) 2009.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 In 2015, the Reporting on Climate Change Duties (Scotland) Order 2015 came into force, which required specified Public Bodies, including RTPs, to prepare annual reports on compliance with climate change duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

2.2 This legislation is managed and coordinated on behalf of the Scottish Government by the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) team at the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation.

3. REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 SEStran has reported annual emissions figures since 2015 and implemented a range of policies to reduce the impact from the workings of the organisation.

3.2 For the reporting year 2020/21, SEStran has seen a decrease to 3.06 tCO₂e due to all members of staff working from home as a result of the global pandemic. A breakdown of emissions is detailed within the appendix.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Board is invited to note the content of the report.

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Project Officer
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Appendix 1: SEStran Carbon Emissions Reporting

Policy Implications	None
Financial Implications	None
Equalities Implications	None
Climate Change Implications	As detailed in Appendix 1 of this report.

SEStran Carbon Emissions Reporting 2020-21

Emission Source	Consumption data	Units	Emission Factor	Units	Emissions (tCO2e)
Scope 1 (direct emissions)					0.00
Scope 2 (energy indirect)					0.00
Scope 3 (other indirect)					3.06223
Car - petrol (average)	357	km	0.17430	kgCO2e/km	0.06223
Staff Working from Home	100	Percentage of total FTEs home-based	0.3	tCO2e/FTE/annum	3.0
SEStran TOTAL				Tonnes CO2e	3.06223

The table above illustrates SEStran carbon emissions for 2020-21 against the relevant reportable emission categories. Since the relocation of SEStran to Victoria Quay in 2016, no report is made for scope 1 and 2 emissions that would otherwise be included in the Scottish Government building report.

Due to the impacts of COVID-19 and Scottish Government restrictions introduced in March 2020, 100% of SEStran full time equivalent (FTE) staff was working from home for the duration of the reporting period 2020-21. In light of that, a default emission factor as advised by the SSN Guidance on Completing Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Annual Report 2020/21 has been applied to calculate emissions associated with staff working from home.

SEStran has set a target to reduce business travel by 5% on an annual basis. The table below details the annual change since relocating to Victoria Quay.

Reporting Year	Tonnes CO2e	Percentage Change
2016-17	7.138	*First Year at VQ
2017-18	5.241	-27%
2018-19	7.227	+38%
2019-20	7.312	+1%
2021-21	0.062	-99.15%

During 2020-21, all SEStran's work moved online, including project meetings using software such as Microsoft Teams. There was minimal business travel that took place in relation to project work that had to be carried out in person. All other business travel, including travelling for EU project meetings, was replaced by remote working and online meetings. As a result, the annual business travel reduction target was met by 99.2%.

Emission Source	No of Trips	Travel Distance	Difference on 19-20
Domestic flights	0	0 km	√ 1482 km
Short-haul flights	0	0 km	√ 34,406 km
Rail	0	0 km	√ 16,905 km
Car	**	357 km	√ 5,118 km
Bus	0	0 km	√ 363 km
Taxi	0	0 km	√ 291 km
Cycle	**	0 km	√ 960 km

** Use of personal vehicles and cycles is captured by mileage only and not by trip number.

Staff Travel to Work

Staff travel to work is calculated on assumptions of normal staff travel patterns if working in the office. This takes account of annual leave, periods of absence, and prearranged days working from home. This results in an estimated emission total that will be higher than the actual total emission for this category.

The reporting period saw 100% of staff working from home in line with Scottish Government COVID-19 restrictions, resulting in 0 emissions associated with staff travel to work for the reporting period. Beyond the fact that staff were required to work from home in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, SEStran operates flexible working practices and promotes the sustainable travel hierarchy where appropriate.

TOTALS	Emissions kg CO2e	Distance km
Car	0.00	0.00
Passenger	0.00	0.00
Rail	0.00	0.00
Bus	0.00	0.00
Cycle	0.00	0.00
Walk	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	0.00	0.00