

FC22. TO SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT'S CLIMATE CHANGE BILL: CONSULTATION RESPONSE

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 22 April 2008 by Director of Development Services (a) advising that the majority of the scientific community accept that carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases are significant contributing factors to enhanced climate change, (b) referring to the UK Climate Change Bill introduced in November 2007 and aimed at setting CO₂ related targets in statute and setting a limit on the total amount that can be emitted by the UK over a five year period (carbon budgeting), (c) informing that the Scottish Government is working in partnership with the UK Government and the devolved administrations in Wales and Northern Ireland on the UK Climate Change Bill which will set a UK 60% reduction target for CO₂ emissions by 2050, (d) intimating that the Bill also seeks to establish an independent Committee to advise on the level of carbon budgets, create enabling powers and reporting requirements, (e) explaining that following the Scottish Parliament's agreement in December 2007 to a Legislative Consent Motion, many of the provisions of the UK Bill, on enactment, will extend to Scotland, and (f) attaching as an appendix to the Report a suggested Council response to the consultation paper.

AGREED to approve the response to the Scottish Government's Climate Change Bill as appended to the Report.