Dear Convener

Climate Change (Emission Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill

Thank you for inviting me to give evidence to the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee on 6 November. During the session I committed to provide further information and I hope the information in the attached Annex will be helpful.

I would be happy to provide any further details to the Committee if that would be helpful.

Yours sincerely

Paul Gray
Sustainability Action Branding

As part of the recently launched Sustainability Action Campaign, NHS Scotland will establish a new sustainability website which will highlight what NHS staff have achieved as part of this campaign. This website is due to go live on 11 December 2018 and my officials will share the address with the clerk of the Committee at that time.

Capital Investment Strategy

Scottish Government Health and Social Care Directorates are producing a Capital Investment Strategy for NHS Scotland which is due to be presented to Parliament at the end of March 2019. I can confirm that the strategy will include consideration of the legislative implications of climate change and provide high-level estimates of the costs of the Emission Reduction Targets.

Incentives for Best Practice in Hub

The aim of the Hub initiative is to improve the effectiveness of the existing community planning process by providing a vehicle for more effective planning, procurement delivery and/or maintenance of community-based facilities in support of local services. One of the key objectives of the initiative is to deliver facilities for Community Services that meet public sector policy objectives for design quality and sustainability.

In relation to sustainability, as an integral part of design quality, it is current Health Directorates’ policy for Health Boards to aim to achieve a BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) rating of ‘excellent’ for new builds and ‘very good’ for refurbishment of existing properties. BREEAM is the standard against which the sustainability of new, non-residential buildings in the UK is assessed.

This means that only appropriate hub projects are taken forward which are likely to be optimally utilised and meet the procuring authorities’ vision including their aspirations in relation to design quality and sustainability.

NHSScotland Design Assessment Process (NDAP)

As part of the Capital Investment review process, the design of all projects are assessed. The NHSScotland Design Assessment Process (NDAP) applies to all capital investment projects. It is an innovative, independent quality and sustainability review of all NHSScotland facility proposals at each stage of the business case process.

NDAP is run jointly by NSS National Services Scotland and Architecture and Design Scotland (A&DS) on behalf of Scottish Government. NDAP supports and challenges clients, designers and contractors to continually improve sustainability and enables stretch targets that can be bespoke to each investment, rather than one size fits all. NDAP allows the sharing of independent expertise across multiple disciplines and sectors, providing best practice across Scotland. Crucially this allows for briefing and decision-making to be tailored to promote local, innovative and creative design that is appropriate to its ‘place’.
Sustainability Governance in NHSScotland

Scottish Government’s Strategic Facilities Group has oversight of the National Sustainability Steering Group in terms of governance. The Energy Forum, alongside the Waste Management Steering Group, report directly into the National Sustainability Steering Group.

As the remit of Sustainability and Climate Change extends further than Estates, the current membership of the National Sustainability Steering Group has been reviewed. As a result of this review, representation from Scottish Government and NHS Board Chief Executives has been recommended to provide a direct and improved line of communication.

Carbon Budgeting – Scottish Government Position

Each year, as part of the Draft Budget process, the Scottish Government publish a carbon assessment of the Draft Budget, a detailed summary of the assessment can be accessed at https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Economy/Input-Output/CarbonAssessment.

NHS Chief Executives’ Meeting

Kathryn Dapre, Head of Engineering and Energy, NSS Health Facilities Scotland presented on Sustainability and Climate Change on the 14 November 2018 at the NHS Chief Executives’ meeting. To encourage further impetus on this topic, I asked that NHS Chief Executives consider how climate change can be made more visible at all levels and I have drawn their attention to the transcript of the session which I attended.