

20/11/19

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) REQUEST**

Thank you for your enquiry, received on 14 November 2019. As your request relates to environmental data we have responded under the Environmental Information Regulations ('EIR').

### **Specifically you requested:**

- 1) Any reports, documents or Power Point presentations you have produced regarding the potential impacts of climate change and weather extremes on the NHS.
- 2) Any reports, documents or data regarding the progress in reducing emissions and achieving carbon budgets and targets in relation to the NHS.
- 3) Any reports, documents or Power Point presentations you have produced regarding the impacts of air pollution on climate change and/or any reports, documents or Power Point presentations about air pollution you have produced.
- 4) Has the CCC considered the impact of climate change on the NHS, including the potential extra pressure put on the NHS by an increasing amount of patients seeking treatment due to health reasons relating to weather extremes.
- 5) Has the CCC considered the impact of climate change and air pollution on asthma sufferers or people with respiratory conditions? Please provide any reports, documents or Power Point presentations you have produced in relation to this.

### **Our response**

- 1) The potential impacts of climate change and weather extremes on the NHS are covered in the Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017 chapter on People and the Built Environment, under section 5.4 Health and social care system, available here: <https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/UK-CCRA-2017-Chapter-5-People-and-the-built-environment.pdf>
- 2) The CCC holds no reports, documents or data regarding the progress in reducing emissions and achieving carbon budgets and targets in relation to the NHS.

- 3) The CCC has primarily looked at air pollution in terms of the impact of reducing emissions on air quality.
- As part of the analysis conducted for the 2013 review of the fourth carbon budget, the CCC commissioned Imperial College London to produce a report, entitled Analysis of the air quality impacts of potential CCC scenarios. The CCC also commissioned Ricardo AEA, to produce a report called Review of the impacts of carbon budget measures on human health and the environment. These reports are available on the CCC website:
    - Review of the impacts of carbon budget measures on human health and the environment (by Ricardo AEA) <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/review-of-the-impacts-of-carbon-budget-measures-on-human-health-and-the-environment-by-ricardo-aea/>
    - Analysis of the air quality impacts of potential CCC scenarios (by Imperial) <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/analysis-of-the-air-quality-impacts-of-potential-ccc-scenarios-by-imperial/>
  - The results of these research pieces were summarised in part two of the fourth carbon budget review (part 2, chapter 4, section 6). This can be downloaded at <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/fourth-carbon-budget-review/>
  - The impacts on air quality of reducing emissions is also referred to in the 2019 report, *Net Zero - The UK's contribution to stopping global warming*, in chapter 7. This can be downloaded at <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/net-zero-the-uks-contribution-to-stopping-global-warming/>
  - The Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017 chapter on People and the Built Environment referred to the impact of climate change on indoor and outdoor pollution. Following the link in point 1), please see sections 5.2.2 and 5.3.5.
- 4) The CCC has considered the impact of climate change on the NHS as follows:
- In the Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017 chapter on People and the Built Environment as referred to in query 1).
  - In the health and emergency planning chapters of the Adaptation Committee Report on Managing risks to the economy and wellbeing (2014), available at [https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Final\\_ASC-2014\\_web-version-4.pdf](https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Final_ASC-2014_web-version-4.pdf)
    - Supporting material can be found at <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/managing-climate-risks-to-well-being-and-the-economy-asc-progress-report-2014/>

- The CCC's 2019 report, *UK housing: fit for the future?*, highlights the potential cost savings for the NHS in England by having better housing from avoiding poor housing related health disease. The figures quoted (£1.4 – 2 billion) in the report are from another source referenced on page 34. Available to download from <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/uk-housing-fit-for-the-future/>
- 5) The CCC has considered the impact of climate change and air pollution on asthma sufferers or people with respiratory conditions in the Adaptation Committee's 2017 and 2019 progress reports (and supporting materials, specifically the people chapter dashboard found at the link below). The accompanying indicators reports by ADAS includes the number of people with asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.
- <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/2017-report-to-parliament-progress-in-preparing-for-climate-change/>
- <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/updated-indicators-of-climate-change-risk-and-adaptation-action-in-england-adas/>

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This concludes our response to your request.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. If you are not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

In keeping with our transparency policy, the information released to you, if not already available, will be published on [www.theccc.org.uk](http://www.theccc.org.uk). Please note that this publication will not include your personal data.

Kind regards,

**Committee on Climate Change**