

09/12/19

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

Thank you for your enquiry, received on 04 December 2019. As your request relates to environmental data we have responded under the Environmental Information Regulations ('EIR').

### **Specifically you requested:**

- 1) How businesses have adapted to changes in climate change and global warming over the past 10 years and in the present day.
- 2) The future planning for businesses e.g. rules and regulations for new businesses and also regulations that will be enforced throughout all businesses in relation to emissions and climate change as a whole.
- 3) Current energy costs for businesses in all job sectors and the future predictions of these.

### **Our response**

- 1) The CCC most recently reviewed progress by businesses in England in preparing for climate change in its statutory Adaptation Progress Report to Parliament, published in July 2019. There is a specific chapter on business (pages 216 – 242), split into sub-sections focussing on the impact on business of extreme weather events, supply chain interruptions, water demand by industry and business opportunities from climate change. Available to download here:  
<https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/progress-in-preparing-for-climate-change-2019-progress-report-to-parliament/>

The CCC also published similar reports for England in 2017 and 2015 and separate reports for Scotland in 2019 (pages 135 to 146 focus on business) and 2016.

Link to 2017 England Progress Report to Parliament

<https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/2017-report-to-parliament-progress-in-preparing-for-climate-change/>

Link to 2015 England Progress Report to Parliament

<https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/reducing-emissions-and-preparing-for-climate-change-2015-progress-report-to-parliament/>

Link to 2019 Scotland Progress Report  
<https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/final-assessment-of-scotlands-first-climate-change-adaptation-programme/>

Link to 2016 Scotland Progress Report  
<https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/scottish-climate-change-adaptation-programme-an-independent-assessment-for-the-scottish-parliament/>

The CCC oversaw the production of an independent evidence report for the 2017 UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA). The assessment considered the extent to which current action was addressing risks and opportunities and whether there were benefits to further action. This included a technical chapter on business and industry, the findings of which were summarised in an overall synthesis report (pages 68 to 72).

Link to the technical chapter on business and industry:  
<https://www.theccc.org.uk/tackling-climate-change/preparing-for-climate-change/uk-climate-change-risk-assessment-2017/ccra-chapters/business-and-industry/>

Link to overall synthesis report: <https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/UK-CCRA-2017-Synthesis-Report-Committee-on-Climate-Change.pdf>

The CCC published a report titled 'Managing climate risks to well-being and the economy' in 2014 which has a chapter on business opportunities and risks.  
<https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/managing-climate-risks-to-well-being-and-the-economy-asc-progress-report-2014/>

- 2) Below we have provided links to reports focusing on preparing for the impacts of climate change (adaptation) not on reducing greenhouse gases (mitigation). For mitigation information, we would recommend contacting the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

CCRA technical chapter on business and industry (linked to above) included sub-sections titled 'Policy framework' summarising relevant policy for each of the seven risks covered in the chapter for each UK nation.

The UK Government set out the actions it is taking to respond to the risks and opportunities from climate change in England in the National Adaptation Programme (2018), which includes a chapter on business and industry. This is available here

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/727252/national-adaptation-programme-2018.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/727252/national-adaptation-programme-2018.pdf).

The CCC assessed the actions in this programme in the 2019 Adaptation Progress Report (linked to above).

The Scottish Government produces a similar Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme (SCCAP), available here <https://www.gov.scot/publications/climate-ready-scotland-second-scottish-climate-change-adaptation-programme-2019-2024/>. The CCC assessed previous versions of this in our previously mentioned 2019 and 2016 reports, linked to above.

- 3) The CCC periodically estimates future costs for households and businesses. The last time we did this was in 2017, available here: <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/energy-prices-and-bills-report-2017/>

Current and historical business energy costs are reported by BEIS in their Quarterly Energy Prices publication. The most recent publication is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/quarterly-energy-prices-september-2019>

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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 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**