

WRITTEN SUBMISSION FROM NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

**Q1 The Bill creates a statutory framework for greenhouse gas emissions reductions in Scotland by setting a 50% reduction target for 2030 and an 80% reduction target for 2050.**

**What are your views on the 2050 target and a 2030 interim target proposed in the Bill?**

The National Library of Scotland (NLS) acknowledges the ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions as set out in the Bill. The National Library of Scotland will set its own targets in accordance with our existing Sustainability Policy to help contribute to the Scottish Government's annual targets.

**Q8 The Bill contains powers to allow the Scottish Government, by regulations, to impose duties on public bodies in relation to climate change, to issue guidance to those bodies relating to their climate change duties and to require that they report upon the discharge of those duties.**

**What are your views on this proposal?**

The NLS recognises its duties to reduce its carbon emissions and to report as required to the Scottish Ministers on this issue. The NLS will take cognisance of any guidance prepared by the Scottish Ministers.

**Q20 Do you have any other comments on the Bill?**

The NLS is one of a number of repositories of information in Scotland which can help to facilitate research into environmental management in general and climate change in particular. The Library believes it has an important role to play in providing research support for those working in this area.

Whilst welcoming the overall thrust of the Bill, the Library would like to see a commitment to investing in infrastructure (e.g. public utilities, public transport and digital infrastructure) to ensure that these ambitious targets are met. As an example, the NLS is very conscious of the further potential of new technology for widening access to information, without generating travel. NLS websites receive over 3 million 'hits' per year, against some 70,000 reader visits. Further investment in new technology will continue to have environmental benefits, such as increases in home-working, video-conferencing etc.