

Peterborough City Council Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions report: 2015/16



Background

Peterborough City Council is committed to taking proactive action to make Peterborough more sustainable now and in the future, whilst adapting to the challenges climate change will bring. We acknowledge that:

- There is scientific consensus and evidence that climate change is happening
- Climate change will have significant and far reaching effects upon our residents, businesses and wildlife
- The future cost of inaction on climate change will be far higher than that for taking action now
- We are responsible for limiting our carbon dioxide emissions and preparing to adapt to the unavoidable effects of climate change

We recognise that addressing climate change is critical to the success of achieving our strategic priorities, available to view at:

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/strategies-policies-and-plans/council-strategies/strategic-priorities>

We acknowledge the impact of the carbon dioxide emissions we generate through the provision of our services, and committed to reduce them by 35 per cent of 2008/09 levels by 2016, reviewing progress annually. Our Carbon Management Action Plan sets out how we aim to achieve this target, (which can be viewed at www.peterborough.gov.uk/cmap) by improving our resource efficiency and by embracing new technologies. Through implementing this plan we commit to working at a local level to contribute to the delivery of the UK's Climate Change Act (2008). Taking action to put our house in order will provide leadership to Peterborough's businesses and residential communities.

Summary

The following table summarises Peterborough City Council's emissions:

GHG emissions data for period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2016								
	Tonnes of CO _{2e}							
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Scope one	16,525	12,139	11,521	7,960	10,380	8,374	8,014	7,091
Scope two	18,930	17,826	17,048	15,263	17,458	16,105	17,802	15,747
Scope three	2,097	1,923	1,853	2,183	2,468	2,229	2,390	1,853
Total gross emissions	37,552	31,888	30,422	25,406	30,306	26,709	28,207	24,690
Carbon offsets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Green tariff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total net emissions	37,552	31,888	30,422	25,406	30,306	26,709	28,207	24,690
Intensity measurement*	£0.08	£0.07	£0.06	£0.05	£0.05	£0.05	£0.05	£0.05

*kg CO_{2e} per gross revenue expenditure

**Our carbon footprint has been restated for all years in order to account for material changes to the conversion factors provided by Defra for company reporting purposes

Table 1

1. Company information

Peterborough City Council, Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HF. The City Council is a unitary local authority established by statute, with a total FTE of 3,584 (at 13 June 2016; includes City College, LEA voluntary aided and foundation schools, but not Academies).

2. Reporting period

This report updates the previous report published in 2015 with the City Council's greenhouse gas emissions from the financial year 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016.

3. Change in emissions

Our overall reported emissions have decreased in 2015/16. There are a number of reasons for this including a significant change to the conversion factors used in relation to electricity including transmission and distribution.

Additionally actual consumption of energy has decreased, as is demonstrated through a 5.4% reduction in electricity and 11% in gas. These reductions have been achieved through energy efficiency works including:

- Installation of Led Lighting across our depot yards, offices and workshops.
- A change to more sustainable sources in energy including an increase in renewable energy generation, and a decrease in use of burning oil and gasoil.

4. Approach

We have followed the Government's guidance published by Defra and based on the GHG Protocol to measure and report our greenhouse gas emissions, available at: <https://www.gov.uk/measuring-and-reporting-environmental-impacts-guidance-for-businesses>.

5. Organisational boundary

We have used the financial control approach as recommended in the guidance to define our organisational boundary. Our scope includes emissions from buildings and transport used for the delivery of our services (figure 1).

Fixed building emission sources

- City Council offices, including:
 - Town Hall, Bayard Place and others
- Operational buildings run by Vivacity, including:
 - Sport and leisure centres, Libraries and Cultural assets
- Other buildings, including:
 - the Crematorium
 - the Registry Office
 - Nurseries, Children Centres and City College Peterborough
 - various depots and storage facilities
- Schools: including academies - 57 Primary, and 12 Secondary and 7 Special
- Street lighting, including:
 - urban and parish street lights
 - road signs and bollards
 - car park lighting and ticket machines

Transport emission sources

- Business mileage: journeys by staff in the process of carrying out their role
- Fleet vehicles, including:
 - refuse trucks, road sweepers, council owned cars and vans

Figure 1

The organisational boundary has been drawn based on the supply rules applied for the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme. This has resulted in a number of exclusions (which didn't apply in the original National Indicator 185 in 08/09). These are outlined in Figure 2.

Excluded emission sources

- retail units that are leased from the council
- social housing
- community centres
- private nurseries
- other small outsourced services providers

Figure 2

6. Operational Scope

The City Council has measured scope 1 and 2 emissions and significant scope 3 emissions as defined in the GHG Protocol methodology (table 2). Scope 1 and 2 emission sources included are gas, oil, and electricity consumption. Fugitive emissions have not been included as they are unlikely to be significant and are not currently measured across the entire organisation. The City Council does not carry out waste processing, so has no process emissions. In 2011/12 the council outsourced a significant proportion of its services to Amey, formally known as Enterprise Peterborough. This has resulted in a reduction in scope 1 and 2 emissions, namely from owned transport and several buildings this service operates from. These emissions are now recorded under scope 3 along with business travel emissions as previously.

GHG emissions in tonnes of CO _{2e}								
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Scope one								
Gas emissions	8,962	8,961	8,996	7,483	9,826	8,217	7,931	7,036
Various oil emissions	5,110	672	391	477	553	157	84	54
Owned transport emissions	2,454	2,507	2,134	0	0	0	0	0
Process emissions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fugitive emissions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scope two								
Purchased electricity	18,930	17,826	17,048	15,263	17,458	16,105	17,802	15,747
Scope three								
Business travel	625	511	481	368	429	396	369	157
Outsourced services	-	-	-	510	656	452	461	393
Transmission and distribution	1,472	1,412	1,373	1,304	1,379	1,377	1,557	1,300
Well to tank emissions	-	-	-	-	4	5	4	3
Total	37,552	31,888	30,422	25,406	30,306	26,709	28,207	24,690

* Outsourced data was not included last year due to the delay in the data, it has now been added.

**Our carbon footprint has been restated for all years in order to account for material changes to the conversion factors provided by Defra for company reporting purposes

Table 2

7. Geographic break down

All of Peterborough City Council's activities and operations are within the UK and are included within this report.

8. Base year

The original base year was the first NI 185 report in 2008/09 which was also used as the baseline for the City Council's carbon management action plan. Our base year recalculation policy is to recalculate our base year and the prior year emissions for relevant significant changes which meet our significance threshold of 5% total base year emissions. Relevant significant changes as defined in the guidance include changes in methodology or conversion factors, significant errors, or where there has been significant organisational change such as mergers and acquisitions. The baseline will not be recalculated where change is attributable to organic growth/decline, changes in the weather or energy efficiency improvements.

Therefore all previous years have been recalculated to reflect updated conversion factors and correctly treat business mileage as scope 3. Significant outsourcing during occurred 2011/12 (namely Enterprise Peterborough, now Amey) and emissions from these services will continue to be reported under scope 3 due to the City Council retaining some control. Therefore the baseline hasn't been recalculated to omit these services. The most useful base against which to measure future performance is the 2010/11 year as it is considered the most accurate and with a higher level of confidence in precision of data than the previous years.

9. Targets

The City Council's emission reduction target is to reduce the CO₂ emissions from its scope 1, 2 and 3 shown in table 2 by 35% of 2008/09 levels by 2016. Progress towards meeting this target is published annually in November.

10. Intensity Measurement

The most appropriate intensity measurement is kg of CO_{2e} per gross revenue expenditure. This is the metric most commonly used by local authorities.

11. Assurance statement

We have the Investors in the Environment accreditation scheme in place which reviews our CO_{2e} emissions data. In addition, the City Council's Carbon Management Action Plan was prepared in partnership with the Carbon Trust in 2009. The internal audit team have been involved in reviewing processes to ensure the accurate and timely collation of data.

12. Carbon Offsets

None

13. Green Tariffs

None

14. Renewable electricity generation

The City Council have installed solar photovoltaic panels on some key sites. All the electricity generated from these panels is consumed onsite and some is accredited under the Feed in Tariff. The GHG Protocol methodology requires that electricity consumed from owned onsite installations be included within scope 1 emissions. As the conversion factor is zero, there are no emissions arising from this consumption.

Electricity generated from renewable sources and consumed for period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2016								
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Electricity (KWh)	n/a	n/a	n/a	20,647	367,926	460,218	894,232	1,024,684

Table 3

15. Biomass

Following the Defra guidance, emissions relating to consumption of biomass are shown in table 4.

GHG emissions data for period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2016								
	Tonnes of CO _{2e}							
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Biomass (pellets)	n/a	Unknown	3.31	14.16	26.67	33.39	30.05	8.90

Table 4

For more information relating to this report, please email climatechange@peterborough.gov.uk