



## Introduction

Leicestershire County Council ('the council') is committed to measuring and reporting its environmental performance in order to better understand its impacts and to monitor progress towards the targets in its [2018-2030 Environment Strategy](#).


The 2020-21 Greenhouse Gas Report forms part of the council's Carbon Reduction Programme and its commitment to become a net zero<sup>1</sup> council for its own operational emissions by 2030. This commitment was made in May 2019, alongside the council's declaration of a climate emergency<sup>2</sup> and later followed with a further commitment of working with Leicestershire people and organisations to become a net zero county by 2045 or before.

This report focusses on the council's own operational greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for the 2021-22 reporting period and the council's 2030 net zero ambition, which includes emissions from the council buildings, fleet vehicles, streetlighting and traffic signals, business travel, water and waste. The full scope of emissions included in this report are provided in Appendix.1.

The council has followed the [Government's Environmental Reporting Guidelines](#), published by BEIS and DEFRA (2019), alongside international best practice guidance from the [Greenhouse Gas Protocol](#).

In accordance with Government recommendations, this report is published on the council's website.

“ Leicestershire County Council 'declares a climate emergency' and 'recognises that there is an increasing urgency for action to avoid the worst impacts of climate change'. The Council 'will aim to achieve carbon neutrality from its own operations by 2030' and 'commits to work with business and other public bodies across the county and region to deliver this ambitious goal through all relevant technologies, strategies and plans'.

 Leicestershire County Council, 15 May 2019

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<sup>1</sup> **Net zero** refers to the point when greenhouse gas emissions being emitted into the atmosphere are balanced with their removal, meaning there is no overall addition to atmospheric levels.

<sup>2</sup> A **climate emergency** is a situation in which urgent action is required to reduce or halt climate change and avoid potentially irreversible environmental damage resulting from it.



























