

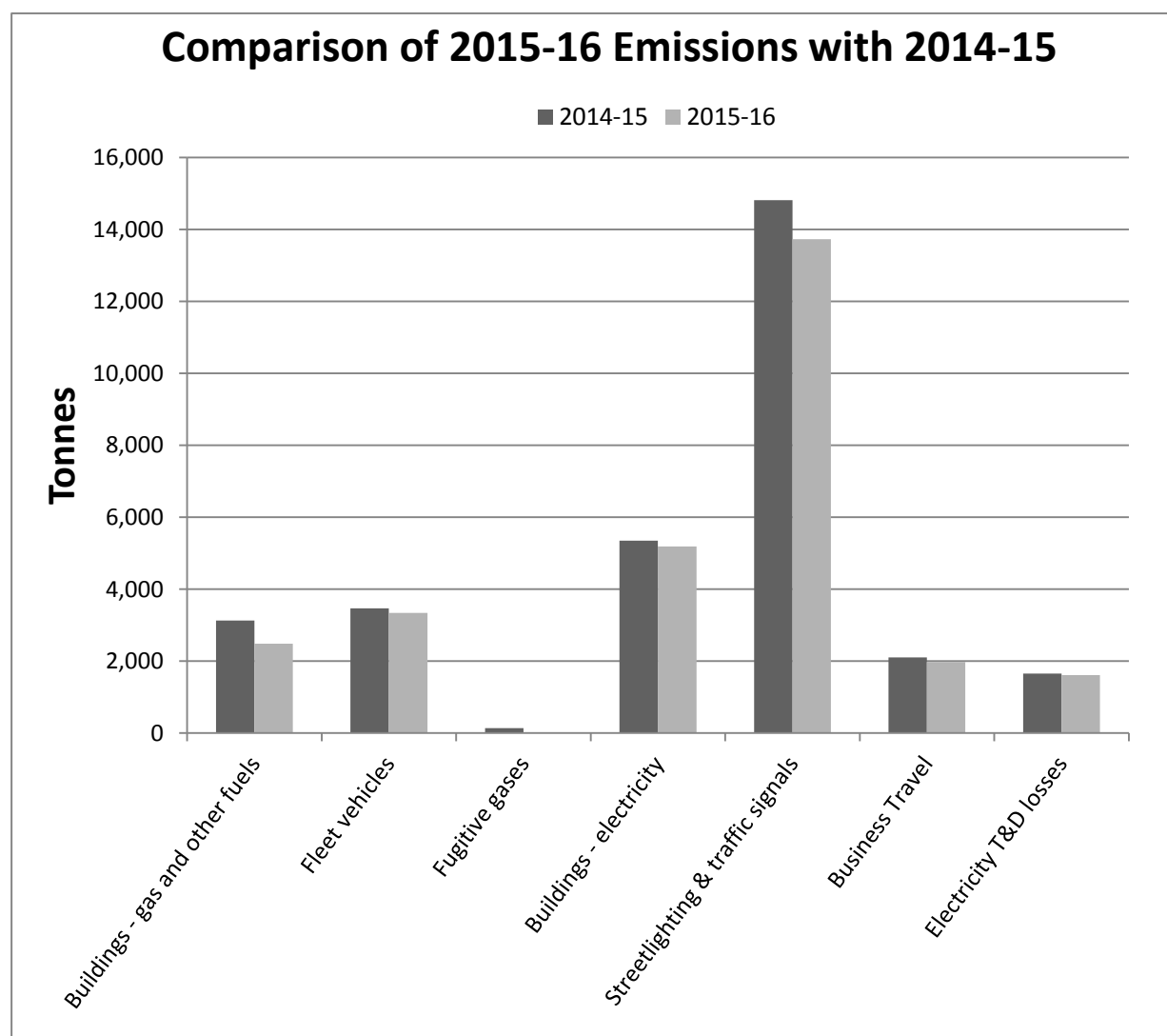
Leicestershire County Council

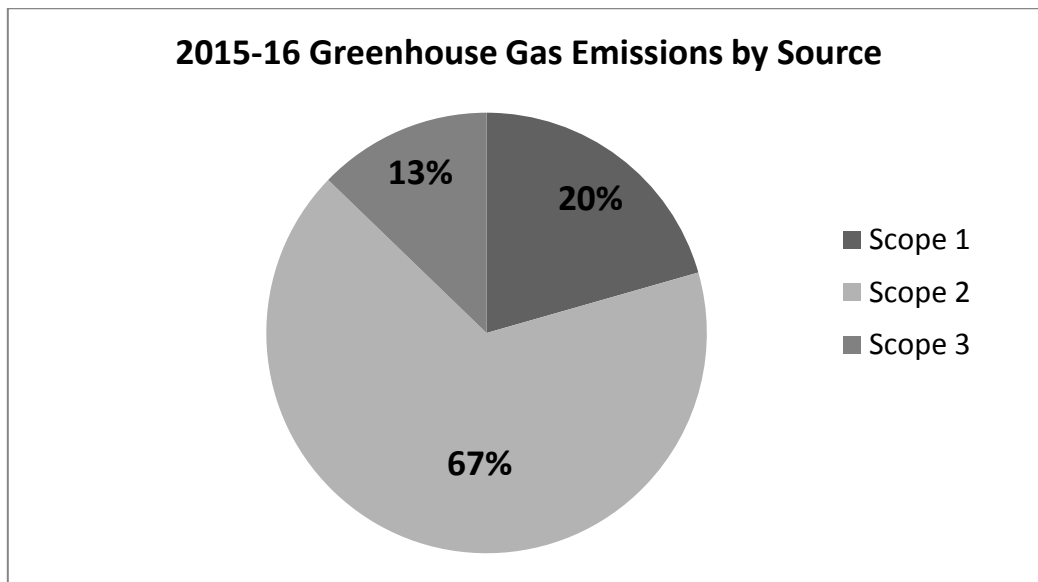
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report 2015/16

Leicestershire County Council is committed to protecting and enhancing the environment of Leicestershire and to improving the quality of life for Leicestershire people both now and in the future. By minimising the impacts of the Council's activities and those of the community where the Council has duties or responsibilities to control and influence them, Leicestershire County Council will contribute to the improvement of the local and global environment (Environment Policy 2011).

GHG emissions data for period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016					
	Footprint Sector	Tonnes of CO ₂ e			% change from base year
		2014-15	2015-16	Base Year 2008-9	
Scope 1 – Direct emissions e.g. boilers, owned transport, air conditioning gases	County Council buildings	3,132	2,484	4,317	-42.5%
	Fleet vehicles	3,469	3,341	4,358	-23.3%
	Fugitive gases	143	14	n/a	n/a
	Scope 1 Total	6,744	5,839	8,675	-32.7%
Scope 2 – Energy Indirect e.g. purchased electricity	County Council buildings	5,349	5,186	6,562	-21.0%
	Street-lighting & traffic signals	14,819	13,731	15,581	-11.9%
	Scope 2 Total	18,977	18,917	22,143	-14.6%
Scope 3 – Other Indirect e.g. business travel	Business Travel	2,105	1,974	3,237	-39.0%
	Electricity Transmission & Distribution losses	1,659	1,618	1,722	-6.0%
	Scope 3 Total	3,764	3,592	4,959	-27.6%
Total Gross Emissions		29,485	28,348	35,778	
Carbon offsets		0	0	0	0
Green Tariff		0	0	0	0
Total annual net emissions		29,485	28,348	35,778	-20.8%

Intensity measure	'Tonnes of CO2e per Full Time Equivalent employee'*	6.19	5.95	5.20	14.6%
Petrol and diesel (Outside of Scope)		65	88		
Woodchip (Outside of Scope)		0	786		





The Council's Environment Strategy includes a commitment to reduce carbon emissions from the Council's own estate and operations by 34% against the 2008/09 base year by the end of 2020/21.

Commentary Report

1. Company Information:

Leicestershire County Council is the local government authority that provides council services within the Leicestershire area.

Registered address is:

County Hall
Glenfield
Leicestershire
LE3 8RA.

2. Reporting Period:

1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016

3. Change in Emissions:

Emissions have fallen by 20.8% during 2015/16 compared to the 2008/09 baseline year and by 7.6% compared to 2014-15. This is slightly below the baseline reduction target for the year of 22%.

Carbon emissions from all contributory sources of greenhouse gas emissions have fallen this year. The most significant decrease is that from gas use in buildings, due to the installation of a biomass boiler at County Hall, the Council's largest building.

The continued decrease in street lighting energy consumption is a result of the first phase of a project to replace sodium lights with LEDs. This project will take three years to complete so further savings are expected in future years.

A fall in gas and electricity consumption and related emissions has been achieved as the Council reduces the number of buildings it uses to provide services and

continues with a programme of energy efficiency and renewable energy investments in the remaining property estate.

The further reduction in emissions from Council fleet vehicles reflects a number of initiatives such as Fleet Green and Defensive Driver Training leading to more fuel efficient driving behaviour.

Emissions from business travel have also reduced as a result of a number of projects aimed at reducing the need to travel and managing staff journeys.

4. Approach:

The Council has followed the Government's "Environmental Reporting Guidelines", published by DEFRA (2015)¹.

5. Organisational boundary:

The Council has used the Financial Control approach to define the boundary of Leicestershire County Council's operations and activities for the greenhouse gas report. Within the boundary the Council has excluded greenhouse gas emissions from schools (all scopes) and contracted services such as waste disposal and business travel by public transport (Scope 3) due to the cost of data collection. The Council has included the direct emissions resulting from the assets and operations where the Council is responsible for the purchase of energy or fuel. Transmission and Distribution losses are included for electricity consumption (Scope 3) but Well To Tank (Scope 3) emissions have not been reported as they are discretionary. The Council has excluded the emissions resulting from activities undertaken by contractors in order to ensure these emissions are not double-reported and due to limited requirements for contractors to annually monitor energy and fuel usage within existing contracts.

6. Operational Scopes:

The Council has measured the scope 1, 2 and significant scope 3 emissions, where accurate and annual data was available for the periods listed under Point 2.

	Specific exclusions and % this represents for relevant scope (excluding geographic exclusions)
Scope 1	
Council combustion e.g. gas, solid and liquid fuels in boiler plant	Less than 5% of total fuel use excluded where information was unavailable.
Owned transport	Fuel consumption has been excluded if LCC does not pay for fuel

¹ [DEFRA Environmental Reporting Guidelines](#)

Process emissions	Waste processing is a contracted service under Scope 3 and has not been calculated. LCC has no responsibility for any process emissions under Scope 1
Fugitive emissions	Emissions from air conditioning gas top ups have been included but information was not pursued for the school estate. Assuming the school emissions are proportionate to other emissions this represents less than 1% of Scope 1.
Scope 2	
Purchased electricity	No exclusions
Significant Scope 3	
Electricity and natural gas	Well To Tank emissions have been excluded
Solid and liquid fuels	Well To Tank emissions from liquid and solid fuels consumption have been excluded e.g. diesel, LPG, coal
Business travel	Business travel by public transport has been excluded, based on previous years this represents approximately 1% of Scope 3.
Employee commuting	LCC does not routinely monitor commuting so information was not available.
Waste disposal	LCC has excluded waste disposal but monitors waste data and has scoped the significance of this source.
Product in use	Excluded due to lack of good quality information.
Out of Scope	
Biomass fuel - woodchip	As a renewable fuel source, the carbon emitted from burning is not included in the calculation as this will be reabsorbed by growing fuel trees as part of the natural carbon cycle.
Vehicle fuels – petrol and diesel	Standard vehicle fuels include a small percentage of biofuels. The carbon emissions from this element is 'out of scope' as it will be reabsorbed by new biomass crops.

7. Calculation approach

Emissions have been calculated in accordance with the guidance. Activity data has been collected for fuel consumption in buildings and vehicles. Wherever possible this has been actual consumption based on bills, invoices and receipts. Estimated activity covers less than 5% of emissions from building energy consumption and is based on extrapolation from known previous activity data. Activity data by volume or mass e.g. kWh of energy or litres of fuel have been prioritised for accuracy, however where this is not available other methods have been employed for example km travelled have been used for some transport sources.

The appropriate emissions factors for each year are drawn from the [DEFRA Greenhouse Gas Conversion Factor Repository](#).

8. Geographic Breakdown:

Leicestershire County Council does not operate outside the UK, all emissions are UK based.

9. Base Year:

The base year is 2008/09 which the Council set using a fixed base year approach.

The base year recalculation policy is to recalculate the base year and the prior year emissions for relevant significant changes which meet the significance threshold of 5% of total base year emissions.

10. Targets:

The Council's emissions reduction target is to reduce GHG emissions, scopes 1, 2, and 3 by 34% compared to 2008/09 base year by the end of 2020/21.

Progress towards reaching this target is good and the Council expects to meet this target by March 2021.

Joanna Guyll, Assistant Director Environment of the Environment and Transport Department, is responsible for the achievement of the target.

11. Intensity Measurement:

The Council has chosen 'Full Time equivalent employee' as the intensity factor across the organisation. For 2008/09 the intensity factor has been applied to both County Council and schools emissions as information on all employees was available at that time. For 2014/15 onwards the intensity measure has only been applied to the County Council's emissions (excluding schools) as the Council no longer holds comprehensive data on Academy school employees nor energy use. The Council continues to develop intensity factors for specific emissions sources which more closely reflect the nature of the service.

12. External Assurance Statement:

Leicestershire County Council has not sought independent external assurance of the Greenhouse Gas report.

13. Carbon Offsets:

Leicestershire County Council has not purchased any carbon offsets.

14. Green Tariffs:

Leicestershire County Council has not purchased any green tariff electricity during 15/16 financial year.