

Environmental Performance 2018-19 - Summary



Leicestershire County Council's Performance

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Since **2008-09** the County Council has reduced its operational greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)¹ by **64%**. In **2018-19** the Council reduced its greenhouse gases by **18%** compared to **2017-18**.

**64%****REDUCTION
GHG EMISSIONS
FROM COUNCIL OPERATIONS****08-09 35,778t****17-18 15,522t****18-19 12,712t****CARBON
NEUTRAL
2030****Net Zero
BY 2030**

Main Sources of County Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions

BUILDINGS

36%



TOTAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

2018 - 19 FROM COUNCIL OPERATIONS

BUSINESS TRAVEL



13%

22%



FLEET VEHICLES

STREET LIGHTING & TRAFFIC SIGNALS

29%



The main sources of greenhouse gas emissions for the County Council in **2018-19** were our buildings, streetlighting and traffic signals, operational fleet vehicles and staff business travel. Significant progress has been made in reducing emissions from streetlighting **CASE STUDY 2** and emissions from our buildings have reduced by **60%** since **2008-09**.



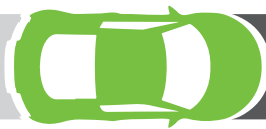
Renewable Energy

The amount of renewable energy generated on council land, as a percentage of total energy consumed, was **16%** in **2018-19**. Of that, **3.5%** was generated from solar power and **12.5%** from a biomass (woodchip) boiler. **CASE STUDY 1**

Business Mileage

REDUCED BUSINESS MILES BY

7.6m
2013 - 14



1.8m

5.8m
2018 - 19



The Council has reduced its business miles by **1.8 million miles** since **2013-14** saving over **500 tonnes** of greenhouse gas emissions.

CASE STUDY 3

Office Recycling

The County Council recycled **60.4%** of its total office waste in **2018-19**. This figure includes plastics, metals, waste electricals, paper and cardboard, glass, and the composting of organic waste generated from offices².

CASE STUDY 4



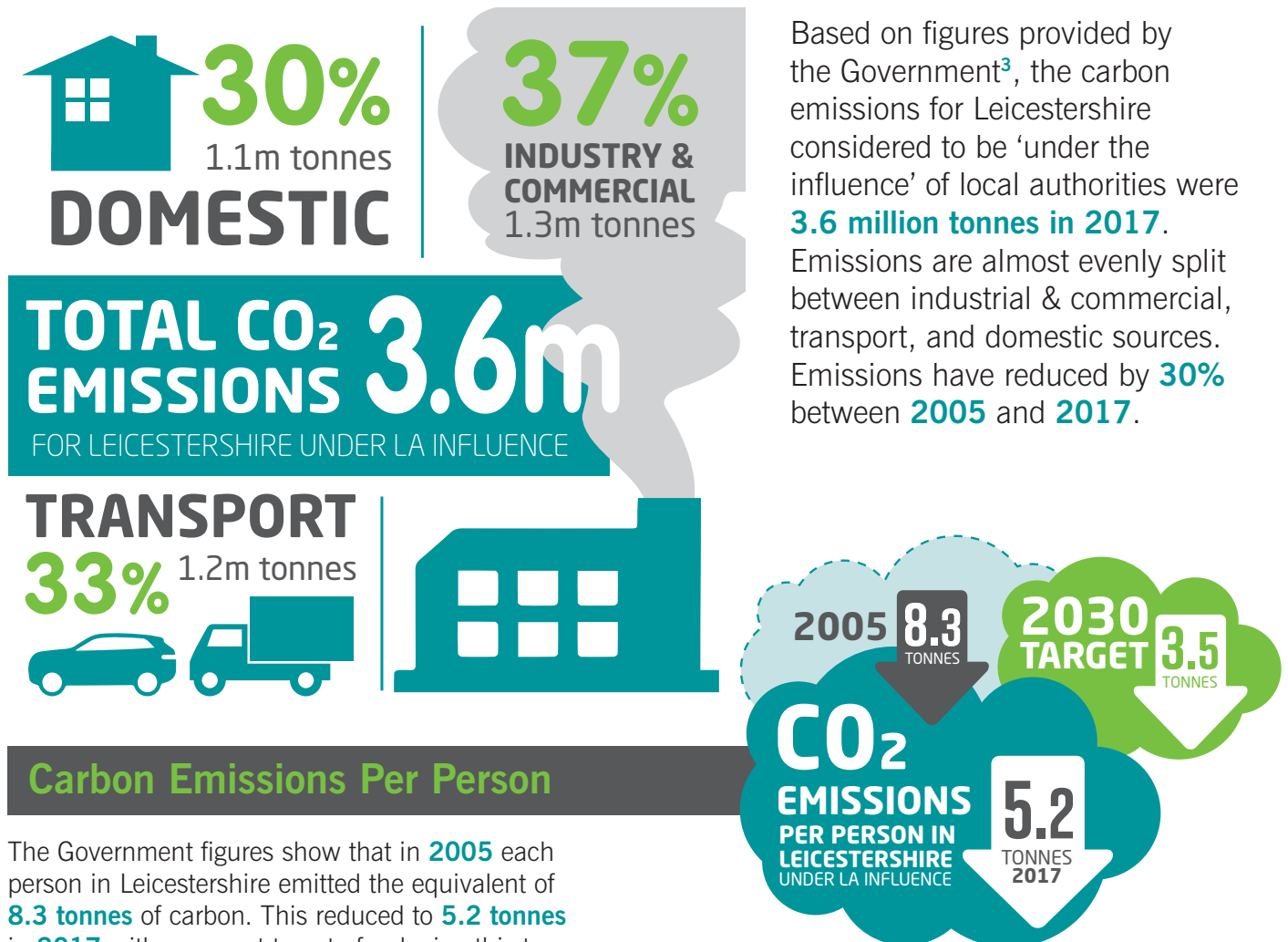
Footnotes:

¹The GHG emissions consist of a mix of gases in addition to carbon dioxide, including methane, nitrous oxide, and hydrofluorocarbons. These make up our overall greenhouse gas figure, which is expressed as carbon dioxide equivalent or CO₂e. GHG reporting follows HM Government's Environmental Reporting Guidelines.

²Excludes waste from operational activities e.g. highways maintenance and forestry waste.

Leicestershire Environmental Performance

Leicestershire's Carbon Emissions



Carbon Emissions Per Person

The Government figures show that in **2005** each person in Leicestershire emitted the equivalent of **8.3 tonnes** of carbon. This reduced to **5.2 tonnes** in **2017** with a current target of reducing this to **3.5 tonnes by 2030**.

Household Waste & Recycling

There has been a steady decline in the total household waste generated per household since **2011-12**, with total household waste per household falling from **1105 kg** to **1031 kg** in **2018-19**, a reduction of almost **7%**.

The amount of household waste recycled in Leicestershire in **2018-19** was **45.3%**.



Footnotes:

³Data is provided by the Department of Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for all UK regions and is two years in arrears. This includes emissions from industrial and commercial activity, transport (except for emissions from motorway traffic and diesel railways), and from domestic sources (i.e. homes). Net emissions from forestry and land based industries are excluded. The data does not include large point source emissions from power stations.

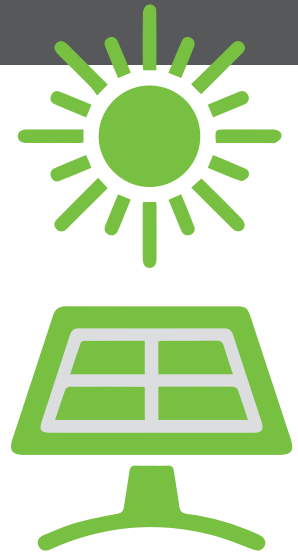


2. Street Lighting

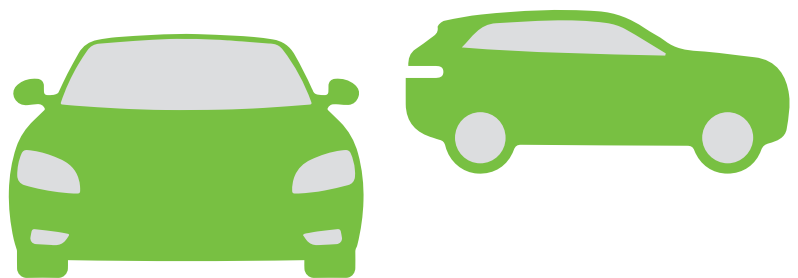
The County Council has invested approximately **£20 million** since **2016** in the rollout of LED street lights. The new lights, which are controlled by a central management system, are expected to save around **£2 million** each year, through a combination of reduced energy bills and lower maintenance costs, as the reliability of the LED bulbs is significantly better than traditional street lights. The installation of the new lights was completed in **March 2018** and the expected annual energy usage will be **9.4 million kwh** (kilowatt hours) as opposed to **26.9 million kwh** in **2013/14** – a **65% reduction**. The project has so far achieved a carbon saving of **9,718 tonnes CO₂e** between **2013/14 and 2018/19**.

1. Renewable Energy

In **2018/19**, **16%** of the energy used by County Council buildings was produced renewably on its own sites. In the same year the biomass boiler at County Hall alone generated **£91,000** in Renewable Heat Incentives (RHI) government subsidy, in addition to reducing costs. Solar panels across 19 County Council buildings, including County Hall, earn at least **£60,000** annually in Feed in Tariff (FIT) government subsidy as well as reducing running costs.



3. Business mileage reduction



The reduction of **1.8 million** miles in business mileage claimed by council staff resulted in a saving of **523 tonnes** of CO₂ equivalent gases. This has been achieved through a variety of sustainable travel initiatives available to staff including a pool of bikes staff can use to travel to meetings locally, a new electric pool car and other initiatives such as flexible working, touchdown points and video conferencing.

4. Total Waste Reduction

The County Council has successfully reduced the total amount of office waste it produces by **50% over 5 years**, from **791 tonnes** in **2013/14** to **389 tonnes** in **2018/19**. The council aims to recycle as much of its waste as possible and has its own paper and cardboard baler on-site at County Hall. The baler compresses card and paper collected from council sites into bales weighing over a tonne. These are then sold to paper merchants, earning the authority an income.

A network of staff Go Green Champions help to circulate key recycling and waste prevention messages to all staff. A staff kitchen composting scheme has also been running successfully since 2011. Run by volunteers, the scheme saves **over 1.9 tonnes** of compostable waste from going to landfill each month. Instead the waste, comprising of mostly fruit peelings, tea bags and paper towels, is left to mature in composting bays at County Hall and is then distributed amongst the volunteers who run the scheme to use at home.

