



Freedom of Information Request FOI1922

Request:

I am writing to you in order to make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

I should like to request the following information relating to your local authority's environmental sustainability performance and planning:

1. Excluding EPC ratings, does your local authority measure carbon emissions due to energy use in relation to your built assets (e.g. council owned housing property, council owned facilities, council owned offices and other council owned buildings) ? Yes / No / Partially / Don't know
2. What was the annual carbon footprint (in CO2) of your council's HQ building in 2018?
3. Does your local authority have a carbon emissions reduction plan in place, for energy use related to your built assets? Yes / No / Don't know
4. With the UK Government having signed legislation to commit the UK to a legally binding target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050, is your local authority already planning towards 'net zero carbon' operation by 2050? Yes / Partially / No / Don't know

Submitted on 04/11/19.

Response:

I am writing to you in order to make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

I should like to request the following information relating to your local authority's environmental sustainability performance and planning:

- 1. Excluding EPC ratings, does your local authority measure carbon emissions due to energy use in relation to your built assets (e.g. council owned housing property, council owned facilities, council owned offices and other council owned buildings) ? Yes / No / Partially / Don't know

Partially. The Council measures energy related carbon emissions from its operational and public buildings. It also measures carbon emissions from buildings it leases out when these are on the Council's energy supply contracts. Some leased out buildings do not have energy supplied by the Council so these are not measured. Council houses do not have energy supplied by the Council so carbon emissions in these are not measured. Some Council housing has shared areas such as stairwells, and shared facilities such as alarm and door access systems. The electricity for these is supplied by the Council and the carbon emissions are measured. In the Council's sheltered accommodation offer, the electricity supplied to shared areas and the heat supplied across the building are measured, however residents have their own electricity meter in their accommodation, so this is not measured.

For more information on the scope of the Council's carbon footprint, please see our 2018/19 Greenhouse Gas Report; <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/Annual%20Greenhouse%20Gas%20Report%202018-19.pdf>

- 2. What was the annual carbon footprint (in CO2) of your council's HQ building in 2018?

The Council's HQ is Quadrant on the Cobalt Business Park. The carbon footprint of Quadrant in financial year 2018/19 is calculated by using the units of energy, such as kilowatt hour of electricity and gas or litres of water, and the 2018 GHG conversion factors issued by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

The 2018/19 carbon footprint of Quadrant was 747 tonnes. It should be noted that the Council HQ includes the ICT data centre for the Council's entire ICT infrastructure. The electricity used in the data centre contributes 187 tonnes.

The information supplied to you is owned by the council unless otherwise stated and may be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research or for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use of a commercial nature will require the permission of North Tyneside Council. Further enquiries in this respect should be directed to Information Governance Team, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant, The Silver Link North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY.



North Tyneside Council

- 3. Does your local authority have a carbon emissions reduction plan in place, for energy use related to your built assets? Yes / No / Don't know

Yes. Please see the Council's Low Carbon Plan; <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/Low%20Carbon%20Plan%202016.pdf>

- 4. With the UK Government having signed legislation to commit the UK to a legally binding target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050, is your local authority already planning towards 'net zero carbon' operation by 2050? Yes / Partially / No / Don't know

Yes. The Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019 and is developing an action plan in response to this. The Council report can be found at the following link; <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/meeting/related-documents/6.%202019-07-25%20Climate%20Emergency%20Declaration%20version%202%201007%20%282%29%20post%20PH%20amend.pdf>