

North Tyneside Council's Annual Greenhouse Gas Report: 2019-20

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Introduction

Company information

North Tyneside Council, Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY.

Reporting period

1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 (unless otherwise stated).

North Tyneside Council recognises that carbon emissions must be tackled at a number of different levels, with the combined effort of government, businesses and individuals. Therefore, we have established a holistic approach to carbon management and reduction, and have developed a number of plans and strategies to deliver our commitment to tackling climate change and carbon reduction in our own operations and across the Borough. North Tyneside Council's Low Carbon Plan outlines our approach to reducing our carbon footprint and can be found at <http://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/539/sustainability>

In the plan you will find facts and figures on climate change, our approach to working with partners and stakeholders and our action plan to reduce our carbon footprint.

In July 2019 North Tyneside Council declared a Climate Emergency. This sees us bring forward our 50% carbon reduction targets from 2027 to 2023. It also sees a commitment to make the Council and the Borough carbon neutral by 2050.

The Council report declaring the climate emergency can be found [here](#).

The Council's Carbon Footprint

This is North Tyneside Council's tenth annual Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Report. Our baseline year is 2010/11.

Approach

We have followed the guidance issued by DEFRA on how to measure and report greenhouse gas emissions. We have used the relevant 2019 conversion factors. The Guidance provided by DEFRA can be found [here](#).

Organisational boundary

We have used the financial control approach as recommended within the DEFRA guidance above. All operational and non-operational buildings, for which the Council pays the energy bills are included within our organisational boundary. Social housing is excluded other than where the Council supplies energy directly, such as to sheltered accommodation schemes and shared usage in housing blocks, such as stairwell lighting and door entry and alarm systems. School building emissions are excluded from our organisational boundary to reflect the increased autonomy schools have from the Local Authority, including the establishment of Academies and the North Tyneside Learning Trust.

Geographical breakdown

All North Tyneside Council's operations fall within the UK and therefore the reported emissions are not broken down further.

Base year

Our base year for GHG reporting is 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011. The base year has been recalculated to show the organisational boundary excluding school buildings.

Operational scope

We have measured scope 1, 2 and significant scope 3 emissions.

	GHG emissions 2019/20 in tCO ₂ e
Scope 1	
Gas consumption	7,135
Owned transport (fuel consumption)	2,290
Process emissions	0
Fugitive emissions	0
Total scope 1	9,425
Scope 2	
Purchased electricity (Generation)	5,662
Total scope 2	5,674
Significant scope 3	
Electricity (Transmission & Distribution)	482
Water consumption and treatment	190
Business travel	364
Total significant scope 3	1,035

We have included emissions from our natural gas consumption, which heats our buildings and is used in some locations for cooking. We have also included the emissions from purchased electricity that powers our buildings and street lights.

We do not have any process emissions. We have excluded fugitive emissions due to the nature and cost of data collection. We estimate that these account for less than 0.5% of total scope 1 emissions.

Emissions associated with our owned transport (Diesel, Gas Oil and Petrol) are included in scope 1.

We have included significant scope 3 emissions where data is available and robust. This includes our business travel (journeys made by employees using their own vehicle) and the supply of water.

GHG emissions data for period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020		
	Tonnes of CO₂e	
	2019/20	Base year 2010/11
Scope 1	9,425	10,152
Scope 2	5,674	17,489
Scope 3	1,035	2,313
Total gross emissions	16,134	29,954
Outside of scopes	69	N/A
Carbon offsets	0	0
Green tariff	0	0
Total net emissions	16,203	29,954

Change in emissions

Overall, North Tyneside Council's absolute CO₂e emissions have decreased by 46% between 2010/11 and 2019/20.

The Council is delivering a programme of carbon emission reduction, following the hierarchy of energy reduction, energy efficiency and implementing low carbon / zero carbon technology.

This approach has enabled us to deliver energy and carbon emission savings through a behaviour change campaign, improved energy management, investment in energy efficient technology and building asset and fleet rationalisation. We have implemented a programme to install more energy efficient bulbs into our street lights,

including converting 7,200 columns to LED, and have trimmed the hours they are operational, dimmed them during the night and following a successful trial, introduced a part night switch off scheme for circa 3,100 non-residential lights.

The natural gas carbon footprint of our buildings has reduced by 4% since the baseline year 2010/11.

The electricity carbon footprint of our building portfolio has reduced by 62% since the baseline year of 2010/11.

The electricity carbon footprint of our street lighting has reduced by 73% since the baseline year of 2010/11.

The carbon footprint of fuel (diesel, red diesel, petrol) in operational vehicles has reduced by 16% and the carbon footprint of business miles travelled by staff has reduced by 44% since the baseline year of 2010/11.

Intensity Measurement

The Council does not use an intensity measurement. The overall aim is to become carbon neutral, so an intensity measurement is not relevant.

The Borough's Carbon Footprint

The 2018/19 Greenhouse Gas Report included information on the carbon footprint of the Borough of North Tyneside for the first time. This 2019/20 report is therefore a follow up on progress.

Approach

In June each year the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) produces a breakdown of carbon dioxide emissions by Local Authority area as a subset of its annual inventory of greenhouse gas emissions. Publications can be found [here](#). 2018 is the most recent available data.

Two datasets are provided. One containing all emissions assigned to Local Authority boundaries. A second containing emissions "within the scope of influence of Local Authorities." The latter set excludes large industrial sites, railways, motorways and land-use. There is little difference in emissions between the two datasets for North Tyneside and although not all emissions are in the control of the Council, to fully address the climate emergency it is important that the Council reports against all emissions.

Base year

Our base year for reporting the carbon footprint of the Borough is 1st January 2005 to 31st December 2005. This is the earliest data provided by BEIS.

Scope

The Borough's carbon footprint is made up of the power and heat used in the commercial, industrial and domestic buildings across the whole of the Borough, emissions from road and rail transport, and land use and forestation activities, which can result in either a release into or removal of emissions from the atmosphere.

CO₂ emissions data for North Tyneside (kilotons)		
	2018	Base year 2005
Commercial and Industrial	239	565
Domestic	310	504
Transport	295	346
Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry	-1.2	0.3
Total net emissions	843	1,415

Change in emissions

Overall, The Borough of North Tyneside's absolute CO₂ emissions have decreased by 40% between 2005 and 2018.

The Authority has fewer levers to deliver carbon emission reductions across the Borough compared to in its own estate, however there have still been significant achievements, including;

- Working in partnership with E.On to install solar panels on over 1,500 Council homes, providing free electricity to tenants. At the time this was the biggest social housing Solar PV project in the country.
- Working in partnership with Warm Zones Community Interest Company between 2008 and 2018 to install over 20,000 energy efficiency measures in resident's homes, including loft, cavity wall and solid wall insulation, replacement boilers and brand-new central heating systems.
- Installing a range of energy efficiency measures in the Authority's housing stock, raising the average Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP 2009) rating for the past 5 years from 69.8 to 71.4 in 2018.
- Working with partners on a 'Green Board' to engage businesses and community and voluntary organisations across the Borough to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions.
- Annual data from cycle counters indicates growth in cycling trips ahead of our target, and the Authority is supporting increased participation in everyday cycling, e.g. by delivering Bikeability training in schools across the borough.

If you require any further information relating to this report or North Tyneside Council's approach to carbon management, please contact Paul Nelson paul.nelson@northtyneside.gov.uk (0191) 643 6467.

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