

North Tyneside Council's Annual Greenhouse Gas Report: 2021-22

Date: July 2022 **Version:** 1.0 **Author:** Paul Nelson



North Tyneside Council

Introduction

Company information

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

Reporting period

1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 (unless otherwise stated).

In July 2019 North Tyneside Council declared a Climate Emergency. The Our North Tyneside Council Plan 2021-25 has the stated ambition that;

“We will publish an action plan of the steps we will take and the national investment we will seek to make North Tyneside carbon net-zero by 2030.”

North Tyneside Council recognises that the climate emergency challenge must be tackled at a number of different levels, with the combined effort of government, businesses, stakeholders and individuals. As an organisation, the Council’s carbon footprint is less than 2% that of the Borough, so it is essential to develop a collaborative approach to the challenge.

North Tyneside Council’s most recently published plan is the Climate Emergency Action Plan and this outlines our approach to reducing our carbon footprint and can be found at <http://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/539/sustainability> or by [CLICKING HERE](#).

However, the Council is working to update this and publish a new plan given the more recently announced ambition for 2030 as stated above. This will be published in August and available at <http://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/539/sustainability>

In the meantime, the Council continues to deliver projects that reduce carbon emissions.

The Council's Carbon Footprint

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

Approach

Our approach follows [Government guidance](#) on how to measure and report greenhouse gas emissions. We have used the relevant 2021 conversion factors.

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 2021/22 in tCO ₂ e
Scope 1	
Gas consumption	6,790
Owned transport (fuel consumption)	2,325
Process emissions	0
Fugitive emissions	0
Total scope 1	9,115
Scope 2	
Purchased electricity (Generation)	4,313
Total scope 2	4,313
Significant scope 3	
Electricity (Transmission & Distribution)	382
Water consumption and treatment	76
Business travel	225
Total significant scope 3	683

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 and treatment of water.

GHG emissions data for period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021		
	Tonnes of CO₂e	
	2021/22	Base year 2010/11
Scope 1	9,115	10,152
Scope 2	4,313	17,489
Scope 3	683	2,313
Total gross emissions	14,111	29,954
Outside of scopes	88	N/A
Carbon offsets	0	0
Green tariff	0	0
Total net emissions	14,111	29,954

Change in emissions

Overall, North Tyneside Council's absolute CO₂e emissions have decreased by 53% between 2010/11 and 2021/22.

The Council continues to deliver 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 LED lamps into our street lights, including converting over 10,000 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 9% since the baseline year 2010/11.

The electricity carbon footprint of our building portfolio has reduced by 71% since the baseline year of 2010/11.

The electricity carbon footprint of our street lighting has reduced by 79% since the baseline year of 2010/11.

The carbon footprint of fuel (diesel, red diesel, petrol) in operational vehicles has reduced by 15% and the carbon footprint of business miles travelled by staff has reduced by 66% since the baseline year of 2010/11.

Intensity Measurement

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

The Borough's Carbon Footprint

Approach

Each summer 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](#). 2020 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)		
	2020	Base year 2005
Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector	211	561
Domestic	301	518
Transport	258	373
Land Use & Agriculture	-0.5	0.4
Total net emissions	767	1,453

Change in emissions

Overall, The Borough of North Tyneside's absolute CO₂ emissions have decreased by 47% between 2005 and 2020.

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.
- Supporting sustainable travel options.

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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