

WCC Carbon Emissions

Why and how do we measure this data?

In 2005, as part of the Carbon Trust's carbon management programme, we started investigating our energy use and the CO₂ emissions from our estate and operations.

The work assessed the amount of energy we use in our buildings and travel to find out where we can cut back on carbon emissions and resulted in a strategy and implementation plan which can be downloaded below.

In 2008/09 we collated a larger set of data in order to provide a baseline for National Indicator NI185. This covers CO₂ emissions from operational buildings, business travel and emissions from contracted services. More detail on this data can be downloaded below.

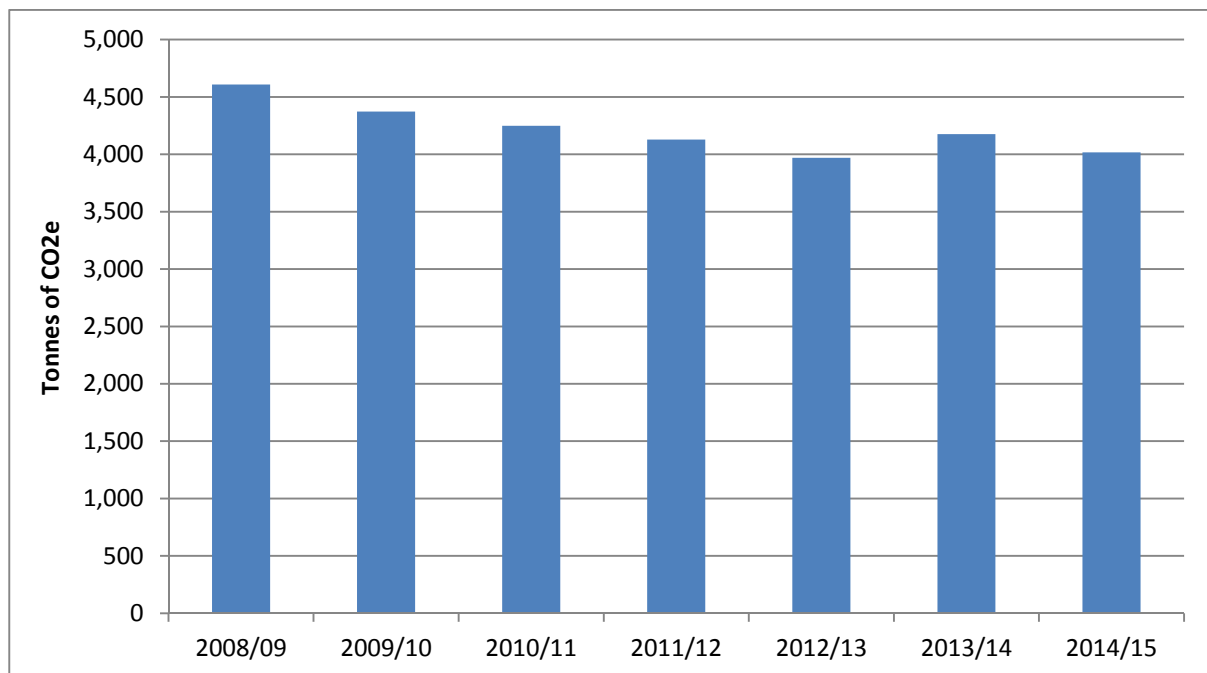
Using the information in this baseline, we are developing actions in order to reduce our CO₂ emissions. This is a long-term project and forms part of the council's priorities on sustainability climate change.

The Council has also calculated its carbon emissions (carbon footprint) arising from the energy consumption at its facilities and business transport activities for the financial years 2008/09 to 2014/15

What information can I see?

You will find the information below, both embedded in the web page, in this case as a spreadsheet and a chart, and also available to download in several formats at the bottom of the page which contain further historical data.

The data on this page will be updated annually with most recent data available being for 2014/15.



Tonnes of CO ₂ e for footprint year ending in							
Element	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Site Electricity	2,330.21	2,242.16	2,120.54	2,151.00	1,989.87	2,221.40	2,197.11
Site Gas	913.59	827.58	744.98	680.41	854.46	809.99	874.30
Depot contract lorry travel	803.95	803.95	801.35	1,012.20	899.32	908.43	630.67
Site Gas Oil	-	-	-	-	-	-	82.51
Depot contract van travel	n/a	n/a	n/a	141.52	91.74	88.91	57.78
Cash opt out car travel	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	47.29
Park & Ride Travel	13.55	13.55	64.91	46.63	42.04	41.23	38.31
Council owned car travel	57.73	39.61	43.51	32.17	26.79	29.02	38.19
Site Petrol	-	-	-	-	-	-	25.42
Other	489.53	445.48	472.33	64.25	64.77	76.65	24.77
Total tonnes of CO₂e	4,608.56	4,372.33	4,247.62	4,128.18	3,968.99	4,175.63	4,016.35

Comments:

The Council has decreased its total carbon footprint by 12.8% between this period and the baseline year and by 3.8% since the previous year. This has mainly been due to a decrease in the depot contract lorry travel.

There have been some significant changes in the amount of energy consumption at certain sites. Reasons identified for these have included changes in the occupation of the building and faulty meters. For example, Abbey Mill was let from June 2014 which meant WCC's share of energy consumption was significantly lower than in 2013/14. Likewise, Bar End Depot was shared with a tenant and in 2014/15 that tenant moved out so WCC became responsible for the entire site, leading to an increase in consumption compared to the previous year. There has been the addition of new sites such as the Railway Cottages, Station Road and a number of sites are now no longer in use, such as the Discovery Centre car park and Friarsgate car park. Friarsgate car park closed on 30th March 2015 but sections of the car park had been closed off during the 2014/15 period resulting in the reduction in energy consumption.

It was identified that there was a faulty meter at the Barfield Close car park which affected the previous year's consumption value. The energy figure used for this reporting period is believed to be correct.

Other increases in energy consumption have been due to greater use of air-conditioning, new installations of blowers and extractor fans, maintenance work leading to increased 'on' time of compressor equipment and also an increase in accuracy of the data. This year it was identified that some meter data was missing for sites in the previous reporting period e.g. Couch Green and the Tower Street car park.

In previous years only the energy consumption from street lighting within the City had been included. This year and for the previous year (2013-14), this has now changed to

encompass the energy use for all the street lighting within the District. The amount of energy consumed from street lighting has decreased by approximately 11% since the previous year (approximately 32,000 kWh). This has been due to the work WCC has been doing the past four years in upgrading the lighting stock with more energy efficient equipment and adjusting the operating times. WCC have also fitted a remote monitoring system which now allows for the lights to be dimmed