

(CCC) Council Carbon Reduction Strategy

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I'd be most grateful if you can provide me with the following information in relation to the Council's carbon reduction strategy

1. How much CO2e does the Council produce under Scopes 1, 2 and 3?
2. How often does the Council calculate your Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions?
3. Which of the Council's activities are included in your Scope 3 emissions calculations?
4. What is the estimated financial budget to meet your Net Zero/Carbon Neutral target?
5. How much has been spent to date in reaching your Net Zero/Carbon Neutral target?
6. How are you financing this investment?

Response

1. How much CO2e does the Council produce under Scopes 1, 2 and 3?

The latest available data is for 2020/21:

- Scope 1 = 2,704 tonnes CO2e,
- Scope 2 = 1,136 tonnes CO2e,
- Scope 3 = 638 tonnes CO2e.
- Total = 4,478

2. How often does the Council calculate your Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions?

The Council's carbon emissions are calculated for the previous financial year and reported on an annual basis. The reports produced, since 2014/15, are available on the following page on the council's website: www.cambridge.gov.uk/carbon-management-plan

3. Which of the Council's activities are included in your Scope 3 emissions calculations?

As detailed on page 6 of the Carbon Management Plan:

Scope 3: These are the emissions that are a consequence of the Council's actions, which occur at sources which the Council does not own or control and which are not classed as Scope 2 emissions. Included in Scope 3 emissions are business travel by means not owned or controlled by the Council (business mileage) and the emissions from outsourced services. The gas and electricity used at the sites (all the Council's leisure and swimming pool venues) managed by the Council's outsourced leisure contractor is therefore included in Scope 3. Also included in Scope 3 is the transmission and distribution losses (T&D losses)

for the electricity used by the Council's buildings in both Scope 2 and 3. T&D losses is the power lost in the transmission of (high-voltage) electricity from power generators to distributors and in the distribution of (medium- and low-voltage) electricity from distributors to end-users.

4. What is the estimated financial budget to meet your Net Zero/Carbon Neutral target?

The Council has a target to reduce its direct carbon emissions (from its buildings, fleet vehicles and business travel) to net zero carbon by 2030. The Council's current Carbon Management Plan sets out a range of projects that will help deliver this target, with estimated costs for each project (www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/9580/carbon-management-plan-2021-26.pdf).

5. How much has been spent to date in reaching your Net Zero/Carbon Neutral target?

The Council is not able to provide a figure for total expenditure to date on carbon reduction projects in its own buildings, vehicle fleet and services.

The Council has a dedicated Climate Change Fund, which was established in 2008 to fund measures that will reduce the carbon footprint of the Council's buildings, fleet and services. The Climate Change Fund has contributed a total of £1.4 million to carbon reduction projects delivered since 2008/09. However, there are also a significant number of carbon reduction projects that are funded through the Council's mainstream budgets, including General Fund or Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budgets for delivering services. For example, the replacement of fleet vehicles with more fuel efficient models or electric vehicles has been funded through the Council's General Fund.

6. How are you financing this investment?

The Council will make further allocations to the Climate Change Fund to deliver Carbon Management Plan projects through the Council's annual budget setting process. The Council will also seek Government funding for projects in the Carbon Management Plan, as opportunities arise. For example, in January 2021 the Council secured £1.7 million from the first round of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme for carbon reduction measures at Parkside Pools and Abbey Pools and will continue to bid for Government funding for feasibility studies and carbon reduction projects.

We aim to provide a high-quality service to you and hope that you are satisfied with this response. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Further queries on this matter should be directed to foi@cambridge.gov.uk