



WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

www.westoxon.gov.uk

Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report

Reporting Year 2020-21

Climate Action Team

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Introduction

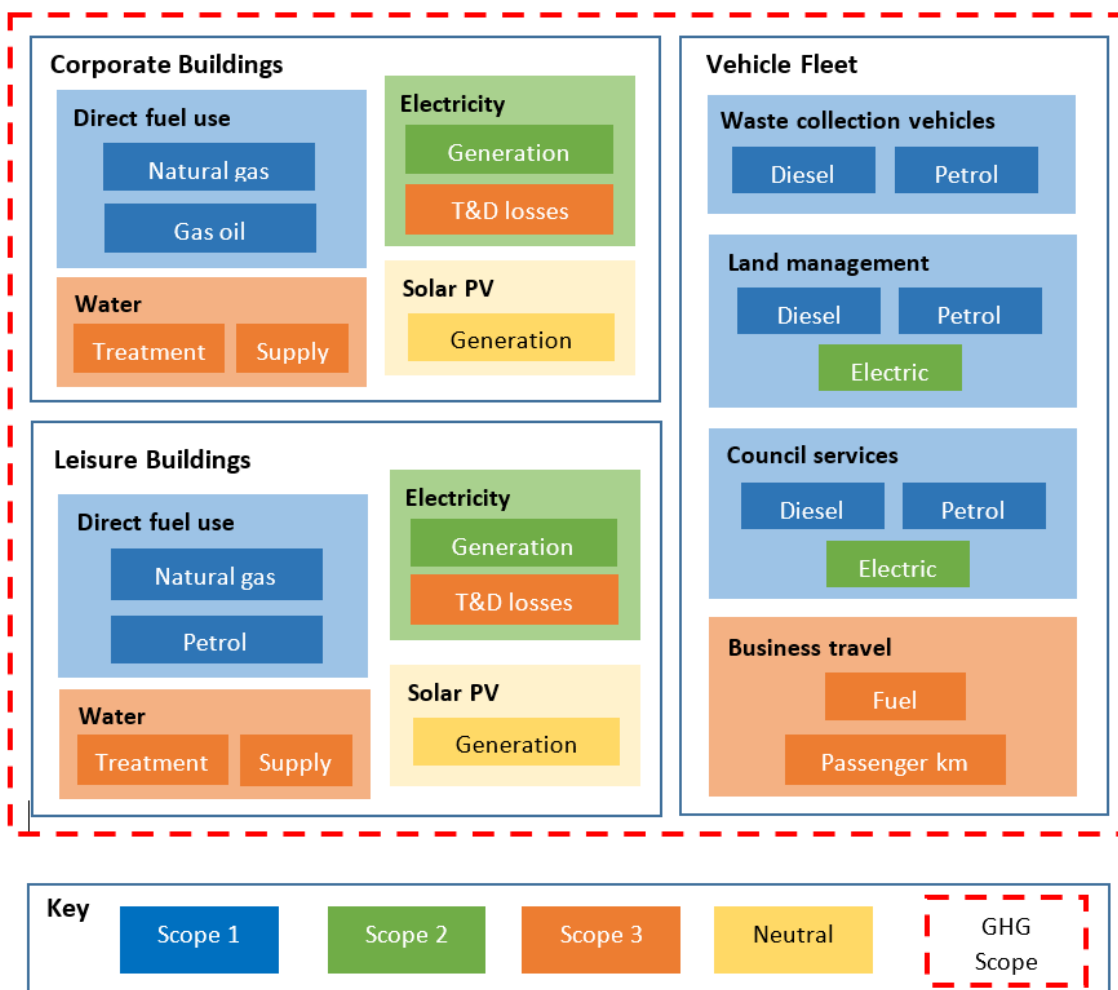
West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC) has set a target of being carbon neutral in its operations by 2030. In 2020, WODC published its Carbon Action Plan which sets out the strategy for reaching this target and focuses on three key areas: emissions from council buildings, properties and assets; emissions from leisure centres; and emissions from vehicles owned by or operated on behalf of the Council.

Each year, WODC will publish details on the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in line with the GHG Protocol. The 2019-2020 financial year is the baseline reporting year.

Emissions boundary

In line with the GHG Protocol, WODC is taking a financial control approach to reporting which means that the Council will account for all emissions over which it has financial control. This excludes emissions from operations in which it has an interest but no control. Therefore, the following emissions are accounted for:

- Corporate buildings, owned and operated by the Council
- Leisure buildings owned by the Council, operated by a leisure provider
- Waste vehicles owned by the Council
- Other vehicles owned and/or operated by the Council to deliver services
- Emissions associated with the council’s business travel



Exclusions

There are a number of other emission sources which the Council is responsible for but which have been excluded this year. However, the Council will review these on an annual basis and seek to include them within the reporting process as data collection and emission calculation methods improve.

| Type | Reason for exclusion |
|-------------------|--|
| Operational waste | Difficulty in sourcing tonnage data specific to the Council and its operations. |
| Staff commuting | Difficulty in collecting reliable commuting mileage and vehicle type – no current mechanism in place for recording this. The Council has limited influence over these emissions. |
| Working from home | Difficulty in collecting reliable data and there are contested methodologies and variable emission factors currently. The Council has limited influence over these emissions. |
| Procurement | There is a lack of publicly available and agreed emission factors and difficulty in collecting accurate data. Methods need to be developed to collect this data before including. |
| Leased buildings | These should be included under the tenant's reporting, so emissions would be double counted if we included them. Data required would rely on third parties supplying it. |

2020 – 2021 emissions data

The following data is for the 2020-21 financial year, covering GHG emissions from April 2020 to March 2021. Data is collected from a range of sources and the BEIS conversion factors for 2020 are applied.

Carbon account breakdown: by scope

Table 1: Total emissions by scope

| 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 | Kg CO2e |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Scope 1 | 1,635,300 |
| Scope 2 | 239,083 |
| Scope 3 | 448,796 |
| Total | 2,323,178 |

Scope 1 emissions, associated with gas and liquid fuel, account for 70% of council emissions.

Scope 2 emissions associated with the purchase of electricity from the National Grid account for 9% of council emissions.

Scope 3 emissions associated with the transport of gas, electricity and liquid fuel (referred to as T&D, transport and distribution, and WTT, well-to-tank), water consumption, and transport miles for staff and councillor business travel accounts for the remaining 21% of council emissions.

Figure 1: Total emissions by scope

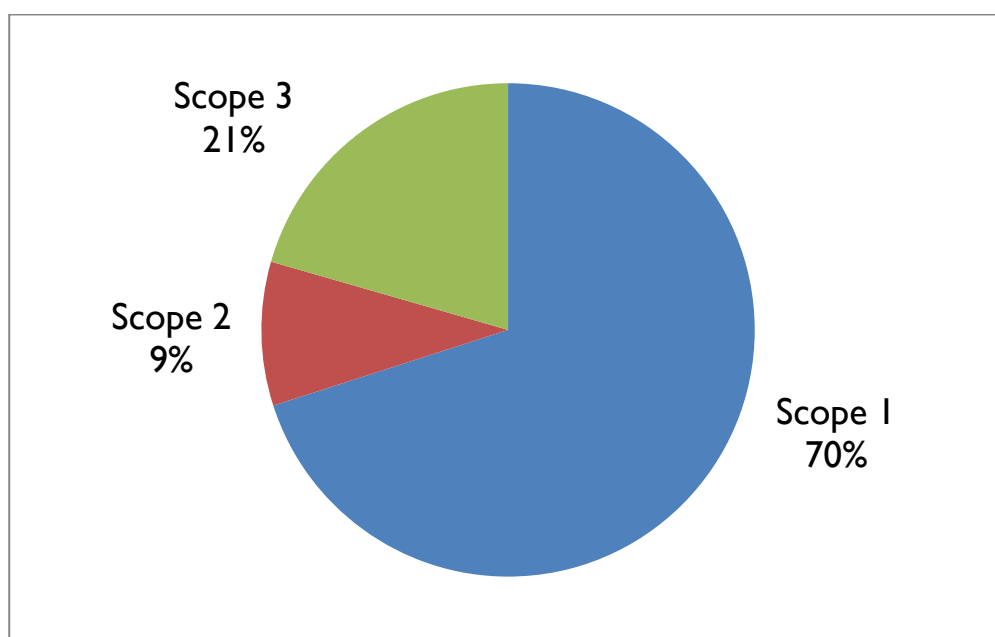
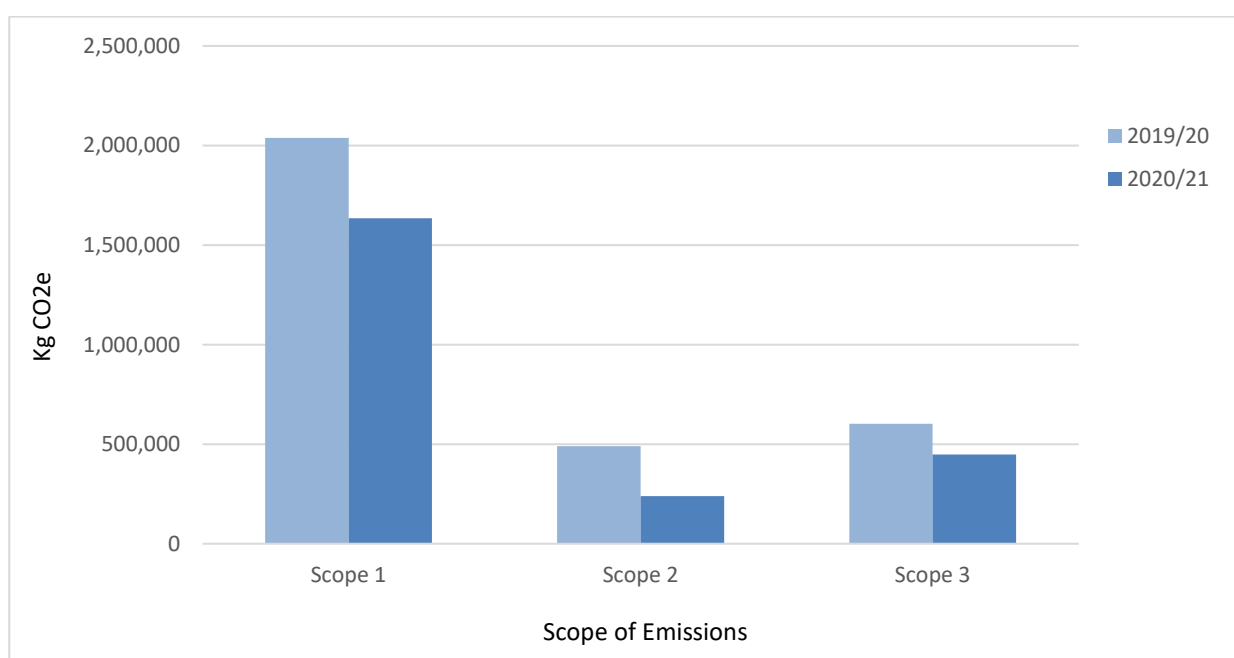


Table 2: Comparative emissions between 2019/20 (baseline year) and 2020/21

| Scope | Kg CO2e in 2019/20 | Kg CO2e in 2020/21 | Percent change on 2019/20 |
|---------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Scope 1 | 2,038,201 | 1,635,300 | -19.8% |
| Scope 2 | 490,201 | 239,083 | -51.2% |
| Scope 3 | 602,589 | 448,796 | -25.5% |

Figure 2: 2020/21 emissions by scope compared to 2019/20 (baseline year)



Scope 1 emissions have decreased 19.8% from the baseline year, primarily driven by reductions in gas consumption from leisure centres. However, emissions from the Council-owned waste trucks, currently operated by Ubico, increased due to the increased waste flows during the pandemic as more residents stayed at home.

Scope 2 emissions have fallen 51.2% from the baseline year. This reduction in electricity use reflects the reduced building usage during the pandemic as more people stayed at home.

Scope 3 emissions have fallen 25.5% from the baseline year. This reflects reductions in T&D and WTT emissions which fall in line with energy consumption trends in Scope 1 and 2. There has also been a reduction in business travel among staff and councillors.

Carbon account breakdown: by location

Table 3: Total emissions by location

| I April 2020 to 31 March 2021 | Kg CO2e |
|---|------------------|
| Council offices, property and sites (excluding leisure) | 311,805 |
| Leisure centres and facilities | 432,673 |
| Council vehicle fleet and transport | 1,565,489 |
| Total | 2,309,967 |

Council offices, property and sites represent 13% of total emissions across Scopes 1, 2 and 3.

Leisure centres and facilities account for 19% of Council emissions, across all scopes.

Council vehicle fleet, machinery and transport, including Council-owned waste trucks currently operated by Ubico, account for 68% of Council emissions.

Figure 3: Total emissions for 2020/21 by location

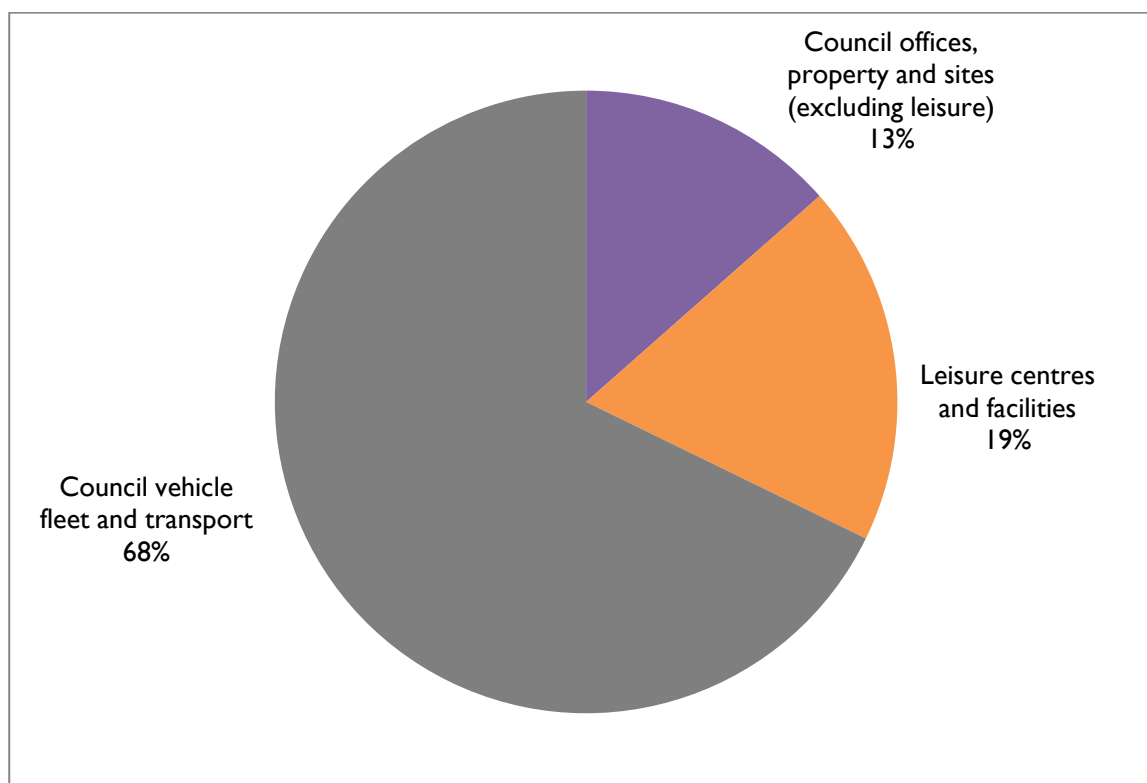
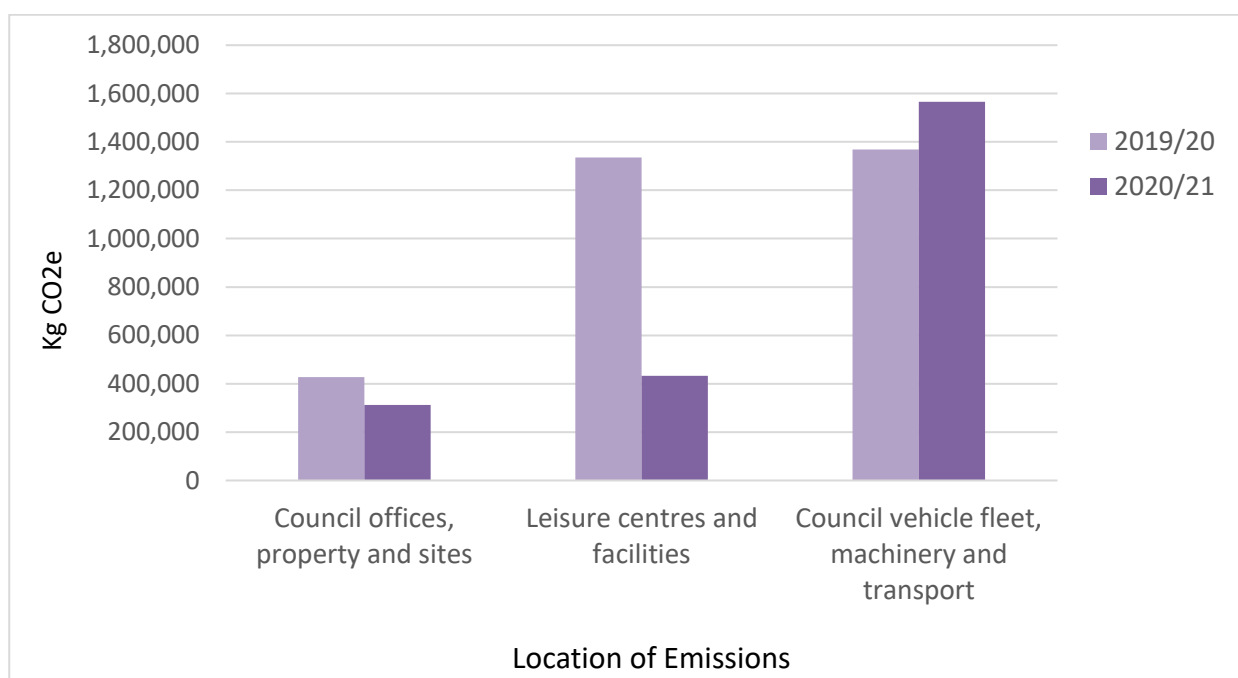


Table 4: Comparative emissions between 2019/20 (baseline year) and 2020/21

| Location | Kg CO2e in 2019/20 | Kg CO2e in 2020/21 | Percent change on 2019/20 |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Council offices, property and sites (excluding leisure) | 427,968 | 311,805 | -27% |
| Leisure centres and facilities | 1,334,962 | 432,673 | -68% |
| Council vehicle fleet and transport | 1,368,061 | 1,565,489 | +14% |

Figure 4: 2020/21 emissions by location compared to 2019/20 (baseline year)



Emissions from Council offices, property and sites (excluding leisure) have fallen 27% from the baseline year. This is considered to be a result of changes in behaviour during the pandemic which resulted in reduced building use.

Emissions from leisure centres and facilities have fallen 68% from the baseline year as a result of reduced energy consumption during the pandemic.

Emissions from Council vehicle fleet, machinery and transport have increased 14% from the baseline year. This is due to the Council-owned waste trucks, currently operated by Ubico, accommodating the increased waste flows during the pandemic as more residents stayed at home.