

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL COUNCIL'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REPORT 2009/10 23 JUNE 2011

Background

The purpose of this report is to allow information on Wirral Council's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions **to be published in the format requested by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)** as part of the Single List of Central Government requirements from Local Government (2011/12), for data reference 067-00 "Emissions from Local Authority own estate and operations".

One of Wirral Council's Corporate Priorities is to 'Reduce Wirral's Carbon Footprint' through the delivery of a Council Carbon Budget. The Climate Change Strategy, approved by Cabinet in June 2007, commits the Council to tackling climate change. This requires a reduction in emissions of Greenhouse Gases and adaptation to the changes in climate that will occur. Wirral Council has developed a Climate Change Policy, an Action Plan and a Carbon Reduction Programme that focuses on awareness, energy, adaptation and transport.

Wirral Council achieved its target of a 20% reduction in carbon emissions by 2010 in 2007. In 2008, the Council adopted the CRed target of a 60% reduction by 2025. The Council works with residents, communities and both the public and private sectors to encourage them to achieve their own reductions.

Wirral's Carbon Reduction Strategy coordinates all related Council activities through a Wirral Carbon Reduction Programme. This enables Wirral Council to plan, monitor and report progress. Partnership working has also underpinned Wirral's Climate Change Strategy and information on the various carbon reduction initiatives is monitored and reported to the Council's Sustainable Communities Committee.

Wirral Council have introduced a Carbon Budget from April 2011. This will help achieve both local and national carbon reduction targets. The Carbon Budget will enable service managers to plan for CO₂ reductions at a Departmental and operational level and ensure that financial and carbon budgeting is fully integrated into mainstream financial management and business planning activities.

Wirral Council signed up to the Nottingham Declaration in 2001 and reaffirmed its commitment to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide in 2006. Proposals for quantifying CO₂ emissions as part of the procurement process for new Council contracts and other spend from April 2011 are currently being developed.

Wirral Council is a full participant in the Government's Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRCEES).

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Scope of Report & Specific Exclusions

This report is based on the sites and transport figures that were reported for the National Indicator (NI) 185 years 2008/09 (Baseline) and 2009/10. Elements excluded in 2008/09 are similarly excluded from the 2009/10, as per the NI Guidance. The reasons for exclusion generally include instances in which data were either unreliable or not available for the NI baseline year. This approach ensures that the two years are consistent in scope.

The report covers all Wirral Council owned and operated buildings over which it exercises direct control and Schools. Social housing is excluded.

Fleet Transport is included, as is business travel based on private vehicle mileage. Business travel by other means (Bus, train, aircraft etc.) is excluded as the information was not available in a consistent form. Commuting and Contractor is also excluded for this reason.

GHG emissions data for period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010			
	Global tonnes of CO₂e		
	Current Year 2009/10	Prior Year 2008/09 (see Base Year)	Base Year 2008/09
Scope 1	21,158		20,606
Scope 2	27,584		27,598
Scope 3	7,420		7,514
Total gross emissions	56,162		55,718
Carbon Offsets	0		0
Green tariffs	(11,916)		(28,902)
Total annual net emissions	44,246		26,816
Intensity measurement 'Tonnes of CO₂e per £m Total Income'	151.79		157.30

1. Company Information

- 1.1. Wirral Council is the ninth largest Metropolitan district in the country, and the third largest in the north west of England.
- 1.2. Wirral Council is based at: Town Hall, Brighton Street, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 8ED

2. Reporting Period

- 2.1. The reporting period is the financial year from 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010.
- 2.2. This report includes information derived from data prepared for National Indicators 185 & 194 for the 2009/10 and 2008/09 financial years.

3. Change in Emissions

- 3.1. Scope1 emissions have increased. The principle reason is the increased use of natural gas during the cold weather that occurred over January and February 2010.
- 3.2. Year on year net emissions have risen due to contractual changes that significantly reduce the amount of electricity supplied from green sources.

4. Approach

- 4.1. The Government publication "Guidance on how to measure and report on your greenhouse gas emissions" (DECC/DEFRA September 2009) has been used to prepare this Greenhouse Gas Emissions report.
- 4.2. The DECC/DEFRA Microsoft Excel spreadsheet version 1.2.1 FINAL (updated 06/10/2010) downloaded 31/03/2011 was used to calculate emissions in kg CO₂e (Carbon Dioxide Equivalent).

5. Organisational Boundary

- 5.1. The organisational boundary has been established using the financial control approach for all sites that were reported for National Indicators (NI's) 185 & 194 to ensure consistency.

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6. Operational Scopes

- 6.1. Scope 1, Scope 2 and significant Scope 3 emissions have been measured and are reported.

	GHG emissions 2010/11 in tonnes CO ₂ e	State specific exclusions and % this represents for relevant scope (excluding geographic exclusions)
Scope 1		
Oil Consumption	2,015	
Natural Gas Consumption	17,800	
Owned Transport	1,343	
Process emissions	0	Not applicable – Wirral Council operates no industrial processes as describes in the guidance.
Fugitive Emissions	Not reported	Emissions from air-conditioning and refrigeration units are excluded due to the cost of data collection. These types of units are not installed in all buildings.
Total scope 1	21,158	
Scope 2		
Purchased electricity	27,584	
Total scope 2	27,584	
Significant Scope 3		
Purchased energy and fuels	5,970	
Business travel	1,098	
Water	352	
Total significant scope 3	7,420	

7. Geographic Breakdown

- 7.1. All Wirral Council's activities are UK based.

Geographical breakdown			
2010	Tonnes of CO ₂ e		
	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3
Total Global	21,158	27,584	7,420
UK	21,158	27,584	7,420

8. Base year

- 8.1. A base year of 2008/09 (01/04/08 to 31/03/09) has been selected. This was the baseline year for NI 185 & 194 for which energy data was submitted to DECC, verified by their agents and returned to the Council.
- 8.2. The Energy consumption information for 2008/09, previously used to calculate CO₂ emissions has been used to calculate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions expressed as CO₂e (carbon dioxide equivalent).

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- 8.3. The base year recalculation policy is to recalculate our base year and the prior year following significant structural changes or improvements to measuring methods. The initial significance threshold is 5% of total gross base year emissions.

9. Targets

- 9.1. Wirral Council is committed to reducing its CO₂ emissions by 60% by 2025 and to adapt to the changes in climate that will occur.
- 9.2. In order to ensure this target is met, the Council produces a Carbon Budget to set annual reduction targets and to measure progress. The currently annual CO₂ reduction target is 5%.

10. Intensity Measurement

- 10.1. The intensity measurement used is "Tonnes of CO₂e per £m Total Income". The income figure is obtained from the Summary of Accounts for 2009/10.
- 10.2. The intensity measurement has fallen for 2009/10 as the total income for the Council has risen.

11. External Assurance Statement

- 11.1. No external independent assurance statement has been commissioned to cover the reporting period.

12. Carbon Offsets

- 12.1. Wirral Council has not purchased any carbon credits over the reporting period.

13. Green Tariffs

- 13.1. Over the 2009/10 financial year Wirral Council purchased electricity for 409 metered supply points and for 6 un-metered MPAN's (Meter Point Administration Numbers).
- 13.2. Over the reporting period, all 6 un-metered MPAN's were supplied 10% electricity from renewable sources by EDF as specified in their contract document.
- 13.3. Over the reporting period, all 24 Half Hourly Metered (HHM) sites were supplied 100% electricity from renewable sources by EDF as specified in their contract document.
- 13.4. Over the reporting period, all non half-hourly sites supplied by British Gas Business under the OGC Buying Solutions framework

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agreement were supplied 10% electricity from renewable sources as specified in their contract document.

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