

**Oxfordshire Environment Partnership 1 November 2013**

**Report on Carbon Emissions**

**Purpose**

1. To update members on progress against the Oxfordshire Climate Local commitment to reduce carbon emissions by 3% year on year against a 2010/11 baseline.

**Introduction**

2. In January 2012 the Partnership asked for an annual return summarising the progress of all six local authorities in Oxfordshire against the agreed target of a 3% reduction in carbon (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions year on year. This report covers the emissions for the 2012/13 financial year.
3. The data for this report was extracted from the data collected by each Oxfordshire Local Authority as part of the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) requirement for Local Authorities to report on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions (which include CO<sub>2</sub> emissions) by July of each financial year. The GHG reports are made available on each Council's website and copies are sent to DECC.

**Report**

4. The table below summarises the total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from all six local authorities in Oxfordshire for the year 2012/13 and compares them against 2011/12 emissions and the 2010/11 baseline year.
5. Emissions in 2012/13 in some case saw an increase compared to the previous financial year largely attributable to the extended heating season experienced during the early part of 2012/13 compared with the milder, shorter heating season of the previous year; Overall, however, all Oxfordshire Local Authorities achieved a reduction in emissions compared to the baseline year, with reductions ranging from -5.50% to -11.36%, equating to an year on year average reduction ranging from -2.75% to -5.68%.

**Table 1 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (tonnes) for 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13**

	Cherwell	Oxford City	Oxfordshire County	South Oxfordshire	Vale of White Horse	West Oxfordshire
<b>2010/11 baseline</b>						
Scope 1	2,561	4,092	25,373	2,582	2,829	2,432
Scope 2	2,489	3,153	37,663	1,438	1,417	1,165
Scope 3	894	342	4,270	293	376	73
<b>Total CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions</b>	<b>5,944</b>	<b>7,587</b>	<b>67,307</b>	<b>4,312</b>	<b>4,623</b>	<b>3,670</b>
<b>2011/12</b>						
Scope 1	2,451	3,777	17,787	2,450	2,618	2,428
Scope 2	2,362	2,667	36,439	1,213	1,312	1,120
Scope 3	850	296	3,275	262	325	78
<b>Total CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions</b>	<b>5,663</b>	<b>6,740</b>	<b>57,502</b>	<b>3,925</b>	<b>4,255</b>	<b>3,626</b>
<b>2012/13</b>						
Scope 1	2,473	4,077	22,128	2,411	2,624	2,324
Scope 2	2,245	2,603	37,380	1,154	1,242	1,099
Scope 3	783	275	3,248	257	284	45
<b>Total CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions</b>	<b>5,501</b>	<b>6,955</b>	<b>62,756</b>	<b>3,822</b>	<b>4,149</b>	<b>3,468</b>
Reduction from baseline	-444	-632	-4,550	-490	-474	-202
%	<b>-7.46%</b>	<b>-8.33%</b>	<b>-6.76%</b>	<b>-11.36%</b>	<b>-10.25%</b>	<b>-5.50%</b>
<b>Average reduction per year (%)</b>	<b>-3.73%</b>	<b>-4.16%</b>	<b>-3.38%</b>	<b>-5.68%</b>	<b>-5.13%</b>	<b>-2.75%</b>

**Notes**

1. In the table, **Scope 1** refers to direct carbon emissions from combustion in Council owned or controlled boilers, furnaces, vehicles and plant; it therefore includes natural gas, gas oil, kerosene and liquid petroleum gas, which are used to heat buildings and also to power non-road going vehicles, and plant such as lawn-mowers, chippers, etc. It also includes fuel consumption (e.g. diesel, petrol and LPG) from vehicles owned and operated by the Councils. **Scope 2** refers to indirect carbon emissions from purchased electricity consumed in Council buildings and other electricity consuming sites (e.g. Car parks); while **Scope 3** primarily refers to emissions from electricity transmission and distribution as well as emissions from business travel in employee-owned vehicles (also known as “grey fleet”).

2. The emissions have been calculated in accordance with government guidance published by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and using recognised emission factors<sup>1</sup>.
3. As well as reductions from investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy, the figures capture the impact of weather conditions (i.e. colder/warmer winters) which can have a considerable effect on energy consumption, and therefore emissions, as well as changes in workforce numbers and building disposals.
4. The data in this report could differ from data presented in other internal or public facing reports produced by the individual Councils (such as Carbon Management Plan progress reports) because of the different approach to the calculations, such as the baseline year, scope and emission factors applied.

### Recommendation

5. The Partnership is asked to note the report.

### Author

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<sup>1</sup> DEFRA (2013) Environmental Reporting Guidelines: Including mandatory greenhouse gas emissions reporting guidance [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/206392/pb13944-env-reporting-guidance.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/206392/pb13944-env-reporting-guidance.pdf) and DEFRA (2012) Greenhouse gas conversion factors for company reporting 2012 guidelines [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/69554/pb13773-ghg-conversion-factors-2012.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69554/pb13773-ghg-conversion-factors-2012.pdf)

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