

WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

23 JUNE 2011

SUBJECT:	GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REPORTS
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF LAW, HR AND ASSET MANAGEMENT
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR BRIAN KENNY
KEY DECISION	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval to publish the information on Wirral Council's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions 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".
- 1.2 This report does not contain exempt information.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Cabinet are requested to note this report and to:
- (i) approve the publication of the attached Greenhouse Gas reports (please refer to Appendix A and B) online as requested by DECC.
 - (ii) approve the publication of future Greenhouse Gas reports online as requested by DECC.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To allow the Council to comply with DECC's request for publication of GHG data for the periods 2009/10 and 2010/11 on the Council's website no later than the 29 July 2011, and to comply with DECC's request in future years.

4.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 NI 185, "Percentage CO₂ reduction from LA operations" was first reported in mid August 2009. The NI reported emissions of CO₂ on a DECC pre-formatted spreadsheet. Calculations were based on energy and fuel use in buildings and transport. The first year, 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 was set as a baseline. At the request of DECC, years two and three were not reported but the information was to be collected and stored until further notice.

- 4.2 As part of the Single List of Central Government requirements from Local Government (2011/12), DECC have now replaced NI 185 with a requirement to report GHG Emissions (data reference 067-00) "Emissions from Local Authority own estate and operations". The information will be published in the format requested by DECC, based on the guidance document "Guidance on how to measure and report your greenhouse gas emissions"
- 4.3 Although the annual GHG Emissions report is described as the successor to National Indicator (NI) 185 "Percentage CO₂ reduction from LA operations", it does not report precisely the same measure. NI 185 reported emissions in terms of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) alone, as does the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRCEES) and the Council's Carbon Budget. The new DECC requirement covers all Greenhouse Gases and reports in Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e).
- 4.4 DECC will no longer be asking for data to be 'submitted' to central Government. Instead each Local Authority is being asked to publish a Greenhouse Gas report locally online. Each Local Authority must then notify DECC of the data's location on the Council's website by email.
- 4.5 To ensure that all of the information is readily available, DECC is planning to collate the total figures for each Local Authority's emissions in tonnes of CO₂e together with a short description of what the Local Authority has included and excluded in their report plus a Council email address which will allow visitors to the DECC website to contact a Council if they choose to enquire further about the figures.
- 4.6 DECC has requested that the outstanding former NI 185 data for 2009/10 and 2010/11 be published in the new format at the same time after the 2010/11 Financial Year concludes, and that this should take place no later than the 29 July 2011 (please refer to Appendix A and B - Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report 2009/10 and 2010/11 respectively). DECC's request is also covered by the first milestone in the Annex of the Memorandum of Understanding between DECC and the Local Government Group signed on 9 March 2011.

5.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 5.1 A risk associated with the production of Greenhouse Gas Emissions reported in CO₂e is that they are confused with the Carbon Budget and CRCEES figures that are measured as CO₂. The two indicators are superficially similar, but do not report the same measure.
- 5.2 As stated by DECC, when the data from the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reports is collated and published, entries from different Local Authorities will not be directly comparable. There is a risk that comparing results from different Local Authorities could lead to erroneous conclusions.
- 5.3 Although DECC have stated that producing a GHG Emission report is not a statutory requirement, it does form part of the DCLG single list data and so is expected to be reported. If the Greenhouse Gas Emissions figures are not made available and subsequently excluded from DECC's collated report, there is a risk associated with loss of reputation.

6.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

6.1 No other options have been considered due to the specific nature of DECC's request.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 No consultation was required.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

8.1 The publication of annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reports has no direct implications for voluntary, community and faith groups.

9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

9.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. There are no staffing implications arising directly from this report. Data will be collated and reported using existing resources.

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

12.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

12.1 Annual reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions does not have direct implications for carbon reduction. However, reporting of environmental performance indicators is normally associated with best practice and ensures that the Council is seen to actively pursue its environmental goals and corporate objectives.

12.2 Annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions reporting also has relevance to Environmental Management (ISO14001) accreditation. Copies of the reports may be presented as evidence for the annual independent assessment.

13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There are no planning or community safety implications arising from this report.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report 2009/10

Appendix B: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report 2010/11

REFERENCE MATERIAL

“Guidance on how to measure and report on your greenhouse gas emissions”
(DECC/DEFRA September 2009)

“2010 Guidelines to Defra / DECC's GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting”, DECC/DEFRA Microsoft Excel spreadsheet version 1.2.1 FINAL
(updated 06/10/2010) downloaded 31/03/2011

Memorandum of Understanding between the LG Group and the Department of Energy and Climate Change, 9 March 2011.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
This is the first report to Cabinet which initially informs Members.	23 June 2011

APPENDIX A – DECC GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REPORT 2009/10

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).

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 includes 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 emissions are 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
Scope1	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 principal 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 source.

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.

6. Operational Scopes

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

	GHG emissions 2009/10 in tonnes CO₂e	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 type 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 CO₂e		
	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).
- 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 current 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 with 10% electricity from renewable sources by EDF Energy as specified in their contract document.
- 13.3. Over the reporting period, all 24 Half Hourly Metered (HHM) sites were supplied with 100% electricity from renewable sources by EDF Energy 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 agreement were supplied with 10% electricity from renewable sources by British Gas Business as specified in their contract document.

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APPENDIX B – DECC GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REPORT 2010/11

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL COUNCIL'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REPORT 2010/11

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).

Scope of Report & Specific Exclusions

This report is based on the scope for reporting stationary and transport figures that specified for National Indicator (NI) 185 years 2008/09 (Baseline) and 2009/10. Elements excluded in 2008/09 are similarly excluded from the 2010/11 report, as per the NI Guidance. The reasons for exclusion generally includes instances in which data were either unreliable or not available for the NI baseline year. This approach ensures that the three reported 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 emissions are also excluded for this reason.

GHG emissions data for period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011			
	Global tonnes of CO₂e		
	Current Year 2010/11	Prior Year 2009/10	Base Year 2008/09
Scope1	18,581	21,158	20,606
Scope 2	26,294	27,584	27,598
Scope 3	6,943	7,420	7,514
Total gross emissions	51,818	56,162	55,718
Carbon Offsets	0	0	0
Green tariffs	(12,773)	(11,916)	(28,902)
Total annual net emissions	39,045	44,246	26,816
Intensity measurement 'Tonnes of CO₂e per £m Total Income'	137.39	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 2010 to 31 March 2011.
- 2.2. This report includes information derived from data prepared for National Indicators 185 & 194 for the 2009/10 and 2008/09 financial years. Data for 2010/11 was derived in an identical manner.

3. Change in Emissions

- 3.1. Gross emissions have reduced despite harsh winter conditions at the end of 2010. The principle reason is the disposal of a number of Council properties.

3.2. The amount of electrical energy supplied from green sources rose due to contractual.

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.

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 CO₂e	State specific exclusions and % this represents for relevant scope (excluding geographic exclusions)
Scope 1		
Oil Consumption	2,313	
Natural Gas Consumption	15,234	
Owned Transport	1,033	
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 type of units are not installed in all buildings.
Total scope 1	18,581	
Scope 2		
Purchased electricity	26,294	
Total scope 2	26,294	
Significant Scope 3		
Purchased energy and fuels	5,545	
Business travel	1,063	
Water	336	
Total significant scope 3	6,943	

7. Geographic Breakdown

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

Geographical breakdown			
2010	Tonnes of CO₂e		
	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3
Total Global	18,581	26,294	6,943
UK	18,581	26,294	6,943

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).
- 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 current 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 Council Budget 2011/12 report dated 21 February 2011.
- 10.2. The intensity measurement has fallen for 2009/10 as the total income for the Council has risen by 1.7% whilst gross emissions reduced by 7.7%.

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 404 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 with 10% electricity from renewable sources by EDF Energy as specified in their contract document.
- 13.3. Over the reporting period, all 24 Half Hourly Metered (HHM) sites were supplied with 100% electricity from renewable sources by EDF Energy 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 agreement were supplied 10% electricity from renewable sources and 15% electricity from good quality CHP (Combined Heat and Power) as specified in their contract document.

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