

Annual Carbon Emissions 2014/2015

From South Somerset District Council controlled sources

Background

The council reports carbon emissions from its own operation following the end of each financial year. There are three components. Emissions arising from;

- use of buildings (scope 1 and 2)
- fleet vehicle use (scope 1)
- business travel - car use only (scope 1)

Emissions are quantified as tonnes of carbon dioxide. The multiplication factors used to calculate CO₂ from energy or fuel used during 2014/2015 can be found at <http://www.ukconversionfactorscarbonsmart.co.uk/> The factor for electricity use has decreased because the grid continues to decarbonise as more renewables become grid connected, meaning that the carbon data reported for electricity is not directly comparable from one year to the next.

Report

Emissions Source	Tonnes CO ₂
Buildings heat - Scope 1	863
Buildings electricity - Scope 2	1221
Vehicle Fleet	412
Business Mileage	116
Total	2,371

Somerset Waste Partnership (South Somerset share)	Not available
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Comparison with previous years; Emissions of CO₂ (tonnes)

Emissions Source	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Buildings	2310	2104	2141	1814	1990	2095	2084
Vehicle Fleet	475	450	415	389	357	383	412
Business Mileage	195	182	159	125	116	125	116
Total	2980	2736	2715	2328	2463	2603	2612

The slight rise in fleet fuel use is thought to be due to more accurate reporting than previous years.

The global figures do not give a full account of the council's achievements.

The software used by the council's human resources department has changed and they are no longer able to calculate emissions based on the size of each car. Therefore DEFRA's average car of unknown fuel factor has been used. However, business mileage has decreased from 412,261 in 2013/2014 to 386,423, a 6% reduction.

Despite increased occupancy at our main Brympton Way offices following letting of one floor to the county council (earning us £105,000 p.a.), installation of photovoltaics, thin client computing has resulted in slightly lower electricity use. This can be interpreted as a lower consumption per occupant.

Installation of gas boilers to replace the oil boiler at the Octagon resulted in a carbon saving of 51%.