



WEST OXFORDSHIRE  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

# Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report

Reporting Year 2022-23

Climate Change and Nature Recovery Team

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## Introduction

West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC) is committed to achieving carbon neutrality in its operations by 2030. In 2024, WODC published an updated Carbon Action Plan, which sets out the Council's pathway for achieving its target. The Plan:

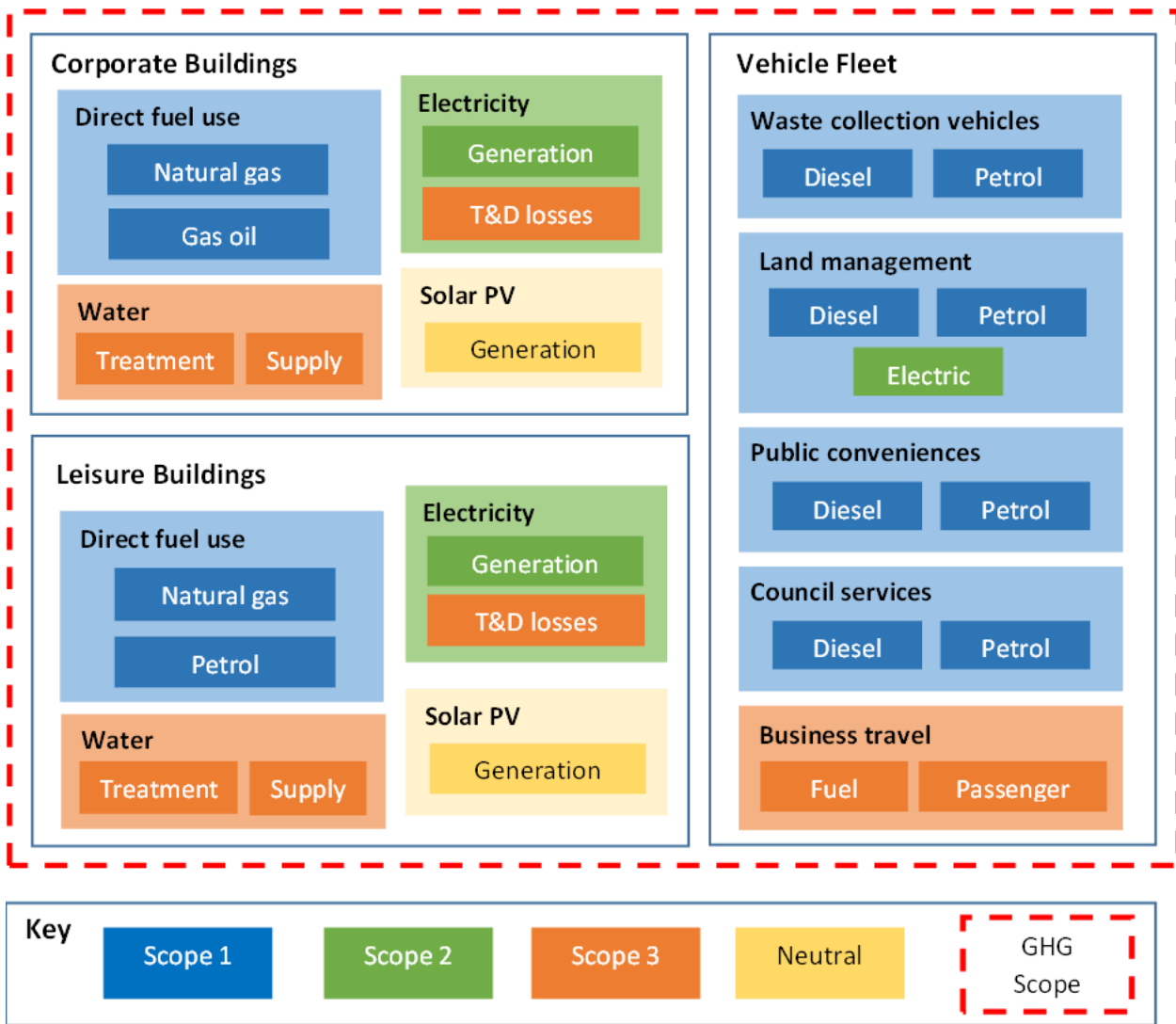
- Defines a set of guiding principles for planning future projects implemented by the Council.
- Sets out the process for monitoring, reviewing progress and updating actions so that the Plan remains live and responsive to external influences, technological changes and innovation within the low-carbon and renewable energy sector.
- Presents the Council's 2019 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions baseline.
- Presents modelling work done to illustrate the rate of change in emissions and the roadmap/pathway required to align with the 2030 target.  
Details the actions to be undertaken by 2030.

Each year, WODC publishes 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 carbon reporting, which means that the Council will account for all emissions over which it has financial control. 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 business travel



## Exclusions

Emissions from operations in which the Council has an interest, but no control are excluded. There are other emission sources that the Council is responsible for, but which have been excluded this year (Table 1). The Council will review these on an annual basis and seek to include them within the reporting process, for example 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.

Type	Reason for exclusion
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	Data required would rely on third parties supplying it.

## 2022-2023 emissions data

The following data is for the 2022-23 financial year, covering GHG emissions from April 2022 to March 2023. Data is collected from a range of sources and the DEFRA conversion factors for 2022 are applied.

### Carbon account breakdown: by scope

Table 1: Total emissions by scope

01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023	Kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 1	1,976,999
Scope 2	343,732
Scope 3	573,380
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,894,110</b>

Scope 1 emissions, associated with gas and liquid fuel (including leisure centres), account for 68.3% of council emissions.

Scope 2 emissions associated with the purchase of electricity from the National Grid account for 11.9% 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, transport miles for staff and councillors account, and liquid fuel use from outsourced services account for the remaining 19.8% of council emissions.

Figure 1: Total emissions by scope

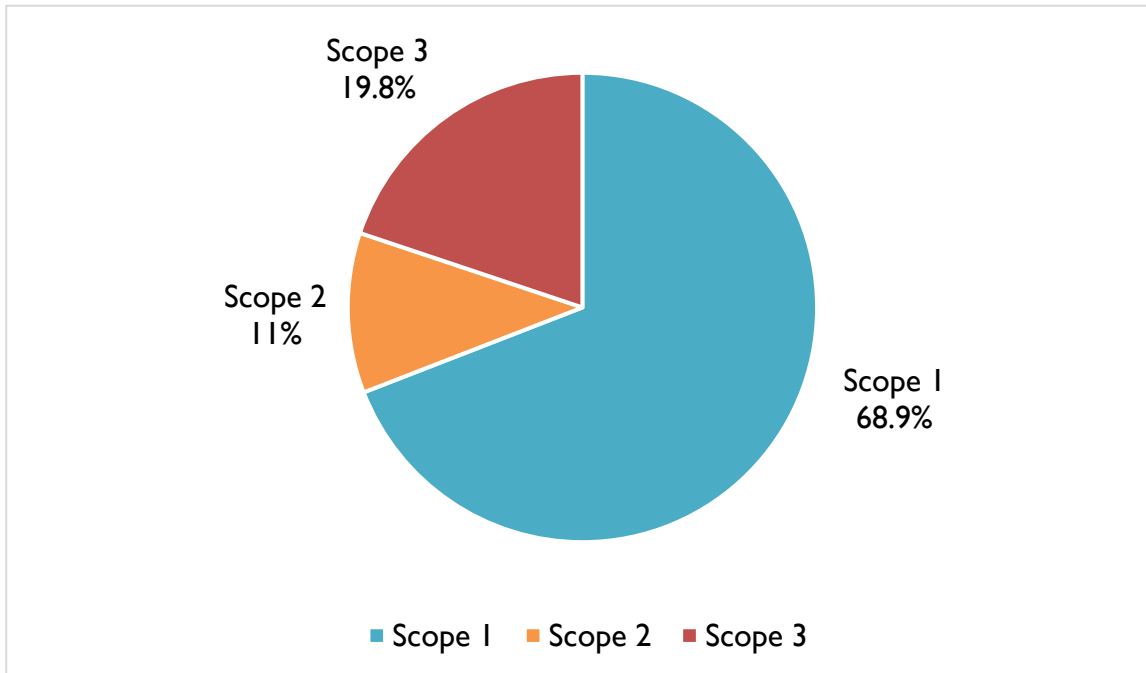
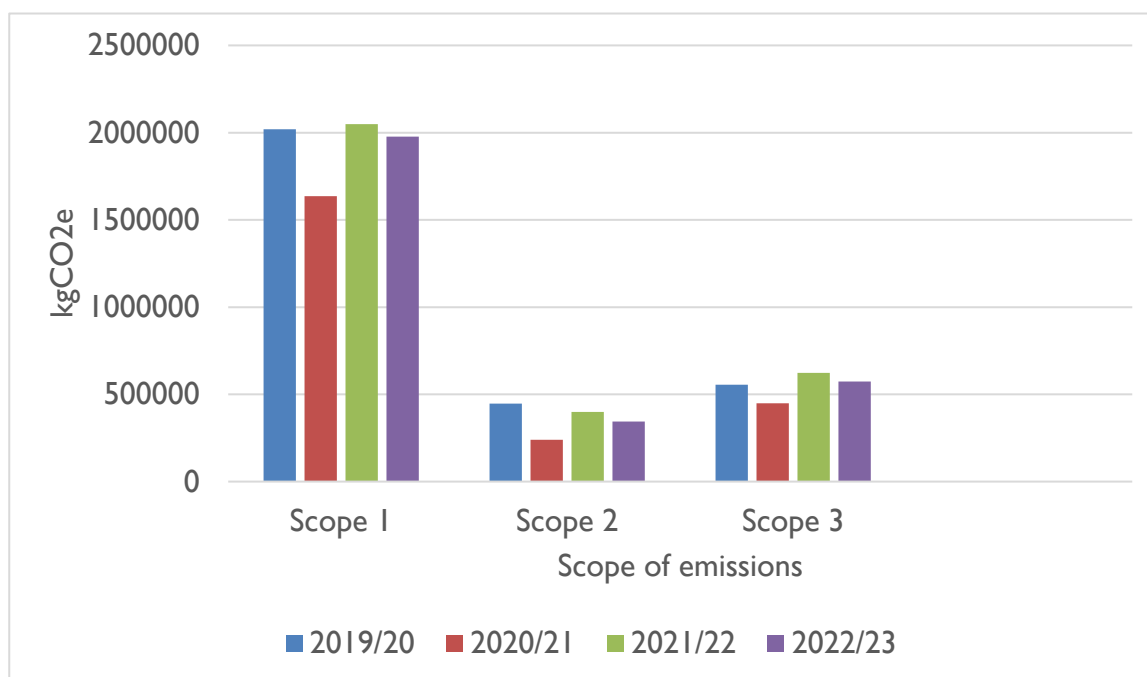


Table 2: Comparative emissions between 2019/20 (baseline year), 2020/21 (Covid year), 2021/22 and 2022/23

01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023	Kg CO <sub>2</sub> e	Percent change on 2019/20	Percent change on 2020/21*	Percent change on 2021/22
Scope 1	1,976,999	-2.1%	+21%	-3.52%
Scope 2	343,732	-23%	+44%	-13.9%
Scope 3	573,380	+3.3%	+27.6%	-8.04%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,894,100</b>	<b>-4.23%</b>	<b>+24.6%</b>	<b>-5.8%</b>

\*This was a Covid year with exceptionally low emissions.

Figure 2: 2022/23 emissions by scope compared to 2019/20, 2020/21\* and 2021/22



\*This was a Covid year with exceptionally low emissions.

Scope 1 emissions have decreased slightly by 3.52% from 2021/22, as gas use in council offices has fallen. However, liquid fuel consumption has stayed at similar levels to 2021/22.

Scope 2 emissions have reduced by 13.9% from 2021/22.

Scope 3 emissions have reduced by 8% compared to 2021/22. This has been due to the reduction in both gas WTT and electricity T&D and WTT and a slight reduction in business travel.

### Carbon account breakdown: by location

Table 3: Total emissions by location

01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023	Kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Council offices, property and sites (excluding leisure)	254,198
Leisure centres and facilities	1,098,144
Council vehicle fleet and transport	1,483,134
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,835,476</b>

Council offices, property and sites represent 9% of total emissions across scopes 1, 2 and 3.

Leisure centres and facilities account for 39% of council emissions, across all scopes.

Council vehicle fleet, machinery and transport, including council-owned waste trucks currently operated by Ubico, account for 52% of council emissions.

Figure 3: Total emissions for 2022/23 by location

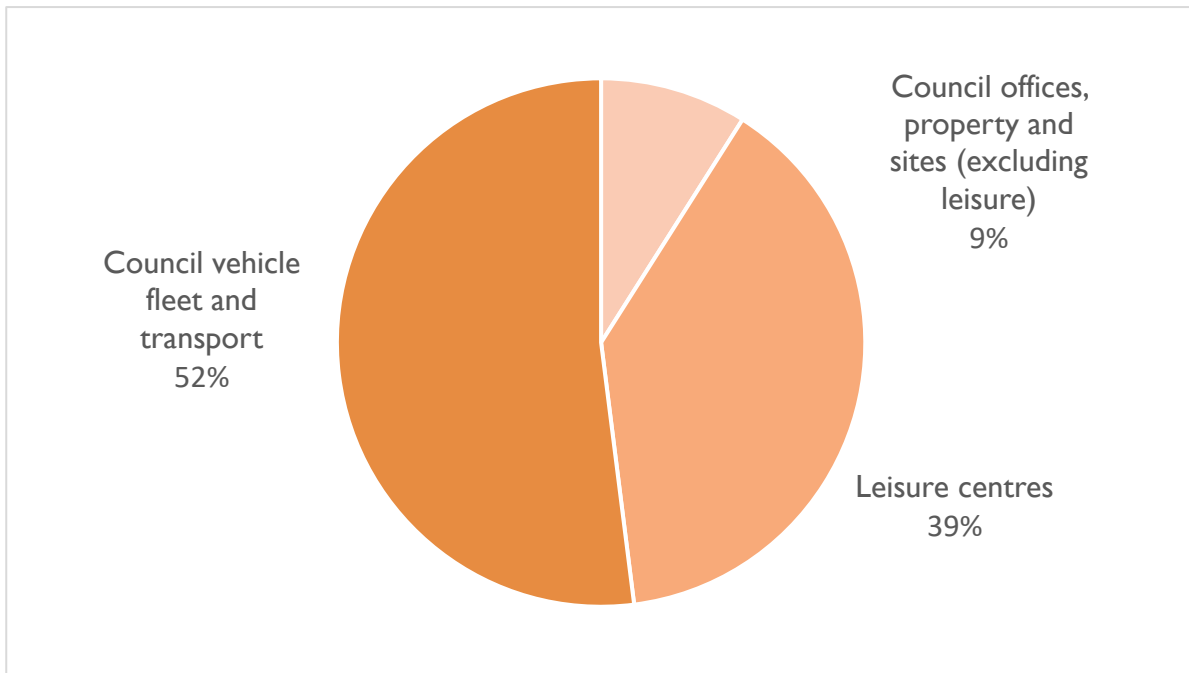


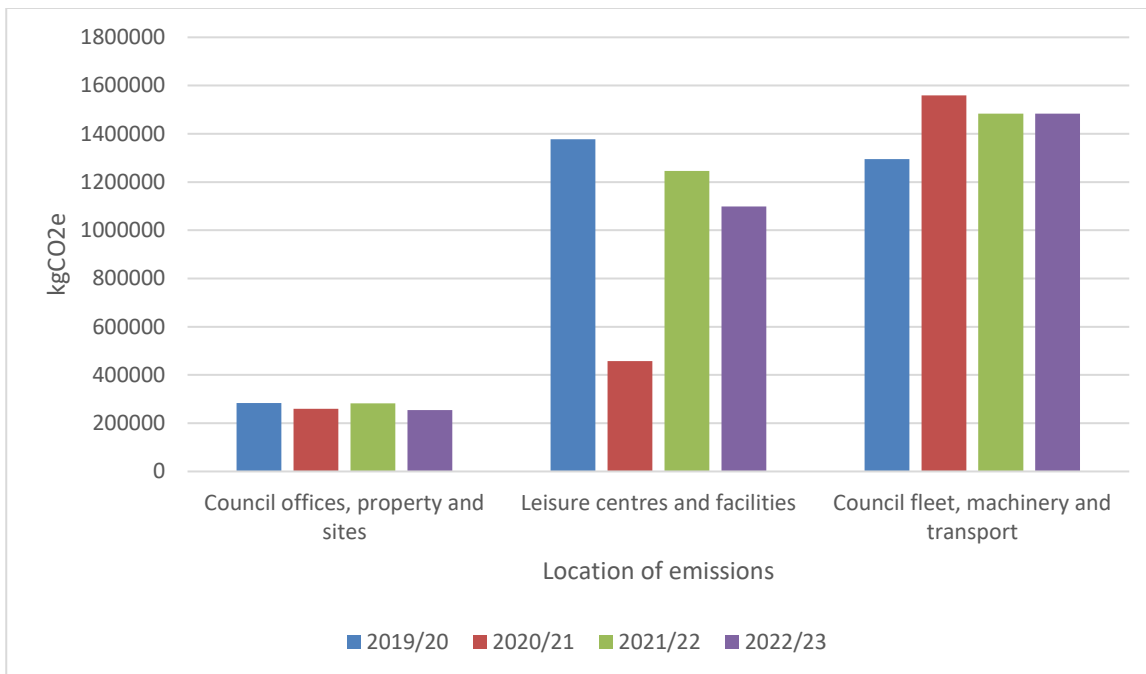


Table 4: Comparative emissions between 2019/20 (Baseline Year), 2020/21 (Covid Year), 2021/22 and 2023

01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023	Kg CO2e	% change on 2019/20	% change on 2020/21*	% change on 2021/22
Council offices, property and sites (excluding leisure)	254,198	-10.2%	-2.3%	-9.8%
Leisure centres and facilities	1,098,145	-20.3%	+139%	-11.9%
Council vehicle fleet and transport	1,483,134	+13.5%	-4.9%	-0.05%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,835,476</b>			

\*This was a Covid year with exceptionally low emissions.

Figure 4: 2022/23 Emissions by location compared to 2019/20, 2020/21\* and 2021/22



\*This was a Covid year with exceptionally low emissions.

Emissions from council offices, property and sites (excluding leisure) have decreased by 9.7% from 2021/22. Agile working has reduced the occupancy buildings and contributed to a reduction in the emissions.

Emissions from leisure centres and facilities have decreased nearly 12% from 2021/22 because of a range of measures were introduced to reduce energy consumption. This has included reducing the pool temperature and shortening opening hours to mitigate against the energy crisis.

Emissions from council vehicle fleet, machinery and transport have remained broadly the same with a decrease of only 0.05% since 2021/22.