

Ribble Valley Borough Council Annual Emissions Report July 2016 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Summary

Officers Report

It is a requirement by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) that local authorities publish an annual report in July that details its GHG emissions. The report shows the GHG emissions from the Council's operations in accordance with the DEFRA "Environmental Reporting Guidelines" (June 2015), using the latest published emission factors by Carbon Smart using factors by Ricardo-AEA. In order to share information on greenhouse gas emissions from our estate and operations, Ribble Valley Borough Council (RVBC) have undertaken a calculation based on our energy consumption and fuel use during the 2015 / 2016 financial year.

Green House Gas Emissions Data For 1st April to 31st March		
	2014/ 2015	2015/2016
Scope One	689.00	679
Scope Two	397	344
Scope Three	28	26
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Total Gross Emissions	1,114.00	1,049.00

Supporting Explanations

1. Company Information

The information contained in this report relates to Ribble Valley Borough Council (RVBC) that is a Council located in Lancashire in the North West of England. Its main office address is: Council Offices, Church Walk, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 2RA.

2. Reporting periods

1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016

3. Changes in Emissions

Out reported emissions have fallen by 5.8% from the 2014/15 to the 2015 / 2016 year.

The following comments need to be taken into consideration when analysing the data:

- The impact of seasonal variations when comparing year on year figures
- A number of assets have been closed / sold during 2015/16
- Installation of some energy efficient equipment and materials
- Staff Training to Improve occupiers patterns and behaviours
- Staffing levels have been altering since 2015/16

4. Approach

This report has been prepared in line with DEFRA Guidelines on how to measure and report greenhouse gas emissions. DEFRA Carbon Factors 2015 have been used to calculate all figures.

Exclusions and limitations are outlined in section 12.

5. Organisational Boundary

The consolidation approach chosen for this report is the Operational control boundary.

6. Operational Scopes

We have used the scopes set out in the guidance as follows: -

SCOPE 1 (Direct emissions) – Fossil fuel consumption from the Council's estate. This includes natural gas used in Council owner properties and controlled transport such as waste and cleaning services, ground maintenance vehicles, light commercial vans and lease cars.

SCOPE 2 (Energy indirect) – Consumption of purchased electricity. This is electricity purchased from the grid, supplied and consumed within Council owned buildings.

SCOPE 3 (Other direct) – This includes business travel for staff where they are using their own vehicles. This does not include commuting or leased assets.

7. Base Year

The base year has been rolled forward to this current reporting year following a number of properties being closed / sold and the improvements in accuracy of figures available and a number of errors discovered previously with regards to estimated figures.

8. Targets

In our environmental action plan we have set a target to reduce our carbon emissions by 5% per year. In order to ensure that the final figure is both 'affordable' and 'sustainable', it is proposed that we review our target in the light of the DECC's guidance on how to measure and report your greenhouse gas emissions.

9. Intensity Measurement

We have followed the GHG Protocol for the intensity measurement and reporting of our emissions.

Ribble Valley Borough Council has chosen to provide a measurement comparison of Tonnes of CO₂(e) per employee of the authority which results in 4.4 Tonnes of CO₂(e) per employee.

Calculation: (Overall Tonnes of CO₂(e)) / 239 (No. of employees) = Tonnes of CO₂(e) per employee.

10. Carbon Offsets

None.

11. Green Tariffs

None

12. Assumptions, Exclusions and Limitations of Assessment

- We have included gas, heating oil, diesel and petrol under Scope One Emissions.
- We have included electricity under Scope Two Emissions.
- We have included transport for work purposes under Scope Three Emissions.
- We have not included business travel using bus, train or plane.
- We have not included greenhouse gas emissions from suppliers, contractors or consultants.

- We have not included emissions from the use of water.
- We have not included emission from waste disposal.
- We have not included 'fugitive emissions' from air conditioning and refrigeration systems.
- We have not included staff commuting emissions.
- We have based our assessment on the total direct GHG conversion factors in accordance with DECC's (Department of Energy and Climate Change) Greenhouse Gas conversion factors for company reporting.
- We have taken an average engine size and fuel consumption approach to our business transport.
- It was noted that seasonal variations may impact the ability to achieve a 'like for like' comparison. For example where a particularly cold winter has increased heating costs and associated Green House Gas emissions.
- Average car factors used as individual details unknown

If you require any further information in relation to this please contact:

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