



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL



Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3rd October 2023

Councillors Rhys Baker and Patsy Ellis,
Cabinet Members for Waste and
Climate Change

Climate and carbon dashboard for 2022/23

Report Author

Serena Brown, Sustainability and Climate Change officer

 Serena.brown@southkesteven.gov.uk

Purpose of Report

The climate and carbon dashboard provides an overview of South Kesteven District Council's operational carbon emissions for the 2022/23 period, including progress against the Council's carbon reduction targets of at least 30% by 2030.

Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. Notes the reported carbon emissions for the 2022/23 period which cover operations from South Kesteven District Council buildings and vehicles.

Decision Information

Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	No
What are the relevant corporate priorities?	Clean and sustainable environment High performing Council
Which wards are impacted?	All

1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

Finance and Procurement

- 1.1 There are no direct finance or procurement implications from the report. Any projects and initiatives to reduce carbon emissions and seek financial support will need to be considered on a case by case basis.
Completed by: Richard Wyles, Chief Finance Officer

Legal and Governance

- 1.2 As part of good governance, it is important that Members are updated on the council's carbon emissions and on progress towards the declared carbon reduction target for council operations.
Completed by: Mandy Braithwaite, Legal Executive

Climate Change

- 1.3 The climate and carbon dashboard sets out the emissions reductions seen in the 2022/23 financial year. There is an overall reported reduction in the year of 23.9% against the baseline.
Completed by: Serena Brown, Sustainability and Climate Change Officer

2. Background to the Report

- 2.1 South Kesteven District Council made a formal declaration of climate emergency on 26 September 2019 with cross party support. Alongside this, the Council confirmed the political ambition to reduce the organisation's carbon footprint by at least 30% by 2030, and to endeavour to become net-zero as soon as viable before 2050.
- 2.2 In order to monitor and manage the Council's carbon footprint, it is recommended to publish an (at least annual) update on reported carbon emissions. This carbon dashboard includes the full scope of South Kesteven District Council's carbon emissions for the 2022/23 financial year, against the Council's baseline year of 2018/19.
- 2.3 The reported carbon emissions for 2022/23 show an overall reduction against the baseline of 1817 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), or a 23.90% reduction from the baseline year. Further specific detail reporting specific categories of carbon emissions (including consumption of gas and electricity, operation of leisure centres and operation of a vehicle fleet) can be seen at Appendix 1.
- 2.4 The continued inclusion of the Deepings Leisure Centre facility in the baseline year has resulted in a significant reported reduction in carbon emissions for the 2022/23 year. The facility attributed in the baseline for 994 tonnes of carbon emissions, or 13% of the whole carbon footprint of South Kesteven District Council.
- 2.5 While reductions from leisure centres in South Kesteven has provided a large contribution to the Council's carbon reduction target, further opportunities need to be pursued to maintain a downward trajectory.

3. Key considerations

- 3.1 The report is provided for information rather than decision. Members are asked to take note of the reported emissions and associated emission categories.

4. Other Options Considered

- 4.1 There is no statutory obligation to monitor or report on carbon emissions which arise from Council operations, nor to set or adhere to a reduction in carbon emissions. Nevertheless, regular review of carbon emissions is considered good practice to monitor progress against the Council's declared target to reduce carbon emissions.

5. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 5.1 The report is provided for information to track progress towards the Council's carbon reduction target.

6. Appendices

- 6.1 Appendix 1: Climate and carbon dashboard for 2022/23.