

UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS
ANNUAL REPORT – 2020/21



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Uttlesford District Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions Annual Report – 2020/21

Uttlesford District Council declared a climate emergency in 2019 and has pledged to take local action to prevent a climate and ecological catastrophe through the development of practices and policies, with an aim to achieving net-zero carbon status by 2030 and to protect and enhance biodiversity in the district.

Details on the projects and policies in place to achieve these goals can be found in the Climate Change Action Plan.

Headline data

(Tonnes of CO₂e unless otherwise stated)

| | 2020 /21 | 2019 /20 | 2018 /19 | 2017 /18 | 2016 /17 | 2015 /16 | 2014 /15 | Baseline Year 2006/2007 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| Scope 1 | 1,599 | 1,714 | 1,926 | 1,903 | 1,790 | 1,795 | 1,972 | 2,311 |
| Scope 2 | 185 | 328 | 285 | 273 | 348 | 417 | 458 | 797 |
| Scope 3 | 21 | 73 | 80 | 132 | 90 | 97 | 58 | 163 |
| Total gross emissions | 1,805 | 2,115 | 2,291 | 2,308 | 2,228 | 2,309 | 2,488 | 3,271 |
| Carbon offsets /green tariffs | (676) | (0) | (0) | (0) | (0) | (0) | (0) | (0) |
| Total annual net emissions | 1,129 | 2,115 | 2,291 | 2,308 | 2,228 | 2,309 | 2,488 | 3,271 |
| UDC emissions per household (kilos) | 29kg | 55 kg | 60 kg | 61 kg | 60 kg | | | |
| <i>Household Count</i> | 38,956 | 38,567 | 38,350 | 37,934 | 36,991 | | | |

Supporting explanations

1. Company Information

Uttlesford District Council, Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 4ER

2. Reporting Period

The reporting period is 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021.

3. Changes in Emissions

Purchased Electricity We switched to a green tariff in 2019 which accounts for the reduction in CO₂e.

Business Travel This was uncharacteristically low as the covid pandemic made most site visits impossible. We expect the mileage to return to a normal rate but are exploring opportunities for an EV car share / pool scheme for business travel / site visits which would greatly decrease this footprint.

4. Approach

We have followed the Government's Guidance on how to measure and report greenhouse gas emissions. Conversion factors are used for the appropriate financial year as set out here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting>

In line with guidance, the factors from the calendar year in which the greatest portion of your data falls are applied, accordingly the conversion factors for 2020 are used for this report.

5. Organisational boundary

We have used the financial control approach.

6. Operational scopes

We have measured our scope 1, 2 and significant scope 3 emissions. Since the beginning of the COVID pandemic, almost all of our staff have worked from home.

7. Base Year

Our base year is 2005/06.

8. Targets

Our emissions reduction target is to reduce our global GHG emissions, scopes 1, 2, and 3 (for scope 3 only those emissions which relate to business travel) to net zero by 2030.

Peter Holt, Chief Executive is responsible for the achievement of the target.

9. Intensity measurement

Although our emissions target is an absolute target, we believe that including a measurement which is relative to our operations will help us to assess our performance and trajectory in reaching our target.

We have chosen the number of households within the district as the normalising factor since this is a variable which is most relevant to the scale of our operations. For instance, the more homes there are in the district, the more miles our refuse vehicles must travel. This metric should not be confused with data available elsewhere that reports household consumption emissions.

The data on property count is sourced from the electoral roll and is submitted to government on December 1st each year. UDC emissions per household are calculated by dividing total the total carbon footprint of the district council by the total number of households in the district.

10. Carbon offsets

We have not purchased carbon credits. This is an option of last resort as we are seeking to focus on the decarbonisation of our own operations rather than offsetting our emissions. This is under review for future years.

11. Green tariffs

We have purchased a green tariff which reduces our GHG emissions by 100%. We purchased all our electricity from NPower. We use their REGO backed tariff for electricity.

Calculation details: Detailed data 2020/21

| | Unit of measurement | Units | Conversion factor in CO ₂ e (kilos) | Emissions kg CO ₂ e |
|--|--|-----------|--|--------------------------------|
| Scope 1 | | | | |
| Natural Gas | kWh (Gross CV) | 3,712,378 | 0.18387 | 682,595 |
| Gas Oil | kWh (Gross CV) | 10,971 | 0.25672 | 2,816 |
| Vehicle Fleet | Litres diesel (average biofuel blend) | 357,577 | 2.54603 | 910,401 |
| | Litres petrol (average forecourt blend) | 1,331 | 2.16802 | 2,885 |
| Total Scope 1 kilos | | | | 1,598,697 |
| Total Scope 1 tonnes | | | | 1,599 |
| Scope 2 | | | | |
| Purchased electricity | kWh | 793,492 | 0.23314 | 184,995 |
| Total Scope 2 tonnes | | | | 185 |
| Scope 3 | | | | |
| Business Travel | Miles / average size car / fuel type unknown | 75,027 | 0.27584 | 20,695 |
| Total Scope 3 kilos | | | | 20,695 |
| Total Scope 3 tonnes | | | | 21 |
| Offsets (tonnes) | | | | |
| Carbon offsets | | | | (0) |
| Green tariff electricity | 100% offset | | | (185) |
| Green tariff gas | 72% offset | | | (491) |
| Total annual net emissions tonnes | | | | 1,129 |
| Households on electoral roll | | 38,956 | | |
| UDC emissions per household | | | | 29 kilos per household served |

Conversion factor source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2020>

Calculation details: Detailed data 2019/20

Due to incomplete data being available, the report for 2019/20 was never completed. This calculation fills the gap.

| | Unit of measurement | Units | Conversion factor in CO ₂ e (kilos) | Emissions kg CO ₂ e |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|--|--------------------------------|
| Scope 1 | | | | |
| Natural Gas | kWh (Gross CV) | 4,034,921 | 0.18385 | 741,820 |
| Gas Oil | kWh (Gross CV) | 58,130 | 0.25676 | 14,925 |
| Vehicle Fleet | Litres diesel (average biofuel blend) | 367,674 | 2.59411 | 953,786 |
| | Litres petrol (average forecourt blend) | 1,397 | 2.20904 | 3,086 |
| Total Scope 1 kilos | | | | 1,713,617 |
| Total Scope 1 tonnes | | | | 1,714 |
| Scope 2 | | | | |
| Purchased electricity | kWh | 1,282,878 | 0.2556 | 327,904 |
| Total Scope 2 tonnes | | | | 328 |
| Scope 3 | | | | |
| Business Travel | Miles / average size car / fuel type unknown | 257,318 | 0.28502 | 73,341 |
| Total Scope 3 tonnes | | | | 73 |
| Offsets | (0) | | | (0) |
| Total annual net emissions | | | | 2,115 tonnes |
| Households on electoral roll | | 38,567 | | |
| UDC emissions per household | | | | 55 kilos per household served |