

**Scotland's Climate Change Declaration
Annual Statement to Convention of Scottish Local Authorities**

Report by Ian Johnson, Head of Planning and Development

1 Purpose of Report

This report presents for endorsement the Council's latest statement to CoSLA on climate change action being undertaken by the Council.

2 Background

- 2.1** The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 requires public bodies to act in the way best calculated to contribute to delivery of national greenhouse gas targets and any national programme for adapting to climate change impacts.
- 2.2** The Act allows Scottish Ministers to require public bodies to report on their compliance with the above duties. Reporting by local authorities currently takes place on a voluntary basis only, under Scotland's Climate Change Declaration. All Scottish local authorities are signatories to the Declaration, acknowledging the significance of climate change and committing to reducing greenhouse gases; taking steps to adapt to climate change impacts; working in partnership, including with our communities, to respond to climate change; and publishing a periodic statement on our climate change response.
- 2.3** Excluding Council houses (the number of which has risen in Midlothian over recent years) and staff commuting (for which there has been no new Midlothian data since 2006/7), this Council's 'corporate' CO₂ levels in 2011/12 are at their lowest since 2006/7, with an 18% reduction over the period. Midlothian 'per capita' CO₂ levels (territorial/ production based) are 15% lower than the Scottish average and 19% lower than the UK average.
- 2.4** In order to meet CoSLA's end of March deadline for submission of the annual report, the statement provided in the Appendix to this report (in the prescribed template format) has been submitted as this Council's draft response for ratification by Cabinet.

3 Report Implications

3.1 Resource

There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.

3.2 Risk

There are no risk implications arising directly from this report.

3.3 Single Midlothian Plan and Business Transformation

Themes addressed in this report:

- ☐ Community safety
- ☐ Adult health, care and housing
- ☐ Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- ☐ Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- ☒ Sustainable growth
- ☒ Business transformation and Best Value
- ☐ None of the above

3.4 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

Preparation and submission of this statement is an action in the Council's Sustainability Action Plan 2012/13. The percentage of actions in that plan that are implemented/ on target is a corporate performance indicator.

Improved resilience to climate change impacts is an outcome in the Midlothian Single Outcome Agreement 2010-13 (reviewed for 2012 onwards); and in the Midlothian Community Plan 2012/13 Update, as is reducing greenhouse gases for which Midlothian is responsible.

3.5 Adopting a Preventative Approach

Being well-adapted/ resilient to the impacts of a changing climate is a preventative approach to resource use.

3.6 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

The involvement of communities and other stakeholders is as set out in the statement.

3.7 Ensuring Equalities

No actions with 'people' implications are proposed such that Equalities Impact Assessment would be required.

3.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

Contributing to the achievement of sustainable development is a statutory requirement in discharging the Council's Best Value duties. Audit Scotland's BV2 'Sustainability audit framework' lists the effectiveness of a Council's climate change strategy as one of the tests of a Best Value Council.

3.9 IT Issues

There are no IT issues associated directly with this report.

4 Recommendations

Cabinet is recommended to:

- (a) endorse submission of the completed template, as appended to this report, as this Council's latest (Year 5) statement to CoSLA under Scotland's Climate Change Declaration; and
- (b) refer this report to the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee for its information.

21 March 2013

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Background Papers: None



Scotland's Climate Change Declaration

Revised Reporting Template

Year 5 (FINAL VERSION)

Each of Scotland's 32 local authorities signed Scotland's Climate Change Declaration in early 2007. The Declaration is a public statement wherein local authorities acknowledge the reality and implications of climate change and their responsibility to respond effectively. The Declaration also welcomes the actions of the UK and Scottish governments and the opportunities for local authorities to work in partnership with others in responding to climate change.

As signatories to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration, each Scottish local authority is committed to taking action across a range of key areas. These can be summarised as:

1. Providing effective **leadership, governance and management** on climate change.
2. Reducing the local authority's **own 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions** from their estate, services and functions.
3. Taking action to reduce **emissions from the local authority area**
4. Assessing the risks of climate change impacts and working with others to **adapt to the impacts of climate change**.
5. Developing effective **partnership working and climate change communications**, including producing an annual statement of plans, activities and achievements.

This Reporting Template focuses on these five key areas.

The principles of effective Declaration reporting include:

- Providing clear, consistent and comparable information.
- Linking climate change reporting with existing reporting requirements and the council's own performance improvement agenda.
- Showing clearly how climate change is being integrated into council and Community Planning agendas, especially through Single Outcome Agreements.
- Highlighting key achievements and initiatives
- Communicating with the community, making the report easy to understand and available to the public.

Local authorities are encouraged to provide information in a transparent and easy to understand format:

- In relation to 'corporate' and 'area-wide' emissions, quantifiable data will be vital, and this is best communicated graphically.
- On adaptation, examples of adaptation action or process initiatives would help illustrate what is being done.
- On governance, leadership and management, and on partnership working, communications and capacity building, diagrams, process maps and examples of materials and events would be extremely useful.

In order to make reporting on the Declaration as effective and efficient as possible, local authorities are encouraged to use this reporting template to report top-level information and to use web-link references to more detailed information.

Local authorities are also encouraged to make reference to their previous Declaration reports, especially making reference to the year-ahead priorities listed in those reports. This will help in showing continuity and year-on-year progress.

In reporting on the Declaration, local authorities are encouraged to recognise the importance of the UK Climate Change Act, Climate Change (Scotland) Act, national targets for emissions reduction, the Climate Change Public Bodies Duties Guidance (published 2011), The Low Carbon Scotland: Meeting the Emissions Reduction Targets 2010-2022 Report on Proposals and Policies, the Low Carbon Scotland Public Engagement Strategy, the evolving Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Framework and the Adaptation Scotland Scotland Climate Change Adaptation Workbook . Also of use is the internationally recognised 'Greenhouse Gas Protocol' for consistent reporting of 'corporate emissions' and the evolving suite of Local Authority climate change datasets and indicators published by DECC.

Section 1

Governance, Leadership and Management

Please describe and illustrate the leadership, governance and management of climate change by your local authority.

Management

Political leadership and responsibility lies with the Council's Cabinet. The lead Division of the Council is Corporate Resources. At operational level, the Climate Change & Sustainable Development Group of officers drives the Council's approach to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development, including in respect of climate change. This group is chaired by the Planning Policy & Environment Manager. The structure and remit of the group has been refreshed since the last report. In relation to climate change, that group reports to the Midlothian Community Planning 'Conserving & Improving Midlothian's Environment' thematic group.

The Senior Planning Policy & Sustainability Officer is lead officer for the above Council group and environment thematic group. The Head of Property & Facilities Management is lead officer in respect of 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions within the scope of the Carbon Trust's Local Authority Carbon Management Programme.

Governance

The Climate Change & Sustainable Development Group reports to the Council's Cabinet. The Conserving & Improving Midlothian's Environment thematic group reports to the Community Planning Working Group and Steering Committee.

Leadership

Midlothian Council continues to promote Earth Hour.

Section 1 Priorities for the year ahead

To finalise community planning governance arrangements relating to the environment.

To continue to demonstrate leadership at corporate and operational levels.

Section 2

Reducing the local authority's own 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions from its estate, services and functions.

What are your local authority's baseline emissions, actual emissions and emission reduction targets for its direct 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions? Please make it clear what emission sources are included, and where data has been sourced.

The following table sets out actual emissions for this Council's direct 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions. Corporate energy targets exist for our operational buildings and an informal CO₂ reduction target of 5% p.a. exists from our participation to date in the Local Authority Carbon Management Programme.

Emissions Source	Quantity Baseline	Units	CO ₂ (Tonnes) Baseline	CO ₂ Emissions (Tonnes) 2006/07	CO ₂ Emissions (Tonnes) 2007/08	CO ₂ Emissions (Tonnes) 2008/09	CO ₂ Emissions (Tonnes) 2009/10	CO ₂ Emissions (Tonnes) 2010/11	CO ₂ Emissions (Tonnes) 2011/12
Operational Buildings *									
Electricity	14,926	MWh	6,418	8,152	6,500	7,511	6,979	6,897	6,699
Gas	27,653	MWh	5,116	5,116	6,734	6,046	7,085	7,398	6,643
Oil	5,678	MWh	1,596	1,596	1,392	105	79	99	99
Coal	12,727	MWh	4,404	4,404	1,268	173	136	168	0
Water Consumption	139,250	M3	56	56	41	44	50	39	44
<i>Sub Total</i>				19,324	15,935	13,879	14,329	14,601	13,485
Council Housing **									
Electricity	19,187	MWh	8,250	10,479	11,080	11,281	10,474	10,474	10,912
Gas	94,597	MWh	17,500	17,500	16,984	18,098	18,301	18,401	19,719
Coal	-	-	-	-	3,853	2,814	2,643	2,643	1,560
Oil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
<i>Sub Total</i>				27,979	31,917	32,193	31,418	31,518	32,207
Transport									
Diesel	767,689	Litres	2,019	2,019	1,845	1,826	1,825	1,947	1,697
Gas Oil	-	Litres	-	-	336	289	325	296	213
LPG	65,087	Litres	98	98	55	33	25	2	1
U/L Petrol	184,138	Litres	427	427	391	385	378	301	117
<i>Sub Total</i>				2544	2627	2533	2553	2546	2028
Other									
Commute+	150	Km	3721	3721	3721	3721	3721	3721	3721
Street Lighting	5,893,125	KWh	2,534	3,180	2,859	2,974	2,732	2,769	2,442
Waste	53,917	Tonnes	24,101	24,101	23,347	22,924	21,564	20,840	22,417
<i>Total CO₂ Emissions Per Annum</i>				80,847	80,405	78,224	76,317	75,994	76,300
<i>Total CO₂ Emissions Per Annum (excl. Council Housing and Commute)</i>				49,147	44,767	42,310	41,178	40,755	40,372

*08/09: 229 buildings, 09/10: 215 buildings,
10/11: 218 buildings, 11/12: 195 buildings

**2006: 6237 dwellings, 2007: 6099 dwellings,
2008: 6081 dwellings, 2009: 6442 dwellings,
2010: 6480 dwellings, 2011: 6622 dwellings,
2012: 6891 dwellings.

+2006/07 carried forward as no new data

A detailed audit of data from previous years has been progressed and updated to provide accurate analysis and the tabled CO₂ emissions above have been calculated using carbon factors provided by the UK Government's Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs.

The emissions from council housing have been estimated using housing stock data for each year, applying the national average energy consumption figures from the UK Government's Department of Energy & Climate Change.

Excluding Council houses (the number of which has risen over recent years) and staff commuting (for which there has been no new data since 2006/7), Council 'corporate' greenhouse gases in 2011/12 are at their lowest since 2006/7, with an 18% reduction over the period.

What is your local authority doing to achieve its reduction targets?

The following projects continue to be delivered:

- 1. Smart metering of utilities;**
- 2. An energy awareness campaign has been developed and is due to be launched in April 2013. This will run initially for three years with year one concentrating on schools and offices. This shall be delivered through staff awareness seminars and will include a module on the subject on the Council's intranet-based education platform. The intention is to extend the initiative to include leisure and social services buildings in subsequent years;**
- 3. Replacement of redundant Building Management Systems (BEMS) with open protocol remote connections;**
- 4. Audits of existing operational buildings with a view to introducing energy saving measures, e.g. energy efficient lighting and controls; replacement of inefficient heating systems with new technology including combined heat and power (CHP);**
- 5. Street lantern replacements;**
- 6. Installation of combi condensing boilers into the existing housing portfolio;**
- 7. Cavity wall insulation, draught proofing and loft insulation into the existing housing portfolio;**
- 8. Vehicle utilisation strategy to reduce fuel consumption;**
- 9. Procurement of Euro Compliant engines; and**
- 10. Management of Energy Assistance Package (EAP), Home Energy Scotland Area Based Schemes (HES-ABS), Energy Company Obligation (ECO).**

The projects noted above are funded through the Council's Housing Revenue Account, Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) and Central Energy Efficiency Fund. External funding is provided by energy companies and the Scottish Government.

The Council continues to collate data on the Council's principal carbon emissions to monitor the progress being made on emissions reduction. The Council has registered for the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) Energy Efficiency Scheme and has a CRC Project team in place.

The Council has completed insulation works to its Council stock, with all 6,000 homes to be insulated to improved standard and 5,000 homes to be fitted with high efficiency gas combi boilers by 2015. This will ensure that the Council meets the energy efficiency standard as part of the SHQS by 2015. The Council is also managing insulation projects for homeowners in the region throughout 2012/13 and forward into 2014 utilising ECO and HES-ABS funding.

The Council is working with Changeworks to help householders improve the energy efficiency of their homes and prevent households living in fuel poverty.

The Council's Corporate Asset Management Plan commits to minimising the effect on the environment and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This is applicable to all asset types, i.e. property, open space, roads and infrastructure, ICT, fleet and Council housing. The functional asset management plans for each asset type (which are currently in the early stage of preparation) will provide detail on how each strand will address mitigation and set out targets specific for each asset type.

The Council continues with the introduction of agile (mobile and flexible) working with the intention of reducing emissions. EWIM (Effective Working in Midlothian) deals with office rationalisation, people strategy and the like. One of the targets is a carbon footprint of 53 kg/m² or better for all retained occupied office space by 2017/18.

The Council continues to make use of teleconferencing.

Section 2 Priorities for the year ahead

To continue to work with the Carbon Trust on the Council's operational Carbon Management Strategy & Implementation Plan with support from the Carbon Trust.

To launch and run an internal energy awareness campaign.

Section 3

Taking action to reduce the emissions from the local authority area

What are your local authority area-wide emissions? Please make it clear where data has been sourced.

The estimated consumption-based greenhouse gas footprint for Midlothian in 2006 was equivalent to 16.11 tonnes of CO₂ per person.

Source: The Resources and Energy Analysis Programme v2 Experimental release: 15-10-08. Published by Stockholm Environment Institute, 2008. Available at www.resource-accounting.org.uk/downloads/scotland/midlothian

A table providing a detailed breakdown and comparisons with the UK and Scotland is included in the appendix to this report.

The reported territorial/production-based carbon footprint for Midlothian in 2010 was 6.4 tonnes of CO₂ per person (2009: 6.1 tonnes, 2008: 6.6 tonnes, 2007: 6.7 tonnes, 2006: 7.2 tonnes, 2005: 6.8 tonnes).

Source: Local and regional CO₂ emissions estimates for 2005-2010. Published by Department of Energy & Climate Change, 23-08-12. Available at www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/136018/Full_dataset.xls

A table providing a detailed breakdown and comparisons with the UK and Scotland is included in the appendix to this report.

What is your local authority doing to measure and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from your local authority area/communities?

The Midlothian Community Plan 2010-13 (updated for 2012 onwards) states: "We will reduce greenhouse gas emissions for which Midlothian is responsible" and there is a target in the plan to achieve a 4.5 tonnes of CO₂ per capita figure by 2020, measured against a subset of gases from the above dataset within the scope of influence of local authorities (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-emissions-estimates>).

The Council has completed insulation works to its Council stock, with all 6,000 homes to be insulated to improved standard and 5,000 homes to be fitted with high efficiency gas combi boilers by 2015. This will ensure that the Council meets the energy efficiency standard as part of the SHQS by 2015.

The Council has worked with partners, including in securing Universal Home Insulation Scheme (UHS) funding, to secure mains gas infrastructure and home insulation for the villages of Pathhead, Whitehill, Edgehead and Ford. This is expected to save 403.5 tonnes of CO₂ annually. Through UHS/CERT, the Council has this year completed the installation of cavity and loft insulation to approximately 3,500 private homes.

The Council continues to be a partner in Zero Waste: Edinburgh and Midlothian, set up to procure a contract with the private sector to provide facilities to treat all the residual waste from the two Council areas in order to extract as much additional recyclable material and energy from it as possible. A contract has now been signed with a private sector company to build a food waste treatment facility that will see the food waste collected in Edinburgh and Midlothian recycled to produce renewable energy (to be used by Scottish Power to help power Scotland's water and drainage system) and fertiliser for local farms. The intention is to commence construction of the facility and complete the access road during 2013/14.

Schools within Midlothian have been using Global Citizenship, Sustainable Development and International Education to deliver Curriculum for Excellence through interdisciplinary learning contexts. Some schools have looked closely at sustainable development. In terms of EcoSchools we currently have eight schools with Green Flags (up one on last statement), 25 with Silver Award (up 12 from last statement) and 17 schools with Bronze Awards (up eight from last statement).

In addition, the Council has included climate change criteria as part of its Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Midlothian Local Development Plan Main Issues Report stage and climate change impact has been given highest priority, where possible, in development site selection. The Spatial Planning Assessment of Climate Emissions (SPACE) tool has been utilised to model the potential climate change impacts of the development strategy.

Section 3 Priorities for the year ahead

To implement the Council's strategy/action plan in relation to climate change.

Progress development of food waste treatment facility and associated access road.

To maintain the focus on climate change mitigation in confirming the development strategy for the Proposed Midlothian Local Development Plan.

Section 4

Assessing the risks of climate change impacts and working with others to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

What is your local authority doing to adapt to climate change?

The Midlothian Single Outcome Agreement 2010-13 (reviewed for 2012 onwards) states as a local outcome that "We will build Midlothian's resilience to climate change impacts". Progress is measured against former UK National Indicator 188, with a target to achieve 'Level 1', by 2010/11 and an end target of 'Level 4' by 2013/14. The Council and selected Community Planning partners are currently preparing a Local Climate Change Impacts Profile (LCLIP) in order to meet Level 1.

The Council has assessed the strategic flood risk associated with the preferred and alternative development strategies for the Midlothian Local Development Plan (Main Issues Report stage) in consultation with SEPA, and this will be kept under review as the plan moves towards adoption.

Section 4 Priorities for the year ahead

To complete the Local Climate Impacts Profile (LCLIP).

To implement the Council's strategy/action plan in relation to climate change.

To contribute to local flood risk management planning through the Forth Estuary Local Flood Risk Management Plan.

To keep the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment under review, in conjunction with SEPA, in the context of preparing the Proposed Midlothian Local Development Plan.

Section 5

Developing effective partnership working and climate change communications, including producing an annual statement of plans, activities and achievements.

Please describe and illustrate your local authority's partnership working on climate change.

The Conserving & Improving Midlothian's Environment thematic group takes the lead on such partnership working. As discussed above, there is partnership working with the City of Edinburgh Council in relation to residual waste. There is partnership working with other local authorities in the area in connection with flood risk management planning.

Please describe what your local authority has done on climate change communications.

The Council has encouraged public participation in Earth Hour through various media.

Please describe what your local authority has done to build capacity on climate change – internally, with partners and/or with the community.

The Council has developed and promoted energy awareness within the Council. It has continued to liaise with SEPA and other key agencies to ensure staff working on the Midlothian Local Development Plan give due consideration to climate change issues.

Section 5 Priorities for the year ahead

To further consider partnership working and community engagement in relation to climate change.

Climate Change Progress Highlights of the Past Year

Please use the following section to highlight the local authority's main climate change achievements in the past year. This can include processes, plans, projects, partnerships, events, investments, and actions.

The Council has:-

- ***completed home energy efficiency measures in its own and other buildings;***
- ***participated in Earth Hour;***
- ***commenced working with the Carbon Trust/consultants on a fresh internal energy efficiency campaign;***
- ***signed a contract with a private sector company to build a food waste treatment facility that will see the food waste collected in Edinburgh and Midlothian recycled to produce renewable energy (to be used by Scottish Power to help power Scotland's water and drainage system) and fertiliser for local farms;***
- ***undertaken Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Midlothian Local Development Plan (at Main Issues Report stage) with priority given to climate change impact, and prepared a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment in this context.***

Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas Footprint

Midlothian's Footprint by Theme

	<i>GHG Footprint (tonnes of CO₂ equivalent, per person)</i>
<i>Housing</i>	<i>4.07 (25%)</i>
<i>Transport</i>	<i>3.71 (23%)</i>
<i>Food</i>	<i>2.77 (17%)</i>
<i>Consumer Items</i>	<i>1.89 (12%)</i>
<i>Private Services</i>	<i>1.02 (6%)</i>
<i>Public Services</i>	<i>2.20 (14%)</i>
<i>Capital Investment</i>	<i>0.39 (3%)</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>0.06 (0%)</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>16.11 (100%)</i>

How Midlothian Compares

	<i>GHG Footprint (tonnes of CO₂ equivalent, per person)</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>16.24</i>
<i>Scotland</i>	<i>16.71</i>
<i>Midlothian</i>	<i>16.11</i>

Territorial/Production Based Carbon Footprint

How Midlothian Compares and Breakdown by Sector

	Year	Industry and Commercial (thousands tonnes of CO ₂)	Domestic (thousands tonnes of CO ₂)	Road Transport (thousands tonnes of CO ₂)	LULUCF (thousands tonnes of CO ₂)	Total (thousands tonnes of CO ₂)	Per Capita Emissions (tonnes of CO ₂)
Midlothian	2005	150.49	207.71	155.80	24.09	538.09	6.8
	2006	174.08	206.85	157.44	29.92	568.29	7.2
	2007	152.07	205.27	159.86	12.50	529.70	6.7
	2008	161.66	206.23	154.95	9.59	532.44	6.6
	2009	143.30	184.56	150.18	14.81	492.85	6.1
	2010	156.56	199.74	149.69	12.28	518.27	6.4
Scotland Total	2005	-	-	-	-	-	8.1
	2006						8.2
	2007						8.0
	2008						7.8
	2009						7.0
	2010						7.5
UK Total	2005	-	-	-	-	-	8.8
	2006						8.7
	2007						8.5
	2008						8.2
	2009						7.4
	2010						7.6