

# Southampton City Council

## Carbon Reduction Policy



# Southampton City Council Asset Management Carbon Reduction Policy

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Carbon Reduction Policy			
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## Purpose

1. The Carbon Reduction Policy outlines the Council's commitment to meet the government's target to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 80% by 2050. It also delivers against many of the Sustainability Principles that the Council have adopted.
2. The Council interim target is to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 40% by 2020. SCC baseline year will be based on 2010/11 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
3. We aim to provide a leadership role and work with partners to reduce the overall CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of our City and beyond.

## Scope

4. The Carbon Reduction Policy applies to all Southampton City Council operations and services
5. This policy covers emissions from the council's operational commercial gas and electricity usage.

## Legislative Context and other Related Documents

6. Southampton City Council are required to comply with the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) legislation, which includes monitoring, reporting and purchasing the relevant allowances to cover the councils CO<sub>2</sub> emissions emitted from our commercial operations.
7. This policy links to the councils [Low Carbon City Strategy](#) Policy Commitments
8. Southampton City Council commits to:
  - Ensuring accurate carbon emissions data is available for legal reporting and carbon management purposes.
  - Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as required to meet the Council's target commitments
  - Increasing carbon efficiency in terms of energy consumed per floor area (normalised to take into account variations in the weather) within its own estate and services.
  - Applying the energy hierarchy, which sets the direction for sustainable energy use within the Council and in priority order, we will strive to:
    1. Eliminate or reduce the need for energy,
    2. Maximise the efficiency of the remaining energy uses,
    3. Supply energy from renewable sources where feasible.
  - Investing in highly energy-efficient plant and equipment to reduce CO<sub>2</sub>, (including renewable energy sources), where this meets investment criteria
  - Include life cycle (energy & maintenance) costs into the decision making process when procuring new plant and projects
  - Procuring energy to minimise costs and environmental impact
  - Ensuring all future plans and policies include adaption to climate change

## Policy Statement

9. Southampton City Council will address carbon efficiency in all areas of operation including:

### Management Issues

- Improve the collection and dissemination of accurate carbon emissions data throughout all SCC activities
- Educate and raise awareness among staff
- Define roles and responsibilities for carbon management and reduction for all staff
- Encourage continual professional development for relevant technical staff
- Establish clear reporting procedures

### Procurement Issues

- Consider life-cycle energy costs for new projects and modifications to existing plant
- Procure equipment with low energy ratings and utilise the Energy Technology List where appropriate
- Establish technical guidelines for new projects and refurbishment

### Financial Issues

- Identify appropriate budget holders at a Departmental level, for all energy and carbon costs
- Establish ownership for invoice verification
- Establish management of carbon reporting under the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) legislation.

### Technical Issues

- Establish procedures for efficient operation of plant and equipment
- Improve performance of plant and equipment already in use within the Council.
- Improve performance of the service buildings currently occupied by the Council
- Ensure all new buildings incorporate the energy hierarchy in design and technology used, over and above those required by building regulations.

10. Southampton City Council is committed to accelerating its carbon management programme through a strategic action plan which will be reviewed for progress and updated each year.

## Governance

11. This policy will be integrated into the Capital Assets operations, procurement and delivery.

12. The Energy Manager is responsible for monitoring, reporting against and updating this policy.

[END]