

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**AGENDA
ITEM NO**

15 DECEMBER 2016

9

Report Title	CARBON NEUTRAL UPDATE
Purpose of Report	To report on the current position regarding the Council's Carbon Neutral status in terms of its operational emissions.
Decision(s)	Committee RESOLVES: To agree that the District Council remains a Carbon Neutral Authority.
Financial Implications and Risk Assessment	There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Ian Purcell, Senior Accounting Technician Tel: 01453 754141 Email: ian.purcell@stroud.gov.uk The environmental standards could slip as there would be no systematic approach of holding services to account.
Legal Implications	No significant legal implications to record on the draft report. Karen Trickey, Legal Services Manager Email: karen.trickey@stroud.gov.uk
Report Author	Petula Davis Senior Policy Officer/Project Lead Officer Tel: 01453 754289 Email: petula.davis@stroud.gov.uk
Performance Management Follow Up	As set out in the body of the report

1. SDC has long recognised the importance of the environment. Over the past 20 years SDC has been proactive in initiating environmental projects and securing funding opportunities for the benefit of residents, businesses, community groups and its own estate. In December 2015 SDC reported its achievement of being carbon neutral and this report reviews the current position.
2. Carbon emissions from the wider community are challenging to measure and compare. We can measure the emissions saved through a specific programme of works such as cavity wall insulation where the District Council has been instrumental in delivering the work, but we cannot measure the total emissions associated with a particular household and

ascribe a proportion of any reductions to the activities that have been promoted by the Council.

3. Without the investment of resources by the District Council, most, if not all of the projects, detailed in the December 2015 report, would not have been achieved and would not have produced the annual savings of CO₂.
4. In 2014/15 SDC produced 2925 tonnes of CO₂ from its own operations; compared to 2609 tonnes in 2015/16, a reduction of 316 tonnes as set out in Figure 1. Two areas of investment related to the Warm & Well partnership and the Carbon Management Plan, both produced measurable savings and these have continued to increase from 2468.6 and 807 tonnes in 2014/15 to 2511.2 and 903 tonnes in 2015/16 – a total saving of 3412.2 tonnes.
5. The increase in savings has been largely due to the continued efforts of the Warm & Well Partnership to improve homes in the Stroud District with appropriate insulation measures and through the Carbon Management Plan with for example the completed installation of the Combined Heat and Power (CHP) project at the Pulse, Dursley.
6. If we take into account and off set the savings made by just Warm & Well and the Carbon Management Plan, which saved a total of 3414.2 tonnes of CO₂ in 2015/16 compared with SDC actual emissions of 2609 tonnes of CO₂, we can declare that Stroud District Council remains Carbon Neutral on the basis that its annual emissions are less than the total savings generated from its direct energy saving interventions.

Figure 1: Annual Carbon Emissions and Savings.

	Tonnes of CO₂ Annual Savings	Tonnes of CO₂ Annual Emissions
Annual Emissions		
2015/16 SDC all operations Greenhouse Gas Emissions		2609
Carbon Saving Projects/Initiatives		
Gloucestershire Warm and Well	2511.2	
Carbon Management Projects	903	
S2S Project	Savings from these projects are challenging to measure & compare exact savings	
Target 2050 all 3 strands		
PAYS		
Council housing stock refurbishments and new builds		
Central heating DECC funding		
Total known savings	3414.2	
Total Annual Emissions(tonnes)		-805.2