Scottish Environment LINK Carbon Management Report 2015-6

Management summary

This is the seventh published Carbon Accounts report from LINK. Unfortunately the information for 2013/4 had not been gathered and this year is missing from chart data.

The scope of this year's report is the same as previously: Energy emissions for both offices (Perth and Edinburgh); Travel (both Business and Commuting) for all employees, core, Marine and Flourishing Scotland project staff; and waste and recycling from Perth office.



Compared to 2014-15, carbon emissions have shown a modest increase of around 2% this year: combined energy use in the Perth and Edinburgh office along with business travel is up, commuting however is down. The amount of waste we disposed, both landfill and recycled waste showed a small increase of 6%.

LINK's environmental policy is based on the principle of the "3 Rs" - reducing consumption of energy and other resources, re-using resources as much as possible and recycling where possible.

Overall our total Carbon Emissions for the year equated to 15.48 metric tonnes (an increase of 0.5 tonnes on 2014/5). This figure includes 2.17 metric tonnes generated from travel by members - an increase of 0.67 tonnes on the previous year, which reflects a much busier calendar of meetings, training opportunities and events for LINK members in 2015/6. Excluding members' travel, LINK's business activities emitted 13.31 metric tonnes which was down marginally (1.5%) on 2014-5 levels.



In 2015-6 our average carbon emissions per (fte) employee (including emissions due to commuting to work) fell by 2% (or 0.045 metric ton). This can be attributed to a small increase in headcount between the two years (from 6.38 to 6.57 FTE), and a small decrease in commuting.



Over the last year, 61% of our carbon emissions were generated by energy usage in our two offices, with 72% of that from Perth HQ. In the Perth office, the gas usage was up in line with the increased number of days the main reception room is now occupied (from 3 to 5 days per week), but electricity down. In the Edinburgh office usage was up slightly in both categories. The Perth office also had the opportunity to switch energy suppliers at the end of 2015 with the electricity now supplied from 100% renewable sources. Both our offices are leased (and therefore our ability to make improvements is limited).



The carbon emissions in our Edinburgh Advocacy office, sublet and shared with APRS, are apportioned according to usage: 43% (of office space) for gas heating, and 67% (of employee office hours) for electricity consumption.

LINK Carbon Emissions from Parliamentary Office												
Heating												
(shared office - apportioned with APRS)												
kg CO2	2,000 1,000 0										_	
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-3	2014-5	2015-1
Electricity		0	0	0	0	0	626	781	744	0	753	797
Gas		0	0	0	0	0	1,146	1,134	677	0	1699	1900

We continue to benchmark our Perth office performance against best practice for a typical office of the same size, using the benchmark tool from the Carbon Trust. This year we are slightly out performing best practice: a very good performance considering the limitations of an old building with no wall insulation.





LINK carbon emissions from business travel showed a small increase from the previous year. However a positive shift in the proportion of rail to car travel.

And we can see the split of business travel between the different projects/offices below.



Overall carbon emissions from staff commutes to work was lower than 2014-5 by over one metric tonne, with public transport continuing to be the dominant mode of transport.



LINK has a policy of encouraging staff to avoid carbon emitting simple business travel by recompensing such journeys on bicycle or by foot at car mileage rates. For those who have longer commutes to work, rail travel remains the most popular and whilst this accounts for nearly 93% of travel, over half of the LINK staff undertake their daily commute either on foot or bicycle, with 2 staff taking up the Cycle to work scheme this year to purchase new bicycles for their daily commute.



Total landfill waste generated in our Perth office rose slightly on the previous year, but included waste which is generated from the use of our meeting room which is regularly utilised by member bodies and local charities, with use in 2015/6 higher than previous year. Recycling waste showed a small decrease.

We also have a composting facility and wormery which allows us to recycle all our organic matter into reusable compost which is then utilised by our neighbours, Turning Point Scotland (a charity providing person centred support to adults with a range of complex needs) on their gardening project.



Improving our carbon management in 2016-7

For the next financial year, LINK will:

- Work with APRS (who share our Edinburgh office) to introduce a system to measure waste and recycling
- Promote LINK staff to the Cycle to work scheme, providing tax free bikes for **work** through the Government's Green Transport Initiative.

Detailed carbon accounts breakdown

Scottish Environment LINK - Carbon Accounting												
2015-6 Carbo	n Emissions -	Detailed	Summar	y								
				<u> </u>								
			(Converted to								
		Unit of	*				LINK		Come for the se	Total kg		
Category		measure	Perth *	Edinburgh	Marine	Flourishing	weetings	TOTAL	Conv factor	0.702		
Energy	Gas	kWh	23,608	9,221	n/a	n/a	n/a	32,830	0.206	6,763		
	Electricity	kWh	3,436	1,484	n/a	n/a	n/a	4,920	0.53702	2,642		
Energy	TOTAL	kWh	27,044	10,705	n/a	n/a	n/a	37,750		9,405		
Business travel	Local Bus	km	8	55	401	64	314	842	0.1158	97		
	Coach	km	0	0	4	0	0	4	0.029	0		
	Rail	km	11,113	5,230	11343	3527	12870	44084	0.0602	2,654		
	Form	Km	0	98	0	5	10	103	0.078	8 6		
	Air	km	0	0	0	0	40	40	0.1152	0		
	Taxi	km	37	42	39	16		134	0.1593	21		
	Black cab	km	0	0	0	0		0	0.172	0		
	Car (petrol)	km	278	0	1287	0	5044	6610	0.207	1,368		
	Car (diesel)	km	71	0	0	0	0	71	0.14701	10		
	Bicycle	km	0	0	87	0	39	126	0	0		
	Foot	km	0	0	0	0	51	51	0	0		
	Air	km	0	434	0	0	1976	2410	0.15835	382		
Business travel	TOTAL	km	11,508	5,859	13160	3612	18277	52416	0	4,165		
Commuting	Local Bus	km	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.10946	0		
	Coach	km	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.02932	0		
	Rail	km	0	0	37380	0	n/a	37380	0.04738	1,771		
	Tram	km	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.06168	0		
	Taxi	km	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.17755	0		
	Black cab	km	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.21877	0		
	Car (petrol)	km	885	0	0	0	n/a	885	0.16061	142		
	Car (diesel)	km	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.14701	0		
	Bicycle	km	425	0	148	637	n/a	573	0	0		
	Foot	km	1,133	3,469	0	0	n/a	4602	0	0		
Commuting	TOTAL	km	2,442	3,469	37,528	637	0	43440		1,913		
Recycled waste	Paper	kg	65	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	65				
	All others	kg	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0				
	TOTAL	kg	65	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	65				
Landfill waste	TOTAL	kg	43	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	43				
TOTAL										15,483		