# Scottish Environment LINK Carbon Management Report 2018-19



# Management summary

This is the tenth published Carbon Accounts report from LINK.

(The information for 2013/4 had not been gathered and that year is missing from chart data).

The scope of this year's report is the same as previously: Energy emissions for both offices – Perth, fully electric (mixed source) and Edinburgh, fully electric (100% renewable). Travel (both Business and Commuting) for all employees and for LINK Members attending LINK events; and waste and recycling from the Perth office – collection of data for LINK's Edinburgh office premises since October 2016 has not been possible.

Figures are calculated based on the conversion factors published in the <u>Government</u> <u>guidelines</u> for 2018.



Overall our total Carbon Emissions for the year equated to 10.142 metric tonnes – an increase of 3.81 tonnes on 2017/8. This figure includes 2.497 metric tonnes generated from travel by members – an increase of 1.57 tonnes on the previous year, which reflects a busier year of LINK events and a move to hold a couple of events (notably LINK Congress), outwith Edinburgh to support members who are based farther afield. There was also an increase in business travel from LINK staff of

1.58 tonnes which was reflective of an increase in our core staffing team. In May 2018 we welcomed Dilraj Sokhi Watson as our new Advocacy Officer, and in January 2019 Miriam Ross as our Campaign Coordinator both based in our Edinburgh office.

Excluding members' travel, LINK's business activities emitted 7.64 metric tonnes.

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.



This is the first increase in carbon emissions for several years and is mainly attributable to the change in LINK's staff team noted earlier. We did however see a reduction in energy use, with both offices now 100% electric, the Edinburgh office is supplied from 100% renewable source, however the supply in Perth is now mixed (with the energy supplied dictated by our Landlord).



In 2018-9 our average carbon emissions per (fte) employee (including emissions due to commuting to work) increased by just over 9% (or 0.11 metric tonne). As noted earlier this can be mainly attributed to an increase in travel, both business and staff commute. In recognition LINK have now invested on online video conferencing to

support more staff and members to participate in meetings remotely and therefore cut travel.



In total carbon emissions from business travel equated to 1.829, an increase of around 1.18 metric tonne equating to an average 0.28 tonne per FTE, an small increase from 2017/8 of 0.17 metric tonne. This is mostly attributable to the continuing trend to have more meetings and events in Edinburgh with all but the three Perth staff now based in Edinburgh, in addition to extra travel undertaken by Jen Anderson as outgoing Chief Officer and Deborah Long as incoming Chief Officer to meet with LINK members, attend events etc.

The split of staff business travel between the different projects/offices can be seen below. This reflects again the increase in travel from the Perth office (mainly due to change of personnel), the increased travel from the larger staff team in Edinburgh and the new Circular Economy Project which started in 2018.



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.



The significant increase is again due to several factors, including the appointment of two new staff members in the Edinburgh office, a member of staff relocating to Glasgow and the change in LINK's Chief Officer (who now has a daily commute of approximately 45 miles per day, compared to our previous Chief Officer whose commute was less than 2 miles per day).

Whilst commuting miles have increased more than half LINK staff still commute on foot or bicycle. We have also supported a member of staff to work from home two days per week to reduce carbon emissions from travel.



# <u>Energy</u>

Overall the carbon emissions for Energy have reduced from the previous year. The Edinburgh office is now exclusively electric with a 100% renewable supply. The Perth office is also exclusively electric, however due to this being in a shared building the electricity is currently a mixed supply.



LINK tracks waste disposed from its Perth office but is currently not able to capture that information for its Edinburgh office although they do separate their waste recycling all recyclable material and organic matter.

The amount of waste disposed to landfill from the Perth office has reduced; this can be partly attributed to a continued lower use of LINK meeting room.

In the Perth office we recycle all our organic matter using the Local Authorities' garden and food waste composting service and in Edinburgh to home composting.

#### Improving our carbon management in 2019-20

For the next financial year, LINK will:

- Continue to promote to LINK staff the Cycle to Work scheme, providing tax free bikes for work through the Government's Green Transport Initiative.
- Following our recent investment in a new online meeting system encourage members and staff to join meetings remotely and cut travel
- Encourage our Landlord in the Perth office to choose a 100% renewable electricity supplier.

# Detailed carbon accounts breakdown

# Conversion factors used are as published in the <u>Government greenhouse gas</u> reporting conversion factors 2018

Scottish Environment LINK - Carbon Accounting											
2018-9 Carbo	n Emissions -	Detailed	Summary								
				Office / Project							
Category		Unit of measure	Perth *	Edinburgh	Marine	Circular Economy	LINK Meetings	TOTAL (including converting to KM from Miles)	Conv factor	Total kg CO2	business travel
Energy	Gas	kWh			n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0.1836	0	
	Electricity	kWh	4,519		n/a	n/a	n/a	4,519	0.28088	1,269	
Energy	TOTAL	kWh	4.519	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	4.519		1.269	
Business travel	Local Bus	miles	2	42	39	0	91	280	0.19162459	54	28
	Coach	miles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.044096026	0	0
	Rail	miles	9.787	3.757	1702	868	8130	39018	0.070537548	2.752	923
	Tram	miles	3	0	0	0	0	5	0.115068096	1	0
	Ferry	miles	0	0	0	0		0	0.030786751	0	0
	Air	miles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.257849096	0	0
	Taxi	miles	19	126	0	0		233	0.342725898	80	0
	Car (petrol)	miles	508	60	105	0	3091	6058	0.31078042	1,883	1,546
	Car (diesel)	miles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.276694514	0	0
	Car (electric)	miles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.03906	0	
	Bicycle	miles	0	0	0	0	94	151	0	0	0
	Foot	miles	0	0	0	0	23	37	0	0	0
Business travel	TOTAL	miles	10,319	3,985	1846	868	11312	28331	0	4,769	2,497
Commuting	Local Bus	miles	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.19162459	0	
	Coach	miles	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.044096026	0	
	Rail	miles	0	24,706	4320	0	n/a	46712	0.070537548	3.295	
	Tram	miles	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.115068096	0	
	Taxi	miles	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.348841405	0	
	Black cab	miles	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0 276807168	0	
	Car (petrol)	miles	1.466	0	0	0	n/a	2359	0.31078042	733	
	Car (diesel)	miles	0	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.23335488	0	
	Car (electric)	miles	0	0	1200	0	n/a	1931	0.03906	75	
	Bicycle	miles	528	216	0	630	n/a	1197	0	0	
	Foot	miles	512	636	0	0	n/a	1848	0	0	
Commuting	TOTAL	miles	2.506	25.558	5.520	630	0	49071		4.103	
Recycled waste	Paner	kø	32	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	32		.,====	
	All others	kg	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0			
	τοται	kg	32	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	32			
Landfill waste	TOTAL	kg	16	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	16			
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TOTAL										10,142	