

Scottish Environment LINK

Carbon Management Report 2017-8



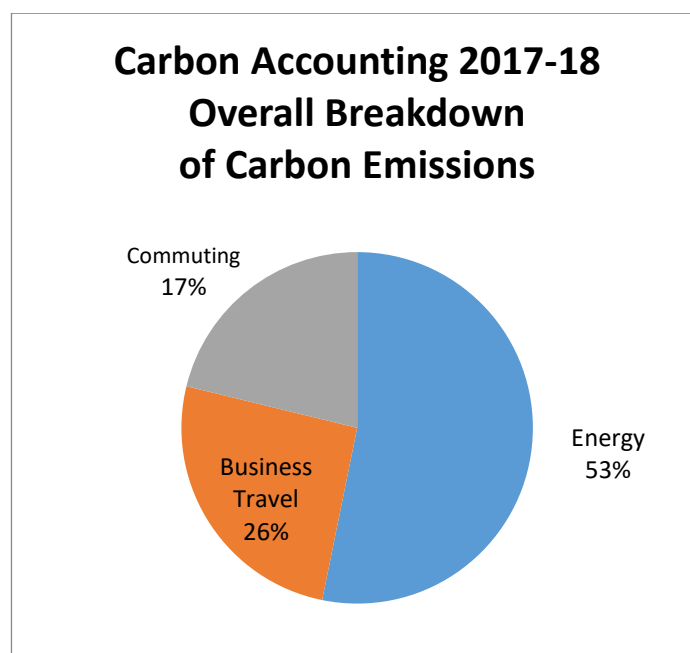
Management summary

This is the ninth 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, a mixture of gas and electricity and Edinburgh, 100% renewable electricity. Travel (both Business and Commuting) for all employees; and waste and recycling from Perth office – collection of data for LINK's Edinburgh office premises since October 2016 has not been possible.

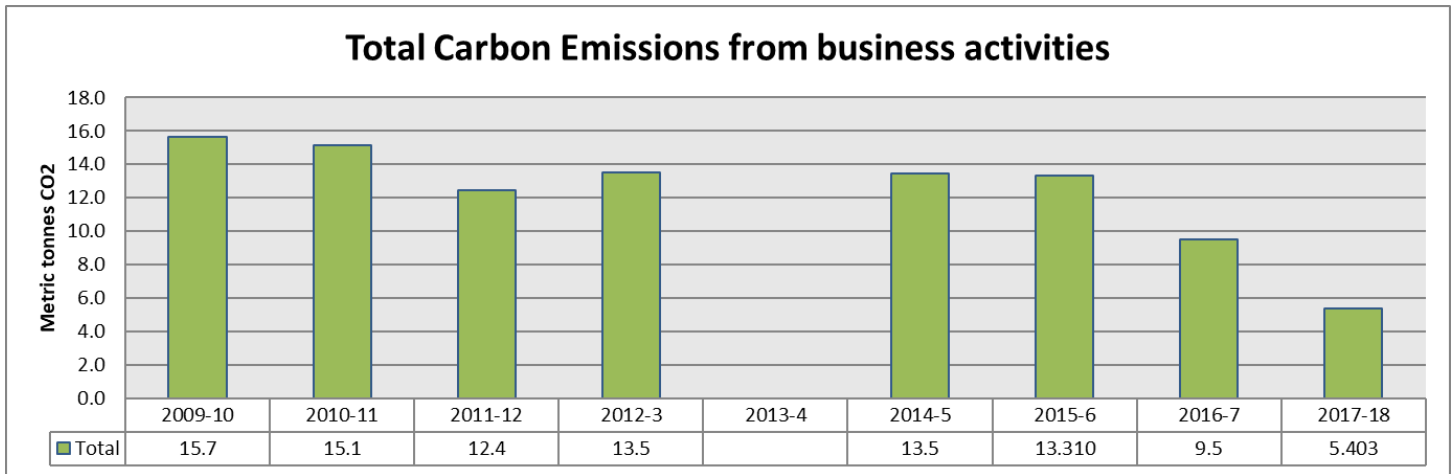
Figures are calculated based on the conversion factors published in the [Government guidelines](#) for 2017, previous reports were based on the Carbon trust conversion factors 2011.



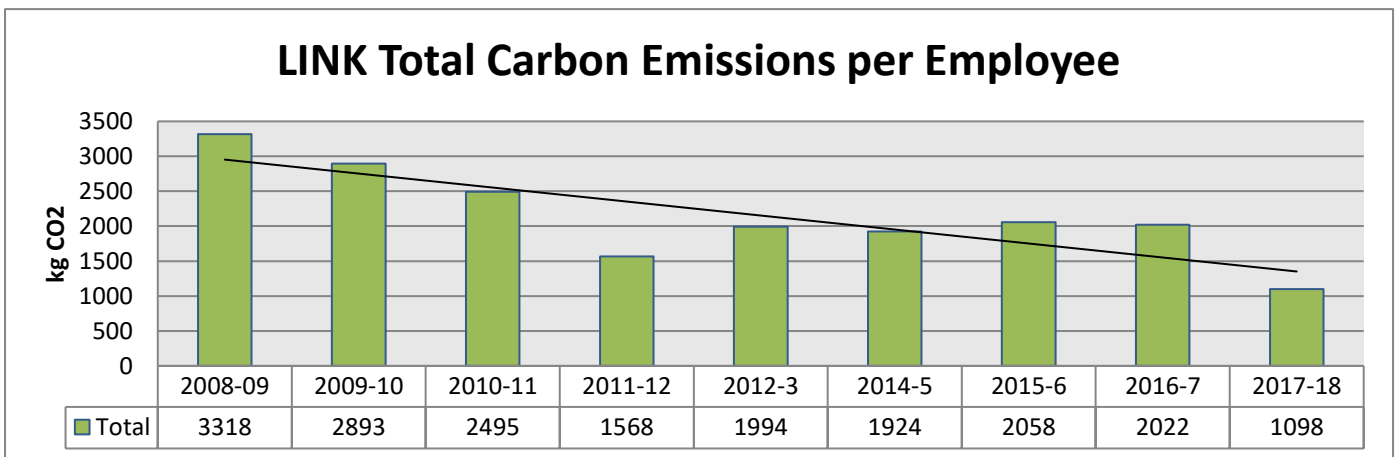
Overall our total Carbon Emissions for the year equated to 6.329 metric tonnes - a reduction of 4.59 tonnes on 2016/7. This figure includes 0.926 metric tonnes generated from travel by members – a decrease of 0.49 tonnes on the previous year, which reflects the general reduction in travel achieved across LINK. More meetings are now being held in Edinburgh (including the use of the meeting room now available in the LINK Edinburgh office).

Excluding members' travel, LINK's business activities emitted 6.329 metric tonnes which was down 40% on 2016-7 levels (approximately 10% of the reduction is directly attributed to the change in conversion factors, see earlier note).

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.

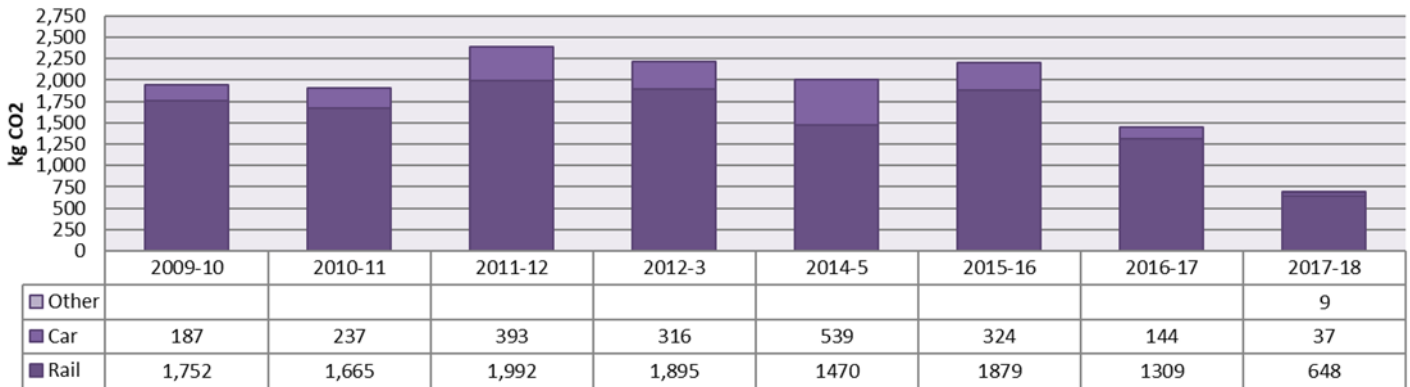


This significant reduction in carbon emissions can be mainly attributable to reduced LINK Staff business travel, and a reduction in energy use (notably all energy supplied to the Edinburgh office is now from a 100% renewable source).



In 2017-8 our average carbon emissions per (fte) employee (including emissions due to commuting to work) decreased by over 30% (or 0.67 metric tonne). This can be attributed to the general overall decrease achieved this year.

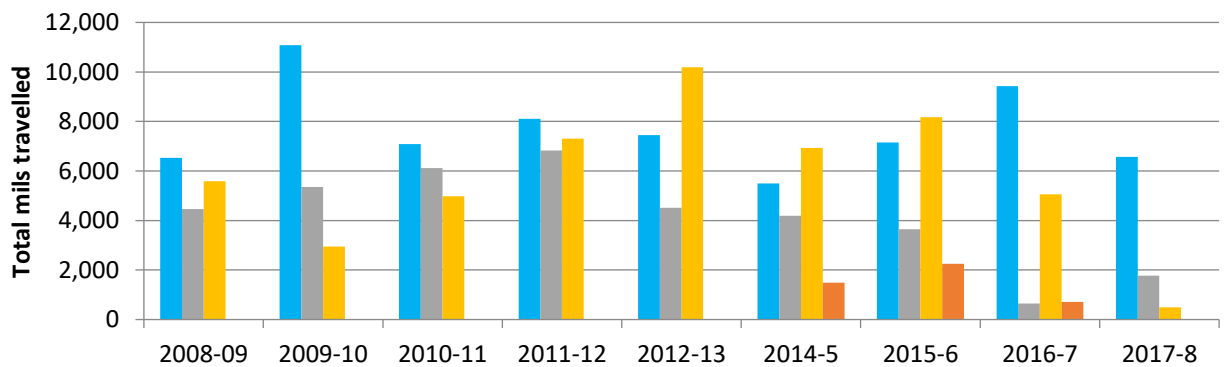
LINK Carbon Emissions from Business Travel



In total carbon emissions from business travel equated to 0.694 metric tonne, an average of 0.12 tonne per FTE and a reduction from 2016/7 of 0.758 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. There has also been a reduction in the Project staff team with one less Marine member of staff and the end of the Flourishing Scotland project which also engaged a member of staff.

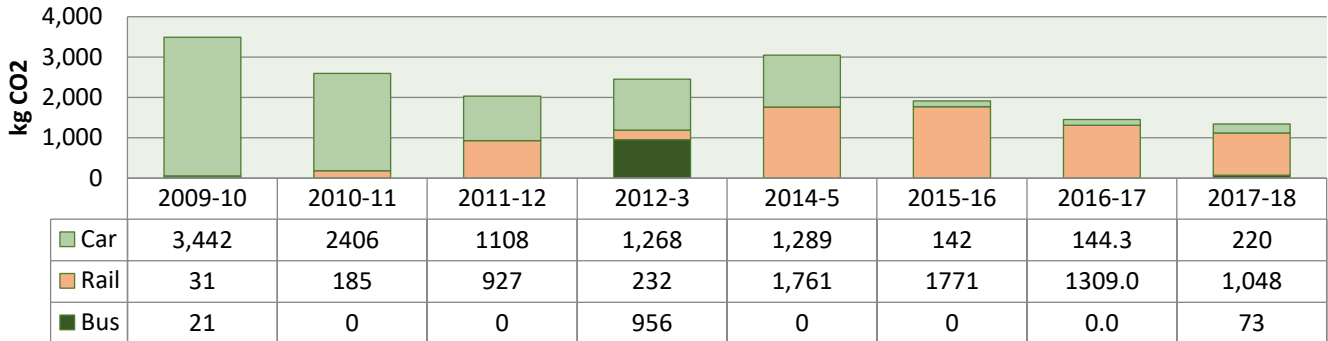
The split of staff business travel between the different projects/offices can be seen below. Following the loss of one member of staff from the Marine project travel has dropped significantly in this area and there is no travel from the Flourishing Project (as this has now ended). There is a small increase in travel from the Edinburgh office as our Advocacy Manager attends more events and meetings.

LINK Business Travel trends 2017-18



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.

LINK Carbon Emissions from Commuting to work

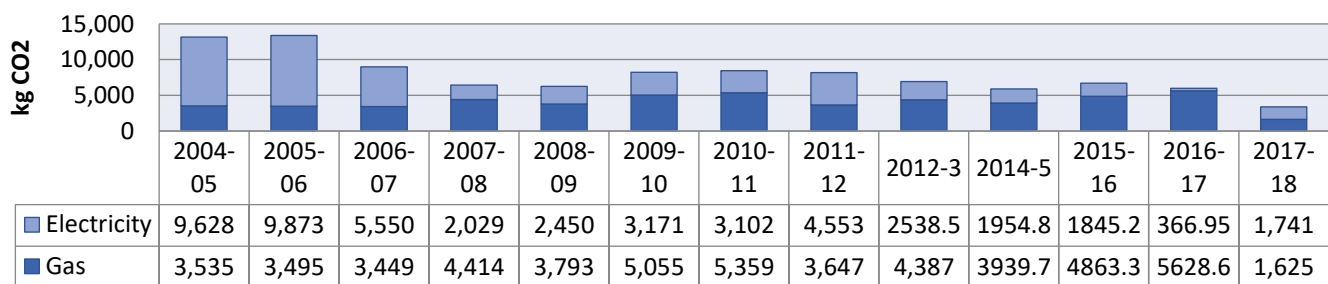


Commuting remains steady with more than half of the staff commuting on foot/bicycle and for those with longer commutes rail travel remains most popular.

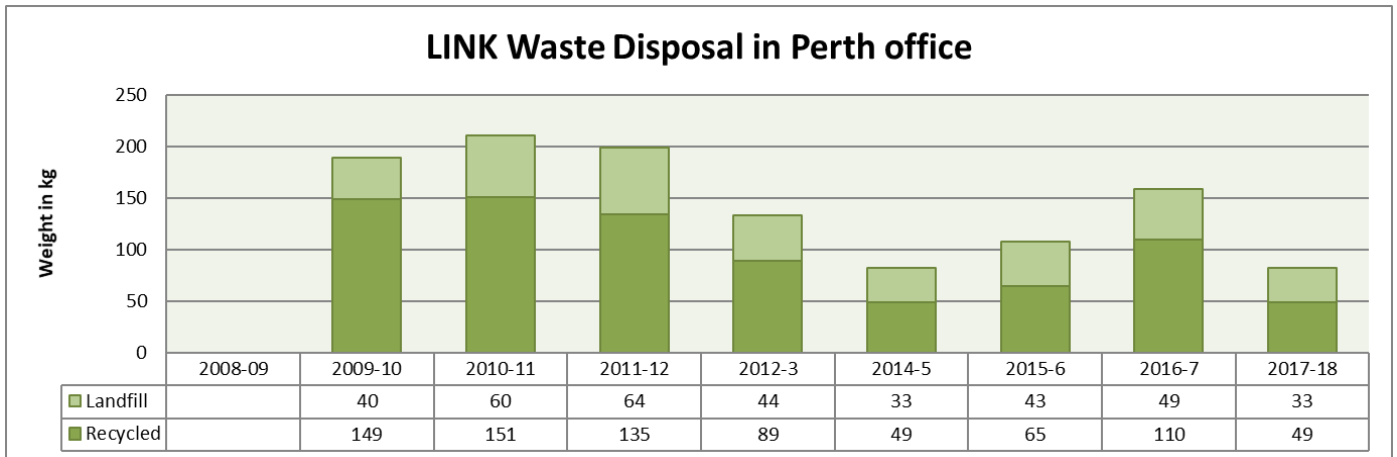
In addition to the general overall reduction in travel there has also been a change in conversion factors - [Government guidelines](#) for 2017; as the share of biofuels has been increasing for a number of years now, this year the methodologies used to develop the road vehicle emission factors (both direct CO₂ and WTT) have been modified to account for the average petrol and diesel biofuel blend in public refuelling stations.

Energy

LINK Carbon Emissions from Perth HQ Heating & Power



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 (following a move of offices in November 2017) is also now 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.

The amount of waste disposed to landfill from the Perth office has reduced; this can be partly attributed to a lower use of LINK meeting room initially, following the move to new premises.

We recycle all our organic matter using the Local Authorities' garden and food waste composting service.

Improving our carbon management in 2018-9

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.
- Encourage our Landlord in the Perth office to choose a 100% renewable electricity supplier.
- Explore scope to capture waste data regarding our Edinburgh office.

Detailed carbon accounts breakdown

Conversion factors used are as published in the [Government guidelines](#) for 2017

Category	Unit of measure	Office / Project					TOTAL	Conv factor	Total kg CO2
		Perth *	Edinburgh	Marine	LINK Meetings				
Energy	Gas	kWh	8,841	0	n/a	n/a	8,841	0.18381	1,625
	Electricity	kWh	4,992	0	n/a	n/a	4,992	0.34885	1,741
Energy	TOTAL	kWh	13,833	0	n/a	n/a	13,833		3,367
Business travel	Local Bus	miles	3	0	6	298	307	0.195824978	60
	Coach	miles	0	0	0	0	0	0.044096026	0
	Rail	miles	6,427	1,764	492	4191	12874	0.074609188	961
	Tram	miles	0	0	0	168	168	0.115068096	19
	Ferry	miles	0	0	0	0	0	0.030786751	0
	Air	miles	0	0	0	0	0	0.257849096	0
	Taxi	miles	15	7	0	6	28	0.348841405	10
	Car (petrol)	miles	120	0	0	1708	1828	0.31232539	571
	Car (diesel)	miles	0	0	0	0	0	0.276694514	0
	Bicycle	miles	0	0	0	18	29	0	0
	Foot	miles	0	0	0	45	72	0	0
Business travel	TOTAL	miles	6,565	1,771	498	6371	15205	0	1,621
Commuting	Local Bus	miles	0	374	0	n/a	374	0.195824978	73
	Coach	miles	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.044096026	0
	Rail	miles	0	8,688	5360	n/a	14048	0.074609188	1,048
	Tram	miles	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.115068096	0
	Taxi	miles	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.348841405	0
	Black cab	miles	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.276807168	0
	Car (petrol)	miles	704	0	0	n/a	704	0.31232539	220
	Car (diesel)	miles	0	0	0	n/a	0	0.23335488	0
	Bicycle	miles	528	630	0	n/a	1158	0	0
	Foot	miles	704	396	0	n/a	1100	0	0
Commuting	TOTAL	miles	1,936	10,088	5,360	0	15126		1,341
Recycled waste	Paper	kg	49	n/a	n/a	n/a	49		
	All others	kg	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	0		
	TOTAL	kg	49	n/a	n/a	n/a	49		
Landfill waste	TOTAL	kg	33	n/a	n/a	n/a	33		
TOTAL									6,329