



Scottish Environment LINK Carbon Management Report 2020-21

Management summary

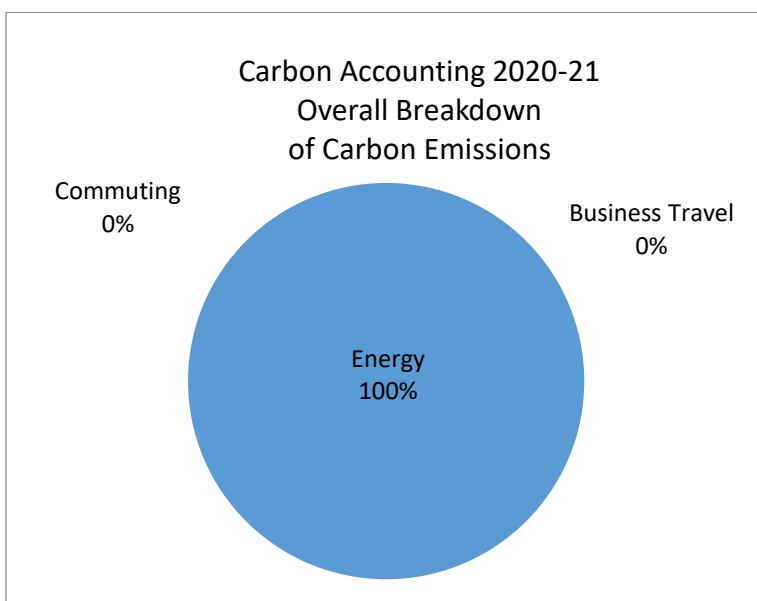
This is the twelfth published Carbon Accounts report from LINK.

(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 different for previous years in light of the Covid-19 outbreak from mid-March 2020. At this point LINK closed its two offices in Edinburgh and Perth and supported all staff to work from home. LINK also transferred all meetings and events to on-line using a mixture of Zoom and Microsoft Teams, which proved very successful, particularly enabling those members who are in more rural locations to engage with LINK resulting in no LINK member travel this year.

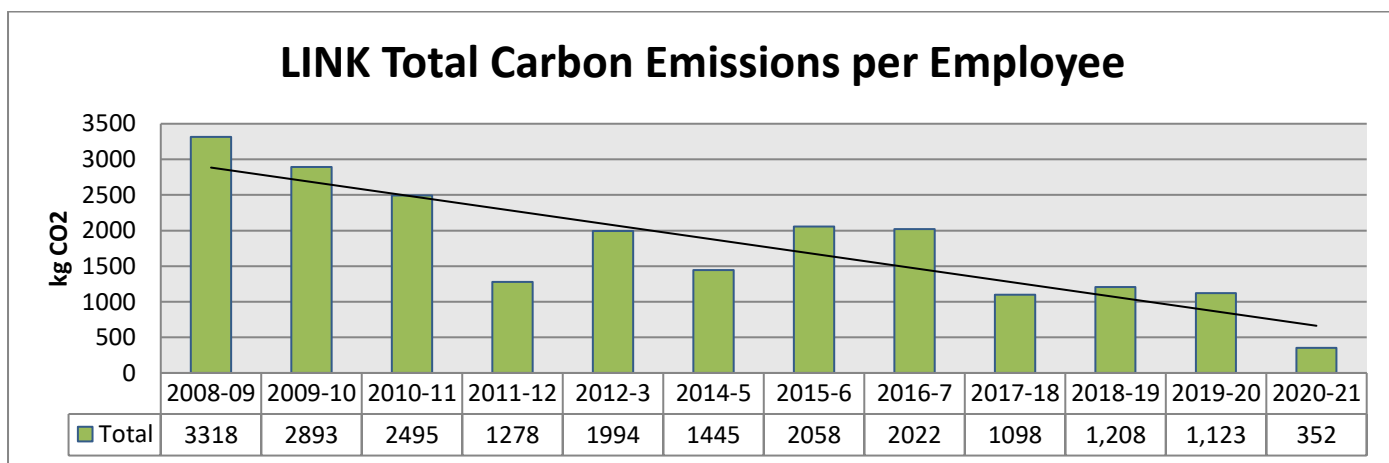
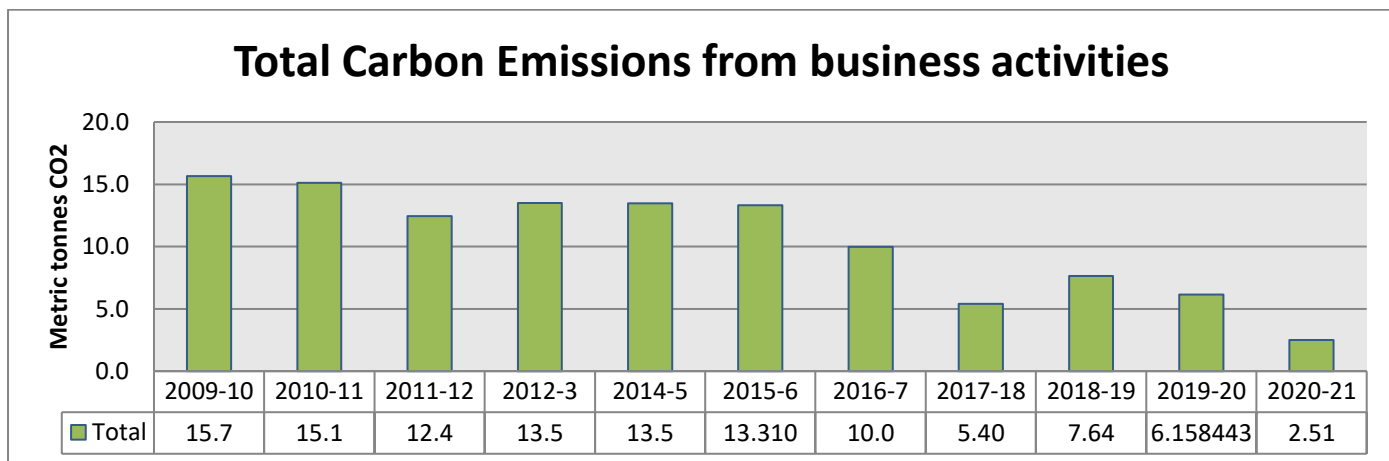
We have been able to calculate an estimate of energy use for our team's homeworking energy emissions based on guidance provided by Environmental consultants [EcoAct](#) who have written a [whitepaper on homeworking emissions](#) and summarised in a helpful Blog by Bulb (the UK's biggest green energy supplier) who contributed to this work - [How to measure the carbon impact of working from home | Blog | Bulb](#). We have also included a nominal amount to cover some electricity use in both offices to cover essential heating over the winter period.

Figures are calculated based on the conversion factors published in the [Government guidelines](#) for 2019.



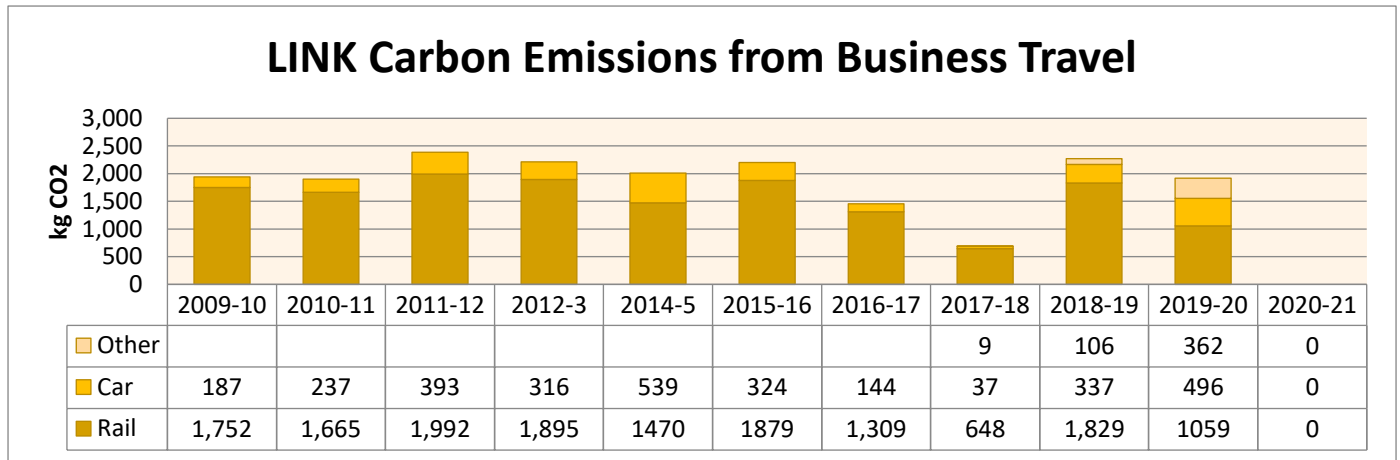
Overall our total Carbon Emissions for the year equated to 2.51 metric tonnes – a decrease of 5.21 tonnes on 2019/20. This reduction can be wholly attributed to the elimination of all travel.

We have seen a small increase in our emissions for heating and power, just over 1.35 metric tonnes from the previous year, reflecting that as staff work from home, our number of work spaces increased from two shared office locations to fourteen home working environments (plus a small allowance for essential heating of the offices over the winter period).



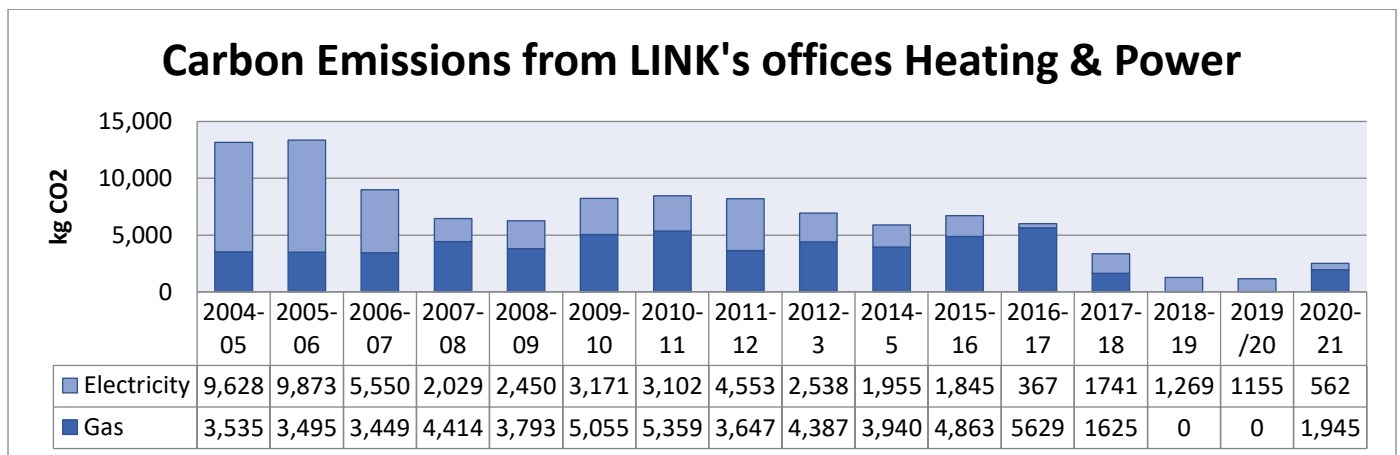
In 2020-21 our average carbon emissions per employee decreased by 68% reflecting the impact of having no commuting or business travel in this year. Feedback from our members, staff and other stakeholders is very positive about the switch to online collaboration and events. LINK is planning to continue holding most meetings online going forward.

Travel



Confirmation that no carbon emissions were generated from business travel this year.

Energy



As noted earlier we have reported a small increase in heat and power as our staff worked exclusively from home this year. Our figures are based on estimated useage per employee, with useage now covering 14 individual workspaces plus a small allowance for essential heating of the offices over winter.

Improving our carbon management in 2021-22

We will continue to hold meetings and events on-line and ask staff to work from home until it is deemed safe to return to offices and hold larger, indoor gatherings. However, the success of using web based meetings is such that we will continue to use this method post pandemic for the majority of our needs, only holding a small number of face to face options in the year ahead (where beneficial and safe to do so). LINK will continue to offer all staff the option to include some home working to aid work/life balance and reduce carbon emissions from commuting.

Scottish Environment LINK - Carbon Accounting											
2020-21 Carbon Emissions - Detailed Summary											
Category	Unit of measure	Office / Project							Conv factor	Total kg CO2	
		Home working	Edinburgh	Marine	Circular Economy	LINK Meetings	TOTAL				
Energy	Gas	kWh	10,595			n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0.1836	1,945
	Electricity	kWh	2,201			n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0.2556	562
Energy	TOTAL	kWh	12,796	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0		2,508