

## Climate Change Report 2022/23

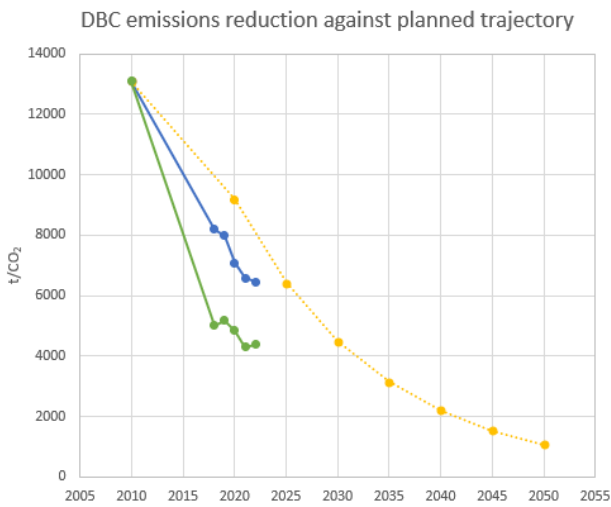
### Introduction

In 2019, Darlington Borough Council passed a declaration committing the Council to becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

Since then, a strategy and action plan have been developed and regular reporting to Cabinet and Full Council is ongoing. An annual report is produced each summer to highlight our progress toward our target.

### Emissions for 2022/23

	2010/11	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	t/CO <sub>2</sub>	t/CO <sub>2</sub>	t/CO <sub>2</sub>	t/CO <sub>2</sub>	t/CO <sub>2</sub>	t/CO <sub>2</sub>
Streetlighting	3,487	759	596	515	458	412
Corporate Estate	7,564	5,928	5,907	5,014	4,864	4,709
Business Travel	2,050	1,509	1,482	1,426	1,270	1,328
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,101</b>	<b>8,196</b>	<b>7,985</b>	<b>6,955</b>	<b>6,592</b>	<b>6,461</b>
Total estimated working from home emissions/tCO <sub>2</sub> e				125		



By the end of 2022/23 our carbon footprint is 6,461 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e (location based).

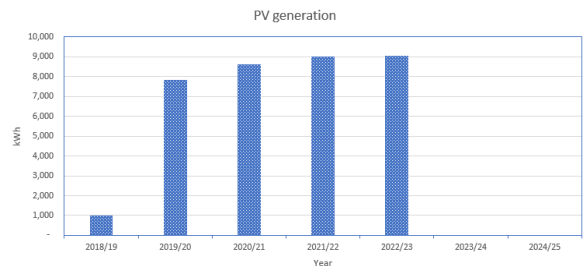
Taking account of our zero-carbon electricity tariff (market based), our carbon footprint is 4,381 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e.

In October 2021, Cabinet approved a trajectory of 30% reduction in carbon emission every 5 years.

### Solar power generation

	2010/11	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	Generation	Generation	Generation	Generation	Generation	Generation
	kWh	kWh*	kWh	kWh	kWh	kWh
<b>Total</b>		1,008	7,846	8,597	9,015	9,028

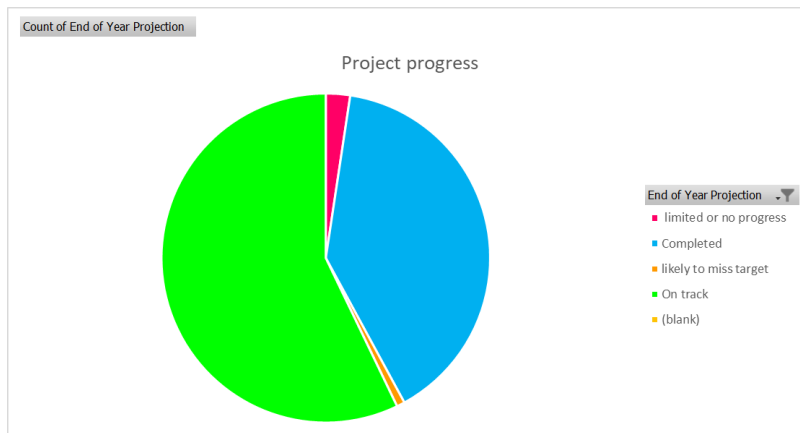
Generation of power from the solar panels on the roof of the Town Hall is increasing each year. In 2022/23 we generated 9,028 kWh.



## Climate change action plan

A climate change action plan was put in place in 2021 with almost 200 action points.

The chart below shows our progress on these actions.



Since the action plan was put in place, 50 actions have been completed and 72 are on track. The remainder are planned for future action.

There are 3 'red' actions. These are actions which have not progressed for various reasons.

- Two relate to staff capacity, so the delivery date has been moved forward.
- One is the result of the withdrawal of a delivery partner so has been unable to progress.

There is 1 'amber' action. This is partly due to delay in supply and will be completed in the next maintenance round.

### Highlights

- Work to date has reduced our carbon emissions by 50% compared to our baseline
- Efficiency measures have been put in place through the corporate estate, with estimated savings of 1,319,506 kWh expected
- Our tree planting target of 20,000 trees has been exceeded
- A report on the carbon related to our supply chain commissioned and received. Almost 50,000 tonnes of carbon can be attributed to our supply chain.
- A gap analysis of our readiness for climate change has been completed and adaptation actions developed
- An infographic on climate change and adaptation has been produced for communities
- A fleet transition plan has been developed

### Next steps

Following the Council motion in July we have a new more ambitious net zero target of 2040. The climate change strategy and action plan are both being reviewed with this new target in mind.

Further work will be carried out on our supply chain emissions. We will work with our suppliers and see how together we can reduce the related emissions.

We will continue to work on how we present our progress to make it clearer where we are on our journey.

Work on how we capture the costs of severe weather events has begun but will need further collaboration with council colleagues before it is ready to roll out.

We will develop our work with young people, ensuring we equip them for their future.