GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL'S ESTATE AND OPERATIONS

Thanet District Council has adopted the Kent Environment Strategy and is a member of the Kent Climate Change Network which through sharing best practice and raising awareness is committed to the reduction of emissions and preparing for climate change.

The Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has requested that each local authority publishes its own Greenhouse Gas Emissions report on its own website. A report has been produced using 'Environmental Reporting Guidelines' produced by H M Government.

The Guidance uses the most widely accepted approach to identify and categorise emission releasing activities into three groups. The three scopes are:

Scope 1 (Direct emissions) – Emissions from activities owned or controlled by your organisation that release emissions straight into the atmosphere. They are direct emissions. Examples of scope 1 emissions include emissions from combustion in owned or controlled boilers, owned or controlled vehicles.

Scope 2 (Energy indirect) – Emissions released into the atmosphere associated with the consumption of purchased electricity, heat, steam and cooling. These are indirect emissions that are a consequence of your organisation's activities but which occur at sources you do not own or control. The most common type of Scope 2 emission is electricity purchased for own consumption from the National Grid or a third party.

Scope 3 (Other indirect) - Emissions are discretionary to include that are a consequence of your actions, which occur at sources which you do not own or control and which are not classed as scope 2 emissions. Examples of scope 3 emissions including business travel not owned or controlled by your organisation (eg. Use of public transport), commuting, use of 'grey fleet' (ie use of employees' own cars for which fuel costs are claimed back via expenses), emissions from contractors and supply chain procurement.

Thanet District Council's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions - 2018 - 2019

Summary

This reports the GHG emissions produced by Thanet District Council during the financial year 2018-2019 compared with previous years and the base year of 2008 - 2009

	GHG emissions data for the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2019						BASE YEAR
Scope	**Global tonnes of CO2e**						
	2018/19	**2017/18**	**2016/17**	**2015/16**	**2014/15**	**2013/14**	**2008/09**
Scope 1	1670	1744	1723	1703	1372	1563	1866
Outside of Scope	N/A	N/A	N/A	43	25	29	N/A
Scope 2	908	1211	1505	1690	1759	1649	2351
Scope 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transmission and distribution	77	113	136	140	154	141	183
Total gross emissions	2655	3068	3364	3576	3310	3382	4400
Carbon offsets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Green tariff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total annual net emissions	2655	3068	3364	3576	3310	3382	4400
Intensity measurement 'Tonnes of CO2e per Full Time Employee'	0.71	0.78	0.81	0.86	0.93	0.90	1.23
% change	↓39.7%	↓30.3	↓23.5	↓18.7	↓24.8	↓23.1	Baseline

Supporting Information

1 Local Authority Information
Thanet District Council is located at Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent CT9 1XZ

2 Reporting Period
1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019

3 Reasons for Change in Emissions
2018 – 2019 has seen a decrease in gas consumption compared with the previous year due to the milder winter. Electricity consumption and the level of emissions produced have also decreased compared with the previous year. Please see point 4 with regard to the reporting methodology used and the effect on the level of emissions reported.

4 Quantification and Reporting Methodology
We have followed the 2013 UK Government Environmental reporting guidance on how to measure and report greenhouse gas emissions and used the 2018 UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for company reporting.

Please note - the UK Electricity factor is prone to fluctuate from year to year as the fuel mix consumed in power stations and the proportion of imported electricity changes. In 2016 the GHG conversion factors decreased by 11% (compared with the previous year) due to a significant decrease in coal powered generation in 2014 (the inventory year for which the 2016 GHG Conversion factor was derived). In the 2017 GHG Conversion Factors, there was a 15% decrease in the UK electricity CO2e factor compared to the previous year because there was a decrease in coal generation, and an increase in gas and renewables generation, in 2015 (the inventory year for which the 2017 GHG Conversion Factor was derived). In 2018, the CO2e factor has decreased again (compared with 2017) by 19% due to a decrease in coal generation and an increase mainly in natural gas and to a much lower extend renewable generation.

5 Organisational boundary

We have used the financial control approach.

6 Operational scope

We have measured our Scope 1 and 2 emissions and decided not to include the discretionary Scope 3 emissions in this report. The Scope 3 emissions reported relate to the Transmission and distribution of electricity which we are required to report separately from electricity generation (Scope 2). Data is collected from actual billing so minimal activity is estimated.

Breakdown of Scopes 1 – 3					
Scope	**GHG emissions 2018/19 in metric tonnes CO2e**	**Specific exclusions and % this represents for relevant scope (excluding geographic exclusions)**	**% of activity that is estimated**	**GHG emissions 2017/18 in metric tonnes CO2e**	**GHG emissions 2008/09 in metric tonnes CO2e**
Scope 1					
Gas Consumption	407	None	0	462	865
Owned transport	1263	None	0	1282	1001
Process emissions	N/A	Not applicable	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fugitive emissions	N/A	Emissions from air conditioning and refrigeration units in our office buildings have been excluded due to the cost of data collection.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Outside of	N/A		0	N/A	N/A

Scope					
Total Scope 1	1670		0	1744	1866
Scope 2					
Purchased electricity	908	None	2	1211	2351
Total Scope 2	908		2	1211	2351
Scope 3					
Electricity transmission and distribution	77	None	2	113	183
Total Scope 3	77		2	113	183

We have collected data from sites where Thanet District Council is responsible for energy invoices including Car Parks, Crematorium and Cemeteries, Depots, Foreshore, Harbours and Port of Ramsgate, Office Portfolio and Public Conveniences. Social Housing has been excluded. We have used litres of fuel purchased for our vehicle fleet to calculate our transport emissions.

7 Geographic Breakdown
All GHG emissions are produced within the United Kingdom

8 Base Year
Our base year is the financial year of April 2008 to March 2009. Our base year recalculation policy is to recalculate our base year and the prior year emissions for relevant significant changes which meet our significant threshold of 5% of total base year emissions. No recalculations have been undertaken.

9 Targets
Thanet District Council has adopted the Kent Environment Strategy which includes the target to 'Reduce our emissions across the county by 34% by 2020 from a 2012 baseline (2.6% per year)'

10 Intensity measurement
We have chosen to use Tonnes of CO2e per full time TDC employee when considering the emissions produced by our office portfolio. Please note that this Intensity measure has been affected by the transfer of some staff to an external organisation resulting in a reduction of full time employees within our offices whilst the offices have continued to be fully occupied, in part by non TDC staff.

11 External Assurance Statement
No external assurance statement has been sought for this data.

12 Carbon offsets
We have not purchased carbon credits to reduce our GHG emissions.

13 Electricity

Green tariffs - We have not purchased Green Electricity during 2018 - 2019

Renewable Electricity - We generated electricity during this period via photovoltaic panels at our main council offices and the Crematorium. We generated 14530 kWh of electricity (approx.) saving 4.5 tonnes of CO2e. However we did not measure the electricity exported back to the grid so this data is incomplete.