

BARNET: ANNUAL CARBON EMISSIONS REPORTING

SUMMARY

The London Borough of Barnet declared a climate and biodiversity emergency in May 2022, which recognised that urgent action is needed to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss. As part of this emergency, we set out ambitious targets for the organisation to be net zero carbon by 2030. The council undertakes annual emissions monitoring to help track progress against the council’s target.

This report provides a summary of the council’s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reporting process and associated emission in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e). Emissions are calculated for sources across Barnet’s operations is reported against an organisational baseline of 2018/19.

EMISSIONS SUMMARY Annual emissions data reported in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e)		
Source	Baseline 2018/19	2023/24 Emissions (total percentage change)
Natural gas (Scope 1)	919.4	771 (-16.1%)
Vehicle Fleet Fuel Use (Scope 1)	3128.3	3063 (-2.1%)
Fugitive Emissions (Scope 1)	28.5	28.5 (+/-0%)
Purchased Electricity – Streetlighting (Scope 2)	2739.8	755.5 (-72.4%)
Purchased Electricity – Buildings (Scope 2)	616.7	582.6 (-5.5%)
Electricity - transmission and distribution (Scope 3)	373.1	223.7 (-39.9%)
Water (Scope 3)	12	5.4 (-55%)
Travel– Grey Fleet (Scope 3)	176.4	64.7 (-63%)
Total emissions	7994.2	5494.4 (-31.3%)

1. Organisation Information

The London Borough of Barnet is a local authority registered at 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, London NW9 4EW.

All council emissions fall within the UK. Barnet Council is not responsible for emissions in other countries.

2. Reporting period

This report covers emissions from 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024.

3. Baseline year

Barnet has a baseline year of 2018-19. The baseline year was selected as the earliest reporting year with the most robust and comprehensive data set.

4. Measuring and reporting approach

Barnet has a baseline year of 2018-19, and has adopted the Local Government Association's [Greenhouse Gas Accounting Tool](#) in accordance with best practice for local authority Greenhouse Gas Emission reporting. Emissions Scopes have been set by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol - [Homepage | GHG Protocol](#).

5. Organisational boundary

The Council has included all emissions over which the Council has direct operational control (including Operations and Estate).

6. Operational scope: emissions included

The following emission sources have been included in our annual emissions reporting

- Corporate Estate: energy (electricity and natural gas) used to heat and power buildings and the provision of water across buildings owned and operated by the Council. Fugitive emissions from refrigerant gas from air conditioning units and heat pumps.
- Non-building Supplies: energy (electricity) used in the operation of streetlighting.
- Owned Vehicle Fleets: emissions from the operation of Barnet's vehicle fleet as part of the council's operations.

- Grey Fleet Travel: GHG emissions from Barnet Council employees using their own personal vehicles for business travel.

7. Operational scope: emissions excluded

The following emission sources have been excluded from our emissions reporting on the basis that they do not fall within the direct operational control of the Council.

- Residential energy (gas and electricity) from the Council housing stock, managed by the Council's ALMO Barnet Homes: this includes energy that is purchased directly by tenants from energy supply companies.
- Infrastructure Assets: energy (natural gas) used for communal boilers /systems in Council owned properties, managed by the Council's ALMO Barnet Homes; energy (electricity) to power communal supplies, such as elevators and corridor lighting in Council owned properties.
- Solar Photovoltaic Supply: electricity generated and supplied to landlord areas from housing properties owned by the Council, managed by the Council's ALMO Barnet Homes (these are 'carbon neutral' supplies, so have no GHG emissions associated with them).
- Schools' energy (gas and electricity): the Council does not have financial control over the purchase of energy and does not have operational control over how energy is used within school sites.

The following emissions sources have been excluded based on a lack of available data

- Waste arisings from council sites and operations
- Employee commuting
- Homeworking

8. Recalculation policy

- Any significant changes to our organisational operational boundary (e.g. acquisitions, divestitures or outsourcing) may trigger a recalculation of our baseline emissions in line with government greenhouse gas emissions guidance.

9. Changes in emissions

For the current reporting year, the council has seen a reduction of 30.4% in total gross emissions from the baseline year. The change in emissions can be attributed to:

- A 16.14% reduction in Scope 1 gas heating emissions in council buildings, driven by delivery of energy efficiency measures and as a result of behavioural change, as well as an increase in homeworking since the original baseline year.
- A 72.41% reduction in Scope 2 Streetlighting emissions, driven by transitioning all Street Lights to low consumption LED bulbs.
- A 63.07% reduction in Scope 3 Grey Fleet emissions as a result of changing organisational cultures and reduced business travel.

REPORTING HISTORY Emissions data reported in tonnes of CO2 equivalent (tCO2e) – all years

Year	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total Emissions	Change vs Baseline
18-19	4076.2	3356.4	561.5	7994.1	N/A
19-20	4212	3024.6	528.4	7765.1	-2.9%
20-21	3976.8	1740	319.6	6036.4	-22.3%
21-22	4065.4	1391.5	271.1	5728.0	-28.3%
22-23	3952.5	1234.6	263.8	5450.9	-31.8%
23-24	3862.7	1338.1	293.7	5566.0	-31.3%