

Statement on sustainable growth

2021-22



Scottish Information
Commissioner

Sustainable growth

Introduction

1. The Commissioner is committed to improving efficiency in how we function as an organisation and in how the office is managed. Under our [Environmental Policy](#) we aspire to improve our environmental performance and to protect the environment by reducing pollution and resource consumption and operating in a manner that supports and encourages biodiversity.
2. Under the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010, Section 32(1)(a), as soon as practicable after the end of each financial year, we must publish a statement of the steps we have taken during that financial year to promote and increase sustainable growth through the exercise of our functions. This document is the Commissioner's published statement on sustainable growth for 2021-22.





Sustainable Growth

3. The Commissioner's primary function is to enforce and promote Scotland's freedom of information legislation. Promoting and increasing sustainable growth is a challenge as we are a small, single site organisation. However, our office can make a direct contribution to sustainability through the management of its carbon footprint.

Carbon footprint

4. Our CO₂ emissions have reduced by 64.10% since we established our baseline figure in 2007-08.
5. As we are a small, single-site organisation, these figures illustrate the limited scope available to us to promote and increase sustainable growth. We remain committed to managing and, where possible, reducing further our carbon footprint and will continue to seek ways to do so.

Summary of Performance 2021-22

| Area | Performance 2021/22 | Status |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Total CO ₂ Emissions | There has been a 64.10% reduction in CO ₂ emissions from the 2007/08 baseline |  |
| Building Energy | Emissions from energy consumption from gas and electricity in the building have reduced by 57.07% from the 2007/08 baseline |  |
| Transport and Travel | Business travel emissions have reduced by 100% since the 2007/08 baseline. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted our business mileage as all meetings have been held online via videoconferencing. |  |
| Recycling | Due to remote working during the COVID-19 pandemic all our work has been online, therefore reducing the need for paper. These changes in working practices have therefore reduced our carbon footprint by 1.13 tonnes of CO ₂ e from pre-pandemic working. |  |

Performance Breakdown 2021-22

| Area | Actual Performance 2021-22 | Target Performance 2021-22 |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Total CO2 emissions | 20.98 tonnes CO2 | 40.5 tonnes CO2 |
| Building Utilities (gas & electricity) | 20.73 tonnes CO2 | n/a |
| Business travel | 0.00 tonnes CO2 | n/a |
| Paper waste sent for recycling | 0.13 tonnes CO2 | n/a |
| Other | 0.12 tonnes CO2 | n/a |

Core Sustainability Report 2021-22

| Greenhouse Gas: Energy in building | | | 2007-08 Baseline | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Non-financial indicators | Emissions (tonnes CO2) | Gas | 31.20 | 18.94 | 14.84 | 17.76 |
| | | Electricity | 17.10 | 8.00 | 2.95 | 2.97 |
| | Energy consumption (kWh) | Gas | 151214 | 92638 | 7074 | 8462 |
| | | Electricity | 32772 | 19415 | 12635 | 12751 |
| Financial Indicators | Cost per financial year | Gas | £5,329 | £3,900 | £2,916 | £3,044 |
| | | Electricity | £5,815 | £3,433 | £2,825 | £2,017 |

| Greenhouse Gas: Business Travel | | | 2007-08 Baseline | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Non-financial indicators | Emissions (tonnes CO2) | Flights | 7.23 | 2.44 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Bus | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Car | 1.33 | 0.37 | 0.07 | 0 |
| | | Train | 0.88 | 1.04 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Taxi | 0.041 | 0.01 | 0 | 0 |
| | Mileage (Miles) | Flights | 38024 | 18948 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Bus | 0 | 76.5 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Car | 4101 | 1159 | 244 | 0 |
| | | Train | 9169 | 13344 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Taxi | 155 | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| Financial Indicators | Cost per financial year | All Business Travel | £11,884 | £7,731 | £0 | £0 |

| Greenhouse Gas: Paper Waste Recycling | | | 2007-08 Baseline | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Non-financial indicators | Emissions (tonnes CO2) | Paper waste | 0.59 | 1.51 | 0.38 | 0.38 |
| | Paper Weight (kg) | Paper waste | 465 | 1200 | 300 | 300 |
| Financial Indicators | Cost per financial year | | £227 | £2,150 | £169 | £179 |

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