London Borough of Camden's Carbon Footprint report for 2022/23

Preface

The council's Carbon Footprint report covers Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions from its estate and operations.

The report does not consider emissions from council owned housing assets and other commercial buildings that are leased by the council. The council uses the UK Government Greenhouse Gas conversion factors for company reporting to calculate emissions in Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e) emissions from its estate and operations.

The council's approach to reducing emissions from its estate and operations is defined by its Carbon Management Plan. The Carbon Management Plan sets out the council's approach to measuring, managing, and reducing emissions from the council's estate and operations.

Carbon emissions and energy use for 2022/23

The council has continued to reduce its emissions from its estate and operations in 2022/23, with Figure 1 showing that carbon emissions now stand at 12,412 t/CO_2e. This represents a 63% reduction in emissions since 2009/10 and a 12% reduction when compared to carbon emissions in the previous reporting year of 2021/22.

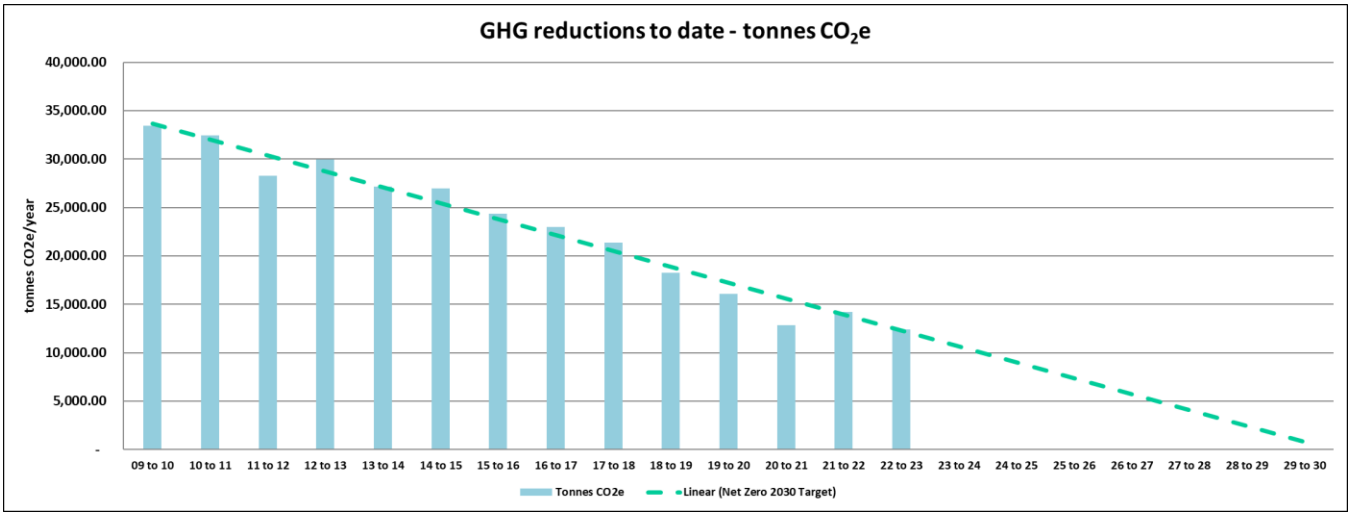

Figure 1 : GHG reductions to date

Figure 2 shows carbon emissions profiled across all sectors that contribute towards the council's emission footprint. Across most sectors, a reduction in carbon emissions has been experienced. The largest reductions in carbon emissions were associated with Hostel and Estate Amenities, Leisure Centres and Schools where emissions have fallen by 20%, 19% and 16% respectively when compared to the previous year.

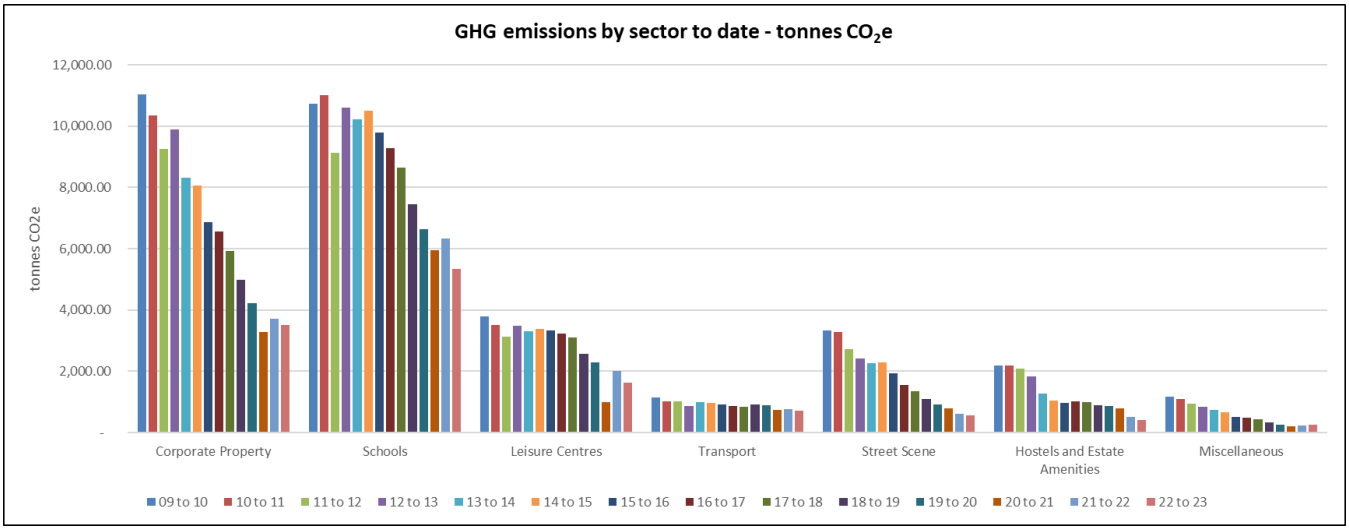

Figure 2 : GHG emissions by sector to date

Across Hostels and Estate Amenities, emission reductions were linked to reduced gas use across some of the estate and the disposal of Chester House and Youth House hostels. Across Leisure Centres, emission reductions were linked to a combined heat and power unit being out of operation at Swiss Cottage Leisure Centre, whilst at Oasis Leisure Centre a closure to an indoor pool resulted in a reduced demand for electricity and gas. The reduction in emissions from Schools was largely linked to a reduction in gas use across buildings.

Smaller reductions in emissions were experienced across the council's Corporate Property, Transport and Street Scene sectors. Across Corporate Property, there was a reduction in heating demand from the Kings Cross district heating network that supplies the council's head office at 5 Pancras Square and a reduction in energy use at Swiss Cottage Library, which was undergoing refurbishment across the 2022/23 reporting year. A few sites, including depots at Jamestown Road and Arlington Road, were disposed which contributed towards the overall reduction in emissions from this sector.

Street Scene continued to benefit from the roll-out of 7,500 LED streetlights, with emissions continuing to reduce in line with the decarbonisation of the National Grid. On Transport, there was a reduction in diesel and petrol use across the fleet with some of this fuel use being displaced with Biomethane CNG.

The pie chart in Figure 3 shows that 84% of carbon emissions are linked to operational energy use across three sectors that include Schools, Corporate Property, and Leisure Centres. The dominance of these sectors within the emission profile remains similar to 2021/22, with only small changes to percentages in sectors to report.

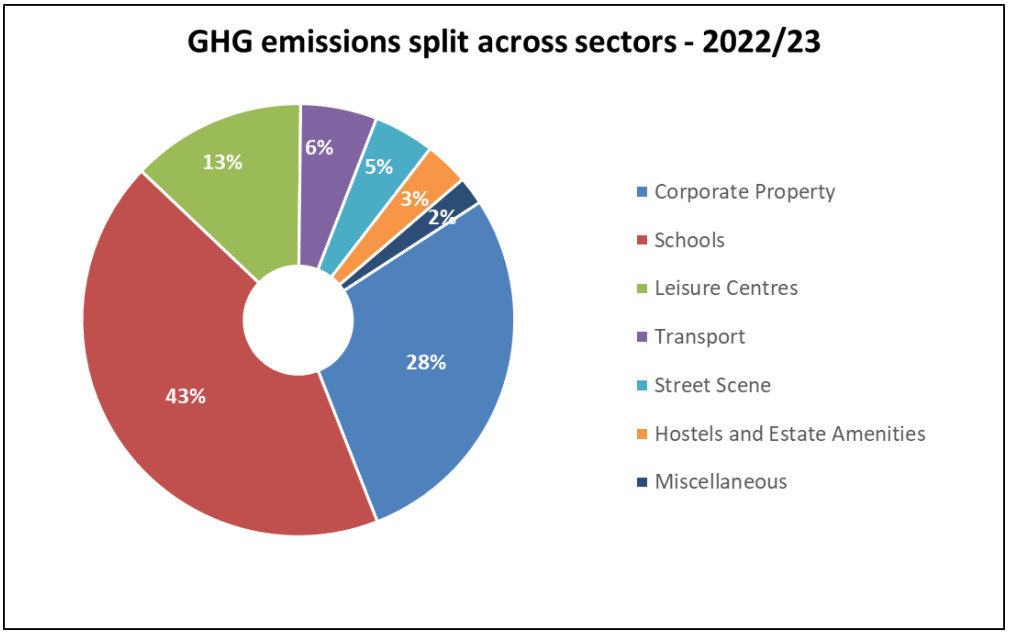

Figure 3 : GHG emissions split across sectors 2022/23

Figure 4 displays energy consumption in kilowatt hours (kWhrs) across the council's estate and operations and considers the contribution of each fuel source towards the council's energy mix. In 2022/23 there was a small increase in electricity use, whilst gas use fell by 19%. Overall, energy use has fallen by 43% based on 2009/10 levels. When compared against previous year positions, the reduction in energy use in 2022/23 was 10%.

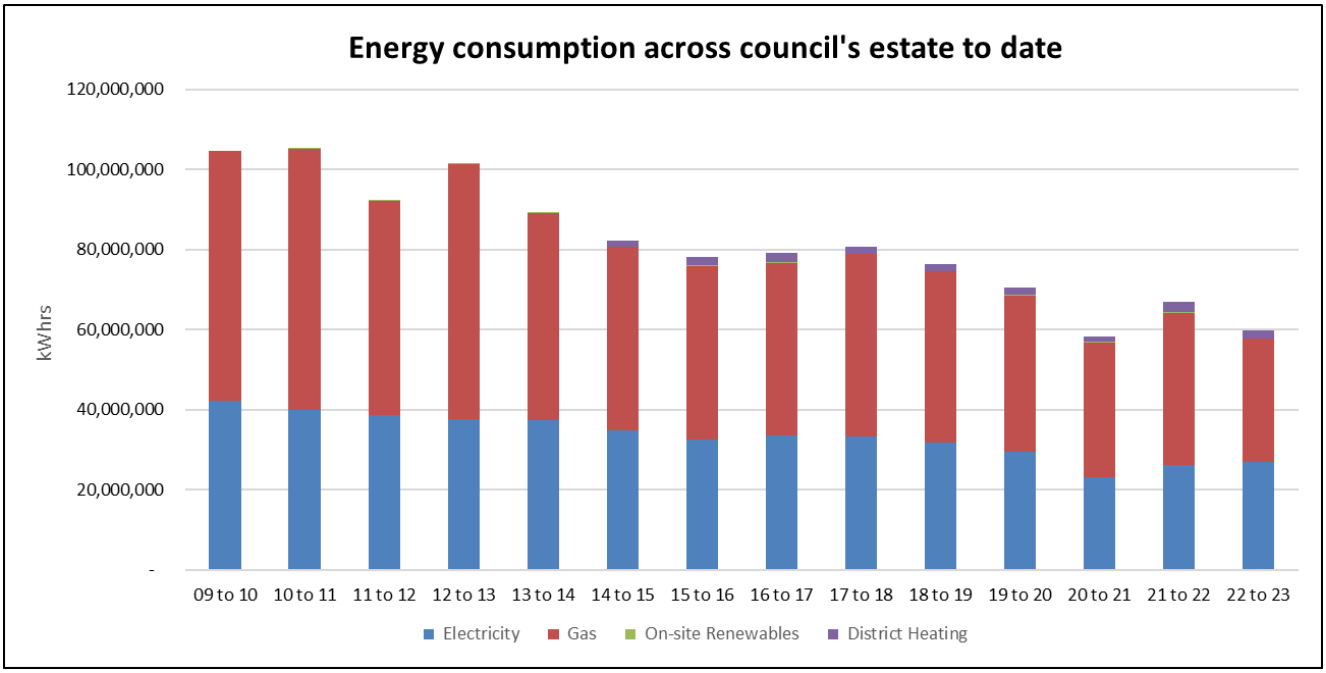

Figure 4 : Energy consumption across council's estate 2009 to date

Looking ahead to 2023/24

Building on the success of the council's previous Carbon Management Programme which achieved a 52% reduction against a 40% emission reduction target by 2020, the Council has developed an updated Carbon Management Plan which has set in place a plan for delivering carbon emission reductions across its estate and operations up to 2030, with a focus on improving energy efficiency across buildings and displacing fossil fuel use in buildings.

Projects that have been delivered and are currently in delivery to enact the plan are outlined below:

Projects completed in 2022/23

- At Swiss Cottage Library, we have installed roof and wall insulation, ventilation improvements, double glazing, LED lighting and heat pumps with the aim of reducing carbon emissions by more than 138t/CO_2e per annum.
- The refurbishment of Camden Town Hall has introduced secondary double glazing, improved insulation, and heat pumps. The works are expected to reduce carbon emissions by 335t/CO_2e per annum.

Projects in delivery

- At Acland Burghley School and Eleanor Palmer Primary School, measures including heat pumps, LED lighting, draught proofing and building energy management systems have been installed to improve energy efficiency. The projects are expected to save 45 t/CO_2e per annum and will be delivered by January 2024.
- Energy efficiency improvements across four Corporate Properties including Highgate Library, Netherwood Youth Centre, West Hampstead Library and Waterlow Park Visitor Centre. The projects aim to replace fossil fuel use heating with heat pumps with energy efficiency measures including LED lighting, glazing upgrades and Insulation also being delivered across some sites. The projects are expected to save more than 75 t/CO_2e per annum and will be delivered by March 2025.
- Energy efficiency improvements across Kingsgate Upper School and Hampstead School. The projects will include the provision of heat pumps and loft insulation. The scope for Hampstead School also includes LED lighting, double glazing, and solar energy. The projects are expected save 228 t/CO_2e per annum and will be delivered by March 2025.
- Energy efficiency improvements at Brookfield Primary School including the provision of new insulation, double glazing, mechanical ventilation improvements and solar energy. The project is expected to save 24 t/CO_2e per annum once complete.
- The Camden Accessible Transport Solutions team is also developing a Greening the Fleet strategy. The project's focus is on developing a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Camden's fleet of 300+ vehicles in the years to 2030.

The 2022/23 GHG report, will be published on the Council's website, submitted to Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and included in the next annual review of Camden's Climate Action Plan https://www.camden.gov.uk/how-are-we-tackling-the-climate-crisis-in-camden.