

# Carbon Report 2023/24

The Council has an ambition to become 'net zero carbon' in its own operations by 2030, as expressed in its 'Climate Change: Statement of Intent'. The Council has been taking carbon management action for over a decade.

This report illustrates the Council's carbon management journey, focusing on carbon emissions in the 2023/24 financial year. In addition to this report, the Council maintains the Net Zero Carbon Council Plan, which sets out how it aims to meet its 2030 ambition.

## Solihull Council's Carbon Dioxide Emissions in 2023/2024 Financial Year

	Net Tonnes	Change from baseline year 2009/10	Change from last year 2022/23
<b>Total Net Emissions</b>	<b>3999</b>	<b>down 79%</b>	<b>down 10%</b>
<b>Corporate Properties</b>	2278	down 64%	down 9%
<b>Leisure Centres</b>	1484	down 32%	Up 6%
<b>Street lighting</b>	Zero	100%	N/A
<i>Gross Tonnes</i>	<i>1058</i>	<i>down 86%</i>	<i>Up 5%</i>
<b>Strategic Environment Contract (SEC)</b>	237	down 92%	down 57%
<i>Gross Tonnes</i>	<i>1489</i>	<i>down 50%</i>	<i>down 18%</i>

## Scope of this report

- **Corporate Buildings** - owned & operated by the Council
- **Leisure Centres** - owned by the Council & operated on its behalf by Everyone Active.
- **Street Lighting** - main & minor roads in Solihull Borough.
- **Strategic Environment Contract (SEC)** - municipal waste & recycling collections, street cleansing & grounds maintenance (e.g. grass cutting) operated on behalf of the Council by Veolia using council owned vehicles.

Work is underway to assess carbon emissions from other sources such as: Council fleet, school transport, staff travel, council maintained schools, council contracts e.g. highways contract & other council procurement, emissions from Solihull Community Housing operations and waste & water related emissions. The aim is to determine a robust reporting approach wherever possible.

## Net & Gross Carbon Emissions

Net carbon emissions are total carbon emissions, taking into account the balance between the amount of emissions produced and the amount removed from the atmosphere. Gross emissions are those that result at point of use (for fuel) or, for electricity, that are emitted by the production of grid electricity.

## Carbon emission changes 2022/23 to 2023/24:

- **Corporate Buildings** - reduction in emissions due to building portfolio reduction & temporary closure of buildings for refurbishment / works e.g. The Core theatre. (Long term reduction also due to energy efficiency measures.)
- **Leisure Centres** - increase in emissions due to increase in gas consumption. (Long term reduction due to energy efficiency measures.)
- **Street Lighting** - since 2020 the Council's street lighting has been on a 'Green' tariff, with the electricity purchased generated by wind, solar & wave power. The electricity used is therefore classed as zero carbon. The increase in gross emissions from last year is due to an increase in carbon intensity of grid electricity for 2023. (Long term reduction in emissions due to energy efficiency measures.)
- **Strategic Environment Contract (SEC)** - reduction due to first full year using Hydro-treated Vegetable Oil (low carbon bio fuel) to fuel vehicles & also vehicle energy efficiency improvements.

