

GOSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL'S CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY 2020-2023

FOREWORD

'It is widely accepted that global temperatures are rising and that there are more severe weather events. Climate Change will have an impact on people's lives, especially the most vulnerable citizens and future generations.

Gosport Borough Council intends to continue on the work it began in 2008 in seeking to reduce emissions, mitigate the impact and adapt to Climate Change. The Borough Council has now set a carbon reduction target for its own operations and will work with the community, and with our partners in Hampshire, towards achieving the goal of carbon neutrality by 2050. The Council will aim to achieve this goal (for its own operations) well ahead of the target date of 2050 set in the Climate Change Act, and as soon as practicably possible, while taking account of the cost/benefit aspect of all measures adopted and of the resources available to implement plans of action.

In line with national trends Gosport has a good track record in respect of per capita reduction in carbon emissions. However, everyone, at global, national, regional level and across our Borough at a local level, has a role to play in addressing Climate Change. Changes in collective and individual behaviours will also be needed as we all take this work forward. The prize is that, in meeting the challenge that a changing climate may bring, many of the measures to mitigate and adapt may offer multiple benefits and opportunities for Gosport residents and businesses - for example improved air quality, enhanced green spaces, better health and wellbeing, greater resilience, infrastructure incorporating modern and more efficient technology, reduced fuel bills, and the creation of a more sustainable future'.

Cllr Bateman

Councillor Piers Bateman, Chairman of the Climate Change Working Group,

CONTEXT

The climate is changing on a scale and at a pace that needs an urgent response at the global, national and local level by governments, communities, businesses and individuals.

The Climate Change Act outlines the duty to reduce UK greenhouse gas emissions by 100% in 2050 compared to the 1990 baseline. It also established the National Adaptation Programme which identifies high priority risk areas requiring more action: flooding and coastal change, high temperatures, water shortages, natural capital, food production and pests and disease.

GOSPORT'S CARBON EMISSIONS

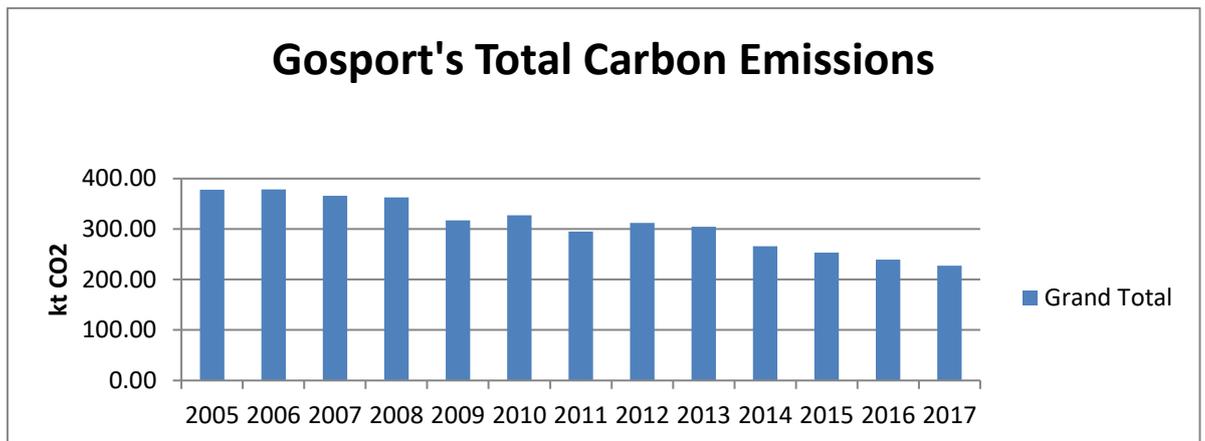
The Government Data source (UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005-2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/final-uk-greenhouse-gas-emissions-national-statistics#2019>) produces area based carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions data, primary exclusions being aviation, shipping, military transport, imported goods and lifestyle emissions (due to daily activities/consumption).

This CO2 emissions data shows a reduction for Gosport (geographical Borough area) of over 40% in the period 2005-2017. As at 2017, Gosport's emissions levels per capita are shown to be significantly less than other Hampshire Districts and less than a majority of local authorities across the UK.

This data for Gosport is shown below:

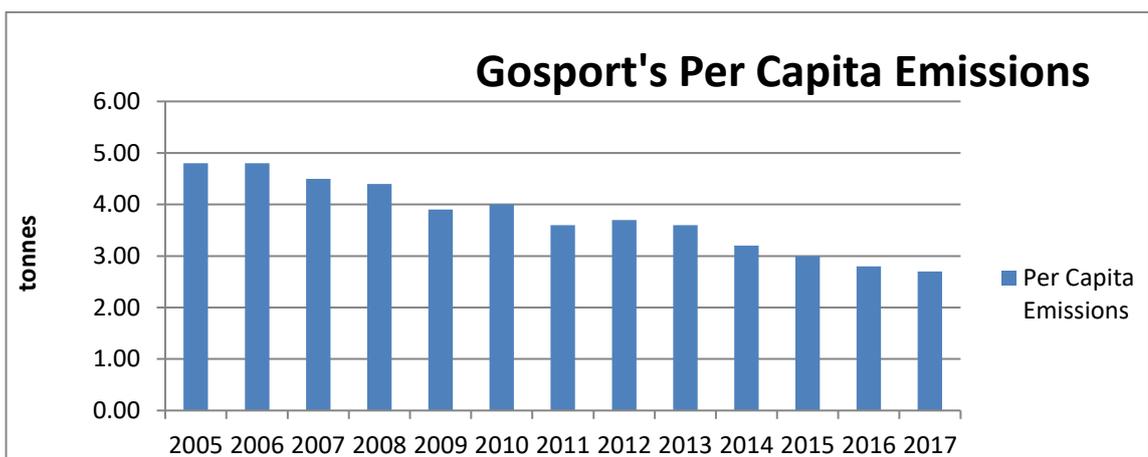
- Gosport's Total Carbon Emissions**

Gosport's total emissions have reduced from 378 kt CO2 in 2005 to 227 kt CO2 in 2017, a 40% reduction. This follows the national pattern of a 38%¹ reduction primarily due to a reduction in the use of coal for electricity, reduced fuel consumption by businesses/industry, reduced electricity use, fewer miles driven and more efficient vehicles.



- Gosport's Per Capita carbon emissions 2005-2017**

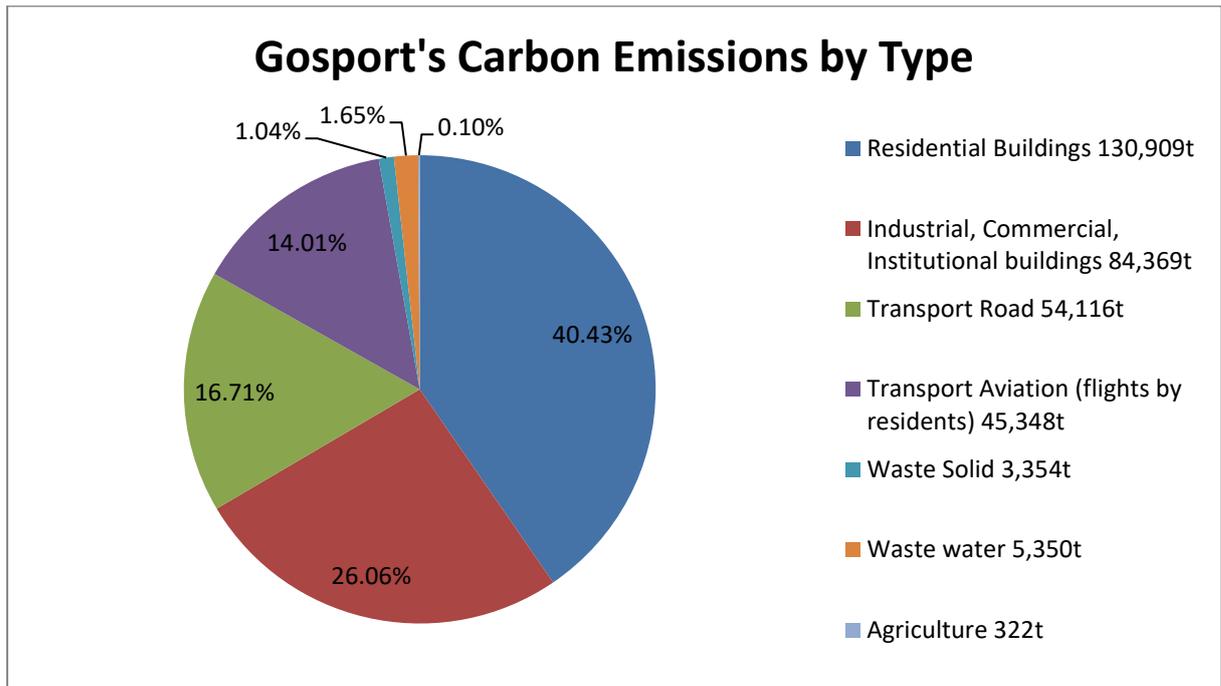
Gosport's per capita emissions have reduced from 4.8t in 2005 to 2.27t 2017, a 53% reduction. This follows the national pattern reduction primarily due to a reduction in the use of coal for electricity, reduced fuel consumption by businesses/industry, reduced electricity use, fewer miles driven and more efficient vehicles.



¹ 2017 Uk Greenhouse Gas Emissions Provisional Figures Dept. for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
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- **Gosport's Carbon Emissions by type:**

This information has been produced using the SCATTER Tool: Setting City Area Targets and Trajectories for Emissions Reduction. This tool has been developed in collaboration between the Anthesis Group, Nottingham City Council, Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy, Greater Manchester Combined Authority and the Tyndall Centre for Climate Research at the University of Manchester, to support local authorities measure greenhouse gas emissions for an area and build carbon reduction plans <https://scattercities.com/> .



Gosport's CO2 Budget

The Tyndall Centre Climate Budget Tool <https://carbonbudget.manchester.ac.uk/> uses government data. It helps local authorities understand the area-wide carbon reductions required to meet the Paris Accord 2 degree limit and frames and scale and urgency of climate change action. It calculates a 'CO2 budget' for each area and this indicates that, at the 2017 rate of emissions, Gosport will use its entire budget to 2100 by 2020.

Gosport Borough Council Carbon Emissions ²

Gosport Borough Council Scope 1 and 2 emissions are shown below (2019/2020) and are subject to the carbon neutral target. Scope 3 emissions (such as procurement, water and business travel) are not shown but activity will also be undertaken to reduce their carbon impact and improve sustainability. Figures are shown in tonnes of CO2 equivalent for period 1 April 2019- 31 March 2020.

² Scope 1 includes direct emissions from owned or controlled sources (fuel and company vehicles) and Scope 2 includes indirect emissions from purchase of energy. Note Scope 3 emissions not included (purchased goods and services, business travel and employee commuting: all other direct emissions in a company's value chain).

Fuel – 17.23 tCO₂e



Diesel -8.14 tCO₂e
Petrol-9.09 tCO₂e

Gas – 312.35 tCO₂e



Electricity – 330.86 tCO₂e



Street lighting- .249 tCO₂e



PV Export/Green Tariff- 13184 kWh generated, 3.37 tCO₂e, approx. 50% sold back to the grid.



GOSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL'S CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENT

Gosport Borough Council's target is:

- *to be carbon neutral for its own operations (for emissions scope 1 & 2) by 2050 or sooner and*
- *to encourage residents and businesses to support and adopt measures towards the goal of carbon neutrality*

The Council has a number of key roles and in respect of each will adopt the following approach:

- **As a Service Provider/Commissioner**

Ensuring services take into account greenhouse gas emissions and the impacts of Climate Change.

- **As an Estate Manager**

Facilitating effective management of buildings, energy and land to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote bio-diversity.

- **As a Planning Authority**

Promoting, through the Local Development Framework, sustainable communities, low carbon lifestyles and higher environmental standards with greater resilience to Climate Change.

- **As a Policy Maker**

Making mitigation and adaptation to Climate Change central in strategies, policies and plans.

- **As a purchaser of goods and services**

Recognising carbon neutrality as a key consideration in purchasing and procurement decisions.

- **As a Community Leader**

Working in partnership, promoting a low carbon economy, low carbon lifestyles and resilience to Climate Change.

COUNCIL AREAS OF FOCUS

The Council will focus on:

- Reducing its carbon emissions and carbon footprint
- Promoting sustainable communities, reducing flood risk, low carbon lifestyles, encouraging higher environmental standards, improving biodiversity, increasing green infrastructure and securing resilience to Climate Change.
- Working in partnership to encourage residents and businesses to support and adopt measures towards the goal of carbon neutrality.
- Working with Hampshire County Council, Hampshire district councils, the wider public sector and businesses to procure support, best practice, co-ordination, legislative change and funding as appropriate to support plans of action for Gosport.

WAY FORWARD

This strategy provides an assessment of carbon emissions, commitment and strategic direction. An action plan, driven by this strategy, will be developed and refreshed annually, underpinned by a number of existing plans/strategies already in place.

Actions will be prioritised based on business cases which will consider impact (including ‘the law of unintended consequences’) cost and benefit and be implemented as soon as practical.

The Council’s formal decision making processes will prioritise potential carbon emissions and Climate Change impacts.

The Council’s procurement policy will recognise carbon neutrality and whole life assessments as key considerations.

The Council recognises that, subject to its duty to exercise financial prudence, resources (financial and staffing), will need to be committed in order to prepare and deliver the action plans arising under this Strategy. It is acknowledged that ‘upfront’ costs may be higher but that it is often more economically effective to implement plans to mitigate and adapt on an ‘early intervention’ basis

The Carbon Reduction Hierarchy of reduce (avoid energy use, energy efficiency and redesign of products/services), replace (renewable energy, clean/efficiency fuel technology) and neutralise (off set unavoidable carbon emissions) will inform decisions and activity.

Governance of this strategy will be provided by the cross party Climate Change Working Group which will review and monitor its effectiveness. This Group will provide a ‘horizon scanning

mechanism' for strategic issues by taking into account new legislation/guidance, best practice, new technologies, research findings, views and feedback. The Working Group will support the Council in lobbying as appropriate at the regional and national level.

This Strategy is for a three year period with an annual action plan. It will be refreshed in the interim if and when necessary.