

## Chelmsford City Council Green House Gas report 2024/25

### 1.1 Climate change and Chelmsford City Council

Chelmsford City Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency in July 2019.

Information on the Council's action plan and creating a greener Chelmsford can be found by visiting [www.loveyourchelmsford.gov.uk](http://www.loveyourchelmsford.gov.uk)

### 1.2 Outline of key risks to organisation from climate change

In the future the City Chelmsford will experience warmer and wetter winters, hotter and drier summers, and more severe weather events. By the 2080's average summer temperatures in the South East of England could rise by up to 3.9°C and there could be a 23% reduction in average summer rainfall. <sup>1</sup>

The Council and its operations will be subjected to risks as a result of Climate Change. Some of these risks may include:

- Risks to Public Health from hotter summers and severe weather events (example increased pests, diseases, excessively hot and cold homes and workplaces)
- Risks to buildings from excess heating and extreme weather events (example cracking in surfaces from excess heat or freeze thaw action and localised flooding)
- Risks to infrastructure; utilities, highways and public transport from extreme weather
- Risks to supply chain from climate disruption leading to negative market impacts

### 2.1 Data report

Scope	Baseline 2018/19 (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	2024/25 (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Reduction (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	% Reduction
Scope 1	3,896	2,036	1,860	47.74%
Scope 2	1,638	1,087	551	33.63%
Scope 3	71	30	41	57.75%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,605</b>	<b>3,153</b>	<b>2,452</b>	<b>43.75%</b>

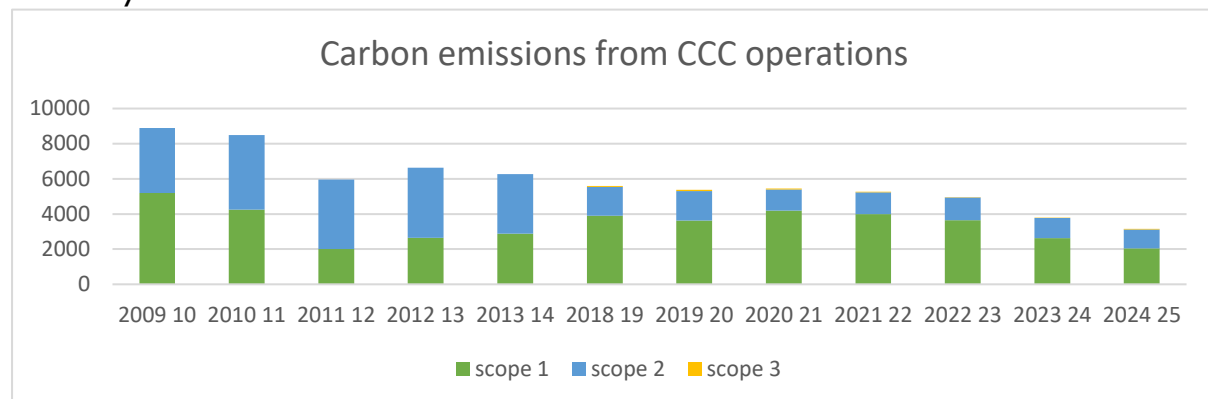
Table 1: Chelmsford City Council emissions by emissions scope

### 2.2 Reporting period

This report covers all emissions from Chelmsford City Council sources between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

## 2.3 Change in emissions

Emissions have now fallen by 17% compared to the previous year and 43.7% against the baseline year.



## 2.4 Comment on change in emissions

When compared to the previous year

- **Scope 1:** The most significant reduction (–595 tonnes), largely due to:
  - Decreased use of **heating oil** and **diesel**.
  - Increased reliance on **low-emission biodiesel/HVO**.
- **Scope 2:** A modest reduction (–52 tonnes), reflecting improved **electricity efficiency** or reduced consumption. This reduction equates to approximately 525,000kWh.
- **Scope 3:** Slight increase (+1 tonne), likely due to marginally higher **business travel**

When compared to the baseline year 2018/19:

- **Scope 1** emissions nearly halved, driven by major reductions in diesel and heating oil use.
- **Scope 2** emissions dropped by a third, due to improved energy efficiency and no longer needing to account for electricity generated by the CHP unit at Riverside Ice and Leisure Centre.
- **Scope 3** has seen the largest percentage drop, though it represents a smaller share of total emissions.

### 3.1 Approach

The following information has been used to compile this report

Emissions source					
Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Carbon offsets	Energy purchased from green tariffs	Intensity measurement
Gas consumption data from energy supplier	Electricity consumption data from electricity suppliers and meter read information.	Car business mileage data from employee mileage claims	Chelmsford City Council does not offset its emissions	Fuel supply mix from electricity suppliers	Number of Full time equivalent (FTE) staff employed on 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025
Heating Oil data from delivery data					
Owned transport fuel consumption from fuel delivery data					

N. B Process and fugitive emissions are not included

### 3.2 Organisational boundary

This report does not include emissions from properties owned by Chelmsford City Council but occupied by a third party where the tenant receives energy bills directly.

This report does not include emissions from buildings where Chelmsford City Council is the tenant and the landlord pays energy bills directly. This is known as the financial control approach.

The report does not include the electricity generated by the Council's solar PV arrays.

Electricity used to charge Council operated electric vehicles is taken from the Council's existing supplies and not counted separately.

Electricity generated by the Council's Combined Heat and Power plant is not counted; instead the gas used to generate the electricity is included in the gas consumption data as per best practice guidance.

### **3.3. Intensity Measurement**

We have chosen "Number of employees on the last day of the reporting year" as our common metric against which to measure our emissions. This is the number of full-time equivalent staff employees, excluding casual staff.

## **4. Carbon Offsetting**

Chelmsford City Council does not purchase carbon offsets. Instead, it invests money into improving the efficiency of its current building stock and operational practices.

## **5. Report verification**

This report aims to be transparent about the energy sources and green house gas emissions used by Chelmsford City Council. The report is checked by our internal audit team before publication.

Green house Gas conversion figures are taken from the [Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2024 - GOV.UK](#)

Any questions regarding the content or methodology relating to this report should be submitted via an online enquiry from the Council's homepage at [Chelmsford.gov.uk](https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk)

### **Sources**

I [Adapting to climate change: A guide to local councils \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)