

London Borough of Camden Carbon Footprint report for 2024/25

Preface

This report summarises greenhouse gas emissions associated with Camden Council's estate and operations for the 2024/25 financial year and outlines progress towards the Council's carbon reduction targets.

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

The report does not include emissions from Council-owned housing assets or commercial buildings that are leased to third parties. The Council uses the [UK Government Greenhouse Gas conversion factors for company reporting](#) to calculate its carbon footprint in Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions from its estate and operations.

A detailed explanation of the method the Council uses to calculate its carbon footprint is attached as an appendix to this report.

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 2024/25

The Council has continued to reduce its emissions from its estate and operations in 2024/25, with Figure 1 showing that carbon emissions now stand at 11,785 tCO₂e. This represents a 64.7% reduction in emissions since 2009/10.

Despite completing decarbonisation projects, such as at Highgate Library which led to a 26.6 tCO₂e reduction in emissions, the Council's overall carbon footprint reductions were limited due to several factors.

These factors include the return to full operation of the Town Hall which had been undergoing refurbishment. Although the property's heating system has now been decarbonised, there was an increase in electricity consumption directly related to the additional occupancy of the building. In addition, there were some cases of underbilling in the previous financial year which was then added on to this year's consumption figures. This included large sites such as schools.

Within the 2024/25 financial year, the Council installed a new compressed natural gas (CNG) filling station at York Way Depot. The new installation will lead to reduced carbon emissions from transport as well as an improvement in air quality. However, the additional load on the York Way Depot gas supply increased consumption on site.

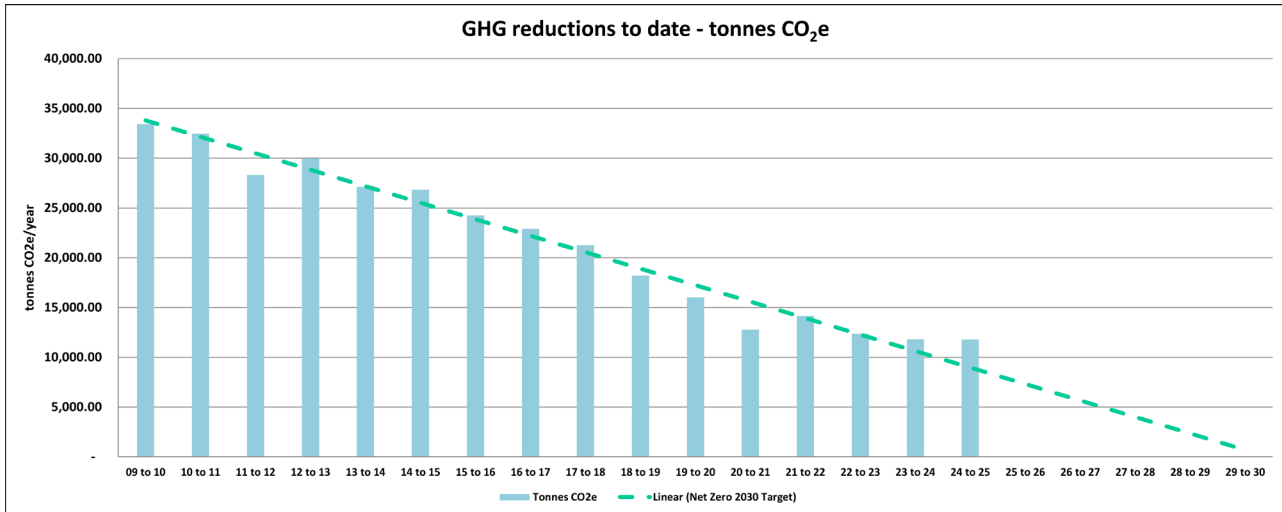


Figure 1 : GHG reductions to date

Figure 2 shows carbon emissions profiled across all sectors that contribute towards the Council's emission footprint. The largest reduction in carbon emissions was associated with Street Scene and Corporate Property which have fallen by 7.9% and 3.5% respectively.

The largest increase in emissions was from Miscellaneous which rose by 12.6%. There was also an increase of 4% for Leisure Centres.

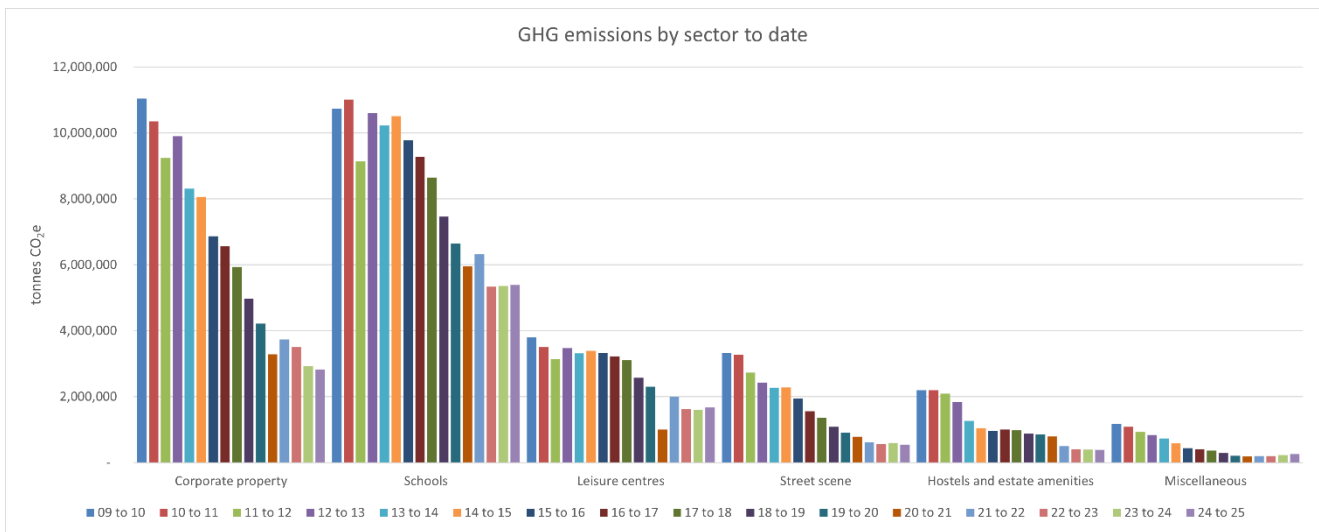


Figure 2 : GHG emissions by sector to date

For Corporate Property, emission reductions were primarily linked to the improved efficiency of the Kings Cross Heat Network which serves Camden's Head Office at 5 Pancras Square.

In addition, there was a 14.5% reduction in emissions from Camden's libraries, the majority of this can be attributed to recent decarbonisation works at Swiss Cottage and Highgate Libraries.

Despite these improvements, overall Corporate Property reductions were constrained by an increase in consumption at other sites. A major contributor to this was the reopening of the Town Hall to full capacity.

Increased emissions categorised as Miscellaneous are due to continued underestimated billing issues at Charlie Ratchford Court in 2024/25. This issue resulted in energy consumption being billed in 2024/25 which was carried over from previous years.

The pie chart in Figure 3 shows that 89% 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 has increased by 6% in comparison to 2023/24.

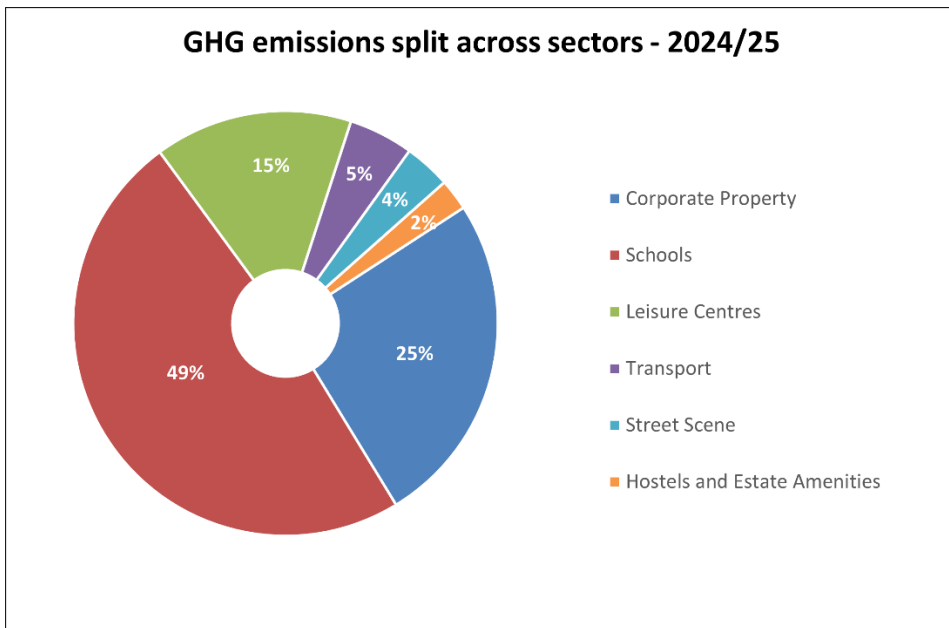


Figure 3 : GHG emissions split across sectors 2023/24

Figure 4 displays energy consumption in kilowatt hours (kWh) across the Council's estate and operations (excluding Transport) and considers the contribution of each fuel source towards the Council's energy mix. In 2024/25 there was a 0.5% increase in electricity use, whilst gas use increased by 1.5%. Overall, energy use has fallen by 45% based on 2009/10 levels. When compared against 2023/24, there was a 1% increase in energy use in 2024/25.

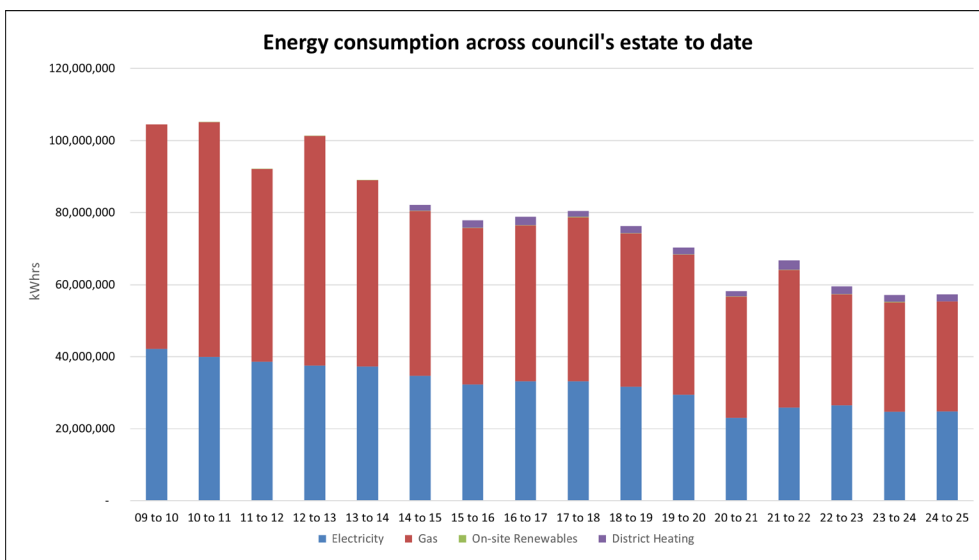


Figure 4 : Energy consumption across Council's estate 2009 to date

Looking ahead to 2025/26

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 developed an updated Carbon Management Plan which 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 and replacing fossil fuel use in buildings.

Projects that were delivered in 2024/25 or which are currently in delivery to enact the plan are outlined below:

Projects completed in 2024/25

- Highgate Library retrofit was completed in November 2024, delivering energy efficiency upgrades including insulation, glazing improvements, enhanced ventilation, solar panels, and air source heat pumps. The project achieved a 26.6 tCO₂e reduction in its first year of operation.
- Energy efficiency upgrades at Netherwood Youth Centre, West Hampstead Library, and Waterlow Park Visitor Centre have also been completed. These projects replaced fossil-fuel heating systems with air source heat pumps and introduced measures such as LED lighting, improved glazing, insulation, and solar panels. Together, they are expected to save over 86 tCO₂e annually.
- Solar arrays were installed at Regent's High School and Parliament Hill School in September 2024, delivered in partnership with Power Up North London. These installations are forecast to deliver more than 30 tCO₂e savings per year.
- Hampstead School has completed a major energy efficiency improvement programme, including air source heat pumps, loft insulation, LED lighting, double glazing, and solar PV. The works are estimated to reduce emissions by approximately 116 tCO₂e per year.
- Brookfield Primary School is nearing completion of its retrofit programme, which includes new insulation, double glazing, improved mechanical ventilation, and solar energy systems. Once complete, the project is expected to save around 24 tCO₂e annually.
- The Camden Accessible Transport Solutions team has developed a Greening the Fleet Strategy, setting out a roadmap to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Camden's 300+ vehicle fleet by 2030.

Current Projects

- Decarbonisation works are underway at Talacre Community Sports Centre. The project will install air source heat pumps and LED lighting and is due for completion in March 2026. The project is expected to lead to 25 tCO₂e savings per annum.
- Energy efficiency improvement works are due to begin shortly at Spectrum Centre. The works will include the installation of air source heat pumps, roof insulation, double glazing and LED lighting. The project is expected to lead to 30 tCO₂e savings per annum.
- The Council is currently procuring consultants to develop detailed designs for retrofit works at Brecknock Primary School and Langtry Children's Centre. The retrofit will include the installation of air source heat pumps and other energy efficiency measures. The projects are expected to lead to 86 tCO₂e savings per annum.

- Decarbonisation works will also take place at Kentish Town Sports Centre and Swiss Cottage Leisure Centre. The works will include the installation of air source heat pumps and solar PV at both sites. The projects are expected to lead to 870 tCO₂e savings per annum.

The 2024/25 GHG report will be published on the Council's website 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>

Appendix 1

Method for Calculating Camden Council's Carbon Footprint

1. Data Collection

The calculation of Camden Council's carbon footprint begins with the collection of energy consumption data for the previous financial year across the Council's estate and operations. The methodology follows UK Government greenhouse gas (GHG) reporting guidance and standard carbon accounting practices. Data sources include:

- Corporate energy contract billing data
- Leisure centre energy consumption data
- Solar photovoltaic (PV) generation data
- Fleet fuel consumption data
- District heating data, including relevant carbon conversion factors

2. Data Processing and Input

All collected data is collated and entered into a centralised master spreadsheet. Energy and fuel consumption figures are then converted into carbon emissions by applying the latest UK Government Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Conversion Factors. This process enables the calculation of carbon emissions at both individual site level and for Camden Council's estate and operations.

Carbon conversion factors are standard values published annually by the UK Government. They represent the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced per unit of energy or fuel consumed (for example, kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent per kilowatt-hour or litre of fuel). Using these factors ensures that emissions calculations are consistent, transparent, and aligned with national reporting standards.

3. Analysis and Quality Assurance

A detailed year-on-year analysis is undertaken to identify significant changes in energy consumption. Variations greater than $\pm 25\%$ are flagged as potential anomalies and investigated further, often through follow-up discussions with data providers or service operators.

The GHG analysis spreadsheet is then subject to a quality assurance review to confirm:

- Correct application of the UK Government GHG conversion factors
- Accuracy and completeness of site-level data and meter readings
- Correct functioning of all formulas, calculations, and charts

This approach ensures the robustness and reliability of Camden Council's reported carbon footprint.