Didcot Town Council



Carbon Monitoring Policy

Reviewed by Properties and Facilities Committee 24/005/2023 Ratified by Full Council on 26/06/2023 Next review date: 26/06/2026

1. Carbon Monitoring

Didcot Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency with the aim of becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030. The cancel adopted it's Carbon Action Plan in March 2023 that lays out it's path to achieving Carbon Neutrality

In order to achieve this the Town Council will need to monitor it's Carbon Footprint across all three Scopes.

Scope 1

• Covers owned or controlled direct emissions such as fuel consumption from vehichles and equipment. Gas boilers are included here.

Scope 2

• Covers all indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, steam, heating and cooling.

Scope 3

• Covers all the other emissions that occur across an organisations value chain, including business travel, communting (how employees get to work), Waste disposal, as well as purchased goods and services.

By accurately monitoring the Carbon Footprint the organisation can see what progress has been made, the impact of actions done and identify areas for potential improvement.

2. The monitoring Process

Carbon Monitoring is a time consuming process that requires specialist skills and knowledge and it thou can be done in house, this may mean that the figures may not be as accurate as they should be and could lead to inaccurate assessments and assumptions.

Working with the appointed consultants, all aspects of the Councils activities will be investigated. Scope 1 and 2 relies on using the invoices and bills of the Council and some questions to suppliers about there actions to reduce there Carbon Footprint. For Scope 3 there will need to be a questionnaire created and circulated to all staff and councillors about how they travel to work

It would be advisable to work with one specialist consultant firm for a period of at least 3 years preferable 5 years to allow a consistent measure to be gained, this will also provide a consistent report that can be understood by all councillors and community members. It would be best to start monitoring from the financial year of 2022-23 and use this as a base year.

Reduction flight path is proposed as follows:

- 2025 40% Reduction of 2022/23 Figures
- 2028 80% Reduction of 2022/23 Figures
- 2029 95% Reduction of 2022/23 Figures

The figures will be produced annually after the end of the financial year.

3. Responsibility

It will fall on the Properties and Facilities manager (or Equivalent) to oversee this process.

The councillors will be responsible to ensure that officers of the Council have the resources needed to allow completion of the monitoring.

4. Review

This policy should be reviewed every 3 years