**FOIA 15040 Request for Information – Environment Team supporting document**

Paper usage.

The table below presents council paper use each year up to 2014/15 expressed as A4 sheets equivalent.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 | 2013/14 | 2014/15 |
| Total paper used in A4 sheets-equivalent\* | 67,890,222 | 71,197,008 | 54,669,170 | 42,618,171 | 52,890,563 | 49,105,354 |

\* Schools are not included because the information is not available.

The chart below illustrates the total amount used each year according to type of use.

Paper use by the council fluctuated over the 6 year period but was down overall. The main reduction was the amount of newsprint used. This was because fewer editions of the Council’s free magazine “Link” were published each year. The Council has since stopped publishing “Link” entirely.

**Council Carbon Footprint**

The council has a target to halve its own carbon footprint from the 2008/09 level by 2025. As the graph below shows, greenhouse gas emissions have shown an overall reduction of 30% since 2008/09 which puts the council on track to meet the 2025 target. The carbon footprint stood at 47,676 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e)[[1]](#footnote-1) in 2016/17.

**Figure 2: Leicester City Council’s greenhouse gas emissions by financial year**

The factors behind the progress so far include:

* the introduction of energy-saving LED street lighting across the city through the White Lights Project, reducing its electricity demand by 54%
* relocating city centre based staff into more efficient, refurbished offices with lower energy demand - including City Hall
* consolidating community facilities including libraries and community centres into fewer, better-used buildings, through the Transforming Neighbourhood Services project – saving energy by reducing the floorspace of buildings needing to be heated and lit.
* consolidating our vehicle fleet by reducing our travel and making better use of the remaining vehicles
* electricity is becoming ‘greener’ as the UK relies less on coal fired power stations and more on renewables such as wind and solar power.

1. The council reports on its emissions of the 7 main ‘greenhouse gases’. Figures for those other than carbon dioxide (CO2) are converted into the equivalent quantity of CO2 which would have the same impact on climate change i.e. their carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e). This is so that a single figure can be reported. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)