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**Report to Enterprise and Environment Committee**

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**Date of Meeting: 6 June 2013**

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**Subject: Annual Report on Scotland's Climate Change Declaration**

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**Report by: Director of Services to Communities**

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**1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1. The Annual Report on Scotland's Climate Change Declaration describes Clackmannanshire Council's progress during calendar year 2012 in delivering its commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, both in its own estate and in the local authority area.
- 1.2. The annual report has already been submitted to the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) and COSLA, at the request of COSLA in a letter to the Leader of the Council in January 2013. SSN and COSLA have been asked to consider the Annual Report as a draft, pending presentation to the Enterprise and Environment Committee

**2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1. The Committee is recommended to note the Annual Report on Scotland's Climate Change Declaration, and agree that this final version be submitted to the Sustainable Scotland Network and COSLA.

**3.0 Considerations**

- 3.1. Clackmannanshire Council signed Scotland's Climate Change Declaration in 2007, committing it to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, both in its own estate and working with communities and with the Scottish and UK Governments.
- 3.2. In signing the declaration, the Council also committed to "publish an annual statement on the monitoring and progress of our climate change response, detailing targets set, actions taken, outcomes achieved and further actions required." This Annual Report fulfils this commitment.
- 3.3. Clackmannanshire Council's main achievements relating to climate change in 2012 are:
  - 3.3.1. Introduction of Community Environmental Improvement Fund (CEIF), following approval by the Enterprise and Environment Committee on 6

September 2012, which funds local environmental improvement projects, including those that address climate change mitigation and adaptation

- 3.3.2. Approval of a Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy Action Plan by the Enterprise and Environment Committee on 8 November 2012, revised in accordance with guidance on the public bodies' duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.
- 3.3.3. Approval of the Clackmannanshire Zero Waste Strategy (by the Enterprise and Environment Committee on 8 November 2012) and Clackmannanshire Housing Strategy (by the Housing, Health and Care Committee on 25 October 2012), both of which aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 3.4. Clackmannanshire Council's annual greenhouse gas emissions are reducing, broadly in line with the targets set in the Council's Carbon Management Plan. However, greenhouse gas emissions from the local authority area as a whole are rising, particularly from industrial and commercial sources, and from land use change. The report proposes actions to work with local businesses to help them reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, and to continue support for householders to reduce their fuel bills.
- 3.5. The report also details other activity that has taken place and that is programmed for the coming year to reduce Clackmannanshire's carbon footprint, including measures to encourage walking and cycling, and support (including funding through the CEIF) to facilitate community growing; and strategic work to help Clackmannanshire prepare for, and adapt to, a changing climate.

#### **4.0 Sustainability Implications**

- 4.1. This report describes Clackmannanshire Council's sustainability and climate change activity in 2012, and sets out priority actions for the year ahead to continue to meet the requirements

#### **5.0 Resource Implications**

##### *5.1. Financial Details*

- 5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes
- 5.3. Finance have been consulted and have agreed the financial implications as set out in the report. Yes

##### *5.4. Staffing*

#### **6.0 Exempt Reports**

6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes  (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No

## 7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box )

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive                          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Our communities are safer  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Vulnerable people and families are supported                             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Substance misuse and its effects are reduced                             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing                 | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| The environment is protected and enhanced for all                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

Clackmannanshire Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy  
Clackmannanshire Zero Waste Strategy  
Clackmannanshire Housing Strategy

## 8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes  No

## 9.0 Legality

9.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

## 10.0 Appendices

10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

Annual Report on Scotland's Climate Change Declaration

## 11.0 Background Papers



11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes  (please list the documents below) No

**Author(s)**

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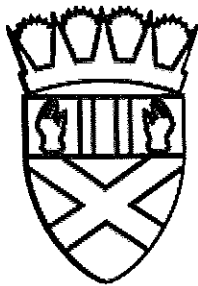
**Approved by**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>
Julie Hamilton	Development Services Manager	
Garry Dallas	Director of Services to Communities	

# CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL

## ANNUAL REPORT ON SCOTLAND'S CLIMATE CHANGE DECLARATION

April 2013



**Clackmannanshire  
Council**

[www.clacksweb.org.uk](http://www.clacksweb.org.uk)



**Please note this report is a draft, pending Committee approval.**



## Introduction

This report provides a round-up of Clackmannanshire Council's activity relating to climate change in the calendar year 2012. It is the Council's fifth annual report on Scotland's Climate Change Declaration.

In signing the Declaration in 2007, the Council committed to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, both in its own estate and working with communities and with the Scottish and UK Governments. The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 made the spirit of these voluntary commitments legal requirements, by placing duties on all public bodies to take action to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to act sustainably.

### **Clackmannanshire Council's main achievements relating to climate change in 2012 are:**

- Introduction of Community Environmental Improvement Fund, which funds local environmental improvement projects, including those that address climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Agreement of a Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy Action Plan, revised in accordance with guidance on the public bodies' duties under the Climate Change Scotland Act.
- Agreement of the Clackmannanshire Zero Waste Strategy and Clackmannanshire Housing Strategy, both of which aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The 2012 Annual Report on Scotland's Climate Change Declaration included a number of priority actions for the year ahead; many of these have been rolled forward to this report, as they are still current. This is because the actions were largely drawn from the revised Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy Action Plan, which was agreed by the Enterprise and Environment Committee in November 2012. Because formal commitment to the actions was not given until the end of the year, in many cases there was little progress made on the priority actions identified in 2012. However, as this report demonstrates, a great deal of other action to mitigate and adapt to the affects of climate change in Clackmannanshire has taken place in 2012.

## Governance, Leadership and Management

Clackmannanshire Council agreed a new decision-making structure in June 2012, which created new committees and replaced Portfolio Holders with Convenors. The role of a committee's convenor is to take responsibility for strategic themes, and for service performance and policy: ensuring that service performance is consistent with Council policies and procedures, and leading on service issues at the political level.

The Sustainability Team has responsibility for co-ordinating climate change and sustainability activity in the Council. The team has been extended so that it now includes development planning officers, which means there is a greater opportunity to integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation into land use planning.

Issues dealt with by the Sustainability Team are within the remit of the Enterprise and Environment Committee, the Convenor for which is Councillor Donald Balsillie

The Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy Implementation Group, attended by Service Managers and officers, and chaired by the Head of Community and Regulatory Services, continues to co-ordinate climate change and sustainability activity in all services of the Council. It meets quarterly, and each meeting includes a presentation on a topic of interest, usually from a visiting speaker. Recent topics have included the Zero Waste agenda, climate change communications, and sustainable procurement.

Climate change is recognised as a council priority at the corporate level, but there is still work to be done to embed action on climate change and sustainability in Services' business plans. The following table shows how climate change is addressed in key plans and strategies

Document	How it addresses climate change
Single Outcome Agreement	The 2011 Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) for Clackmannanshire includes the priority outcome "The environment is protected and enhanced for all", and considers climate change in its "About Clackmannanshire" section. As at early March 2013, a revised Single Outcome Agreement is being prepared.
Community Plan	The Community Plan - <i>Working Together for Clackmannanshire</i> - includes the aspiration that "we recognise how our lifestyles and choices impact on the environment."
Corporate Plan	Clackmannanshire Council's Corporate Priorities - <i>Taking Clackmannanshire Forward</i> - include an aspiration to "effectively tackle the causes and effects of climate change."

Document	How it addresses climate change
Service Business Plans	<p>The Facilities Management Business Plan for 2012/13 includes an objective to "Develop a sustainable asset base which is environmentally and energy efficient and contributes directly to delivering year on year reductions in greenhouse gas emissions through its design, construction and operation." The Community and Regulatory Services Business Plan for 2012/13 includes an objective to "address the Council's duties relating to the environment and sustainable development;" it recognises the Climate Change (Scotland) Act as a key issue for the service, and includes an action to implement the Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy.</p> <p>Business plans are not currently required to address climate change, although the revised Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy Action Plan includes an action to "include sustainability, climate change and strategic environmental assessment in corporate and business planning guidance."</p>
Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy	<p>Work on climate change and sustainability continues to be guided by the Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy. In November 2012, the Enterprise and Environment committee agreed a revised action plan for the strategy, building on the work already completed, and enabling the Council to better meet its duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act. A revised indicator set for the strategy is being developed.</p>
Local Development Plan	<p>Following consultation on the Main Issues Report in 2011, the Proposed Local Development Plan is being prepared. Climate change mitigation and adaptation have been agreed as priorities for the plan to address, both through the location of development sites and through the policies that guide development.</p>
Sustainable Procurement Policy	<p>A sustainable procurement policy was agreed by Council in December 2012 as part of updates to the Council's Contract Standing Orders. The policy is accompanied by a delivery plan which is intended to help the Council reach level one of the Sustainable Procurement Action Plan for Scotland's Flexible Framework</p>
Energy Strategy	<p>A working group has been established to develop an Energy Strategy for Clackmannanshire, as part of the Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy. The strategy will include actions to reduce energy use and will set a framework for the generation of electricity from renewable sources. Work has begun to identify actions and targets.</p>

#### Community Environmental Improvement Fund

In 2012 the Council launched the £100k Community Environmental Improvement Fund for communities in Clackmannanshire to develop projects to provide or improve community environmental resources such as parks, community gardens, local green spaces, paths or the wider built environment. Projects were also expected to contribute to wider social, economic and environmental objectives and the majority of the successful applications contributed directly or indirectly to climate change mitigation or adaptation. These included development of community gardens, greening of school grounds linked to environmental education programmes, path improvements and woodland management. The level of response by the community and the quality of the applications received were high and the Council agreed to allocate a further £100k to run the scheme in 2013-14.

## **Reducing the local authority's own 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions from its estate, services and functions.**

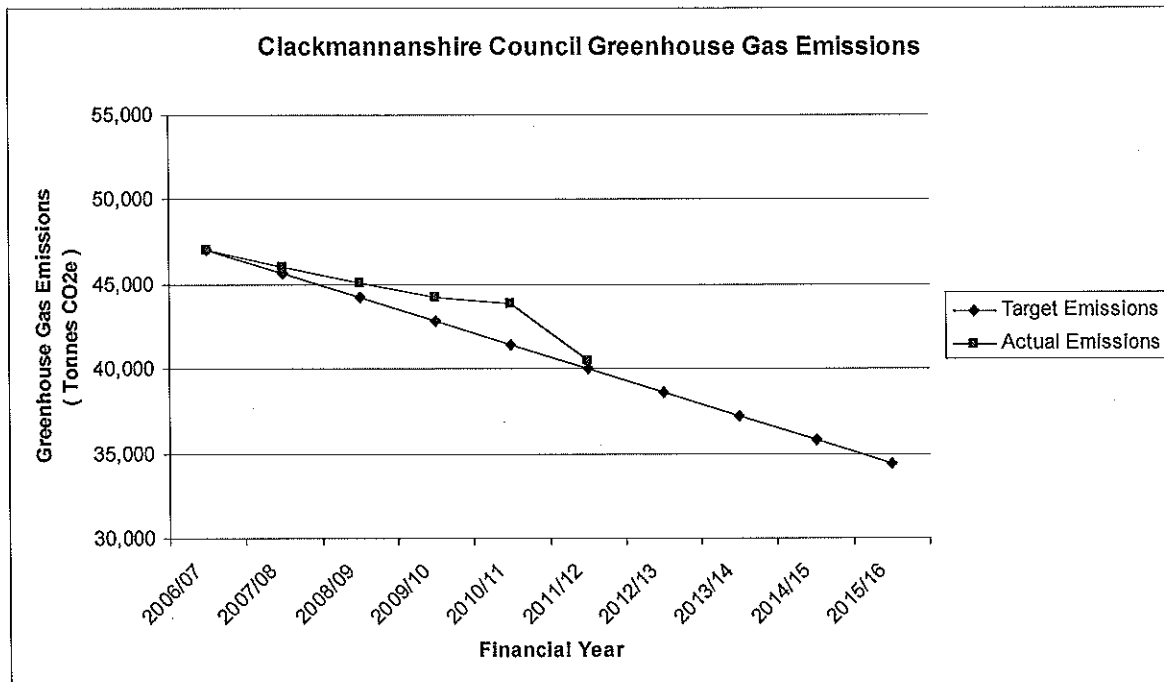
Clackmannanshire Council has set targets for reducing its greenhouse gas emissions, through its Carbon Management Plan (CMP). This plan was revised in 2011, with support from the Carbon Trust: new targets were set, and new actions were identified - the revised Carbon Management Plan can be found at <http://www.clacksweb.org.uk/document/3405.pdf>.

Clackmannanshire's overall target for carbon reduction, set in the Carbon Management Plan, is a 3% year on year annual reduction (based on a baseline year of 2006/7). This equates to a reduction of around 12,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e, and a cost saving of around £9.5 million, over the 5 years.

The plan and its targets cover carbon dioxide emissions from the following sources.

- Council Buildings – Derived from billed data from the Council's comprehensive records for electricity and heating fuels. Consistently and accurately recorded by the Council's energy officer.
- Fleet Transport – Derived from collated data from Council records for mileage and fuel consumption.
- Employee business travel – Derived from collated data from Council records of miles travelled by staff on business.
- Street lighting – Derived from billed data of energy consumed by all street lights, bollards and signs.
- Waste to Landfill – Derived from Council recorded mass of waste arisings sent to landfill as recorded for SEPA quarterly data returns.
- Council Housing – Derived from data amassed from the Housing Energy Conservation Act (HECA) report from 2005. The HECA reports are based on SAP methodology and so can be considered a good indicator of emissions from housing given that only generic information regarding building size, etc is available.

The chart overleaf shows Clackmannanshire's greenhouse gas emissions targets, and actual emissions since beginning the carbon management programme.



The chart shows that the Council's greenhouse gas emissions have reduced almost in line with annual targets - the following are some of the reasons preventing lower than target results: excessively cold winters for several years, with a higher than usual demand for heating; lack of budget for investment in energy and streetlighting; problems with the accuracy of housing data (based on assumed energy use, rather than actual bills).

Electricity suppliers have reassessed the circuit (running) wattage of a number of their older lamps. The net result has been that this circuit wattage has been increased and consequently, the figures for electricity usage have actually gone up despite the Council's continuing policy of progressively replacing less efficient units. The circuit wattage is the figure which we pay on. A typical example is the 150w high pressure sodium lamp of which we have 1527 units. The old circuit wattage for this lamp was 172w and the new circuit wattage is 180w. This means that the electricity consumption we have been charged for this lamp is an additional 49,939kWh, annually, for these lights alone. While the industry continues to reassess their circuit wattage without consultation, it is difficult to see how our progressive savings will be visible without massive capital investment over a short period of time.

Clackmannanshire Council has undertaken a number of works to improve home energy efficiency in its housing stock. These include:

- In 2011/12, in partnership with Scottish Gas, the Council established a £2.2million CESP (Community Energy Saving Programme) heating renewal and external wall insulation programme for 211 Council houses in Alloa Park. Tenants are benefitting from lower fuel bills and warmer homes following installation of new heating systems and improved insulation measures.
- A pilot study on air source heat pumps: £10K has been secured from Carillion Energy for the installation of the system; a further £57,500 has been secured through the Renewable Heat Premium Payment phase 3 to install air source heat pumps and solar thermal technology in 10 off-grid Council tenancies in a rural community.
- £1,839,081 has been set aside for the 2012/13 programme to provide full and efficient central heating and additional energy efficiency measures. As at February 2013, 884 new

energy efficient gas central heating systems have been installed for Council tenants. £927,500 has been set aside for a similar programme in 2013/14.

The following actions have also contributed to, or will contribute to, emission reduction:

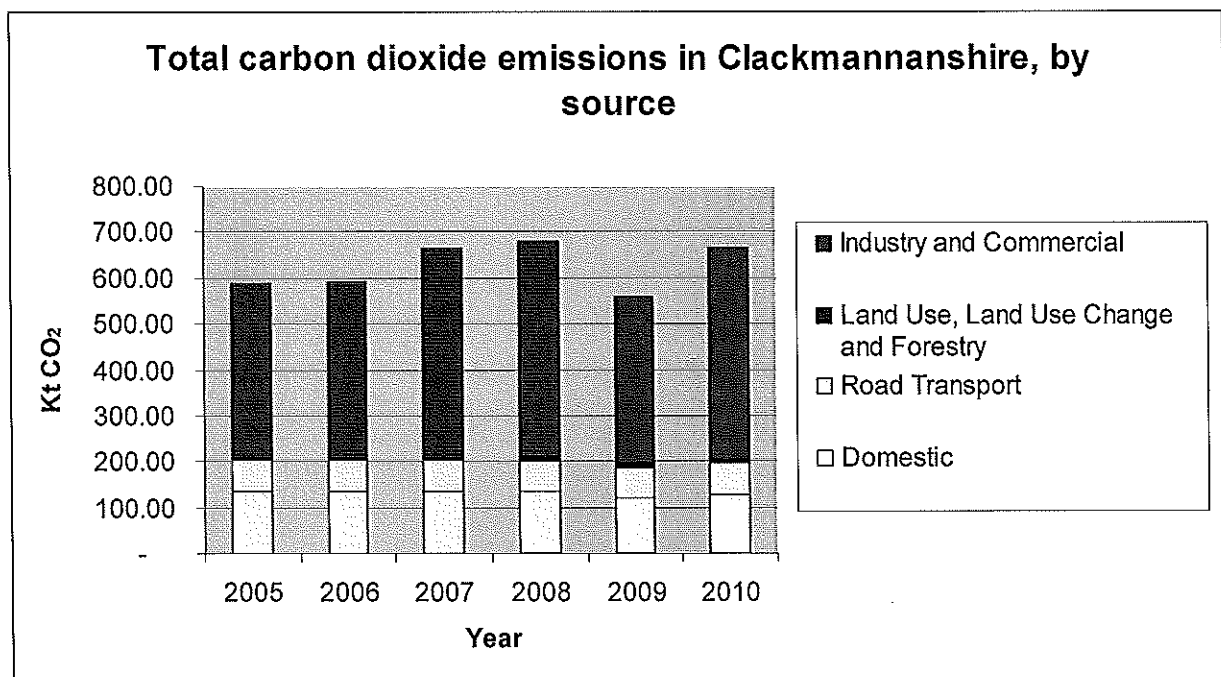
- Solar photovoltaic panels have been installed on Coalsnaughton Primary School and Kilncraigs. A contractor has been appointed to install solar panels on a further nine buildings in 2013, subject to structural survey reports.
- Lighting and heating controls have been upgraded.
- There is continued monitoring of energy consumption using smart meters.
- Voltage implementation units have been installed at Kelliebank DLO and Sauchie CPU: these are being monitored to assess their effectiveness.
- A staff survey and an awareness campaign strategy have been developed in partnership with the Carbon Trust.
- A Kilncraigs Travel Plan, incorporating a full Council Travel Plan, has been submitted.
- The Cyclescheme initiative, which allows Council staff to hire-purchase cycles and cycling equipment through a salary sacrifice scheme, has been re-instated.
- A grey fleet review has been carried out by the Energy Saving Trust; Roads and Transportation and Building Control are considering a small pool car fleet.
- The Council has purchased a further four electric vans.
- The Council continues to replace existing street lights with more efficient units and has instigated a test site within Alloa of LED lighting in a residential street. Its effect and impact will be monitored.

Building energy work has been funded through general budgets and the Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF). Roads and Transportation work is funded through capital and revenue budgets. Electric vehicles were bought with assistance from the Scottish Government's Low Carbon Electric Vehicle Procurement Support Scheme.

## Taking action to reduce the emissions from the local authority area

Data released by the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) in August 2012<sup>1</sup> show that in 2010 Clackmannanshire was responsible for emitting 664.97 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide, an increase of over 105 kt on the previous year.

The following chart shows Clackmannanshire's total greenhouse gas emissions for each year, broken down by source. It shows that the largest source of emissions in the county is industry and commercial sources, accounting for around 60-70% of emissions over the period for which data are available.



The table overleaf shows the breakdown of these emissions: by far the highest emissions come from the energy use and direct emissions of industry and commercial sources.

<sup>1</sup> Local and regional CO2 emissions estimates for 2005-2010 - Full dataset. Available at <https://www.gov.uk/uk-greenhouse-gas-emissions#local-authority-emissions-statistics>, accessed 11/02/13

Year	A. Industry and Commercial Electricity	B. Industry and Commercial Gas	C. Large Industrial Installations	D. Industrial and Commercial Other Fuels	E. Agricultural Combustion	F. Railways	G. Domestic Electricity	H. Domestic Gas	I. Domestic Other Fuels	J. Road Transport (A roads)	K. Road Transport (Motorways)	L. Road Transport (Minor roads)	M. Road Transport Other		Grand Total	Population ('000s, mid-year estimate)	Per Capita Emissions (t)
2005	118.77	89.32	159.55	8.72	2.88	-	54.06	74.00	8.27	34.45	-	33.00	0.33	5.08	588.42	48.6	12.1
2006	127.87	86.48	158.79	7.98	2.67	-	56.49	70.57	8.27	34.35	-	34.08	0.34	5.23	593.12	48.9	12.1
2007	134.47	149.53	158.80	8.30	2.56	-	56.22	69.71	7.93	34.51	-	35.63	0.32	5.21	663.18	49.9	13.3
2008	136.02	159.52	158.48	9.63	2.54	-	54.81	69.96	8.80	33.08	-	35.65	0.31	10.74	679.53	50.5	13.5
2009	114.35	96.01	140.07	8.79	2.58	-	48.47	63.55	8.29	33.07	-	34.29	0.27	9.66	559.42	50.5	11.1
2010	121.02	172.26	154.49	8.70	2.60	-	49.10	69.99	9.08	33.74	-	34.28	0.28	9.43	664.97	50.6	13.1

Because of the influence of industry and commercial sources of emissions, Clackmannanshire's per-capita greenhouse gas emissions remain significantly higher than the Scottish average, at 13.1 tCO<sub>2</sub>/capita, compared to the Scottish average of 7.5 tCO<sub>2</sub>/capita. However, the table below shows that Clackmannanshire's per-capita emissions from domestic sources are about the same as the Scottish average, while emissions from road transport are below the Scottish average.

Table: Per-capita greenhouse gas emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>)

	Year	Industry and Commercial	Domestic	Road Transport	Total
Clackmannanshire	2005	7.8	2.8	1.4	12.1
	2006	7.8	2.8	1.4	12.1
	2007	9.1	2.7	1.4	13.3
	2008	9.2	2.6	1.4	13.5
	2009	7.2	2.4	1.3	11.1
	2010	9.1	2.5	1.3	13.1
Scotland	2005	4.1	2.8	2.1	8.1
	2006	4.2	2.8	2.1	8.2
	2007	4.1	2.7	2.2	8.0
	2008	4.0	2.7	2.1	7.8
	2009	3.4	2.5	2.0	7.0
	2010	3.6	2.6	2.0	7.5

Clackmannanshire Council does not undertake any measurement of greenhouse gas emissions in the area, relying instead on the data published annually by DECC. No targets for reducing area wide emissions have yet been set, but the Council is taking a range of actions to try to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the local authority area from the strategic to the household level.

The following table shows the key Council plans and strategies that will contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the local authority area.

Document	How it addresses greenhouse gas emissions reduction
Clackmannanshire Housing Strategy	The Clackmannanshire Housing Strategy was agreed by Council in December 2012: one of its priorities is energy efficiency and fuel poverty, with the aim that "energy efficiency is improved and fuel poverty and carbon emissions are reduced across all tenures". It includes the Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Action Plan, which aims to reduce fuel poverty in Clackmannanshire.
Clackmannanshire Zero Waste Strategy	The Clackmannanshire Zero Waste Strategy was agreed in December 2012: it addresses seven main issues, including the climate change impacts of waste; and preventing waste and improving resource efficiency. The Strategy will introduce new measures reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill, including food waste collection, and separated waste collections for commercial premises.
Clackmannanshire Local Transport Strategy	The Clackmannanshire Local Transport Strategy was approved by Council in November 2010: it includes a Transport and the Environment Report, which states what the Roads and Transportation Team will do in respect of the environment. The Local Transport Strategy is financed through capital and revenue budgets.

Clackmannanshire Council received £375k in 2011/12 and £445k in 2012/13 under the Universal Home Insulation Scheme (UHS). This Scottish Government scheme, operated in partnership with Clackmannanshire Council, has been very successful and resulted in 300 owner occupiers receiving a total of 500 insulation measures (cavity walls/external walls and loft) in 2011/12; numbers and measures data for 2012/13 is still being compiled. All recipients of measures under the UHS received energy efficiency advice.

In addition to the UHS scheme, and to the work on Council housing detailed in the previous section, the Council has also sought funding from other sources to improve energy efficiency in homes of all tenures across the local authority area. Owner occupiers in the Alloa Park CESP area were able to participate in, and benefit from, the heating and insulation project at no cost, due to the Government funding that was available for the programme of works. £2.5 million was secured to complete 222 external wall and heating upgrades in Tullibody (111 owner occupiers and 111 Council tenants). 274 off grid properties are now connected to gas mains following a joint venture with Clackmannanshire Council and Scottish Gas Networks. £1.2 million was secured to provide external wall insulation and loft insulation to 100 properties in Alloa, Forestmill and Muckhart (70 of which are Council owned properties). Seventy houses will also be fitted with solar photovoltaic panels, which will help occupants enjoy reduced energy bills.

Funding has been secured for two temporary local Fuel Poverty and Energy Advice Workers, initially contracted from October 2011 until March 2013, but with additional funding secured for an extra year. These officers are based in Clackmannanshire Council and co-managed by the Home Energy Strategy Officer and the Wise Group. Their work concentrates on tackling fuel debt, energy efficiency and affordable warmth; and mapping fuel poverty within the community to enable the Council to target the most needy. Overall, these officers are helping Clackmannanshire Council to meet the Scottish Government's target to eradicate fuel poverty so far as is reasonably practicable by 2016.

In 2011/12 the Council used Government funding to carry out thermal imaging to improve the its Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) database. The details that have been captured are now

embedded within Council's Open Housing Management System (OHMS), which permits improved planning of projects and identification of problem areas.

Charging infrastructure for electric vehicles has been installed in Alloa: four charging posts have been installed at Kilncraigs, and two in the Greenside street car park. These are available for use by the public, as well as the Council.

Clackmannanshire Council's Sustainability and Economic Development teams are working together to develop an environmental programme for businesses in Clackmannanshire, aimed at resource/waste minimisation, energy advice, volunteering opportunities and simple adaptation measures based on Adaptation Scotland SME advice sheets. Provisional targets for this work are to meet with six businesses, or groups of businesses, to assess need and demand; and to provide advice and support to 10-20 businesses in each Business Improvement District in Clackmannanshire.

A number of measures have been taken to encourage more people to walk and cycle, both for commuting and for recreation. A new cycle route between Menstrie and Tullibody was opened in May 2012, with funding from Clackmannanshire Council, Sustrans and the Clackmannanshire and Stirling Environment Trust. A Cycle Friendly Road has been created between Menstrie and Alva: this has included the closure of a 300m section of road to vehicular traffic, road re-surfacing, and the installation of signage, gates and rest places. There have also been improvements to footways in and around Menstrie, providing shared use surfaces; and installation of signage, gates and other minor improvements on paths across the county. 20mph speed limits are currently being rolled out in residential areas: these are intended to make roads safer and more attractive places for walking and cycling; there is also evidence that suggests that driving at a lower, steady speed results in reduced emissions from vehicles.

Clackmannanshire Council is supporting a number of community growing initiatives through its Community Environmental Improvement Fund: development of community gardens in Menstrie and Sauchie; and initiatives to "green" the grounds of three schools, with the charity Grounds For Learning. The Council is also investigating the potential for community growing on other sites in the county, and is intends to re-establish a community growing group in 2013.

The Back Wood Clackmannan woodland and access enhancement project is being delivered by Central Scotland Forest Trust (CSFT) with support from Clackmannanshire Council and aims to improve the woodland mix and improve access routes through the woodland, part of the core paths network. This will contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions both by increasing woodland cover and by improving opportunities for outdoor recreation and active travel, thus reducing the need for car use. The woodland will also be used as an environmental education resource by CSFT and the Clackmannanshire Ranger Service.

The Alloa Urban Trees project, funded by the Central Scotland Green Network Development Fund, will deliver tree and thicket planting on an urban section of the Devon Way, the former railway line from Alloa to Dollar which is now a core path and part of the National Cycle Network. The planting has involved Primary 5/6 pupils from Sunnyside Primary School, and the resulting woodland will have the potential to be an environmental education resource for the school. Central Scotland Forest Trust and Council staff have been involved in classroom work relating to the project, covering biodiversity, active travel and the benefits of trees in urban environments in relation to air quality, cooling, and water and flood management.

## **Assessing the risks of climate change impacts and working with others to adapt to the impacts of climate change.**

Climate change is identified as a specific risk in the Council's Corporate Risk Log. A desk review of the Central Scotland Community Risk Register has suggested that of the 50 risks identified, 36 are potentially impacted by climate change, including both of the risks identified as Very High: significant local coastal/tidal flooding, and influenza type disease (pandemic).

Clackmannanshire Council is in the process of developing a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for approval towards the end of 2013. A named officer has responsibility for this as an element of their core work. Until such time as the Scottish Government issues statutory guidance, this will be based upon the Scottish Government's Climate Change Adaptation Framework and the Adaptation Scotland Workbook. This work will seek to develop an overarching corporate and strategic framework to a range of disparate bodies of work on aspects of adaptation such as flood risk management that are already taking place within the Council, as outlined further down in this section. The scope of the strategy is both the Council and the local authority area.

The strategy consciously seeks to consider people rather than just physical impacts and to incorporate current best knowledge and best practice of socially just adaptation. The Council has also prepared the case for a climate and biodiversity research project under the Coastal Communities Fund.

Clackmannanshire Council developed a Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP) in 2009, and this will be updated, along with localised UKCP09 projections incorporating impacts of tidal surges over baseline where possible, as part of the process of developing the Council's adaptation strategy. This will be supported by the establishment of an adaptation forum comprising senior staff from Emergency Planning, Roads, Facilities Management, Environmental Health & Consumer Services, Housing, Land Services, Education, Community Engagement, Finance and Sustainability, and bringing in external expertise where necessary.

The forum is intended to inform the development of local level Sector Action Plans. Furthermore, the Council Roads team has a specific flood risk management remit to take forward the Council's duties under the Flood Risk Management Act. The Council is also investigating how to make more effective use of its Sustainability and Best Value checklist for plans and policies in order to help mainstream thinking about adaptation as well as other sustainability issues.

The main current focus of adaptation work is on understanding what the vulnerabilities and impacts are likely to be, hence the focus on the work of the forum referred to above. This is in addition to specific technical work already ongoing such as on flood risk management led by the Roads team, and partnership work on sustainable flood management and assessing the potential for managed coastal realignment with RSPB, Inner Forth Landscape Partnership and Coastal Communities Fund. Following this the process aims to reflect Scottish Government/Adaptation Scotland guidance in the Sector Action Plans of the Framework and Adaptation Workbook. Work is also informed in particular by:

- Adaptation Scotland's review of local authority adaptation activities
- the Scottish Government's Progress Report on Adaptation
- Climate Change Committee's Climate Change Risk Assessment
- Joseph Rowntree Foundation review of social justice in local authority adaptation plans

In terms of Adaptation Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation workbook, the overall assessment of progress is that the Council is still between phases 2 and 3: the Council is revisiting some of its earlier investigation work (including the Local Climate Impacts Profile) in greater depth and is still developing a planned approach, but has also been engaged in implementing actions in particular with regard to flood risk management, with wetland adaptation projects in the development phase.

The following table identifies other plans and strategies which will contribute to climate change adaptation:

Document	How it addresses climate change adaptation
Open Space Strategy	The Open Space Strategy and accompanying strategic environmental assessment Environmental Report are in draft form as at March 2013. The Open Space Strategy makes specific reference to the role of open spaces in climate change mitigation and adaptation, and includes provisions to support community growing activity.
Clackmannanshire Biodiversity Action Plan	<p>The revised Clackmannanshire Biodiversity Action Plan (CBAP) for 2012-17 was launched in autumn 2012. It is available online at <a href="http://www.clacksweb.org.uk/environment/biodiversity/">http://www.clacksweb.org.uk/environment/biodiversity/</a></p> <p>The CBAP is divided into actions on overarching themes including but not limited to climate change, fragmentation of habitats and species, Inner Forth Landscape Initiative and Ochils Landscape Partnership, people and funding; and action for habitats and species covering uplands, freshwater &amp; wetland, woodland, marine and coastal, and farmland, lowland and urban habitats.</p> <p>The Clackmannanshire Biodiversity Partnership is the main body for delivery of the CBAP. It comprises representatives from the Council and local NGOs and businesses. SNH had formerly been a member of the Partnership but has had to withdraw from full membership due to resource constraints and to focus on strategic support for the Partnership. The Partnership has an action plan in support of CBAP divided into priority, committed actions and desirable actions.</p>
Working Woodlands Framework	The Working Woodlands Framework is a joint project with Stirling Council, and is currently being finalised: it will promote the multi-benefits of woodland, including for health and recreation, biodiversity, flood alleviation and carbon sequestration. The framework will influence the future management of Council woodland.
Forestry and Woodlands Strategy	The Forestry and Woodlands Strategy is a joint project with Stirling Council and the Forestry Commission Scotland. It sets out areas and criteria for woodland planting (including contribution to climate change adaptation), and thus interprets the Scottish Forestry Strategy at the sub-regional level. It is due to be finalised in 2013.
Flood Risk Management Strategy and Flood Risk Management Plan	Clackmannanshire Council participates in both the Forth Local Plan District (in which Stirling Council is the lead authority) and the Forth Local Advisory Group. The Forth District Flood Risk Management Strategy is expected to be developed by December 2015, and the Forth District Flood Risk Management Plan by June 2016.

A number of projects are being undertaken which will contribute to climate change adaptation:

- Partnership work with RSPB, SWT and others at Black Devon Wetland and Cambus Pools under Inner Forth Landscape Initiative has been undertaken with finance from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

- Investigating climate change adaptation opportunities for biodiversity and communities along Forth, Devon and Black Devon within Clackmannanshire: creation of a one year climate change adaptation research post to work in conjunction with local schools and communities, with finance from the Coastal Communities Fund.
- The Back Wood Clackmannan and Alloa Urban Trees projects (described in the previous section) will both contribute to climate change adaptation through the natural flood management effects of woodland, particularly riparian planting.

## **Developing effective partnership working and climate change communications, including producing an annual statement of plans, activities and achievements.**

Much of Clackmannanshire Council's work on climate change mitigation and adaptation has been done in partnership - with neighbouring local authorities, agencies, NGOs and local communities - as detailed throughout this report.

Clackmannanshire Council has continued to communicate climate change messages to its staff and communities through the staff newsletter (Grapevine) and its newspaper for residents (View). The following articles appeared in View in 2012:

- *Council Offers Free Insulation*
- *Alloa Homes to get Energy Makeovers*
- *Waste Consultation: meeting the zero waste challenge*
- *Energy Efficiency Initiatives Given Cash Boost*
- *Recycling On The Go*

Articles in Grapevine covered energy awareness, the annual energy saving competition for schools, and the staff cycle to work scheme.

The Council also publicises climate change mitigation and adaptation activity through press releases and on the Council's website. Press releases in 2012 included promotion of home insulation schemes, heating upgrades and home energy advice; Eco-Schools activity; Zero Waste Strategy; Biodiversity Action Plan; tree planting; and active travel.

## **Priorities for the year ahead**

### **Governance, leadership and management**

- Include sustainability, climate change and strategic environmental assessment in corporate and business planning guidance
- Finalise the Proposed Local Development Plan
- Prepare a revised indicator set for Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy

### **Reducing the local authority's own 'corporate' greenhouse gas emissions from its estate, services and functions.**

- Develop an Energy Strategy, including renewable energy
- Implement the Kilncraigs and Council travel plans
- Install photo-voltaic panels on a number of Council buildings
- Investigate and develop new projects for the Carbon Management Project Register to assist with meeting future reduction targets

### **Taking action to reduce the emissions from the local authority area**

- Work with local businesses in Clackmannanshire to share best practice to help reduce environmental impacts and adapt to climate change.
- Develop a greenhouse gas reduction strategy for Clackmannanshire.
- Introduce new waste collections, including food waste, as detailed in the Zero Waste Strategy

### **Assessing the risks of climate change impacts and working with others to adapt to the impacts of climate change.**

- Include climate change impacts in service risk register guidance
- Continue work on the Adaptation Strategy and related plans and strategies

### **Effective partnership working and climate change communications**

- Prepare a climate change communications strategy with actions to improve awareness and capacity across the Council and in our communities
- Develop an e-learning module for strategic environmental assessment

