

# London Borough of Camden's Carbon Footprint update for 2018/19

(Own estate and operations)

The Council's carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions have fallen by **44%** since the 2009/10 baseline year, which means that Camden has achieved its 2020 40% carbon reduction target a year early. This footprint assessment includes our estate and operations, excluding council owned housing assets. Emissions have fallen by a further 18% since the last financial year, predominantly driven by further decarbonisation of grid electricity.

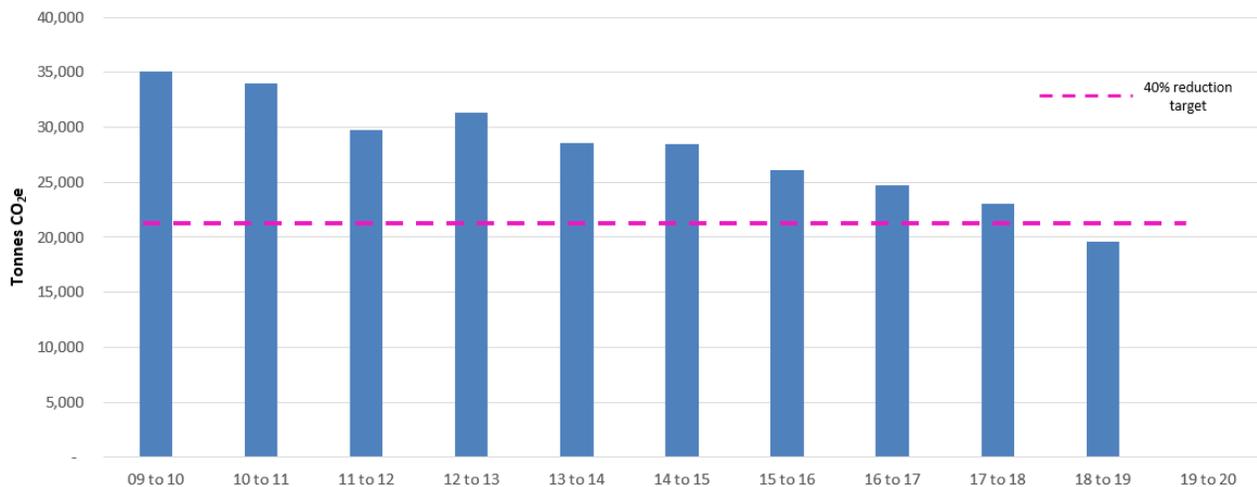
Over the same period (baseline year to 2018/19), energy consumption across our own estate and operations has reduced by 32%<sup>1</sup>.

Going forward, the rate of grid decarbonisation is forecast to slow, which is likely to reduce future carbon savings from our estate. The Camden Town Hall will also become operational again increasing emissions from our corporate estate despite major energy efficiency improvements to the building. At the same time, there will be a renewed focus on carbon reduction through the new Climate Action Plan for Camden.

The Council's carbon footprint is calculated each year to:

- comply with the mandatory Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) and greenhouse gas reporting (GHG) requirements set by Government
- monitor progress in implementing the Carbon Management Plan (CMP).

The CMP sets medium-long term CO<sub>2</sub>e reduction targets, of 21% by 2015, 27% by 2017 and 40% by 2020; linked to the Camden Plan. Graph 1 below shows the actual carbon emissions against the carbon reduction targets.



Graph 1. Actual emissions against target emissions reductions.

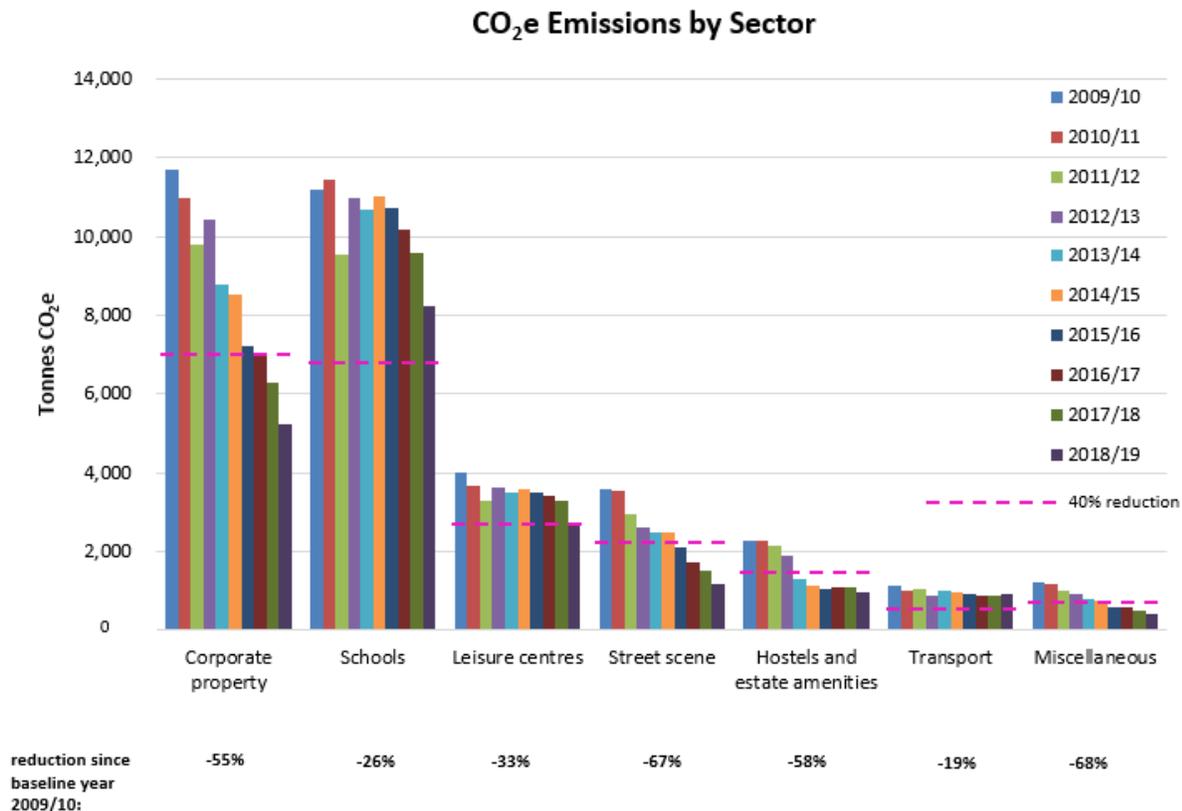
<sup>1</sup> Measured as absolute values and not weather corrected.

The 44% reduction reported in our footprint has been achieved through a combination of measures. The Key contributors to these savings are discussed below:

- Delivery of the Carbon Management Programme investing in energy efficiency projects across our property portfolio such as LED upgrades.
- Decarbonisation of the national energy mix, reducing the Carbon Intensity of the grid electricity supply.
- Disposal of assets and consolidation into new more energy efficient locations (temporary closure for refurbishment of the Town Hall has caused a large saving)

The carbon intensity of energy and fuel supplies remains one of the key external factors influencing the Council’s carbon footprint. [Government’s carbon conversion factor](#) for electricity further decreased in 2018, and it will continue to fall in 2019 due an increased contribution from low-carbon energy sources.

Overall, all Council sectors have reduced emissions when compared with the baseline year – please see Graph 2 below. Largely driven by the impact of disposals, some sectors are outperforming others. School and Leisure centres remain the sector with the least progress and therefore most potential for further improvements.



Graph 2. Emission reductions by sector for LB Camden.

### **Conclusions and next steps**

The results show consistent reductions in energy consumption and carbon emissions against the baseline year. The 2018/19 GHG report showing a 44% reduction in emissions will be published on the council's [website](#), submitted to Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (previously DECC), included in the 2018-20 [Green Action for Change](#) (GAfC) review and communicated internally.

This year's results demonstrate that the Council is ahead of its targeted position, and has achieved its 2020 40% reduction target a year early. In order to continue this success a suite of Carbon Reduction programmes continue to operate across the Council's services.

The key focus area for the next years would be:

- **Camden Climate Action Plan** – Development of new Council climate strategy with a renewed focus on heating and further decarbonisation of assets, which will replace Green Action for Change
- **Transport** – electric vehicle infrastructure, with a phased transition to low/zero emissions by 2023
- **Renewable Energy** – review opportunities for buying renewable electricity from suppliers and from our own installations, as well as creating a comprehensive database of our renewable energy assets.
- **Looking forward** – Review and analyse what our carbon emissions reduction targets and strategies for reduction should be beyond 2020