

CORPORATE EMISSIONS INVENTORY OVERVIEW

Local government's overall approach is to take responsibility for all operations under organisational control or clear influence.

For example, onsite fuel use such as gas burning and petrol diesel use in the vehicle fleet (scope 1), electricity generated elsewhere and used onsite (scope 2) and disposal or treatment of waste that is managed by the organisation – operational control versus geographical scope boundaries.

Waste service emissions include those generated from the disposal and treatment of wastes managed through kerbside and litter bin collection services, waste dropped off at waste transfer stations and the waste generated by the council's operations. The emissions include those from landfill disposal, allowing for abatement from landfill gas collection, and from composting for organic wastes. These emissions typically will comprise the largest portion of the carbon footprint due to the quantity of waste and the greenhouse warming potential of methane being many times that of carbon dioxide.

Emissions factors for various energy and waste emissions are sourced from the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination. The emissions factor for electricity use in Tasmania varies from year to year and is updated through annual revisions to the Determination.

Financial year time based accounting aligns with council financial reporting cycles. While emissions reduction targets typically state a calendar year, a financial year basis for carbon footprints enables alignment with council annual reporting requirements. As such a reduction target based on 2020 levels by 2030 will refer to the 2020/21 and 2030/31 financial years.

Emissions from energy use are calculated based on the quantities billed multiplied by the relevant emissions factor. The amounts of the different types of energy purchased is measured directly except for that used by unmetered public street lighting. Usage by this lighting is calculated from

the numbers of each type of light, the wattage of each light type and an estimated number of hours per day they are turned on.

Establishing targets and reviewing existing energy management programs rely on access to the most complete and reliable data – Carbon footprints have been prepared for the years 2019–20 to 2021–22.

Solar rooftop onsite generation is assumed to produce no Scope 1 emissions, with electricity exported to the grid reducing net emissions.

Much, or all, of the electricity generated by rooftop solar panel systems is used onsite, thus reducing the electricity being drawn from the mains supply. The remainder of the electricity is fed into the grid, thus reducing the amount needing to be generated by power stations. The electricity used on site is considered to have no emissions, while that exported is considered to reduce emissions at a rate equivalent to the state electricity coefficient.

Offsetting is a last resort and is preferred not count towards corporate inventory offsetting, as the Science Based Initiative have stated (Chapter 4 [SBTi-manual.pdf \(sciencebasedtargets.org\)](#)). Offsets when undertaken should be in line with the National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS) for Organisations.

In line with the following standards:

1. Organisational Carbon Accounting for Local Governments Report ([sustainability.vic.gov.au](#))
2. The Greenhouse Gas Protocol: Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (GHG Protocol) | [Greenhouse Gas Protocol \(ghgprotocol.org\)](#)
3. ISO 14064-1 Greenhouse gases: Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals (ISO 14064-1) Report ([sustainability.vic.gov.au](#))
4. National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) (Measurement) Determination 2008 [Australia's climate change strategies | Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources](#)
5. National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS) [Australia's climate change strategies | Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources](#)
6. The Science-based Target initiative (SBTi) [SBTi-manual.pdf \(sciencebasedtargets.org\)](#)
7. Carbon Development Program [Home – CDP](#)

Categories for corporate reporting	Included in corporate inventory	Excluded
Civic and Administration	Such as council offices, lessees from Council owned buildings who pay their own bills	
Community Halls	Lessees from Council who pay their own bills	
Depots, Waste and Nursery	Lessees from Council who pay their own bills	
Sporting and Recreation	Such as pools, clubrooms. Lessees from Council who pay their own bills	
Car Parks		Removed 'off street' unclear what this means and most councils would not have their own paid parking multi storey car parks
Parks	Such as irrigation, lighting along pathways and sports field lighting	
Streetlighting	Includes both council owned lamps and TasNetwork owned lamps paid for by councils	Major road lighting usually paid for by State Government
Waste	Community waste services such as landfill quantities and Food Organics and Garden Organics	Corporate waste if no data is available
Vehicles and Plant	Both leased fleet and council owned vehicles	
Solar generation	Generation included as additional electricity use if used onsite	Grid exported solar electricity excluded from net electricity use. Offsets excluded if on sold.

The Council Carbon and Energy Footprint Information Series has been developed as part of the Southern Councils Climate Collaboration. The Collaboration is an initiative of the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority climate program, the Regional Climate Change Initiative. It is supporting the 12 southern councils to build capacity and capability to develop climate responses, to reduce their carbon emissions, and respond to the challenges and opportunities of a changing climate.

The Collaboration uses a common and consistent approach to work with councils to find local solutions. The approaches and resources used in the Collaboration have been developed specifically to meet the role and functions of councils and enable actions to be scaled between councils or regionally resulting in greater efficiencies and avoid duplication and maladaptive responses. The Information Series outlines key concepts, and methods, used in the preparation of Council Carbon and Energy Footprints through the Collaboration.



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[stca.tas.gov.au/rcci/our-projects/
regional-community-carbon-
emissions-profiles/](https://stca.tas.gov.au/rcci/our-projects/regional-community-carbon-emissions-profiles/)