

7th July 2010

RELEASE OF PROVISIONAL STATISTICS

CO2 EMISSIONS FROM THE OPERATIONS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

(provisional statistics collected under National Indicator 185)

DECC today publishes ‘provisional’ estimates of the emissions from Local Authorities operations¹ during financial year 2008/09, together with an estimate of the regional and England totals by energy type.

Background

This is the first year that DECC have collected this data from Local Authorities. We are grateful to Local Authorities for their participation in this data collection exercise. These statistics are based on activity data that has been supplied by Local Authorities directly, using a carbon management spreadsheet tool designed for this purpose.

2008/09 Headline results

- The total measured emissions for Local Authorities operations is 8.3 MtCO₂ (which is about 1.6% of the UK Total Net CO₂ emissions for calendar year 2008 (532.8 MtCO₂))

Region	Total measured CO₂ emissions from Local Authorities operations (MtCO₂)
East Midlands	0.76
East of England	0.87
Greater London	1.15
North East	0.52
North West	1.22
South East	1.16
South West	0.72

¹ Local Authority operations includes emissions from council buildings; services (delivered directly or indirectly), such as leisure centres/community centres/day centres/libraries; schools (LA funded); fleet vehicles; business travel; and outsourced emissions (e.g. contractor emissions paid for by the LA). Please see the front of the publication spreadsheet for further detail.

West Midlands	0.95
Yorkshire and Humber	0.97
Grand Total ²	8.33

- The lowest emissions for Local Authorities operations were recorded by East Cambridgeshire (574 tonnes), East Northamptonshire (606 tonnes), Broadland (806 tonnes), Isles of Scilly (854 tonnes), and West Somerset (881 tonnes)
- The highest emissions for Local Authorities operations were recorded by Birmingham (177,360 tonnes) Hertfordshire (168,570 tonnes), Lancashire (157,890 tonnes), Leeds (136,900 tonnes) and Hampshire (133,950 tonnes)

(Please note, some of the high emitters may be those Local Authorities, which already had good carbon management systems in place, meaning they could provide DECC with a more complete inventory of their emissions in a short space of time.)

Notes on data quality:

This is the first year that DECC have collected and published this data from Local Authorities and as such **data should be used as a guide to emissions**, recognising different systems of operation may have been in place in different local authorities. The data should not be taken as absolute and differences between local authorities, could result from data as well as operational issues. These statistics are for CO₂ emissions only, not GHG emissions. The data was collected from Local Authorities in England and relates to financial year 2008/09. Where data is not available this is indicated in the DECC publication table with N/A – Not Available.

The available data was 'error corrected' by AEA, on behalf of DECC, to ensure the spreadsheet was used correctly and any formulae errors found have been fixed. This 'error corrected' spreadsheet was returned to each Local Authority for them to check they were happy with any amendments. Some Local Authorities have improved their data since submission, and a star denotes where a Local Authority now has more accurate data available. It has not been possible for DECC to include these improvements this year, but a star in the publication table highlights a potential inaccuracy. There is some uncertainty around the data in aggregate and detailed form.

Full Data Tables are available at:

<http://www.decc.gov.uk/media/viewfile.ashx?filetype=4&filepath=Statistics/nationalindicators/41-CO2-NOX-PM10-emissions-LA-operations-200809.xls&minwidth=true>

Methodology available in *CO₂ emission estimates from Local Authority own operations during 2008/09 - Methodology Summary*:

<http://www.decc.gov.uk/Media/viewfile.ashx?FilePath=Statistics/nationalindicators/39-ni185-methodology.pdf&filetype=4&minwidth=true>

² excludes South Norfolk and West Oxfordshire

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