

**Environment and
Sustainable Communities
Overview and Scrutiny
Committee**

13 May 2022

Scope Three Emissions



**Joint Report of Alan Patrickson, Corporate Director of
Neighbourhoods and Climate Change and Paul Darby, Corporate
Director of Resources**

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of the report is to provide members of Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ESC OSC) with background detail as to why Scope Three Emissions are to be considered by the committee prior to a presentation by colleagues for Neighbourhoods and Climate Change and Resources Service Groupings.

Executive summary

- 2 Following consideration of the Climate Emergency Response Plan at its meeting on 8 October and questions raised at previous meetings of the committee when considering the quarterly performance reports, members of ESC OSC requested further information in relation to DCC's third party emissions (Scope Three Emissions).
- 3 In accordance with that request arrangements were made for the: Principal Officer, Climate Change and Sustainability; Chief Procurement Officer and Head of Pensions to attend a meeting of the committee to provide members with some detail as to the actions currently taken by DCC in relation to third party emissions together with detail of any future plans.

Recommendation

- 4 That Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the content of the presentation and comment accordingly.

Background

- 5 During previous meetings of the ESC OSC, when considering the quarterly performance reports, members have raised the issue of third party emissions and whether they were included in the percentage reduction in CO₂ emission figures provided to committee on a quarterly basis.
- 6 This issue was again raised by members at the meeting of the committee on the 8 October 2021, when members of the ESCOSC considered a report on the Climate Emergency Response Plan and asked for more information relating to third party emissions, in relation to Pensions, Procurement and Investments. In answer to the question members were informed that arrangements would be made for information to be presented to a future meeting of the committee.
- 7 Arrangements have been made for Stephen McDonald, Principal Officer, Climate Change and Sustainability, Richard Carroll, Procurement Manager and Paul Cooper, Head of Pensions to be in attendance at the meeting to provide a presentation covering Scope Three Emissions, these are emissions that are the result of activities from assets not owned or controlled by Durham County Council.
- 8 The power point presentation slides will cover the following areas:

DCC Scope Three Emissions

- What contributes to emissions
- Where next?

Procurement impact on Scope Three Emissions

- What are we doing now?
- What can we do further?
- Next steps

Pensions

- Context

- Border to Coast Shareholders
- Fiduciary Duty (Context)
- Border to coast – Managing Climate Risk
- Supporting Climate Opportunities
- Looking Ahead – Taskforce on Climate Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)

Conclusion

- 9 Members of the ESC OSC will be aware of the actions taken by Durham County Council in relation to third party/Scope Three Emissions and will have had the opportunity to comment and ask questions with the option of a further update to be included in their work programme for 2022/23.

Background papers

- None

Contact:	Ann Whitton	03000 268143
	Diane Close	03000 268141

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Not applicable

Finance

Not applicable

Consultation

Not applicable

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Not applicable

Human Rights

Not applicable

Climate Change

Scope Three Emissions are emissions that are the result of activities from assets not owned or controlled by Durham County Council.

Crime and Disorder

Not applicable

Staffing

Not applicable

Accommodation

Not applicable

Risk

Not applicable

Procurement

Not applicable