



SCOTTISH PUBLIC PENSIONS AGENCY

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## **Environment, sustainability and climate change Year ended 31 March 2018**



## Environment, sustainability and climate change

### Background

The Agency is committed to improving environmental performance as part of the wider commitment to sustainable development. SPPA recognises that it has a legal and ethical responsibility to protect and enhance the environment and is working towards sustainable practices in the use and disposal of materials, energy, and transport and landscape management.

### Summary of progress against environmental performance targets 2017-18

#### Objective – use energy efficiently to minimise greenhouse gas emissions

##### Energy and emissions targets

Targets are set in two areas:

- emissions of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>e)
- kilowatt energy consumption for gas and electricity.

##### Corporate target – carbon emissions

##### Maintain carbon emissions from energy consumption to within +/- 3% of 2016-17 totals by March 2018

2016-17	Actual	183.22	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e
2017-18	Target	177.72 – 188.72	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e
2017-18	Actual	178.45	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e

##### Progress

Achieved. The decrease in overall carbon emissions in 2017-18 was 3% compared to 2016-17 (decrease of 6% for electricity and increase of 5% for gas).

It should be noted that energy usage during 2017-18 of 178.45 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent was also below the level of 204.79 tonnes registered in 2009-10.

##### Target No 1 – electricity

##### Maintain kilowatt-hour consumption of electricity used per full time equivalent employee (FTE) to within +/- 3% of 2016-17 levels by March 2018

2016-17	Actual	1,088.17	kWh per FTE
2017-18	Target	1,056.53– 1,121.88	kWh per FTE
2017-18	Actual	1,116.38	kWh per FTE

##### Progress

Achieved. The increase in electricity consumption per FTE in 2017-18 was 3% compared to 2016-17.

##### Target No 2 – gas

##### Maintain kilowatt-hour consumption of gas used per m<sup>2</sup> to within +/- 3% of 2016-17 levels by March 2018

2016-17	Actual	104.34 per m <sup>2</sup>	total usage 298,835 kWh
2017-18	Target	101.21 – 107.47 per m <sup>2</sup>	total usage 289,870 – 307,800 kWh
2017-18	Actual	109.74 per m <sup>2</sup>	total usage 314,281 kWh

### Progress

Not achieved. The increase in gas consumption in 2017-18 was 5% compared to 2016-17.

### Reason

This target was negatively affected by a colder winter for 2017/18.

## Objective – use natural resources efficiently to minimise environmental impact

### Target No 1 - natural resources target

**Maintain water consumption (m<sup>3</sup> per full-time equivalent member of staff - FTE) to within +/- 3% of 2016-17 totals by March 2018**

2016-17	Actual	6.99	m <sup>3</sup> per FTE
2017-18	Target	6.78 – 7.20	m <sup>3</sup> per FTE
2017-18	Actual	7.39	m <sup>3</sup> per FTE

### Progress

Not Achieved. The increase in water consumption in 2017-18 was 6% compared to 2016-17.

### Reason

This target was negatively affected by a water leak which has now been repaired.

### Scottish Public Pensions Agency sustainability report for the year ended 31 March 2018

Greenhouse gas emissions		2017-18	2016-17
Non-Financial Indicators	Total gross emissions for scope 1 (direct emissions from consuming gas) & scope 2 (indirect emissions from electricity consumption)	178.45 tonnes CO <sup>2</sup> equivalent	183.22 tonnes CO <sup>2</sup> equivalent
	Gross emissions scope 3 (business travel)	17.87 tonnes CO <sup>2</sup> equivalent	24.58 tonnes CO <sup>2</sup> equivalent
Related Energy Consumption	Electricity	316,372 KWh	311,218 KWh
	Gas	314,281 KWh	298,835 KWh
Financial Indicators	Expenditure on energy	£50k	£48k
	Expenditure on official business travel	£28k	£33k

### Performance commentary

The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 requires Scotland to reduce its emissions by 42% by 2020 and by 80% by 2050. SPPA, as an agency of the Scottish Government, needs to ensure it plays a full and leading part in its delivery and improving Scotland's overall sustainability/environmental performance.

Total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy use fell by 2.6% from the previous year's level due to a fall in carbon emissions relating to electricity consumption

The Agency's electricity meter is compliant with the Scottish Government's carbon reduction commitment requirement to allow for automated reading. Plans to introduce the same

technology to other utility supplies have been put on hold as it is not technically feasible currently due to the location and size of the gas and water supplies.

**Controllable impacts commentary**

Electricity usage can be directly related to staff numbers and to the number of PCs in operation. Automatic shut-down systems are in place for IT equipment not in use. Good use is made of natural light, and a new sensor controlled lighting system was implemented at the end of 2015-16 to improve energy efficiency.

SPPA also complies with the Scottish Governments travel policies and promotes the use of video conferencing to reduce travel requirements.

**Overview of influenced impacts**

The Agency occupies a modern building designed to have a low impact on the environment. The building is well insulated and includes features such as a sedum roof, which in addition to retaining heat in the winter, helps to keep the building cool during the summer. Air conditioning is used only in the computer server room.

Although designed as an energy-efficient building, the open plan environment and large expanse of windows present disadvantages during exceptionally cold weather. It is important to maintain a comfortable temperature for staff as we strive to control our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Waste		2017-18	2016-17	
Non-Financial Indicators	Total waste	19.80 tonnes	22.33 tonnes	
	Non hazardous waste	Landfill	7.66 tonnes	7.6 tonnes
		Reused/recycled	12.14 tonnes	14.73 tonnes
		Percentage of waste reused/recycled	61%	66%
Financial Indicators	Total disposal cost	£8k	£7k	
	Non hazardous waste	Landfill	*	*
		Reused/recycled	*	*

\* = absorbed in total waste figure. Disaggregation of costs for individual waste streams identified for future development by our waste contractors

**Performance commentary**

Although no formal target has been set to reduce our waste, SPPA is committed to ensuring all staff are aware of the responsibility to ensure waste is not sent to landfill unnecessarily.

**Controllable impacts commentary**

The Agency aims to be a paperless office, and holds most data electronically. Print levels are monitored, and staff are discouraged from printing documents unnecessarily and encouraged to re-use any misprints as scrap paper. Paper and envelopes are procured from environmentally-friendly sources.

Finite resource consumption - water			2017-18	2016-17
Non-Financial Indicators	Water consumption	Supplied	2,093 cubic meters	1,999 cubic meters
		Disposed	1,988 cubic meters	1,899 cubic meters
Financial Indicators	Water supply costs		£12k	£10k
<b>Performance commentary</b>				
Toilets are fitted with water reduction flushers and taps have an automatic shut off.				
Notes:				

1. The above report has been prepared in accordance with guidelines laid down by HM Treasury in "Public Sector Sustainability Reporting" published at [www.financial-reporting.gov.uk](http://www.financial-reporting.gov.uk)
2. The above report has been prepared using factors published by Defra in May 2017.
3. Emissions accounting includes all Scope 1 and 2 emissions along with separately identified emissions related to official travel.

SPPA  
July 2018