

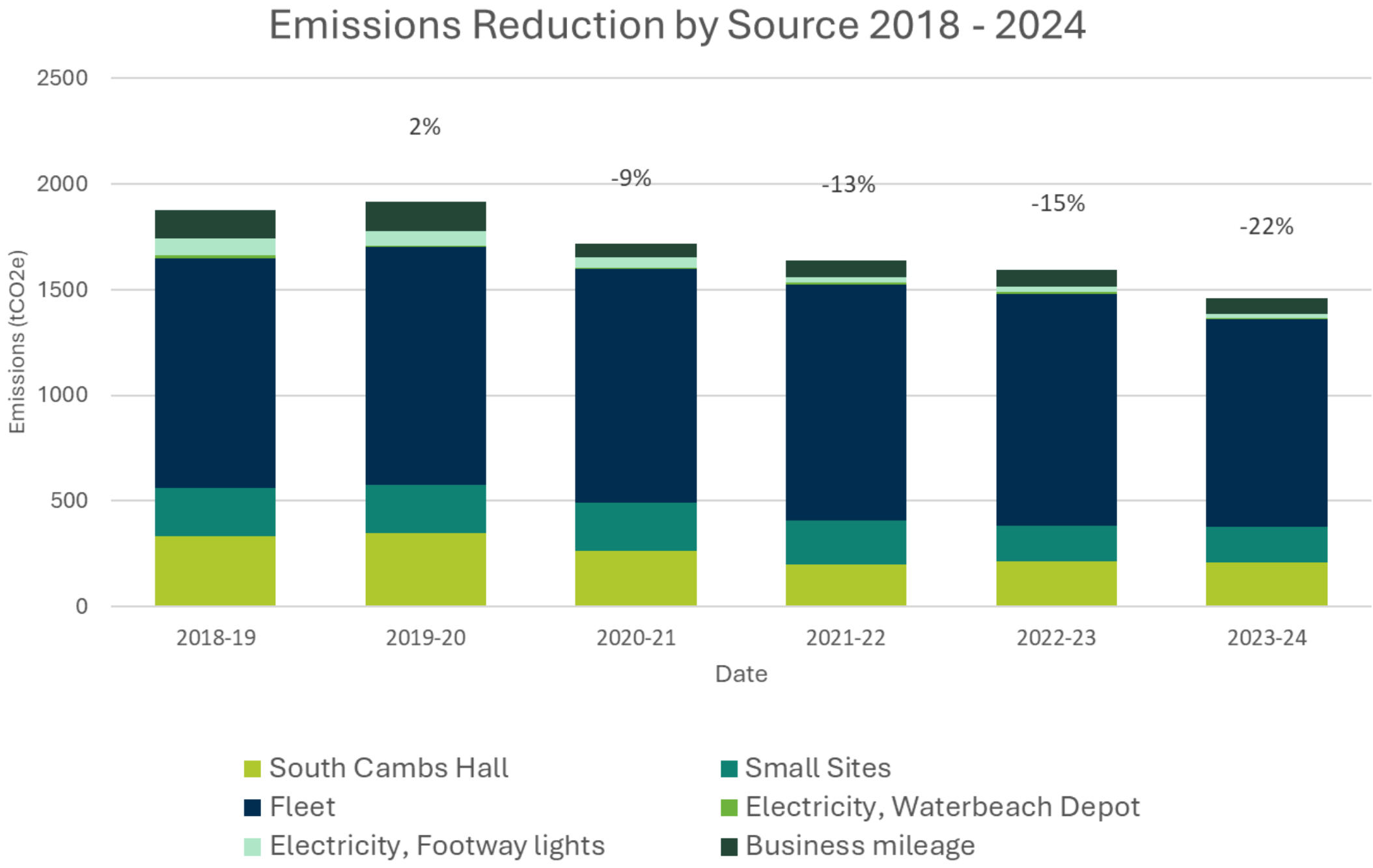
# South Cambridgeshire District Council

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## Zero Carbon and Doubling Nature Strategy and Action Plan



# South Cambridgeshire District Council Emissions



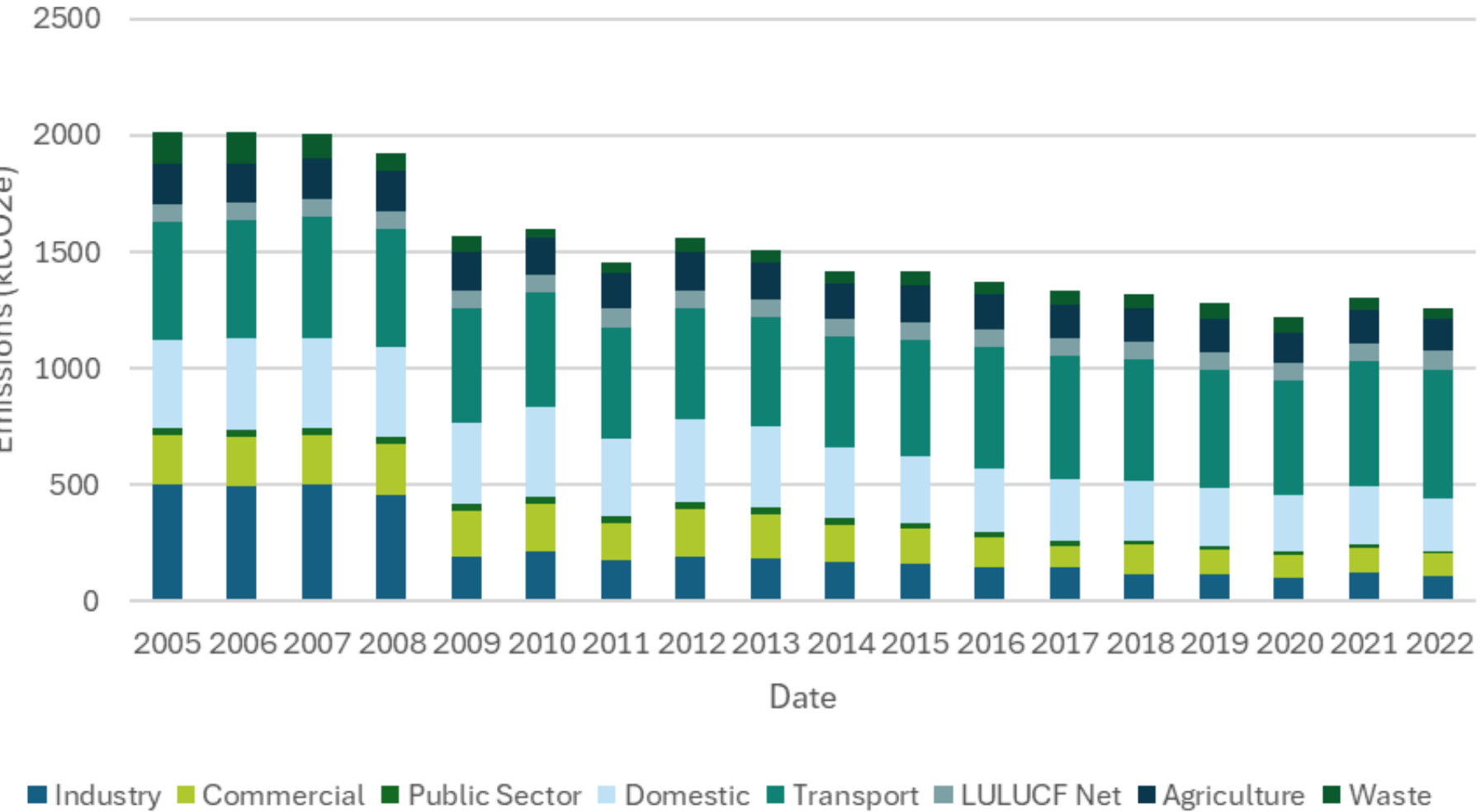
## Key Headlines

- 22% reduction from 2018/19 baseline
- Greatest emissions reduction by South Cambs Hall at 121 tCO2e since 2018/19
- Reduction in all emissions sources
- Significant reductions realised from LED lighting project



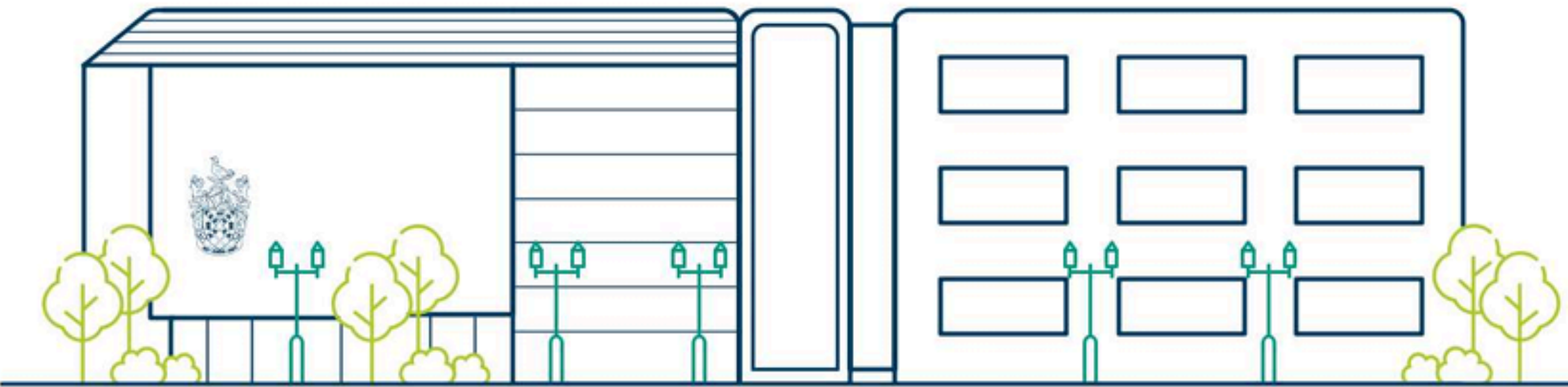
# South Cambridgeshire Area-Wide Emissions

South Cambridgeshire Area-wide emission reduction by source 2005-2022

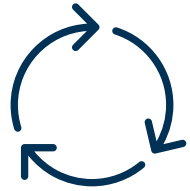


## Key Headlines

- Emissions fell from 2021-22 - reduced by 37.6% since 2005
- Much of this emissions reduction is due reduced grid carbon intensity
- Largest emissions source is from transport (44%)



# Reduce consumption of resources and waste



## 2023/24 Progress

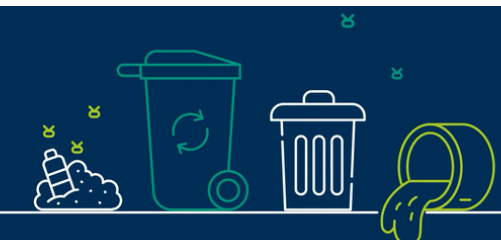
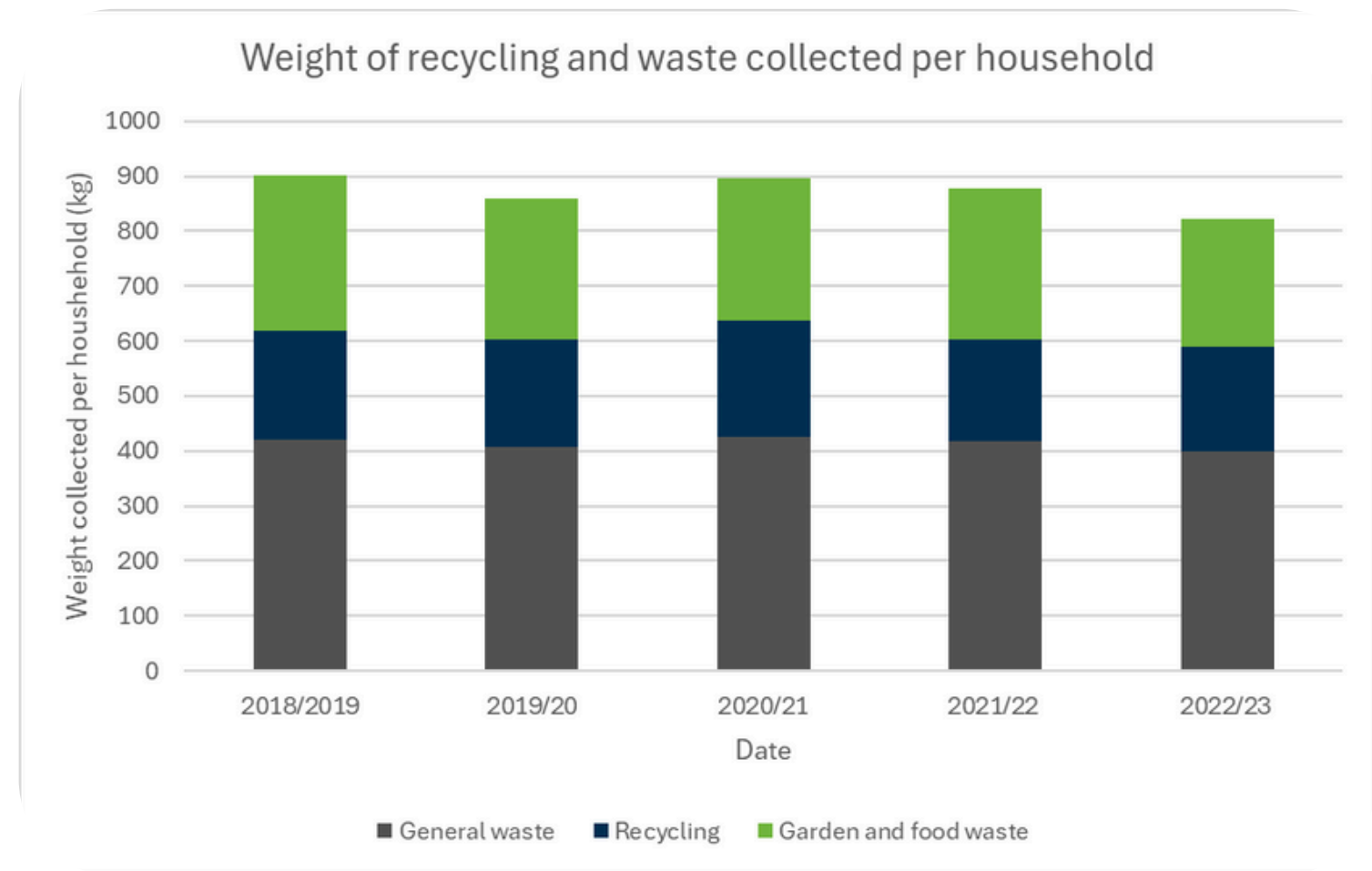
- Campaigns including:
  - Repair cafes
  - 'Metals matters'
  - Blue recycling bins
  - 'Fight food waste'
  - Menstrual cups
- 3 tonnes additional aluminium and steel collected during the campaign month compared to any other month in Q1-3.
- 12 Community Actions Days held, focusing on bulky items and household goods.



## Completed Actions



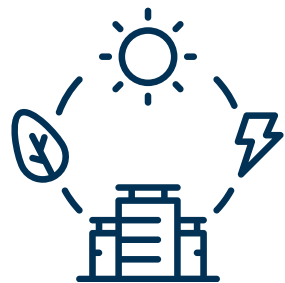
- Eliminated single-use plastics
- Moved to paper-free Council and committee meetings



# Decarbonise Planning and Land Use

## 2023/24 Progress

- First proposal consultations include 7 policies relating to climate change:
  - Net zero carbon new buildings
  - Water efficiency in new developments
  - Designing for a changing climate
  - Flooding and integrated water management
  - Renewable energy projects and infrastructure
  - Reducing waste and supporting the circular economy
  - Supporting land-based carbon sequestration



## Completed Actions

- Using pre-application discussion to encourage developers to go above and beyond policy requirements for energy efficiency

## Climate Change Topic Paper



**Greater Cambridge Local Plan**  
Topic paper published alongside the First Proposals  
(Regulation 18: The Preferred Options) Consultation 2021



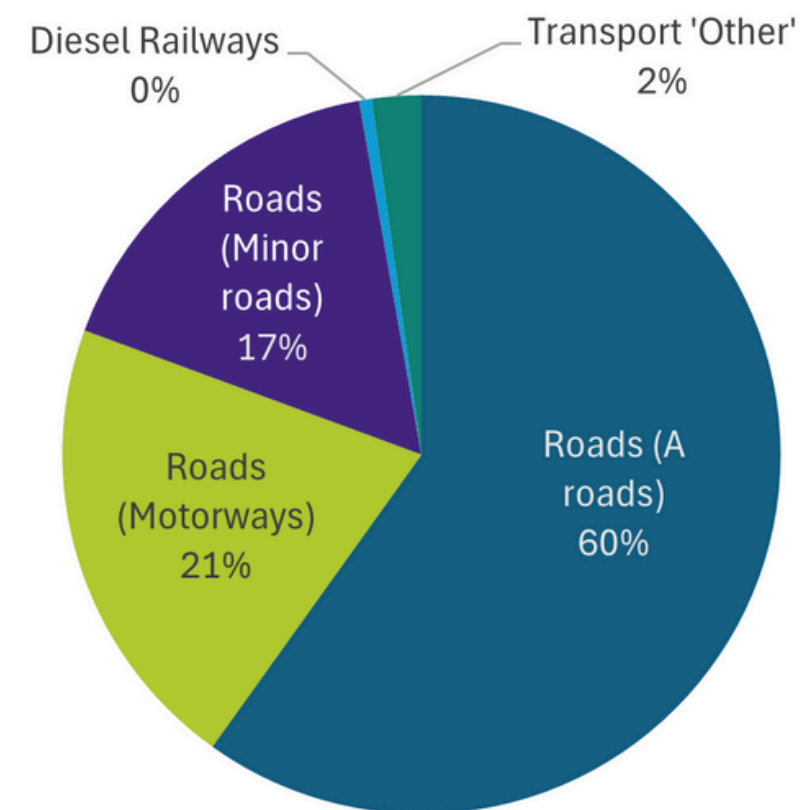


# Decarbonise Transport

## 2023/24 Progress

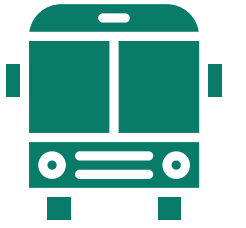
- 3 eRCVs in operation, as well as 1 street sweeper
- Preliminary enabling works for the WREN project completed
- HVO procurement completed with contract awarded.
- Contributed to development of CPCA EV Charging Strategy
- £15,000 awarded in grant funding for EV charging points
- Supporting partners including the CPCA and GCP to deliver sustainable transport initiatives

Emissions by Transport Sources



## Completed Actions

- Installed EV chargers at South Cambs Hall
- Set up salary sacrifice electric car scheme
- Developed strategy for EV charging infrastructure on Council assets
- Supported development of CCC's Active Travel Strategy
- Revised taxi licensing policy to phase out fossil fuelled vehicles
- Supported 13 community-led active travel projects through Zero Carbon Communities grant scheme



# Decarbonise Housing and Other Buildings

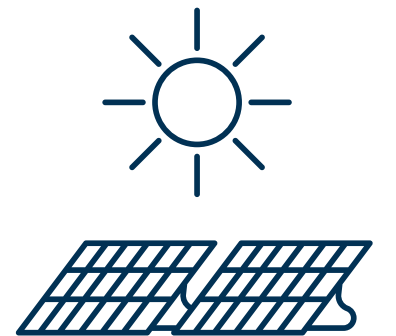
## 2023/24 Progress

- Progressed retrofit of South Cambs Hall
- Conducted assessment of communal rooms for viability in carbon reduction
- Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund is underway
- Stock condition survey undertaken of the Council's Ermine Street Housing Company properties undertaken
- Delivering housing to a Passivhaus standard through the South Cambridgeshire Investment Partnership
- Delivering the Home Upgrade Grant 2 and action on energy scheme



## Completed Actions

- Upgraded 80 privately owned properties through the government-funded Sustainable Warmth project.
- Local Energy Advice Project providing free home energy advice for eligible households set up and in operation.
- Revamped free thermal imaging camera loan scheme and training for residents
- Supported delivery of Cambridgeshire Solar Together scheme in South Cambridgeshire
- Funded community building improvements through the Zero Carbon Communities grant scheme.
- Installed LED Fittings in all Council-owned streetlights



# Decarbonise Business and Industry

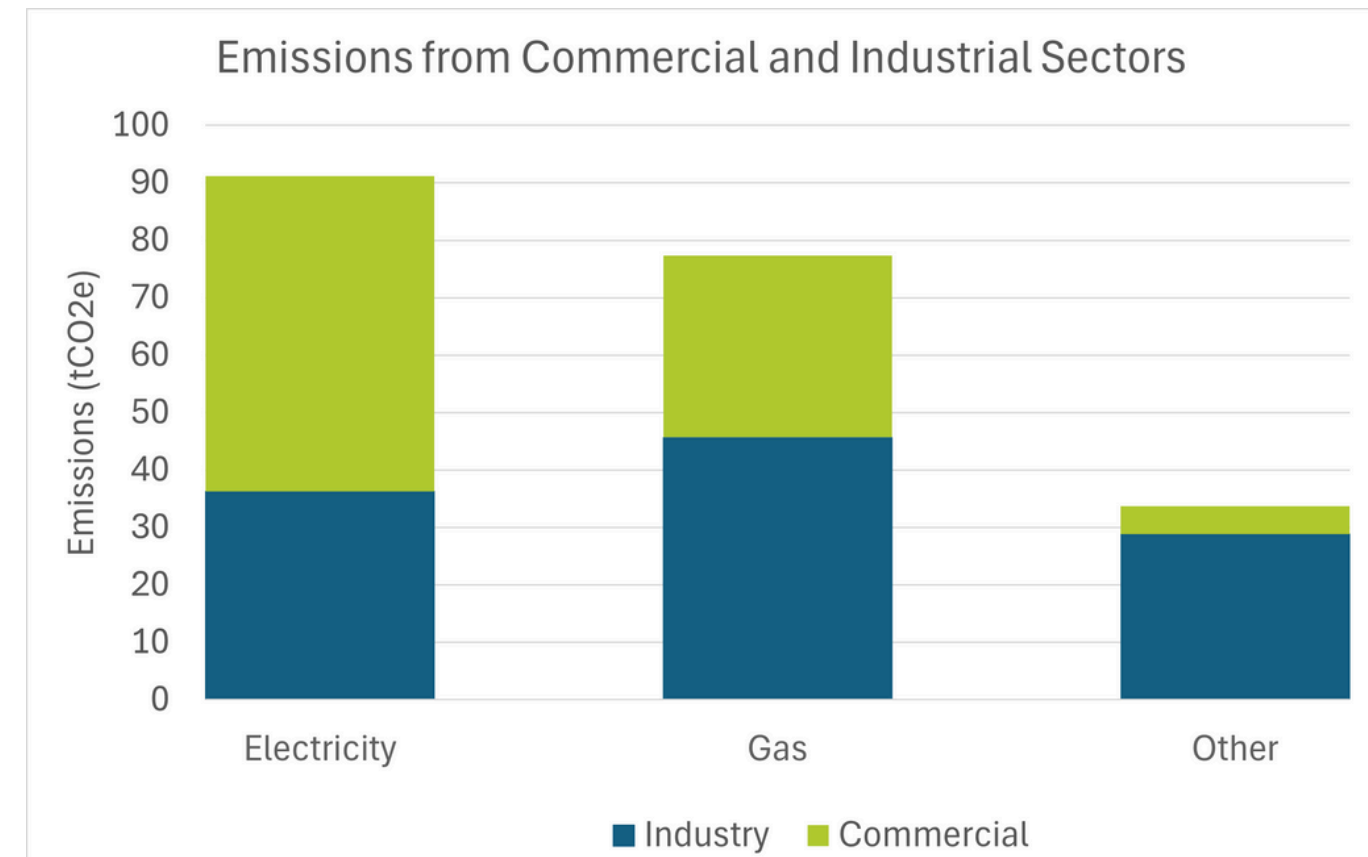
## 2023/24 Progress

- Undertaking assessments of potential measures on Cambridge Science Park properties
- Delivered webinars on 'Greening your Business'
- Launch and promotion of the 'Green Impact Programme' for businesses
- Thermal Imaging Camera offered to businesses to assess their home energy efficiency
- 'South Cambs Connect' space available for hire by businesses.



## Completed Actions

- Put in place new procurement rules requiring that awarding of contracts >£5,000 accounts for decarbonisation of bidders' plans
- EPC of 270 Cambridge Science Park improved to 'A' rating



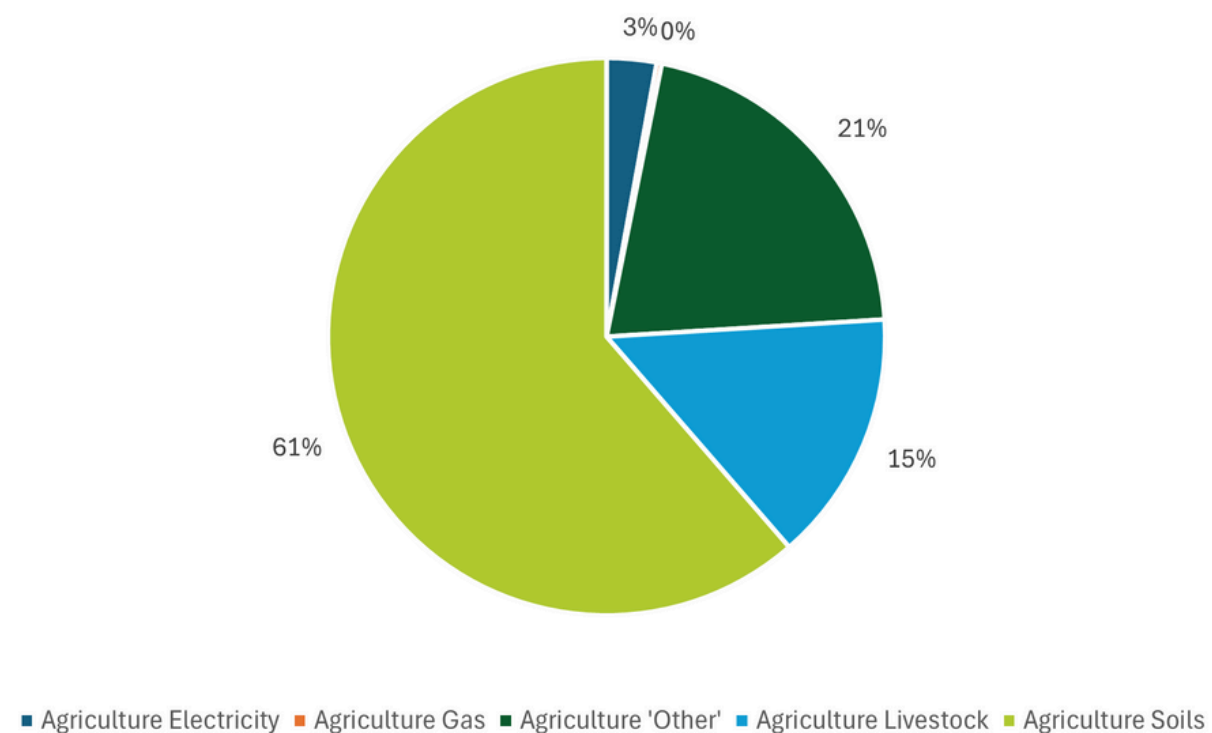


# Decarbonise Food Systems and Agriculture

## 2023/24 Progress

- An internal cross-departmental meeting has been set up to coordinate work on sustainable food
- A meeting was held with external stakeholders to gauge interest in a sustainable food network.

Emissions from Agriculture in South Cambridgeshire



## Completed Actions

- A report to CEAC on 4 April 2023, set out how the Council currently encourages sustainable food initiatives covering:
  - support for allotments and community food growing initiatives through planning policy and grants;
  - supporting a local food economy with help for community markets;
  - influencing food behaviour through ZCC grant funded projects promoting climate-friendly diets.
  - Communication activities including magazine articles, and a 'climate-friendly cook along' webinar have furthered work to encourage climate-friendly diets.



# Deliver Training, Education, and Advocacy and Engage Communities

## 2023/24 Progress

- Four Carbon Literacy courses delivered with 21 employees certified, and 49 attendees
- Achieved Bronze CLO status
- Undertook communications including:
  - Published 4 newsletters
  - Held a Local Climate Conference
  - Held two Green Connect webinars, held a home energy drop in and attended a number of events
  - Commissioned a film showcasing ZCC projects
- Awarded £124,900 to 10 projects through the ZCC Grant Scheme



## Completed Actions

- Staff climate change toolkit launched including intranet webpage and Staff Climate Change Handbook
- Carbon Literacy Trust accredited a 7 hour training course for staff successfully



# Respond to the Ecological Emergency

## 2023/24 Progress

- Case studies of visits to 5 community nature projects completed and shared through communications channels
- Directory of local nature projects and contacts added to website
- Training provided to planners and committees on the Biodiversity Net Gain requirements
- 4 'gardening for nature' articles included in the S.Cambs magazine, attended local events, 'Help a Hedgehog' video produced.
- 34 new trees and 228 whips planted
- Supported joint habitat improvement project with the Wild Trout Trust



## Completed Actions

- Update and strengthen guidance relating to biodiversity by drafting and adopting a new Greater Cambridge Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document, adopted Feb 2022
- Complete audit of trees on Council housing estates and undertake recommended maintenance work



## Habitat piles and loggeries

