



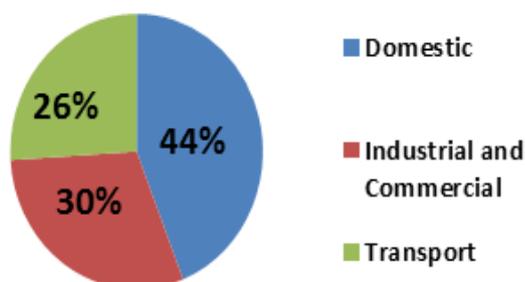
Non-Technical Summary

Eastbourne Borough Council has declared a Climate Emergency, and has committed to making Eastbourne a Carbon Neutral Town by 2030. The Local Plan will have an important role to play in achieving this ambition.



Over recent years, carbon dioxide (CO²) emissions from industrial and domestic sources have been steadily reducing, however emissions from transport has remained steady, despite improvements in technology. This is likely to be due to an increased number of cars on the road. The use of the car within the Borough is the biggest challenge that the Local Plan faces.

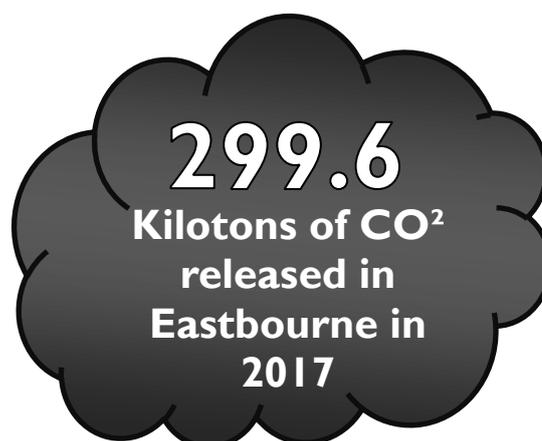
CO² Emissions



Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, UK local authority carbon dioxide emission national statistics

We will need to include policies in the Local Plan that will reduce the amount of CO² produced if we are to become a Carbon Neutral Town. This can be done by putting in place measures to reduce the use of the car, ensuring new developments are energy efficient, and

promoting energy generation from renewable sources.



Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, UK local authority carbon dioxide emission national statistics

Modal Shift - This is when one form of travel, such as the car, is replaced with a more sustainable mode of travel, such as public transport, walking or cycling, which have much lower levels of CO² emissions. Currently, people travelling into, out of and around Eastbourne for work are very likely to travel by car, and this makes up a large amount of the CO² emissions. To create a modal shift, we need to make other modes of transport more convenient, and to do this we will work with neighbouring Councils and bus and train companies to ensure that a sufficient infrastructure can be put in place to make public transport, walking and cycling the preferred travel choice over the car. The majority of Eastbourne residents travel short distances to work, and ensuring these commonly used routes are friendlier for cyclists and walkers would increase the number of people using sustainable modes.

As well as increasing walking and cycling and ensuring new development is close to local services and facilities, achieving a modal shift will mean that car use will need to be discouraged.



Commuting within Eastbourne



All journey to work data comes from the 2011 census, with is the most up to date comprehensive data that is currently available

Less use of the car would also have other benefits – it would make the town cleaner with less pollution, would mean there is less traffic on the road and provides health benefits to those who choose to walk and cycle.

Currently, there are standards that guide how many car parking spaces should be provided in new development. More parking encourages more car use, and reducing these standards to provide fewer parking spaces in new development could result in a fall in car use. It is acknowledged that some car use will be still be necessary, especially for people with mobility issues, however a move toward electric cars, by providing more charging points, would help to reduce CO² emissions.

Energy Efficiency – When less energy can be used to achieve the same result, less CO² will be emitted and homes will be cheaper to run. Currently, standards for the energy efficiency of new buildings are set by Building Regulations. However, we are able to set higher requirements for energy efficiency (19% above current standards). However, higher requirements may be more expensive to put in place, meaning that there could be less money to spend on improvements to local infrastructure. In order to be carbon neutral, new residential developments would need to be 35% more energy efficient than current standards, but it is not currently possible for the Council to impose this. However, developers can choose themselves to

be more energy efficient, although they will probably need to be encouraged to do this, perhaps by having other obligations relaxed. There is no limit on the energy efficiency that can be required by non-residential development.

Around 80% of the houses that people will live in in 2050 have already been built, so it is important that existing homes are also made to be more energy efficient.

Renewable Energy – Renewable Energy is energy generated from a natural process and creates significantly lower levels of CO². Some new developments will have the opportunity to include renewable energy generation on-site. This could be quite small scale, such as putting solar panels on the roof or using heat generated from the ground. These can also be fitted on existing buildings. We may be able to require such features to be incorporated into new development.

There may also be opportunities in Eastbourne for much larger renewable energy generation schemes, such as areas used as dedicated solar farms and wind farms. We could seek to allocate areas of land for these large scale renewable energy developments.

Carbon Off-set – Some CO² emissions are unavoidable. There are methods that can 're-capture' this CO², such as planting trees, which absorb CO² as they grow. Other methods include creating green walls and roofs (walls and roofs with plant cover). Where Carbon Capture schemes cannot be implemented on a new development, there may be scope for developments that cannot reduce on-site carbon emissions any further to pay into a fund that could be used to develop scheme that will off-set any carbon emitted.

80% of the houses that will be in use in 2050 have already been built



BBC News (2017), UK 'must insulate 25 million homes'