

Introduction

The Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) allows benchmarking across the 32 Scottish Councils for a range of services.

This business bulletin includes the data within the 'Tackling Climate Change' theme on data published within the Improvement Service online dashboard as at as at 17 December 2025. [The Improvement Service online tool](#) covers all 108 measures in the dataset split over 9 themes and is refreshed as new data becomes available.

Theme Summary – Tackling Climate Change

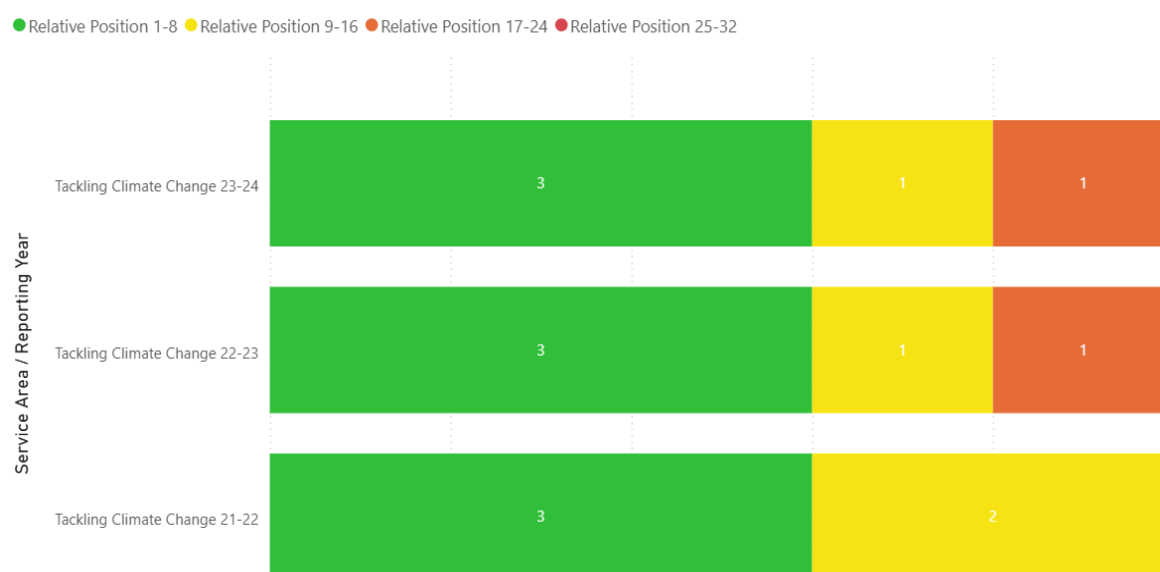
There are 5 indicators for Tackling Climate Change reporting up to 2023/24 which are CO₂ emissions area wide per capita; CO₂ emissions within scope of LA per capita; and then CO₂ emissions split into from transport, from electricity and from natural gas.

Due to national datasets publishing for climate change emissions, there is a lag in reporting so data for 2023/24 wasn't available in the LGBF dataset until the summer of 2025.

Between 2022/23 and 2023/24 performance improved for 4 of the indicators and declined for the CO₂ emissions from electricity per capita indicator. Relative position of CO₂ emissions (compared to other local authorities) declined for the transport per capita indicator, maintained for 2 indicators (natural gas and emissions within scope of LA per capita) and improved for 2 indicators (electricity per capita and area wide emissions per capita). We remain in the top 10 LAs for 4 indicators and are in 17th position (around average) for emissions from natural gas.

The charts below show the quartiles our indicators sit in compared to the other local authorities for the last three years. Each quartile accounts for 8 local authorities, so the top quartile is the eight local authorities with the best performance; the second quartile (shown in yellow) is for the authorities whose performance is in 9th to 16th place and so on.

The chart below shows a count of the indicators within each quartile for the last 3 years.



The chart below shows the percentage of the indicators within each quartile for the last 3 years.



Key Messages

- Emissions are continuing to gradually reduce for four out of the five emissions indicators which cover CO₂ emissions area wide per capita; CO₂ emissions within scope of LA per capita; CO₂ emissions from electricity and from natural gas.
- CO₂ emissions from electricity shows a gradual rise between 2022/23 and 23/24. This is largely due to the national grid emission factor having increased by approximately 6.6%. Further analysis and information on this was included in the Council Emissions Reduction Plan update that went to [Policy and Sustainability Committee in December 2024](#).
- CO₂ emissions from Transport per capita decreased between 2022/23 and 2023/24 due to emissions from petrol and diesel having decreased and the population having increased by approximately 1.8%.

Summary

These measures are high level and allow simple comparison with the other local authorities. Further analysis of detailed metrics for Edinburgh can be found in our annual [Council Emissions Reduction Plan report](#) and [2030 Climate Strategy Update report](#). The next update of these reports will be due at Policy and Sustainability committee late 2026.