

Total Carbon Emissions 2017/18
3391 tonnes down 26% on previous years
down 54% on baseline year 2009/10

Progress
In 2014 the Council began a phased upgrade programme of all street lighting in the Borough to LED technology, following the publication of a new strategy in 2012.

- Stage 1 (2014/15) - reduction of 1,000 tonnes (and over £120,000 in electricity costs) with the replacement of over 6,000 mercury bulbs on residential roads.
- Stage 2 (2016/17) - reduction of 1,400 tonnes by the end of 2017/18 (and approximately £275k) with the upgrade on main roads.
- Stage 3 (by 2024) - predicted to reduce emissions further with the upgrading of 10,000 more units around the borough on other roads.

The Street Lighting Team are responsible for the design, maintenance and operation of approximately 23,500 street lights, 2,600 illuminated signs and 1,700 illuminated bollards across the borough.

Future emissions
In moving to the new LED technology a 50% reduction in energy use was achieved. In addition to the increased efficiency, the individual bulbs have a lifespan of up to 20years. It is unlikely that a new technology will be available and economically viable before the end of the units lifespan.

External influences
Nationally, since 2009 there has been a 40% reduction in the quantity of carbon emitted per unit of electrical energy generated due to increasing use of renewable energies and the phasing out of coal fired power stations.

