

Carbon Report 2018 - Schools and Academies

Total Carbon Emissions

Schools 5,818 tonnes	down 14% on previous year
Academies 5,492 tonnes	down 20% on previous year
Total Schools and Academies	down 25% on baseline year *

* separate baseline data not available

The Solihull School's Estate comprises of maintained community schools, voluntary aided schools and academies and totals over 80 individual premises. As Corporate Landlord and a Responsible Body to much of this estate, SMBC has a responsibility to ensure the maintenance, compliance and improvements of individual schools also meet the Council's priorities.

As such the schools estate is central to the Council's key programme to 'make the transition to a sustainable low carbon economy' with the aim to achieve the targeted reduction in carbon emissions across the schools estate by 2021.

Key programmes

Within the last 12 months a third and final phase of 25 schools have been engaged in the preparation of bespoke Low Carbon Action Plans with technical advice and practical support through the Ashden Less CO₂ Programme. It is envisaged that these plans will continue to identify carbon and energy saving initiatives and projects that will then be taken forward through incorporation into individual School Asset Management & Development Plans.

The Childrens Services Capital Programme seeks to support sustainable design and carbon reducing measures on school improvement and expansion projects. Where appropriate energy efficiency measures known as Consequential Improvements will be included within projects as required by Building Regulations.

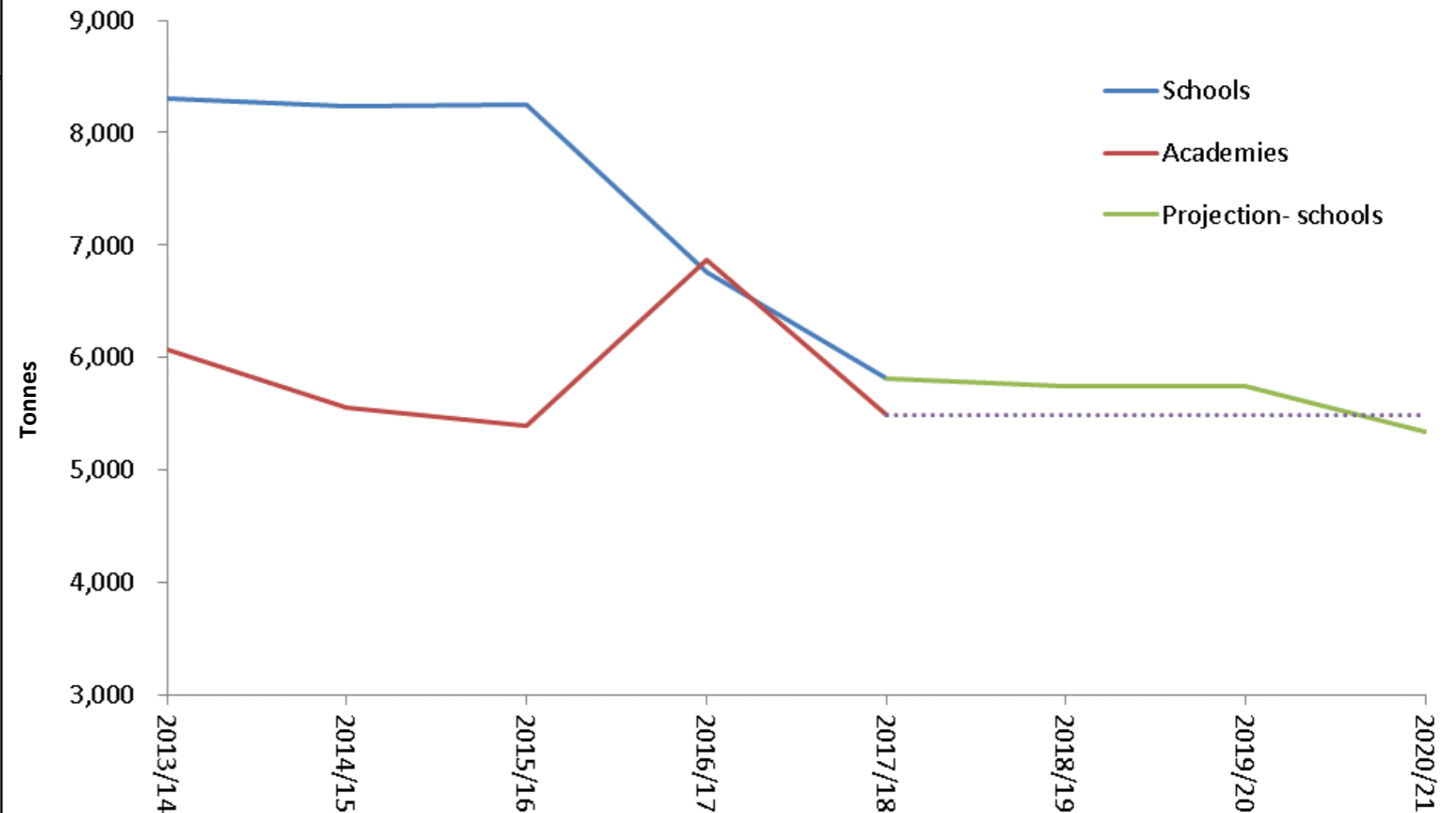
Future Emissions

The Council will continue to engage with its schools and use data collected from them to identify and implement a strategic approach to reducing carbon emissions across the school estate.

The Schools will continue to be supported with the implementation of their individual Low Carbon Action Plans which will be regularly reviewed to monitor progress.

Locally The Town Centre Heat Network offers potential partners (including schools) a low carbon heat and electricity network.

Carbon Emissions and Projections from Schools and Academies



External Influences

The Local Plan housing priority within the borough will increase the need for school places as developments are realised. This will mean that schools will need to expand to accommodate the additional pupils.

There is also increasing pressure on schools to provide community facilities outside of the normal school day meaning facilities are open longer resulting in increased energy use.

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.