



Save the Children



CARBON MAPPING REPORT 2017

May 2018

Carbon Mapping Report 2017

Carbon Mapping

We are committed to mapping our carbon footprint each year to understand and reduce the impact of our activities on the environment. We see the urgent need to mitigate climate change and its adverse impact on children.

Our actions respond to the feedback of our people, as well as donor and peer expectations. With children on the frontline of climate change, every penny saved and action taken will help us to achieve our ambitious goals for children.

Calculating our Carbon Footprint

Save the Children UK have mapped our annual carbon footprint since 2011. This report gives details of our 2017 carbon footprint, which covers emissions from the following areas for our six UK offices (London Headquarters and regional offices in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, Cardiff and Manchester) and 143 shops:

- Travel by staff (to/from/within the UK¹)
- Energy use (electricity, gas, other fuels) at our UK offices and shops
- Paper use (in our offices)
- Waste and recycling (from our offices)
- Water use (in our offices)

The reporting period is 1 January – 31 December 2017.

Our footprint is calculated in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) which is the standard unit for measuring carbon footprints. It expresses the impact of the three major greenhouse gases (that come from each direct or indirect use of fossil fuel in the above key areas) in units of carbon dioxide taking into account both amount and greenhouse-effect-potency. This allows us to come up with a standardised unit of measurement for each area, and for our overall footprint so that we can compare areas and compare ourselves to other companies. This analysis uses the most recent conversion factors and guidance from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA)².

The data provided is derived from energy bills, expenses claims, data collected by employees and information from our travel agency. All the information is stored and processed in a specially tailored Microsoft Excel spreadsheet developed by the charity Global Action Plan, when they carried out our first carbon mapping in 2012 for our 2011 footprint. The

spreadsheet has been updated to reflect the latest DEFRA conversion factors.

We are working to streamline the way in which we collect data and helping our staff to know what information is required for the mapping.

By analysing and sharing how our footprint is made up, we can identify key areas for improvement.

Our 2017 Carbon Footprint

In 2017, our carbon footprint was 6,122 tonnes CO₂e for our UK offices and shops that were active during the year. This equates to 5.27 tonnes CO₂e per member of staff.

Our use of transport for travel accounted for 63.9% of our footprint while electricity and paper were the second largest contributors at 19.4%. at 13.2% consecutively. Gas, waste, water and fuel consumption account for a much smaller part of our footprint making up the remaining 3.5% combined.

Our 2017 Carbon Footprint

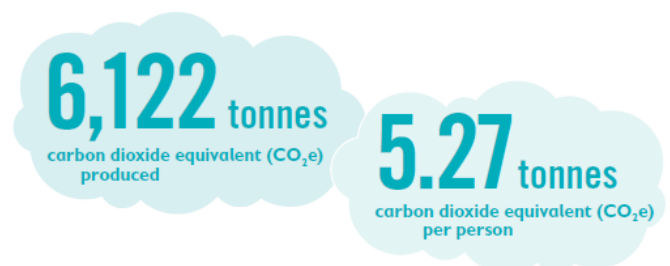


Figure 1 – Our overall Carbon Footprint in tonnes Carbon Dioxide equivalent (CO₂e)

¹ Our carbon footprint does not include any data for any offices or travel related to Save the Children International staff but some international travel is required by Save the Children UK

² Latest conversion factors and guidelines available here: <http://www.ukconversionfactorscarbonsmart.co.uk>

Carbon Mapping Report 2017

2017 CARBON FOOTPRINT BREAKDOWN

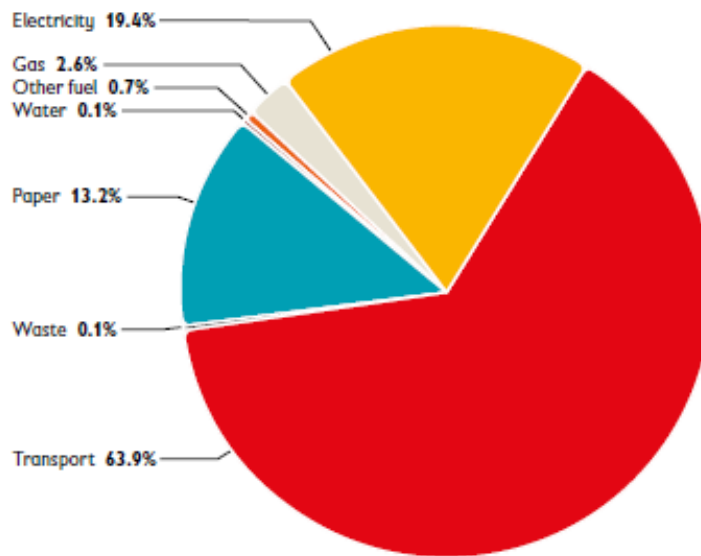


Figure 2 – How our Carbon Footprint is made up (key areas)

Below is some further analysis into Travel and Electricity, as the largest contributors to our carbon footprint.

Travel – 3,943.5 tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e)

Travel in 2017

Travel accounted for 3,943.5 tonnes CO₂e (63.9% of total CO₂e emissions)

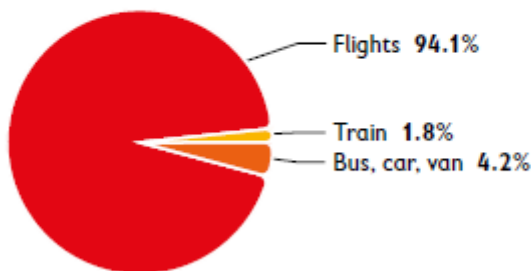


Figure 3 – How we travelled in 2017

In Figure 3, 'train' covers UK train and European train journeys and 'car/van' refers to staff transport in Save the Children cars and hire vans as well as personal cars used for work purposes.

Our carbon emissions produced by travel in 2017 have stayed almost exactly the same with a very small increase of 0.5% from 2016. Overall, in 2017 we travelled over 16 million miles. The largest proportion of our travel footprint is from flights. This is generally because, as an organisation with global reach, when necessary, we deploy specialist staff internationally in response to emergencies or technical capacity needs.

We do not currently include staff commuting in the analysis; as our Headquarters is in central London, the majority of staff travel by public transport or cycle in our Cycle to Work scheme. Our Edinburgh office runs a car-pool scheme for staff.

By understanding how much we travel by different types of transport, we can better understand where and how we could reduce carbon impact.

Electricity – 1,197.2 tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e)

Our electricity usage is divided between our offices (primarily our London headquarters) and our retail shops. Our headquarters has used a renewable energy supplier since 2012 and as our carbon tracker assumes an average grid energy mix, our footprint is in fact lower than the calculated figures.

In 2017, we used a total of 3,114,348 kWh of electricity which is an increase of 2.5% from 2016. Even though we have seen our overall consumption increase since 2016, the carbon emissions produced through this consumption has decreased significantly. This is because electricity became less carbon-intensive to produce in the UK in 2017. Our retail shops contribute 62% of our total electricity usage shown below in Figure 4. Due to the fluctuating nature in size, number, and the variance in electricity providers it is difficult to attribute this increase to any one particular cause. It could be down to an increase in larger shops with more floors, or in less energy efficient buildings for example. Or colder spells in specific areas where we have shops across the UK may be a contributing factor. At the moment we don't have the resources to investigate this further.

Carbon Mapping Report 2017

2017 electricity usage in our shops and offices

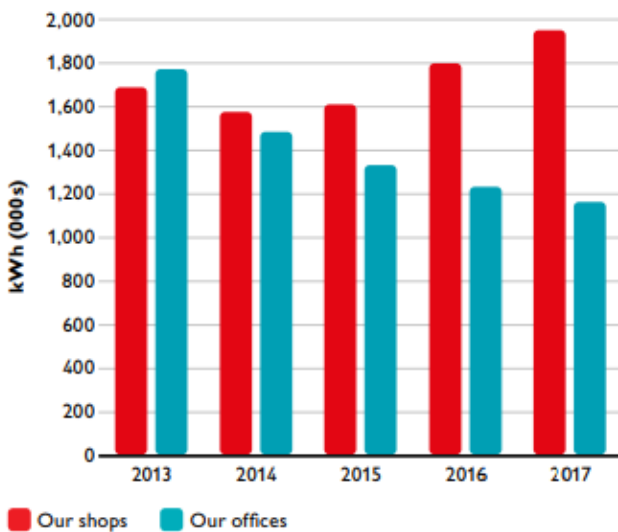


Figure 4 – Electricity used in our offices and shops

Going forward into 2018 we will look at further energy saving options. Using our carbon-mapping as a baseline, we aim to set targets to lower our energy consumption where we can for the coming years. The amount of electricity used in our head office has been steadily decreasing over the years as we have implemented energy saving schemes.

The other key areas monitored as part of our Carbon Mapping are pulled out below for top line analysis.

Gas – 162.3 tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e)

In 2017, our calculated gas use for heating was from our London Headquarters, our Edinburgh and Glasgow regional offices and 20 of our 136 shops.

Oil – 44.4 tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e)

Our Belfast office uses the heating oil Kerosene and in 2017 they used 8,400 litres, producing an equivalent of 40.4 tonnes CO₂e in emissions.

Paper – 671.6 tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e)

In 2017, we used 873.2 tonnes of paper. Data was collected from all of our 6 regional offices and includes external printing and office paper use. At our London headquarters 70% of the paper we ordered for internal office use was recycled paper in 2017.

Waste – 37.34 tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e)

We have calculated that we produced 81 tonnes of waste in 2017. Data was available for our London Headquarters and for three of our regional offices

Water – 65.6 tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e)

In 2017 our total measured water consumption equates to 3,849m³. Currently there is only complete data on water for our London Headquarters and four of our regional offices and only two shops, since water bills are often included in the rates and/or are not metered (as for our shops since 2017).

Analysis of overall footprint compared to previous years

Our 2017 footprint equates to 5.27 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) per person, which exceeds our normal range of 4.16–4.95 tonnes CO₂e per person based on our annual footprint over the last five years. It is an increase of 6.6% from last year's equivalent of 4.27 CO₂e tonnes per person. This increase is mainly due to an increase in paper consumption. This is in part because we have widened the scope of our paper usage monitoring to include toilet rolls and paper towels but is also due to a spike in humanitarian appeals, currently a paper-intensive process.

From previous carbon mapping reports, we can tell that the number of staff within Save the Children UK does not directly relate to the size of our carbon footprint. Therefore, our overall carbon footprint figure is perhaps more telling when comparing with previous years than the amount per person figure.

Apart from 2017's sharper increase in our overall footprint, the carbon footprints of the previous four years have little variance and are quite similar in how they are made up, with travel and electricity accounting for around 80-90% of the footprint every year. This demonstrates that our footprint is more influenced by our strategic and operational decisions as an organisation rather than the number of staff or their individual behaviours. This is because electricity in our offices is generally centrally controlled, and the amount of travel fluctuates mostly due to the number of emergencies we respond to and where they are geographically.

Overall the accuracy and the comprehensiveness of the data collected for our 2017 mapping has improved since 2016, but there are still improvements to be made. In 2017 changes to our online systems meant that mileage mapping was much easier to record and therefore more accurate. Also some regional offices had widened their reporting parameters to capture more carbon producing activities e.g. producing figures for toilet roll and paper towels.

Beyond the themes analysed in our carbon footprint of our offices and shops, we are looking into ways our staff can individually have a more positive impact, ways in which we can promote consideration of the environment throughout our supply chain and ways in which we can reduce our negative impact or increase our positive impact around our programmatic work. For example, in early 2018 several internal awareness raising events have taken place to

Carbon Mapping Report 2017

encourage behaviour change and to increase understanding of the relationship between our work and the environment. These include a recycling campaign, and a week of environmentally focussed presentations with external experts in the field. We have also started to weave environmental considerations into internal policies and surveys. In 2018 we also begun the revision of our Environmental Policy.

We are constantly looking into ways we can build a more comprehensive picture of our environmental impact and of ways in which we can reduce our negative impact or improve our positive impact and accountability.