

Headlines**Good performance or trends****2011/12 Year End**

- Recycling rates continue to increase, whilst landfill continues to decrease, but...
- Reduction in CO2 emissions overall in the LA area and through investment in energy efficient street lighting.
- Increase in character appraisals being undertaken for conservation areas and active management of sites to improve bio-diversity.

Areas of concern or in need of improvement**2011/12 Year End**

- Ability to increase recycling further without stepped change from PFI. Linked to landfill tax.
- The % development on brownfield sites has dropped significantly over the last 2 years, but this is due to legislative changes recategorising garden infill to greenfield.

Performance	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	Target	Trend
Climate change & carbon footprint							
Assessment of how the council is adapting to climate change	Level 0	Level 0	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 2	No change
Reduction in CO2 through investing in more efficient street lighting.	N/A	N/A	N/A	-7.50%	-13.64%	25% over 5 years	Decrease
Land & conservation							
Active management of local sites to improve bio-diversity in the York area	28%	40%	32%	38%	46%	45%	Increase
% of conservation areas with an up to date character appraisal	3%	9%	14%	23%	26%	26%	Increase
% of new homes built on previously developed land	94.8% (528/557)	95.2% (478/502)	95.9% (581/606)	86.9% (497/572)	68.6% (243/354)	65%	Decrease
Waste management							
Residual household waste (kg per household)	633g	629g	614g	582kg	564kg	560kg	Decrease
% household waste recycled /composted	43.37%	45.13%	43.26%	45.10%	46.41%	47.07%	Increase
% of municipal waste landfilled	57.37%	55.14%	56.73%	54.47%	52.92%	51.83%	Decrease
Cost of Landfill Tax to Council	£1.57m	£1.93m	£2.41m	£2.67m	£2.98m	Not set	Increase

Actions

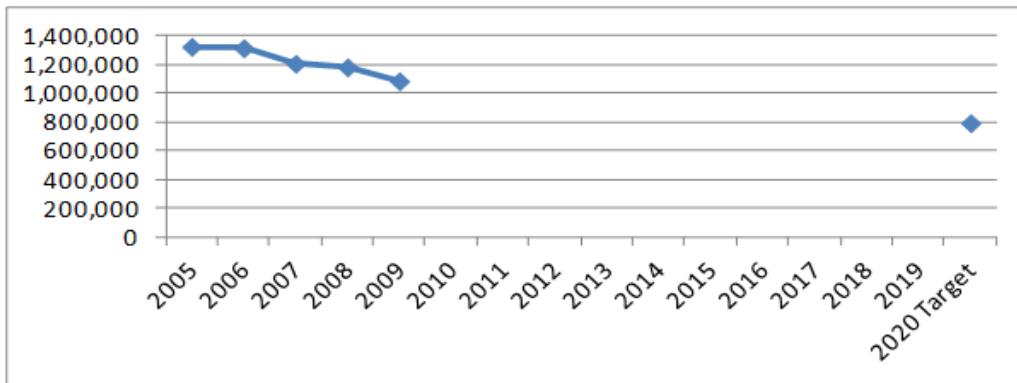
- Waste PFI will increase recycling and Local Power generation, with a planning application submitted to County Council in September 2011 and is under consideration with a decision anticipated in August 2012.
- Waste Strategy proposals include an action plan for Zero Waste and the Waste Minimisation Strategy. This is ready to be produced and published but is being held back until the outcome of the budget process - which is now finalised - and the decision on planning for Allerton Waste Recovery Park. The decision is due in August so it is planned to publish the revised Strategy in September 2012.
- Targeted marketing campaigns were delivered in the city to encourage further recycling and continue to improve the recycling rate for the city.
- A Green Infrastructure Strategy will combine the Tree Strategy and Bio Diversity Action Plan. It will be progressed through the LDF working group with formal consultation in June 2012. Internal consultation on work in progress continues on all elements.
- Implemented the Treemendous project with over 50,000 trees planted so far, including 1,100 as part of small local schemes.
- A draft Public Spaces Strategy has been produced that includes a list of potential improvement schemes and improved management standards informed by 'Reinvigorate York'. The strategy will be implemented in September

2012.

- Street lighting replacement work programme is ready to start in May 2012 to reduce the carbon foot print from street lighting energy consumption.
- An Air Quality Action Plan will be developed by December 2012 as a follow up to the Low Emission Strategy.
- A revised Carbon Management Improvement Programme for the council has been approved.
- The council continued to offer free loft and cavity wall insulation to York residents in partnership with Yorkshire Energy Partnership.
- Environmental Stewardship was implemented, as was habitat creation schemes including wild flowering of sections of the City Walls.
- The York Central Historic Core Conservation Area Character Appraisal was adopted, which is a first for a major City Conservation Area.
- Sandford Award for Heritage Education awarded to York Museum Trust in January 2012.
- Kersten England was a keynote speaker at an international heritage conference in Zhouzhuang, China

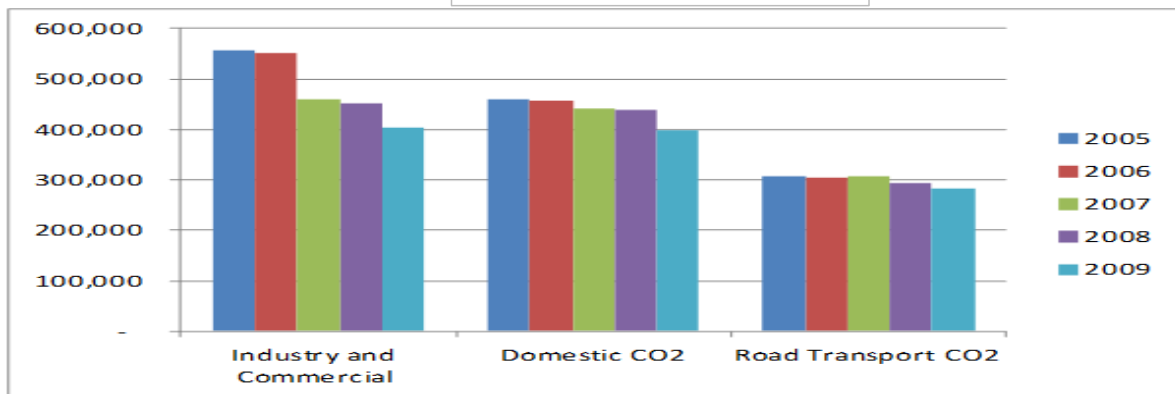
Performance

Climate change & Carbon footprint: There has been a 21% reduction in CO2 emissions in the LA area since the baseline year of 2005 (1,327,000 tonnes of CO2), showing good progress towards the 2020 target of a reduction of 40%. However the fact that the information takes 21 months to be prepared (figure for 2010 will be available September 2012) creates a risk that the trend may not be continuing in the correct direction. No alternative indicator has been identified.



Industry and Commercial organisations have been the largest contributor to CO2 reduction in York. There is a risk that this is the result of the reduction in economic activity rather than actions to directly reduce energy consumption. Domestic CO2 has reduced, but not at the same rate as industry and commerce. It is expected that energy cost increases of the last two years will drive down domestic consumption.

CO2 by sector 2005 to 2009



Comparator Local Authorities have been identified as Bath, Canterbury, Chester, Colchester, Oxford, and Swindon. These have a similar population density and affluence to York, which have been identified as common factors in CO2 footprint.

Of these authorities, York has achieved the largest reduction of 22% (range 12% to 22%). York domestic CO2 per capita in 2009 was 2.0 tonnes, the same as Canterbury, Oxford and Swindon. Only Colchester had lower at 1.9 tonnes.

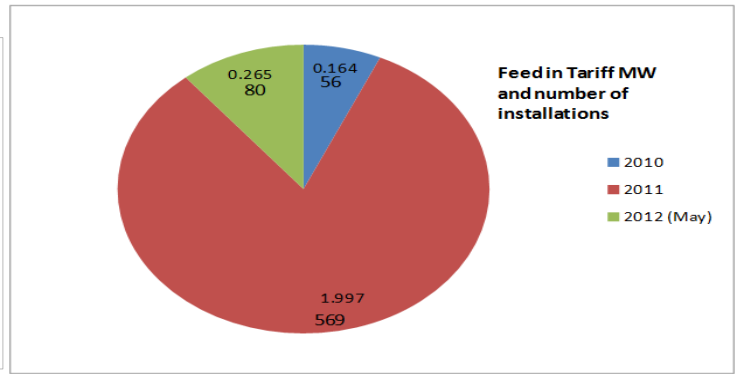
The greatest movement has been in the Industry and Commercial sector where the decrease is 30%. The GDP estimate for York by Gavurin (Centre for Cities) does not show a major decline in economic activity, however the decrease in CO2 between 2008 and 2009 may be influenced by reduced economic activity during 2008.

Climate change & Carbon footprint: The council has been graded as Level 1 for how it is adapting to climate change, with progress being made towards Level 2, including a full risk assessment of CYC services and beginning wider engagement with strategic partners. However to achieve Level 2 the council needs to begin implementing appropriate adaptive responses in priority areas and service plans.

In terms of reducing CO2 through more efficient street lighting, figures for the last 2 years (base point) total 20.14%, making good progress towards the 5 year target of -25%. However, further improvements will be harder to achieve.

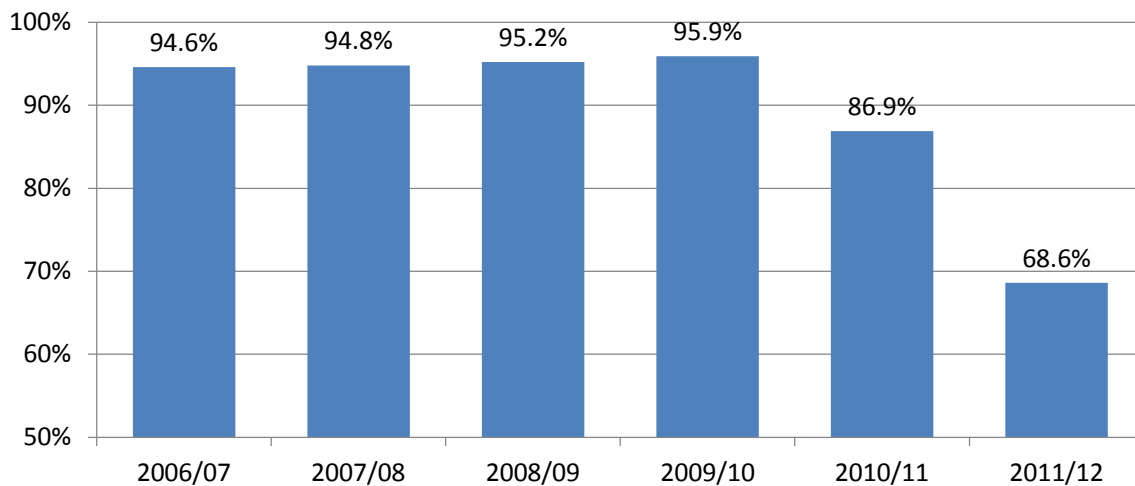
Renewable energy:

The Feed in Tariff chart shows the MW capacity and the number of schemes installed within York. The schemes are mainly Photovoltaic (PV) with a small amount of Micro Combined Heat Power (CHP) and Wind. The present high number of installations may not continue as the Feed in Tariff is being reduced, however installation costs have fallen and there are a number of well established businesses installing these systems. This may well see progress maintained.



Sustainable Development: Last year 86.89% of all new build housing completions were built on Brownfield land, representing a fall of around 9% on excellent performance levels achieved since 2006/07. This was partly due to an amendment to Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing (PPS 3) in June 2010 regarding the definition of 'garden infill' development which is now regarded as Greenfield. As predicted, the level of brownfield development in 2011/12 has continued to drop as a result of this change in definition. If this year's developments were classified by the old methodology, the % of brownfield development would be over 98%, consistent with earlier years.

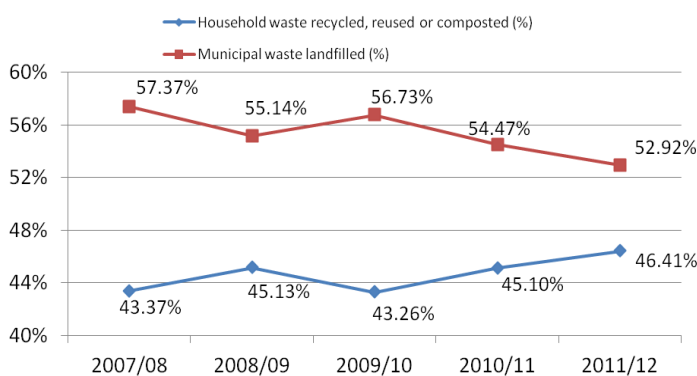
% of new homes built on previously developed land



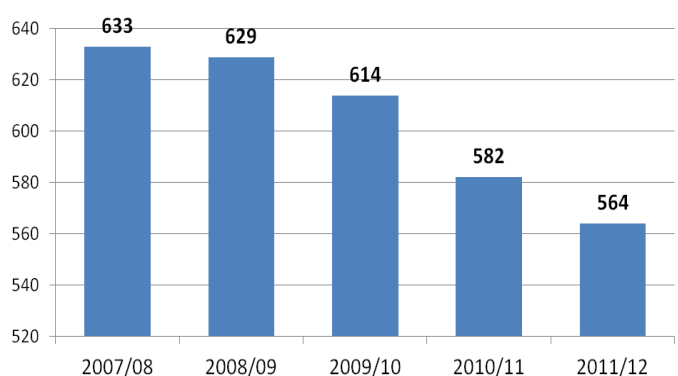
Land & conservation: The percentage of conservation areas with an up to date character appraisal met the challenging target of 26%, increasing from 23% in 2010/11. The active management of local sites to improve biodiversity increased to 46% this year, from 38% in 2010/11.

Waste management: Waste recycling levels continue to increase this year to 46.41%, but the ambitious target of a 2% increase has not been met (1.4% increase achieved). All York properties except farms and rural properties receive 2 kerbside recycle collections (currently 99.4% of York households), and there has been a 4% increase in the tonnage of waste composted. The percentage of waste landfilled has not met the target of 51.83% for 2011/12, but it has continued to improve.

Waste recycled and landfilled



Residual household waste per household (kg)



The amount of waste collected per household continues to decrease (564kg in total this year) and although the level for 2011/12 has not quite met the target of 560kg it is 12% below 2008 levels.

Despite the reduction in waste going to landfill, the council continues to pay higher levels of landfill tax each year because of high annual tax increases per tonne (see table below). Landfill tax rate has more than trebled since 2004/05 and an alternative to landfill is needed to meet statutory targets and to reduce the financial burden of paying Landfill Tax (Waste PFI).

Performance data	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	-/+ change
Tonnes of Landfilled waste - Household	50,850	52,000	49,180	48,070	-1,110
Tonnes of Landfilled waste - Commercial	9,480	8,300	6,410	5,420	-990
Tonnes of Landfilled waste - Combined	60,330	60,300	55,590	53,490	-2,100
Cost of landfill tax - Household	£1,627,200	£2,080,000	£2,360,640	£2,691,920	£331,280
Cost of landfill tax - Commercial	£303,360	£332,000	£307,680	£303,520	-£4,160
Cost of landfill tax - Combined	£1,930,560	£2,412,000	£2,668,320	£2,995,440	£327,120

Recent changes that affect this priority

- Natural Environment White Paper - actions to support the Government's 'natural environment vision' over next 50 years.
- CRCEE Energy Efficiency Scheme - mandatory scheme aimed at energy efficiency and cutting emissions in LAs and larger organisations, currently responsible for 10% of UK's emissions.