

Information Governance Team

Email: foi@york.ac.uk
www.york.ac.uk/records-management

Dear Theresa Shotton,

Freedom of Information Request Ref: F20_410

Thank you for your request for information from the University of York. Please see our response below.

1. I have looked at the most recent 2018/19 Estates HESA data for "Table 3 - Emissions and waste" and field: "Total scope 1 and 2 emission baseline for 2005 (tonnes CO2e)".

This field shows a total of 23,465 CO2e for the 2005 emission baseline.

2. However, York University's Carbon 2011 Management Plan says that the 2005 baseline was 25,032.
<https://www.york.ac.uk/media/abouttheuniversity/governanceandmanagement/documents/University%20of%20York%20Carbon%20Mgt%20Plan.pdf>
3. A BriteGreen report from April 2014 also shows a figure of 25,032 CO2e.
http://www.eauc.org.uk/file_uploads/brit...

Can the University please say which 2005 baseline figure is the correct CO2e figure and that this figure includes the 2011/12 onwards adjustment.

An adjustment was needed as an alternative Defra measure of equivalent carbon dioxide (CO2e) was applied post 2011/12. This change accounts for additional Greenhouse Gases, including CH4 and N2O and not just CO2 pre 2011/12.

The University's Carbon Management Plan was developed in line with HEFCE requirements. The emissions factor for electricity included both scope 2 and scope 3 (transmission and distribution) elements for the electricity factor applied to calculate the emissions.

The calculations for the HESA data only include scope 2 for electricity. HESA do not include the scope 3 element in their emissions calculations.

I can confirm that the University's carbon emissions calculations are carried out using the DEFRA 'UK Government Conversion Factors for Company Reporting', i.e. the calculations include the 2011/12 onwards CO2e adjustment.

I hope this information is useful.

Yours sincerely,

Information Governance Team