

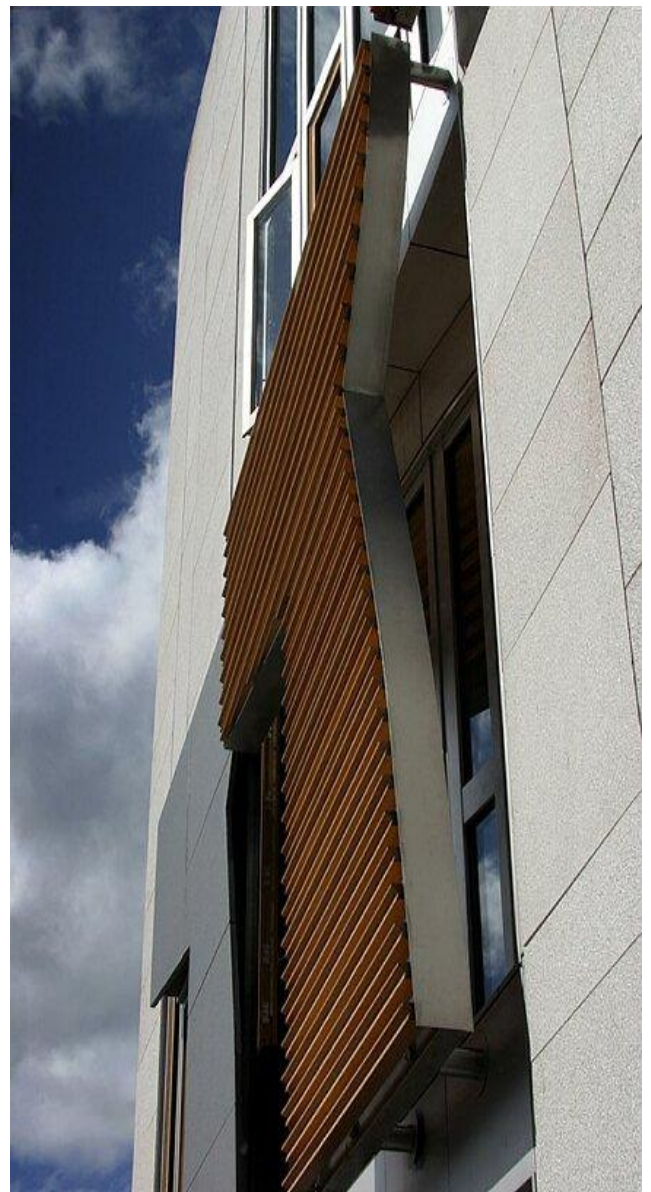
## Scottish Parliament's Green Success

**First public sector body  
in the UK to be  
awarded CEMARS**

**Leading the way in  
carbon measurement  
and reporting**

**Targets set to reduce  
emissions by 42% by  
2020**

**Certified by the world's  
first internationally  
accredited greenhouse  
gas scheme**



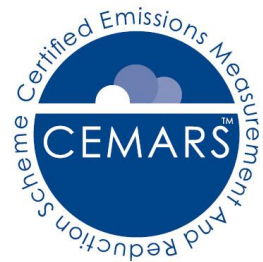
# Our Commitment

The Scottish Parliament (SP) has demonstrated leadership by significantly reducing those emissions which contribute to climate change. The Scottish Parliament accommodates around 1,200 building users including 129 elected members and their staff, around 500 Scottish Parliamentary Service staff, Scottish Government staff, contractors and members of the media. It also plays host to around 500,000 visitors a year.

The Scottish Parliament is committed to becoming a low carbon organisation and reducing its carbon emissions by 42% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 compared to the 2005/06 baseline. These targets are aligned with the Climate Change (Scotland) Act. If the medium term target of reducing emissions by 20% by 2015 is met it is estimated that the cost savings will be in the region of £245,000.

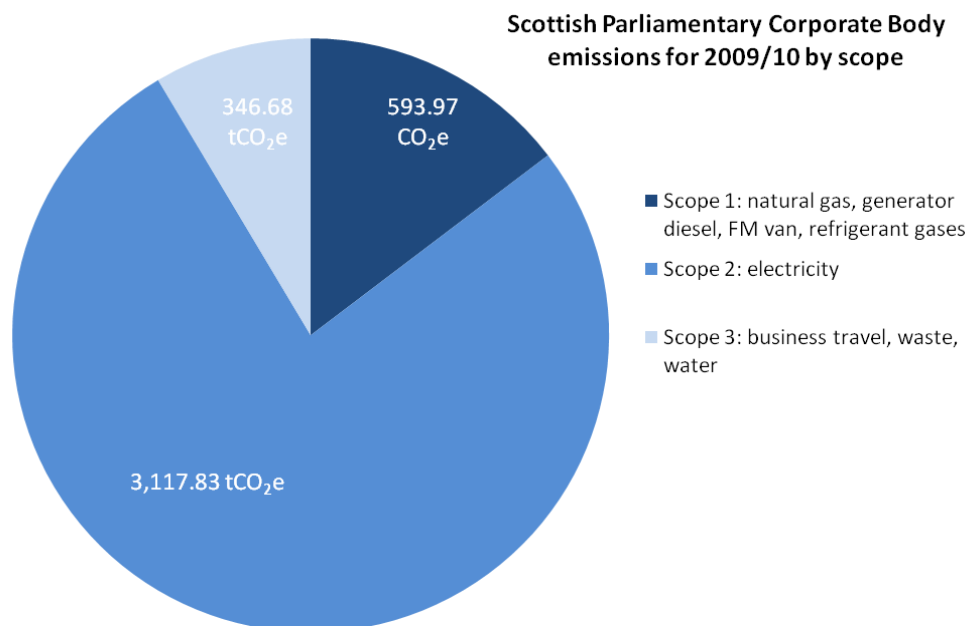
# Our Achievements

The Scottish Parliament is the first UK public sector organisation to achieve the CEMARS standard. This award recognises its comprehensive carbon measurement, credible reductions over the last three years and recognition of reduction initiatives going forward.



## Measurement

A comprehensive carbon footprint covering scope 1,2 and 3 emissions was measured equating to 4,059 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent for 2009/10. The breakdown of the carbon footprint is shown below. The key emissions source, comprising over 75% of the Scottish Parliament’s footprint, is electricity.



## Credible Reductions

Over the last three years, the Scottish Parliament has reduced its carbon footprint over Scope 1 and 2 by over five percent. Electricity usage which is the major emission source has reduced by eight percent. The electricity savings alone have generated £90,000 in savings.

There have been three major initiatives:

1. **Installation of more efficient LED lighting.** Replacing circulation and corridor lighting at the entrance and rear of the Debating Chamber and car park was estimated to have reduced emissions by 1.46% saving £11,000.
2. **Reducing energy used to keep the IT server rooms cool.** Installing free cooling units to carry the cooling load of the IT Communications Rooms.
3. **Reducing waste and increasing recycling.** Encouraging building users and staff to reduce, reuse and recycle where possible. A specific focus was made on reducing paper use through issuing electronic press cuttings, and reducing the number of hard copies of committee papers.

## Planned reduction initiatives

The Scottish Parliament has developed a detailed reduction plan in order to work towards the ambitious 2020 and 2050 reduction targets.

The key initiatives planned at present are:

1. **Green IT strategy.** Several areas of work are included in the green IT strategy including; desktop replacement moving the estate to modern energy efficient PCs, server virtualisation to replace core network servers and virtualise around 40 machines on to around 8 larger machines, printer review and consolidation to remove older less energy efficient machines.
2. **Reducing the gas usage in the MSP building.** Ensuring the Building Energy Management System switches off building services during public holidays and the maximum temperature is set to 22 degrees.
3. **Provide carbon travel planning tools for office heads to monitor business travel.** The focus of this project is to reduce, where appropriate, the need to travel and promoting the use of sustainable travel. Key decision makers will be provided with training to ensure that environmental considerations are applied when making decisions. Office heads will be able to access reports on the corporate portal to track the associated carbon spend with their decisions. Key targets can then be set by each office head in relation to their performance.

# Q & A with David Fairhurst

## Environmental Performance Manager at the Scottish Parliament

### *Why did you choose the CEMARS standard?*

*The CEMARS standard offered a comprehensive and robust approach to assessing the Parliament's carbon footprint. Assessment according to the international standard for carbon footprinting was particularly appealing and will give more credibility to work for reducing carbon emissions. In addition the Parliament wanted the efforts we have made in this area to be recognised in the CRC league tables.*

### *How is the standard helping SPCB?*

*The standard will help us demonstrate we are serious about reducing our environmental impact. It has also helped in preparation for the various CRC requirements.*

### *What is the biggest environmental challenge facing SPCB?*

*The biggest environmental challenge we face is to make year on year improvements in our environmental performance. The building is still only 11 years old and was built to a high environmental standard and we are committed to reducing the impact of the building and the organisation in the future. This is a challenge but we are confident we can make large reductions in carbon emissions and other environmental impacts.*

### *Has the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme increased focus on carbon reduction?*

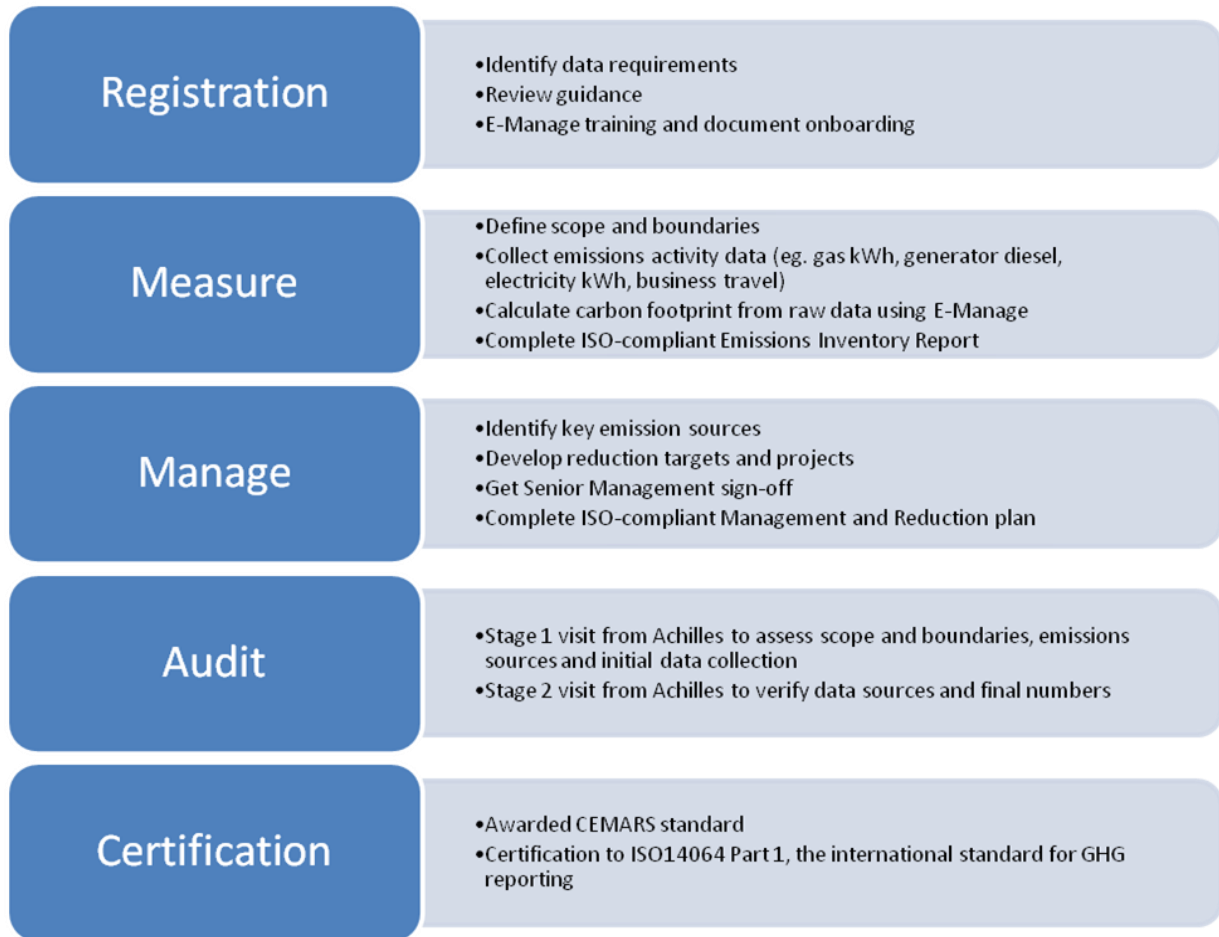
*We have always had a clear commitment to reduce its green house gas emissions and worked with the Carbon Trust to develop a Carbon Management Plan. The CRC scheme has not changed our clear focus on carbon emissions, rather improves the business cases for energy efficiency projects and strengthened the case for external verification of our carbon footprint.*

### *What would your advice be for other organisations on a low carbon journey?*

*Do your homework! Understand which elements of your organisation contribute the most to your carbon footprint and investigate those projects either technical or behavioural that will deliver the most cost effective and feasible reduction. Put them together into a plan and keep to it.*

***“CEMARS is the most robust standard internationally. It demonstrates we are serious about measuring and reducing the Scottish Parliament's impact on the environment.”***

# Steps to achieve CEMARS



CEMARS (Certified Emissions Measurement And Reduction Scheme) recognises organisations for credible carbon measurement, management and reduction. An organisation must measure their carbon emissions across Scope 1, 2 and 3 as well as develop a detailed reduction plan with targets and key initiatives outlined. An organisation has five years from the base year to demonstrate either an absolute or relative reduction in carbon emissions. Organisations affected by the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme may also use CEMARS to demonstrate carbon reductions achieved over the last three years. CEMARS is the only standard in the UK accredited to ISO 14065, the recognised international standard for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies.