



The public sector requirement to quantify carbon emissions

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Why does the public sector need to quantify carbon emissions?



- To account for the direct carbon footprint of its ongoing operations
- To understand the total carbon footprint (direct and indirect) of its ongoing operations
- To assess the likely carbon impact of its investment decisions and make informed carbon choices
- To understand the likely carbon impacts of its planning decisions and local development plan policies

Carbon a second currency?

- Monetaring carbon allows us to reconcile carbon cost and to money decisions on a single (familiar) basis
 - Low carbon value could lead to carbon compromised decisions
 - It may not deliver the emission cuts we need

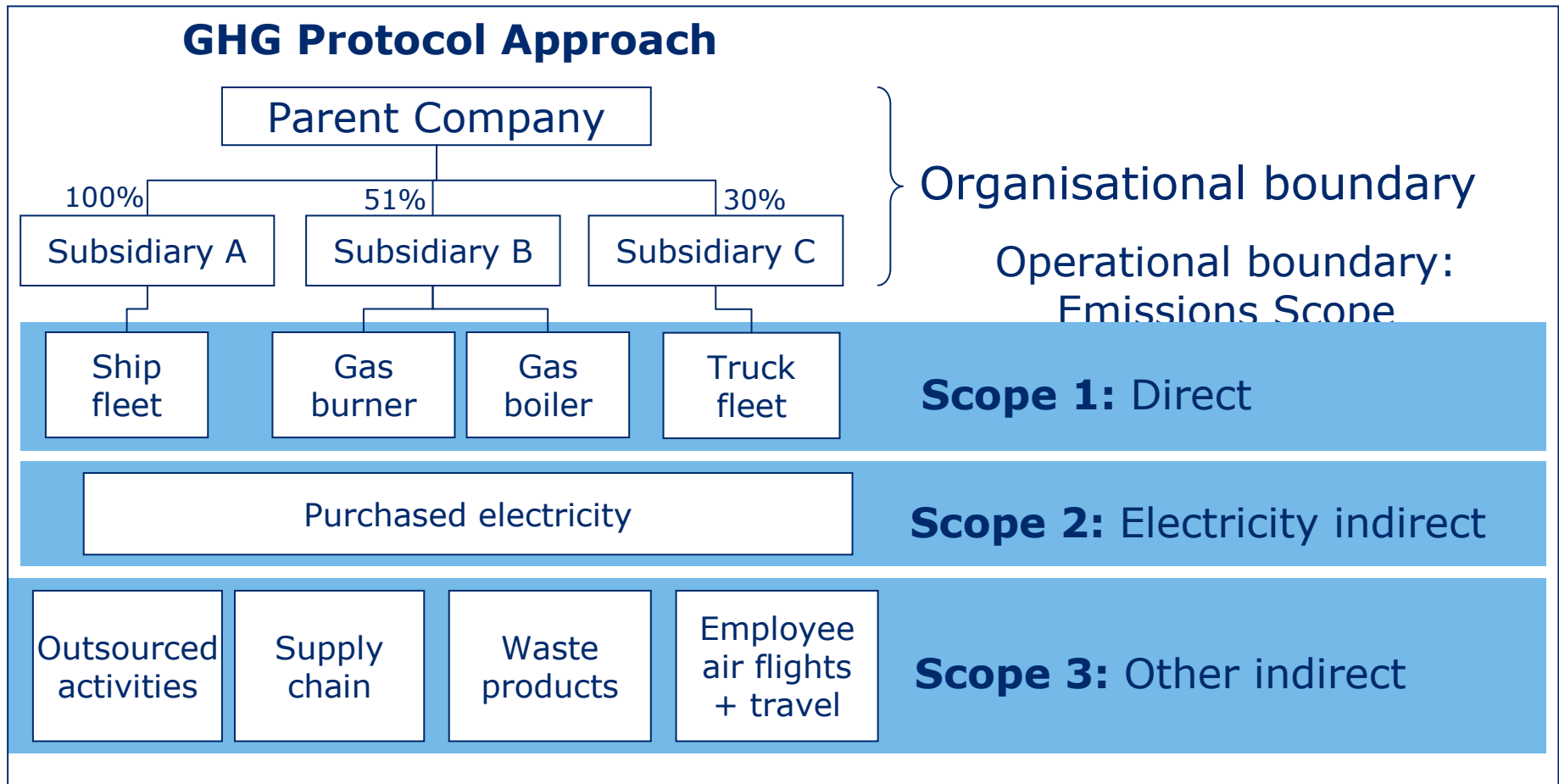
- Cutting carbon emissions is an absolute
 - Scottish Government
 - “ *The Scottish Climate Change Bill will therefore include enabling provisions to allow duties to be placed on public bodies*”
 - Fife Council
 - “*We will be giving each service a carbon budget that will be reduced to 20% of its current value by 2050*”

Requirements for Carbon Accounting



- To provide a clear and unambiguous statement of impact;
 - Numerical
 - Recognised methodology
 - Clearly established boundaries
 - Verifiable
- Allows;
 - Progress to be assessed
 - Comparisons to be made
 - Myths to be uncovered
 - Efforts to be accurately focused
 - Mandatory reporting (Scottish Government?)
 - Regulatory compliance (e.g. EU ETS, CRC)

Defining boundaries is important !



The GHG Protocol and ISO 14064 offer guidance on defining boundaries

Local authority emission impacts and influencers



- Carbon footprint of owned buildings & streetlighting
- Carbon footprint of transport fleet and staff travel
- Carbon emissions of contracted & devolved services
- Carbon emissions arising from municipal waste
- Staff commuting
- Embedded carbon in;
 - New buildings and infrastructure (roads)
 - Products and services
 - Food
- Carbon impact of transport network investments
- Carbon impact of planning (out of town shopping)



Tools available

- WRI GHG Protocol and ISO 14064
- Carbon Trust CM baselining tools
- Carbon Trust footprinting methodology
- Carbon Trust Standard
- PAS 2050 and associated guidance
- REAP (Resource and Energy Analysis Programme)
- AEAT – local emissions inventory
- Triple bottom line (Stockholm Inst Procurement tool)
- GRIP – (Greenhouse gas regional inventory project)
- Scottish Government project assessment methodology (future)