

ACT Sport and Recreation

Our carbon footprint as we move

In May 2019 the ACT joined many other cities, states and territories around the world in declaring a climate emergency, acknowledging the need for government leadership and action. The journey to our target of net zero emissions by 2045 is already well-progressed, with our electricity supply already 100% renewable.

Sport is often seen at the forefront of emerging issues and broad societal change.

Climate change will impact on all aspects of our lives, including sport and recreation. It will shape how, when and where we participate. Sport's reach, appeal and power to inspire uniquely places it as a vehicle to promote climate change awareness and encourage action.

CBR Next Move, the ACT's Government's sport and recreation strategy for 2023-2028, recognises this changing climate, acknowledging the need for sport to continue to adapt and to embed environmental sustainability and best practice is central to our endeavours to get our community active.

Government's first year action plan for CBR Next Move prioritises the need to better understand the sport and recreation sector's current carbon footprint as the base from which future progress can be measured.

Carbon emissions are measured in tonnes CO2 equivalent (e).

For community sporting clubs and associations emissions fall within three areas:

Scope 1

Operating emissions from all facility operations, including operational vehicles and equipment

Scope 2

Electricity emissions associated with venue operations.

Scope 3

Emissions derived from all goods and services associated with the organisation and its operations, including spectator and player travel and attendance

All ACT Government facilities are currently monitored for Scope 1 emissions.

By virtue of the Territory's renewable electricity supply, there are ZERO Scope 2 CO₂-e emissions associated with the operation of ACT Government sportsgrounds and stadia including lighting, irrigation and amenities.

However, some ACT Government sport and recreation facilities do have emissions associated with the use of Natural Gas.

In 2022 the total Scope 1 CO₂-e emissions was 2,587.09 CO₂e(t), with more than 96% of these emissions related to the operation of the six ACT Government Pools. Stromlo Leisure Centre [736.21 CO₂-e(t)] was the single largest contributor to this total.

The operation of major Stadia, GIO and Manuka, accounted for just less than 83 CO₂-e(t).

Future Work

- 1 Engagement of support to deliver Scope 1 analysis across the ACT Sport and Recreation Facility landscape, beyond just ACT Government facilities;
- 2 Assist ACT sporting organisation to develop clear policies to address Climate Change and their environmental sustainability;
- 3 Undertake a Case Study to explore Scope 3 emission in an ACT State Sporting Organisation to support sector learning and policy development.