

People & Culture Committee

Date of Meeting	18 February 2026
Paper No.	PCC2-N
Agenda Item	6.3
Subject of Paper	Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2024/25
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	Allison Miller
Date of production	
Action	Noting

1. Recommendations

To note that the College Annual Climate Change Return Report 2024/25 (Appendix 1), required under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 (the Act), reflects the statutory Public Bodies Climate Change Duties placed on the College.

2. Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide the Board with information that the College is required to submit through the statutory public sector reporting framework in accordance with the Act.

2.2 The detailed requirements for reporting are as required by the Act. This places specific duties on all public bodies relating to climate change.

2.3 Under the PBCCD Amendment Order 2020, the College must also report: the target date for achieving zero direct greenhouse gas emissions; targets for reducing indirect emissions; how spending plans and resource use align with emissions-reduction goals.

3. Key insights from the 2024/25 PBCCD submission include:

Areas of Strength

- Emissions reporting aligns closely with public-sector best practice.
- Responsible procurement activity is strong and well documented.
- Completion of the staff-commuting survey improved data quality for this year's return.

4. Impact and Implications

4.1 Compliance:

Submission of the PBCCD report ensures the College meets statutory duties. continued compliance will rely on maintaining accurate data collection, monitoring emissions, and evidencing progress.

4.2 Resource Requirements:

With expanded reporting expected from 2026 guidance, the College may need dedicated additional staffing, upskilling, or continued external support.

4.3 Operational Implications:

PBCCD findings highlight the need for structured action planning on emissions reduction, adaptation, and sustainable procurement. Climate considerations must increasingly shape estates planning, digital strategy, curriculum development, and wider operations procurement.

4.4 Strategic Risks:

Insufficient action or resourcing presents risks including non-compliance, reputational damage, future financial implications, and misalignment with sector and national sustainability commitments.

4.5 Next Steps:

Key actions include:

- reviewing the forthcoming 2026 PBCCD guidance.
- strengthening data collection (especially indirect emissions and travel).
- aligning sustainability objectives with strategic and financial planning.

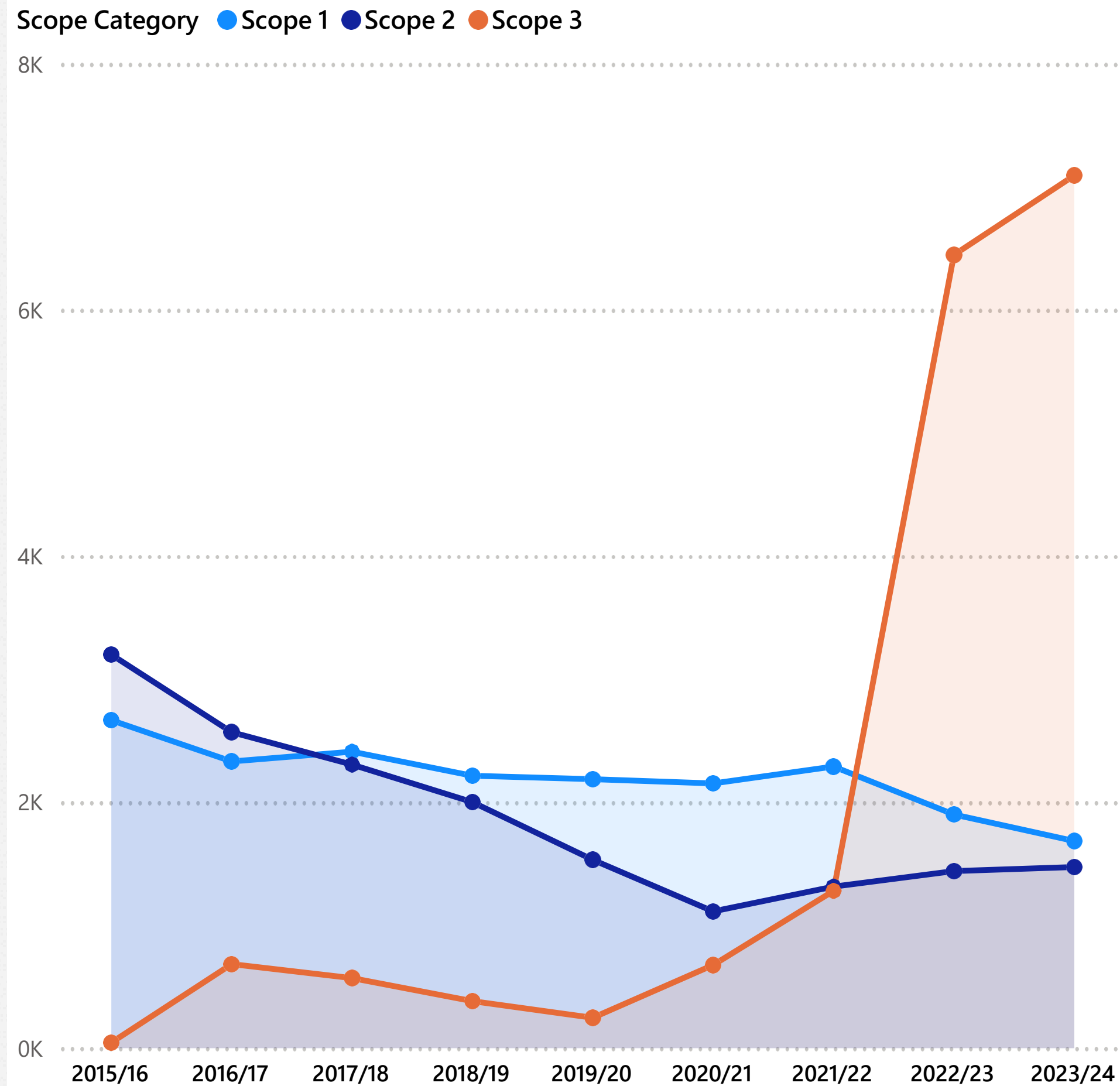
Appendix 1

[Total Reported Emissions - Emissions - Power BI](#)

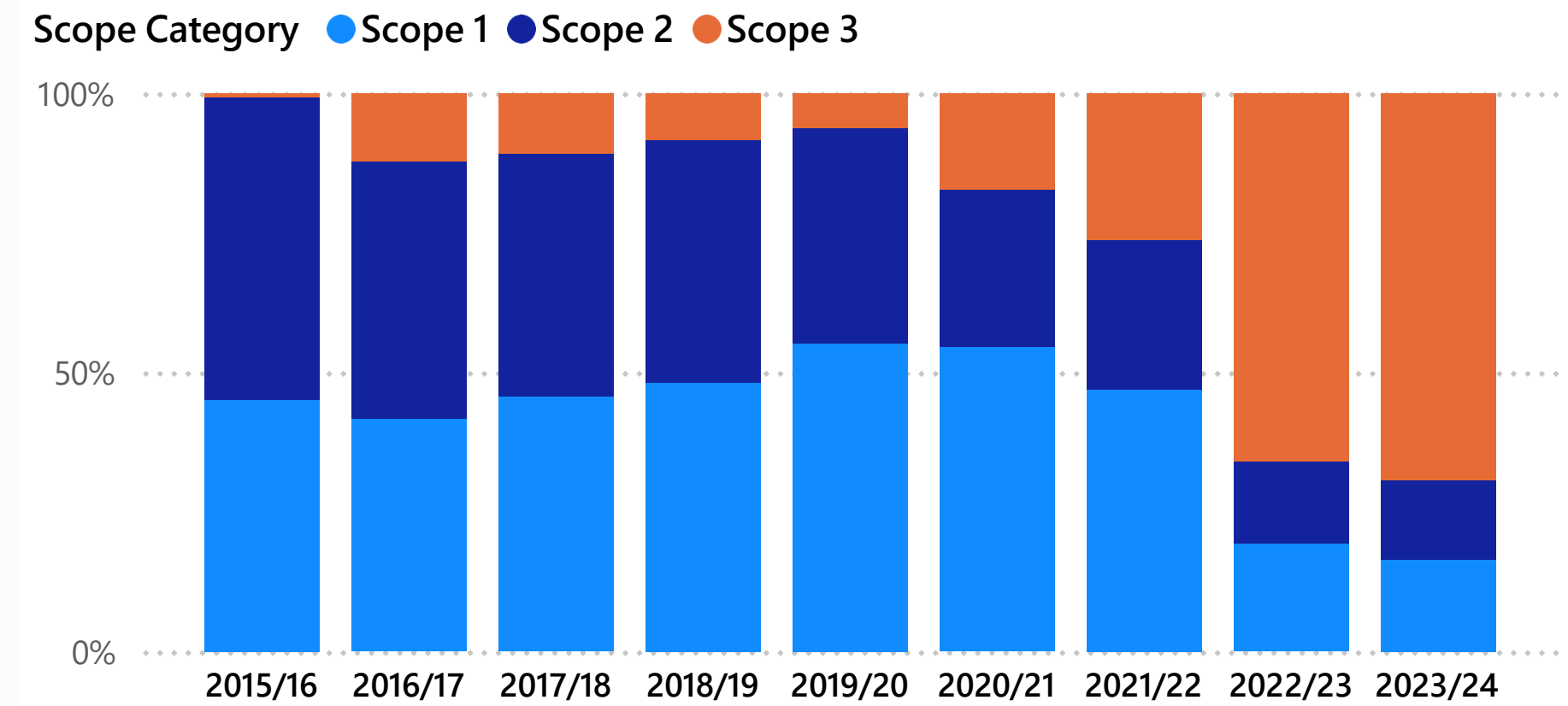
Emissions Report

Total Reported Emissions

Total reported emissions by scopes and reporting year (tCO₂e)



Percentage of reported emissions by scopes and reporting year



Total reported emissions (tCO₂e) by reporting year

