



EARTHCHECK

# BENCHMARKING ASSESSMENT REPORT (REVISED ASSESSMENT)

DESTINATION BENCHMARKING

**WESTFJORDS**

ÍSAFJÖRÐUR, ICELAND



REPORT DATE: 5 October 2016

Benchmarking Data Collection Period: 1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015

*The planet deserves more than half measures*

## OVERVIEW

This annual assessment of **Westfjords** was undertaken against EarthCheck benchmarking indicators and checklists developed for EarthCheck and listed below. <sup>1</sup> They have been carefully selected to track performance in key areas of environmental and social performance impact. The Lead Agency responsible for collection, collation and authorization of the information required by the indicators was the **Municipality Association of the Westfjords**.

|                                |                 | <b>Indicator Measure (Benchmark)</b>  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| <b>1</b>                       | Policy          | Policy is produced and in place <sup>2</sup>  |
| <b>2</b>                       | Energy          | Energy Consumption (GJ / Person Year) <sup>2</sup><br>Green Power (%) <sup>4</sup><br>Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Person Year) <sup>3</sup><br>Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Person Year) <sup>3</sup>  |
| <b>3</b>                       | Water           | Potable Water Consumption (kL / Person Year) <sup>3</sup><br>Recycled / Captured Water (%) <sup>4</sup>   |
| <b>4</b>                       | Waste           | Waste Sent to Landfill (m <sup>3</sup> / Person Year) <sup>3</sup><br>Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%) <sup>4</sup>  |
| <b>5</b>                       | Sector Specific | Nitrous Oxides Produced (kg / Person Year / Hectare) <sup>3 5</sup><br>Sulphur Dioxide Produced (kg / Person Year / Hectare) <sup>3 5</sup><br>Particulate Matter Produced (kg / Person Year / Hectare) <sup>3 5</sup><br>Water Samples Passed (%) <sup>2</sup><br>Habitat Conservation Area (%) <sup>2</sup><br>Green Space (%) <sup>2</sup><br>Significant Site Maintenance Fund (%)<br>Destination Safety – Homicide Rate (%)<br>Destination Safety – Theft Rate (%)<br>Destination Safety – Assault (%)<br>Socio-Economic Benefit – Unemployment Rate (%)<br>Accredited Operations (%) <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>Lead Agency Performance</b> |                 |   |
| <b>6</b>                       | Water Savings   | Water Savings Rating (Points) <sup>6</sup>  |
|                                | Waste Recycling | Waste Recycling Rating (Points) <sup>6</sup>  |
|                                | Paper           | Paper Products Rating (Points) <sup>6</sup>   |
|                                | Cleaning        | Cleaning Products Rating (Points) <sup>6</sup>  |
|                                | Pesticides      | Pesticide Products Rating (Points) <sup>6</sup>   |

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the relevant EarthCheck Sector Benchmarking Indicator (SBI) document for more details. For frequently asked questions (FAQs) about benchmarking or specific help, please log on to 'My EarthCheck'.

<sup>2</sup> Produced by the lead agency after consultation with the community and consensus.

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<sup>3</sup> Person Year is equivalent to 365 person days. EarthCheck Destinations must also allow for both resident and transient (tourist) populations in indicators assessed on a per person year basis. Tourist activity is classified into an “overnight stay” or “day tripper”. An overnight stay is counted the same as a permanent resident, that is, 1 person day. A day tripper is counted as 0.333 person day.

<sup>4</sup> These indicators are for guidance only and do not affect the overall benchmarking evaluation.

<sup>5</sup> Primary assessed impacts on air quality are emissions due to electricity consumption, vehicular transport, industrial processes and mining. The levels are calculated on a per unit area basis using total emissions and total bounded area of the Destination, including waterways. The data is then normalized against the average number of person years per area of the country.

<sup>5</sup> Assessed for the lead agency only.

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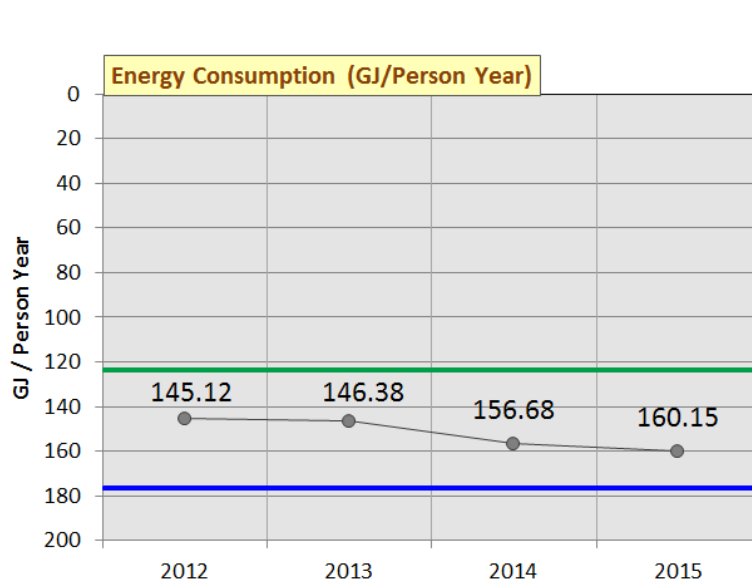
## DESTINATION PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

**Current performance:** Below Baseline ✖ At or above Baseline ✔ At or above Best Practice ★

### 1. Policy ★

### 2. Energy

#### Energy Consumption (GJ / Person Year) ✔

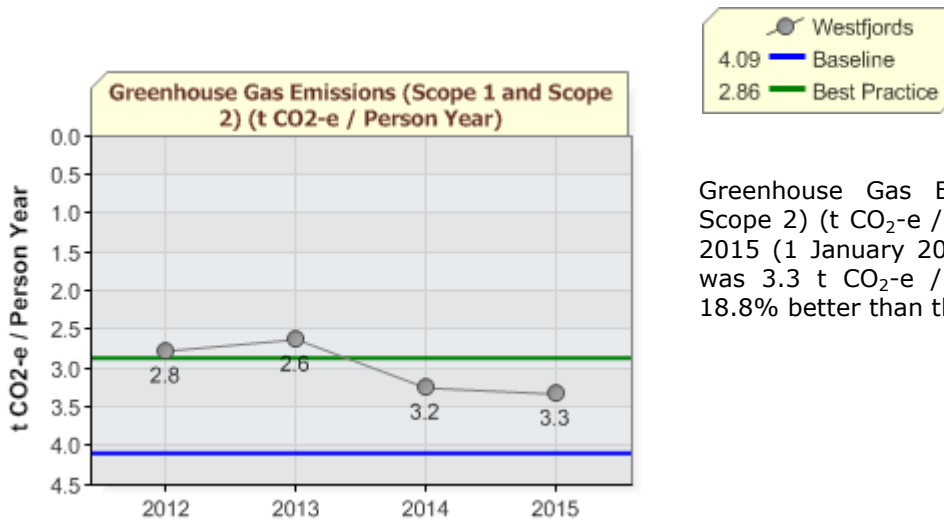


Energy Consumption (GJ / Person Year) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 - 31 December 2015) was 160.15 GJ / Person Year, which was 9.4% better than the Baseline level.

#### Green Power (%)

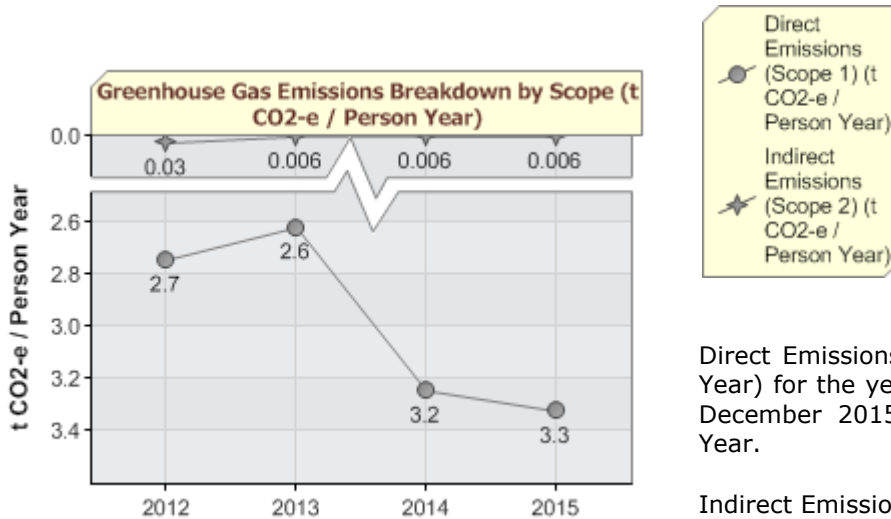
Not Applicable

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year) ✓



Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 - 31 December 2015) was 3.3 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year, which was 18.8% better than the Baseline level.

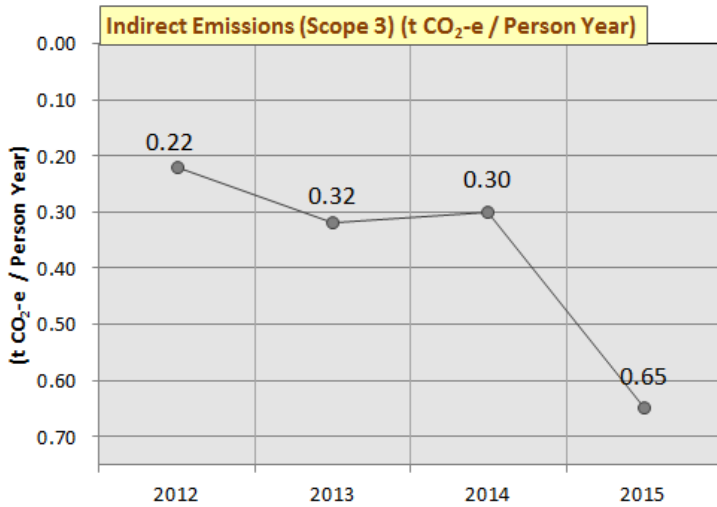
## Greenhouse Gas Emissions Breakdown by Scope (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year)



Direct Emissions (Scope 1) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 - 31 December 2015) was 3.3 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year.

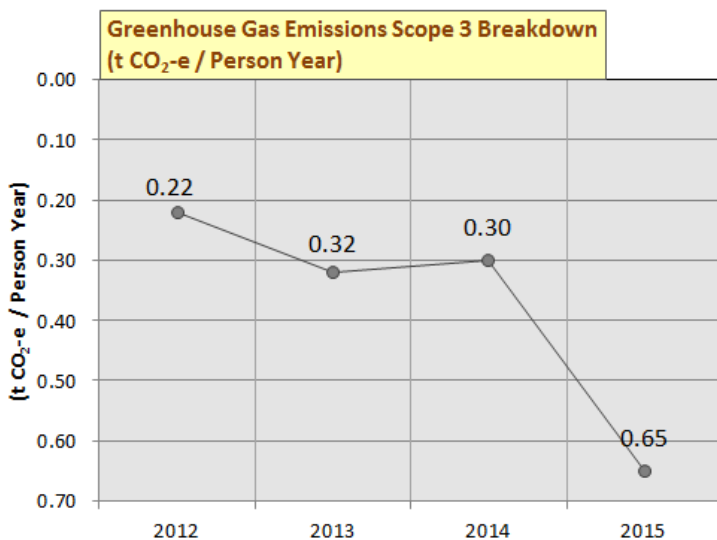
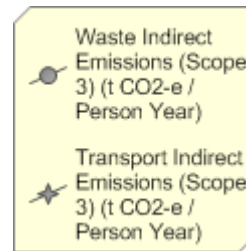
Indirect Emissions (Scope 2) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 - 31 December 2015) was 0.006 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year.

### Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year)



Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 0.65 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year.

### Greenhouse Gas Emissions Scope 3 Breakdown (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year)



Waste Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 0.65 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year.

| <b>Direct Emissions (Scope 1)</b>                     |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Stationary Fuel Combustion</b>                     |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| <b>2015</b>   |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| Type  | Quantity                                    | Unit                                | Energy Consumption (MJ) | CO <sub>2</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | CH <sub>4</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | N <sub>2</sub> O Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | Total Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)            |   |  |
| Diesel  | 199393                                      | litres (L)                          | 7616194.5               | 536.1  | 1.5  | 1.3   | 539.0   |   |  |
| subtotal  |   |                                     | 7616194.5               | 536.1  | 1.5  | 1.3   | 539.0   |   |  |
| <b>Mobile Fuel Combustion (road)</b>                  |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| <b>2015</b>   |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| Type  | Quantity                                    | Unit                                | Energy Consumption (MJ) | CO <sub>2</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | CH <sub>4</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | N <sub>2</sub> O Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | Total Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)            |   |  |
| Motor gasoline  | 3418199                                     | litres (L)                          | 116910881.2             | 7696.8   | 58.3   | 275.4   | 8030.6  |   |  |
| Diesel  | 5444695                                     | litres (L)                          | 207970470.4             | 14640.1  | 16.2   | 238.9   | 14895.1   |   |  |
| LPG   | 230619                                      | litres (L)                          | 6223936.6               | 353.5  | 7.3  | 0.3   | 361.1   |   |  |
| subtotal  |   |                                     | 331105288.2             | 22690.4  | 81.8   | 514.7   | 23286.8   |   |  |
| <b>Mobile Fuel Combustion (water)</b>                 |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| <b>2015</b>   |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| Type  | Quantity                                    | Unit                                | Energy Consumption (MJ) | CO <sub>2</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | CH <sub>4</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | N <sub>2</sub> O Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | Total Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)            |   |  |
| Diesel  | 7157  | litres (L)                          | 273375.2                | 19.2   | 0.04   | 0.2   | 19.4  |   |  |
| subtotal  |   |                                     | 273375.2                | 19.2   | 0.04   | 0.2   | 19.4  |   |  |
| <b>Onsite Wastewater Treatment</b>                    |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| <b>2015</b>   |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| Type  | Number of people serviced by system per day |                                     | Number of days in use   | CO <sub>2</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | CH <sub>4</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | N <sub>2</sub> O Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | Total Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)            |   |  |
| Septic (BOD Unknown)                                  | 3629  |                                     | 365                     | -  | 500.7  | -   | 500.7   |   |  |
| subtotal  |   |                                     |                         | -  | 500.7  | -   | 500.7   |   |  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  |   |                                     | <b>338994857.9</b>      | <b>23245.8</b>   | <b>584.0</b>   | <b>516.2</b>  | <b>24345.9</b>  |   |  |
| <b>Indirect Emissions (Scope 2)</b>                   |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| <b>Purchased Electricity</b>                          |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| <b>2015</b>   |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| Quantity  | Unit  | % Green Power                       | Provider                | Energy Consumption (MJ)                                  | CO <sub>2</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | CH <sub>4</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)  | N <sub>2</sub> O Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | Total Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)            |  |
| 231956000   | Kilowatt hour (kWh)                         | Not Applicable*                     | Iceland                 | 835041600.0  | 42.4   | 0.1   | 0.7   | 43.3  |  |
| subtotal  |   |                                     |                         | 835041600.0  | 42.4   | 0.1   | 0.7   | 43.3  |  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  |   |                                     |                         | <b>39588469.2</b>  | <b>42.4</b>  | <b>0.1</b>  | <b>0.7</b>  | <b>43.3</b>   |  |
| <b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2)</b> |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                                    |   |                                     |                         | <b>1174036457.9</b>                                      | <b>23288.2</b>   | <b>584.2</b>  | <b>516.9</b>  | <b>24389.3</b>  |  |
| <b>Indirect Emissions (Scope 3)</b>                   |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| <b>Waste Sent to Landfill</b>                         |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| <b>2015</b>   |   |                                     |                         |  |  |   |   |   |  |
| Quantity  | Unit  | Type of Landfill                    | Type of Waste           | Type of Operation  | Source   | CO <sub>2</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)  | CH <sub>4</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)  | N <sub>2</sub> O Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) | Total Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e) |
| 303.99  | tonnes (uncompacted)                        | Uncovered and/or unmanaged landfill | Wood and straw          |  | International  | 0.0   | 915.0   | 0.0   | 915.0  |

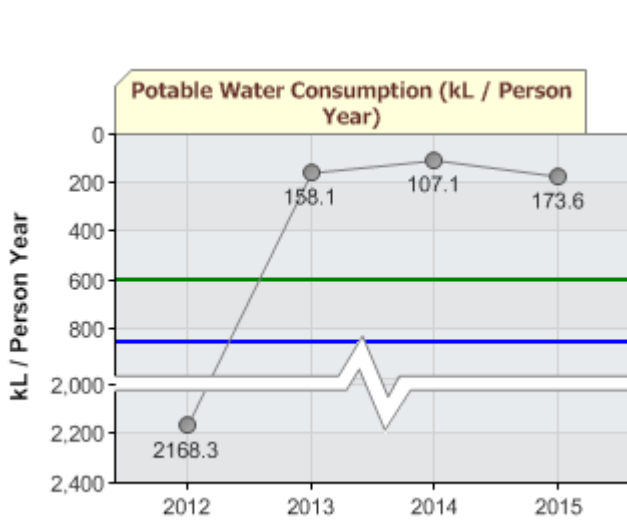
|              |                         |   |                                |                 |               |            |               |            |               |
|--------------|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| 871          | tonnes<br>(uncompacted) | Uncovered and/or<br>unmanaged landfill                | Unknown (mixed<br>waste types) | Other Operation | International | 0.0        | 1045.2        | 0.0        | 1045.2        |
| 2340         | tonnes<br>(uncompacted) | Covered and/or<br>managed waste<br>treatment facility | Unknown (mixed<br>waste types) | Other Operation | International | 0.0        | 2808.0        | 0.0        | 2808.0        |
| subtotal     |                         |   |                                |                 |               | 0.0        | 4768.2        | 0.0        | 4768.2        |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                         |   |                                |                 |               | <b>0.0</b> | <b>4768.2</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>4768.2</b> |

\*A Green Power Agreement is unavailable for purchased as standard grid supply of electricity is from close to 100% renewable energy sources in Iceland.



### 3. Water

#### Potable Water Consumption (kL / Person Year) ★

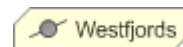
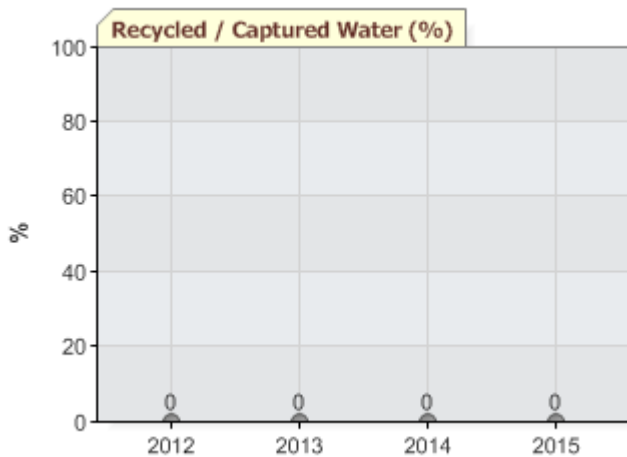


Potable Water Consumption (kL / Person Year) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 173.6 kL / Person Year, which was 70.7% better than the Best Practice level.

#### 2015

| Quantity   | Unit         | Potable Water Consumption (kL) |
|------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 1272844905 | litres       | 1272844.9 kL                   |
|            | <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>1272844.9 kL</b>            |

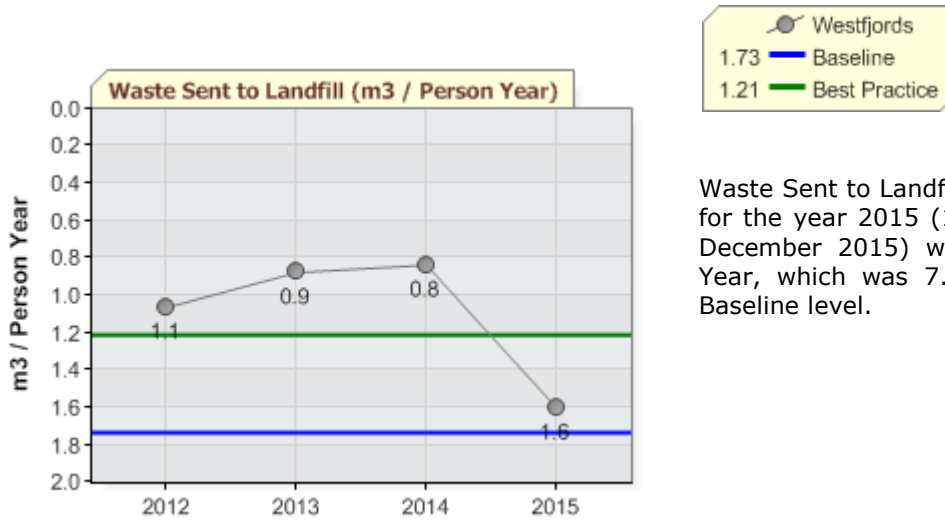
#### Recycled / Captured Water (%)



Recycled / Captured Water (%) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 0%.

## 4. Waste

### Waste Sent to Landfill (m<sup>3</sup> / Person Year) ✓

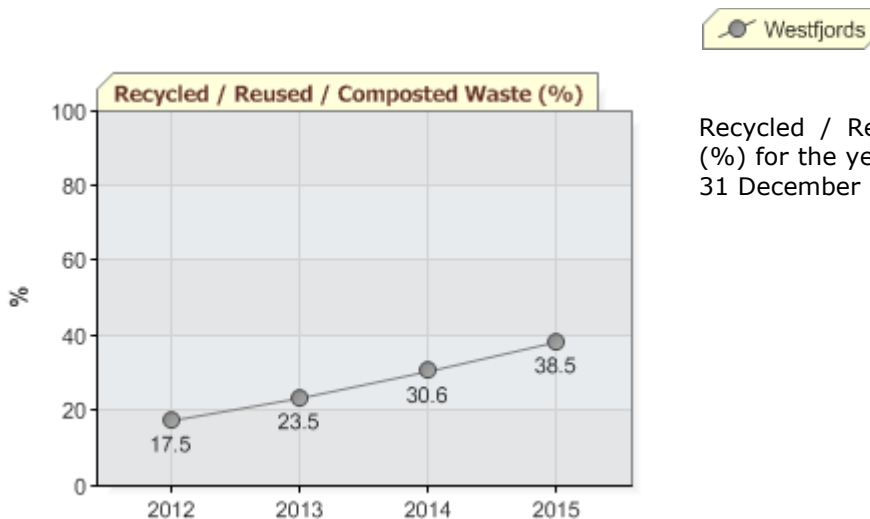


Waste Sent to Landfill (m<sup>3</sup> / Person Year) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 1.6 m<sup>3</sup> / Person Year, which was 7.6% better than the Baseline level.

### 2015

| Quantity | Unit                 | Type of Landfill                                | Type of Waste               | Type of Operation | Waste Sent to Landfill (m <sup>3</sup> ) |
|----------|----------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|--|
| 303.99   | tonnes (uncompacted) | Uncovered and/or unmanaged landfill             | Wood and straw              | -                 | 1013.3 m <sup>3</sup>                    |
| 871      | tonnes (uncompacted) | Uncovered and/or unmanaged landfill             | Unknown (mixed waste types) | Other Operation   | 2903.3 m <sup>3</sup>                    |
| 2340     | tonnes (uncompacted) | Covered and/or managed waste treatment facility | Unknown (mixed waste types) | Other Operation   | 7800.0 m <sup>3</sup>                    |
|          |                      |   |                             | <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>11716.6 m<sup>3</sup></b>             |

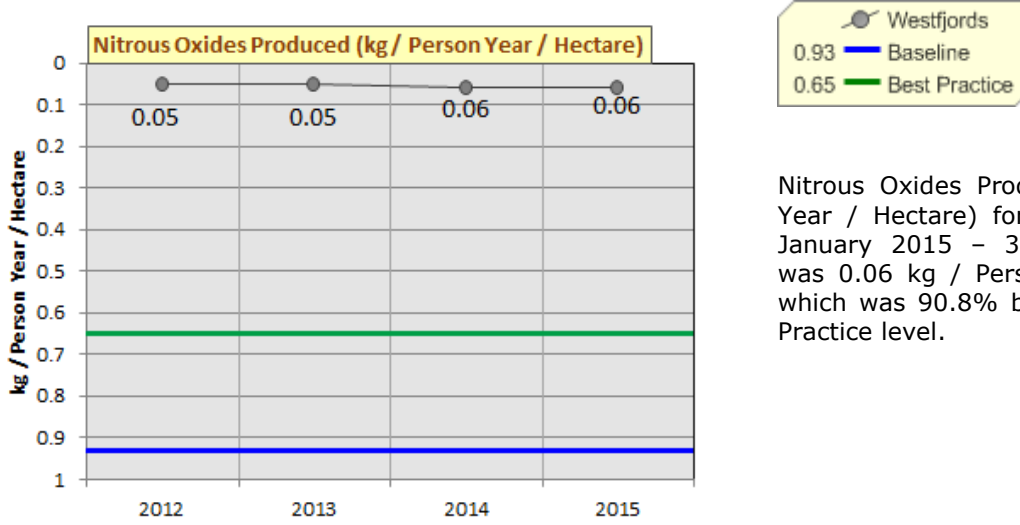
### Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%)



Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 38.5%.

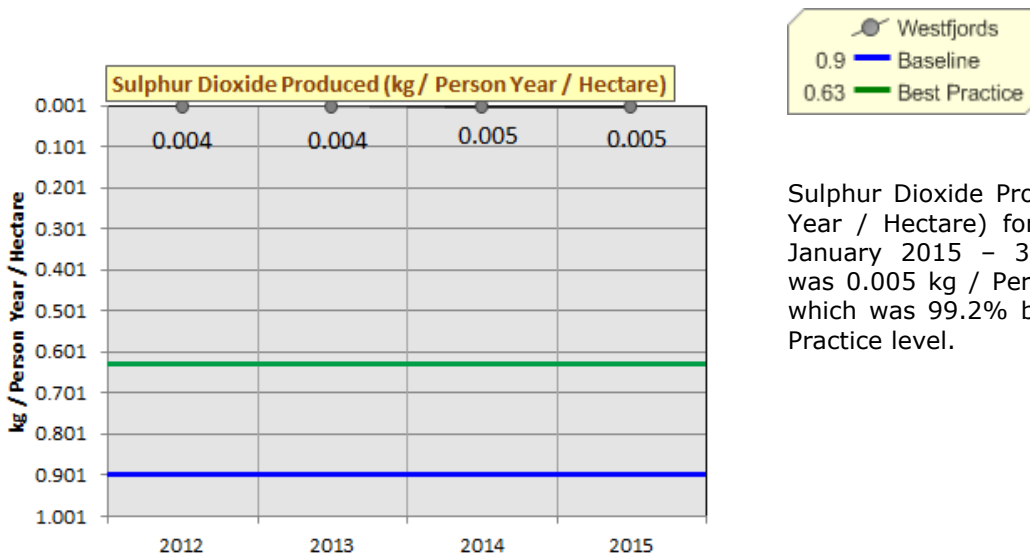
## 5. Sector Specific

### Nitrous Oxides Produced (kg / Person Year / Hectare) ★



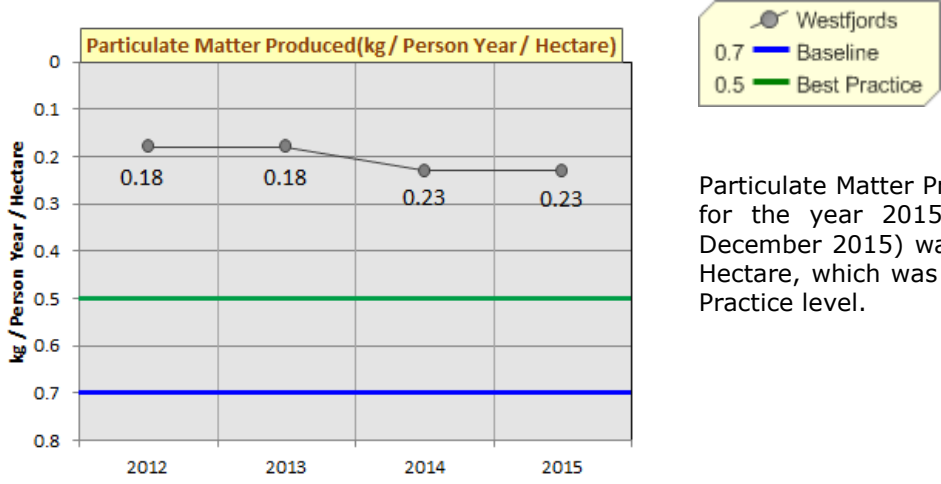
Nitrous Oxides Produced (kg / Person Year / Hectare) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 0.06 kg / Person Year / Hectare, which was 90.8% better than the Best Practice level.

### Sulphur Dioxide Produced (kg / Person Year / Hectare) ★



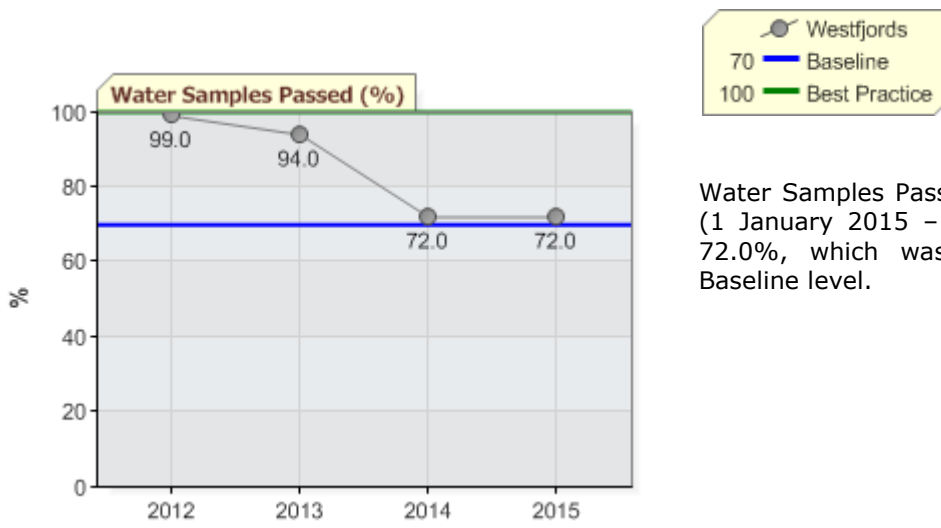
Sulphur Dioxide Produced (kg / Person Year / Hectare) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 0.005 kg / Person Year / Hectare, which was 99.2% better than the Best Practice level.

**Particulate Matter Produced (kg / Person Year) ★**



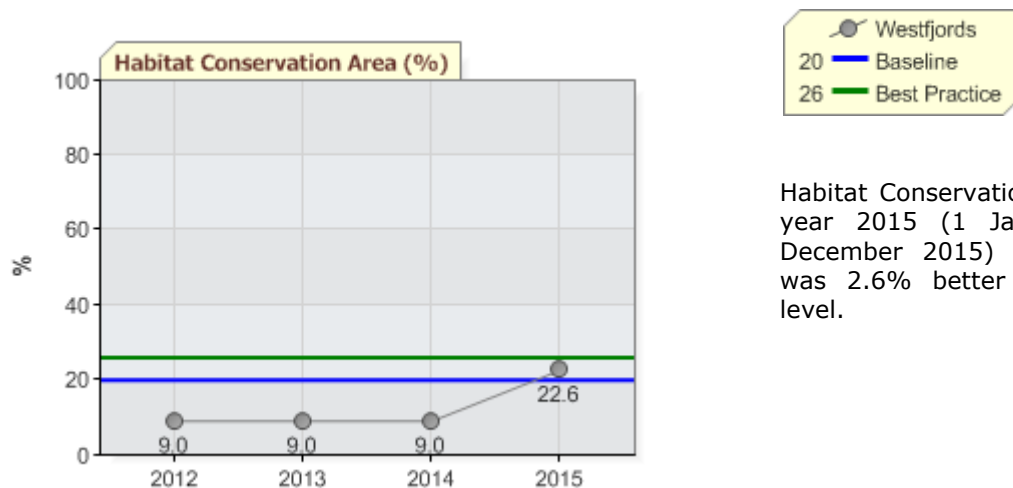
Particulate Matter Produced (kg / Person Year) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 0.23 kg / Person Year / Hectare, which was 54% better than the Best Practice level.

**Water Samples Passed (%) ✓**



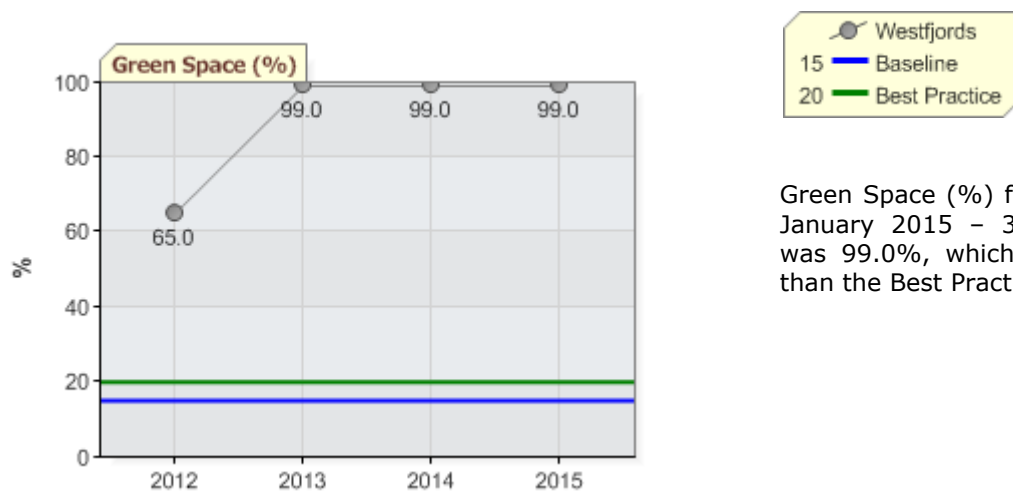
Water Samples Passed (%) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 72.0%, which was 2.0% better than the Baseline level.

### Habitat Conservation Area (%) ✓



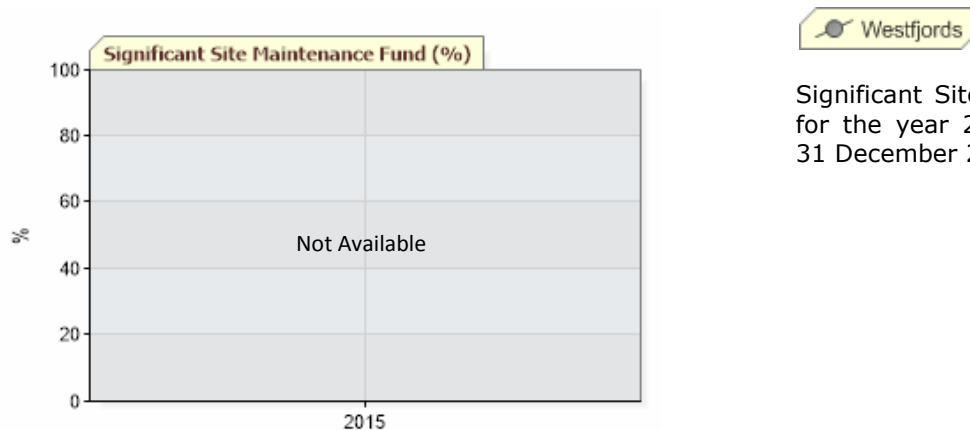
Habitat Conservation Area (%) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 - 31 December 2015) was 22.6%, which was 2.6% better than the Baseline level.

### Green Space (%) ★



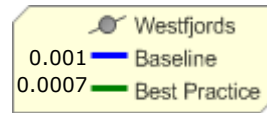
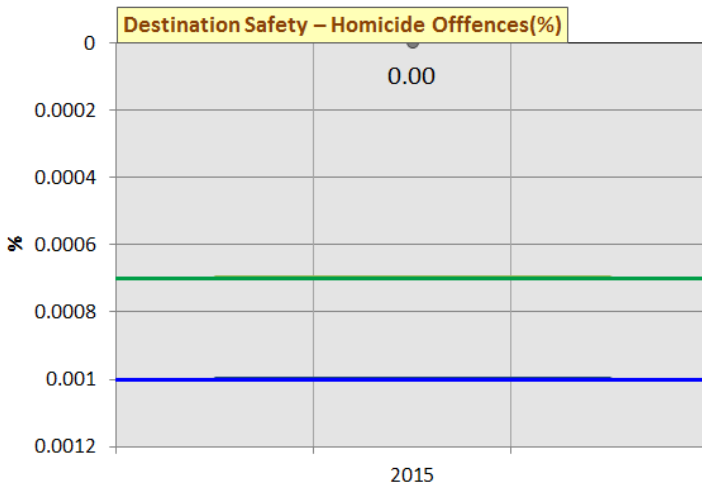
Green Space (%) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 - 31 December 2015) was 99.0%, which was 79.0% better than the Best Practice level.

### Significant Site Maintenance Fund (%)



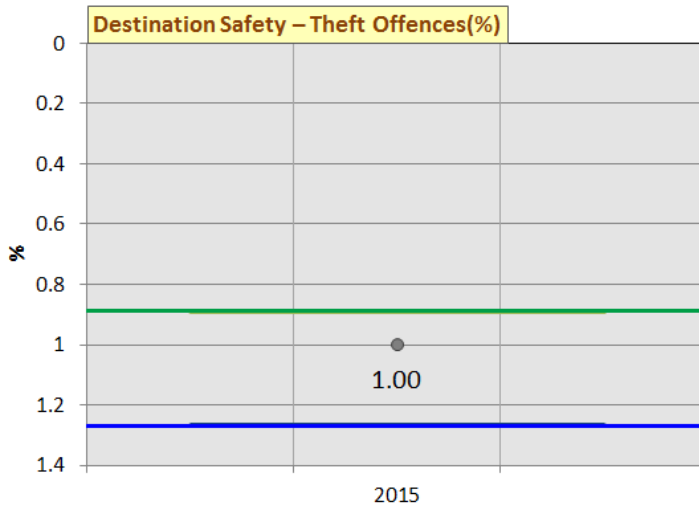
Significant Site Maintenance Fund (%) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 - 31 December 2015) was Not Available.

**Destination Safety – Homicide Rate (%)** ★



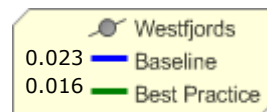
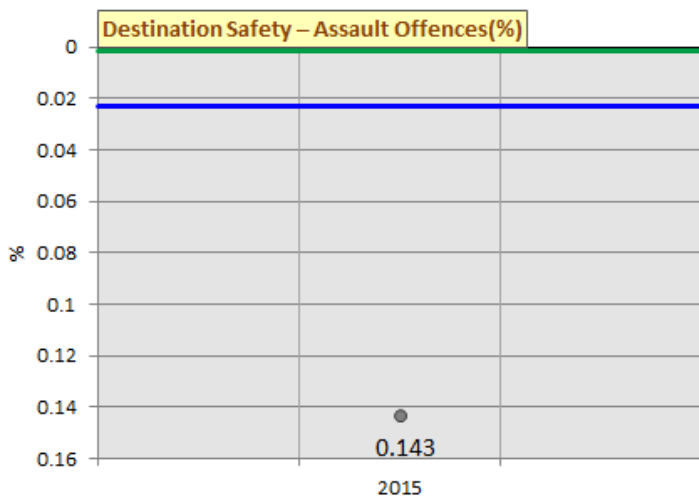
Homicide Rate for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 0.0% which was 0.0007% better than the Best Practice Level.

**Destination Safety – Theft Rate (%)** ✓



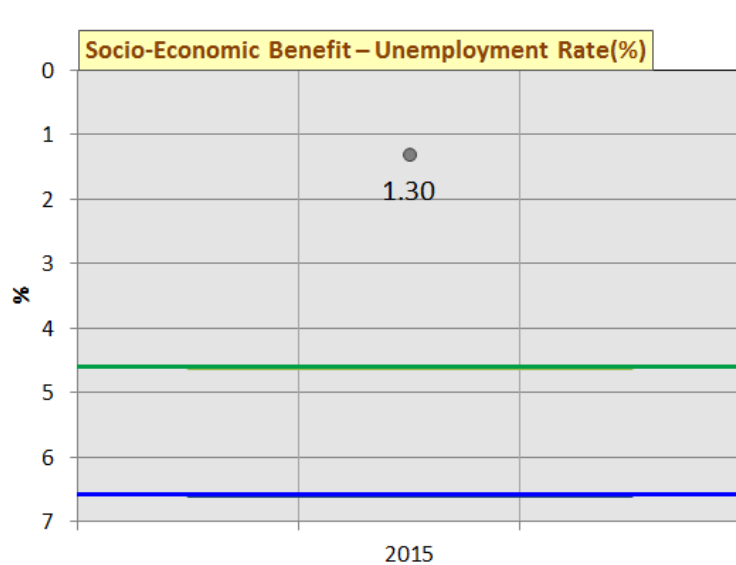
Theft Rate for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 1.0% which was 0.27% better than the Baseline Level.

**Destination Safety – Assault Rate (%)** ✗



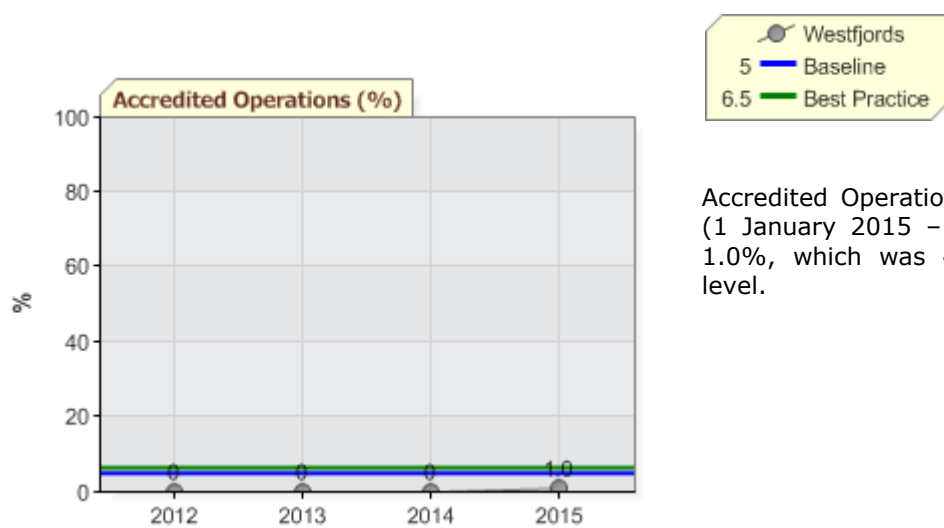
Assault Rate for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 2.0%, which was 0.12% below the Baseline level.

## Socio-Economic Benefit – Unemployment Rate (%) ★



Unemployment Rate (%) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 1.3 %, which was 3.3% better than the Best Practice Level.

## Accredited Operations (%) ✕

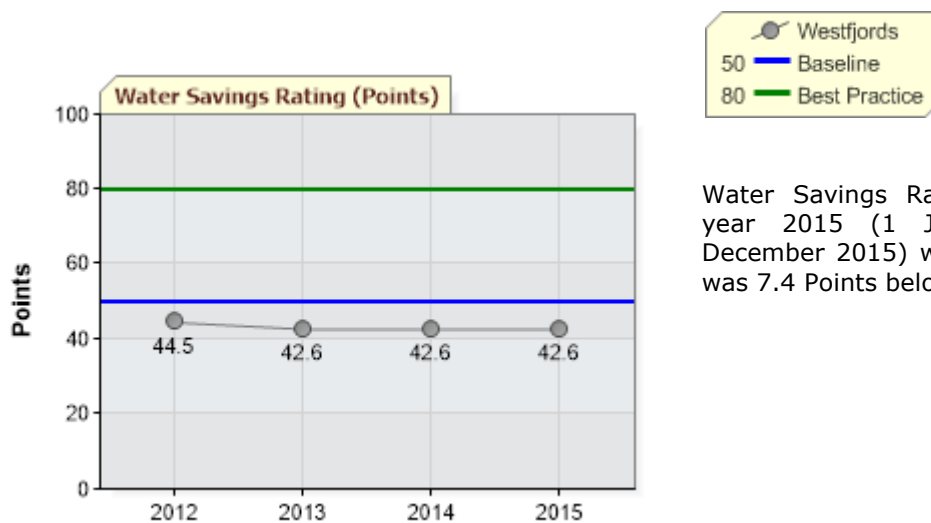


Accredited Operations (%) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 1.0%, which was 4.0% below the Baseline level.



## 6. Lead Agency Performance

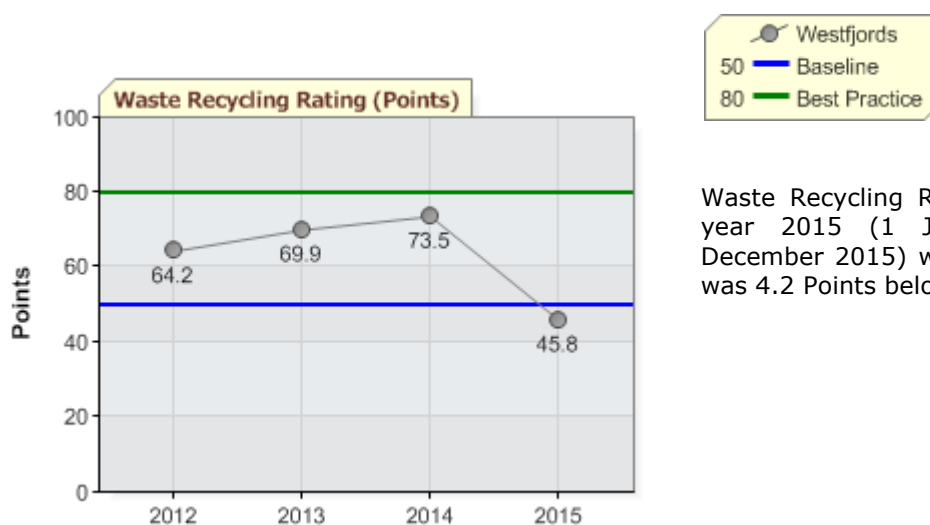
### Water Savings Rating (Points) ✕



Water Savings Rating (Points) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 - 31 December 2015) was 42.6 Points, which was 7.4 Points below the Baseline level.

| Water Savings Measures           | Frequency / Percentage Rating | Water Savings Rating (Points) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Check for leaks                  | Once a year                   | 54.0 Points                   |
| Low/dual flush toilets           | 60-79%                        | 73.9 Points                   |
| Low flow tap fittings            | 0%                            | 0.0 Points                    |
| Low flow shower fittings         | Not Relevant / Not Available  | -                             |
| Water sprinklers used after dark | Not Relevant / Not Available  | -                             |
| Minimal irrigation landscaping   | Not Relevant / Not Available  | -                             |
| Use of recycle/grey/rain water   | Not Relevant / Not Available  | -                             |
|                                  | <b>Overall Rating:</b>        | <b>42.6 Points</b>            |

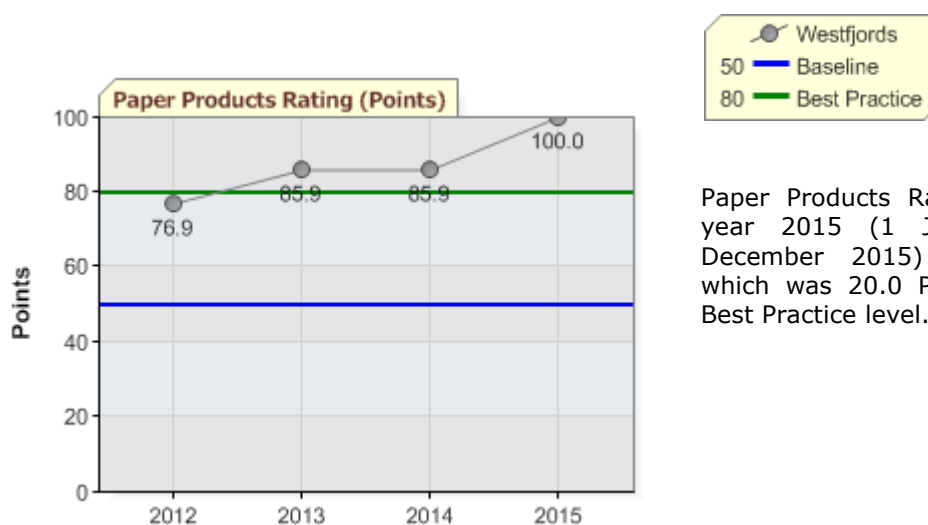
## Waste Recycling Rating (Points) ✕



Waste Recycling Rating (Points) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 - 31 December 2015) was 45.8 Points, which was 4.2 Points below the Baseline level.

| Waste Recycling Measures      | Frequency / Percentage Rating | Waste Recycling Rating (Points) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Glass                         | 1-19%                         | 54.0 Points                     |
| Paper/card                    | 1-19%                         | 54.0 Points                     |
| Iron & steel (ferrous metals) | 20-39%                        | 58.8 Points                     |
| Other metals (non-ferrous)    | Not Relevant / Not Available  | -                               |
| Plastics                      | 1-19%                         | 54.0 Points                     |
| Rubber                        | 1-19%                         | 54.0 Points                     |
| Green waste                   | 0%                            | 0.0 Points                      |
|                               | <b>Overall Rating:</b>        | <b>45.8 Points</b>              |

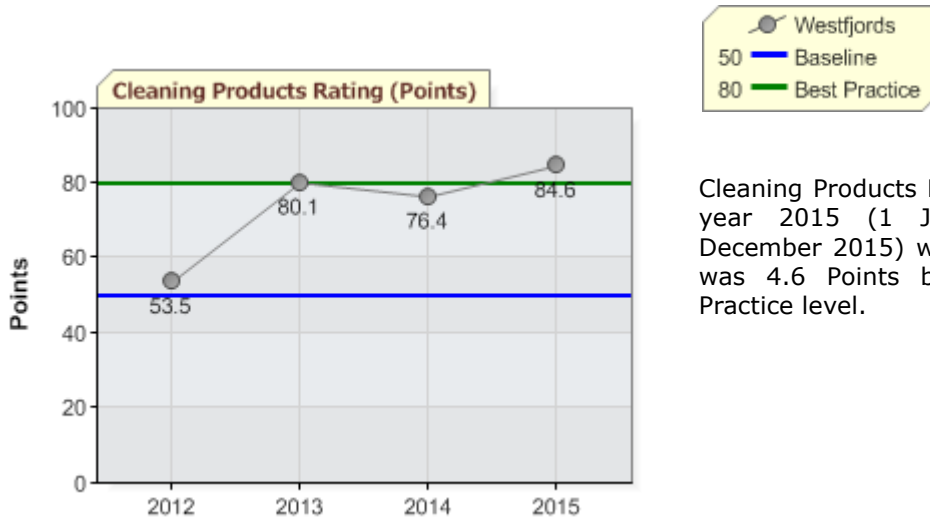
## Paper Products Rating (Points) ★



Paper Products Rating (Points) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 100.0 Points, which was 20.0 Points better than the Best Practice level.

| Paper Products Measures | Frequency / Percentage Rating | Paper Products Rating (Points) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Office paper            | 100%                          | 100.0 Points                   |
| Serviettes              | 100%                          | 100.0 Points                   |
| Tissues                 | 100%                          | 100.0 Points                   |
| Toilet tissue           | 100%                          | 100.0 Points                   |
| Paper towels            | 100%                          | 100.0 Points                   |
|                         | <b>Overall Rating:</b>        | <b>100.0 Points</b>            |

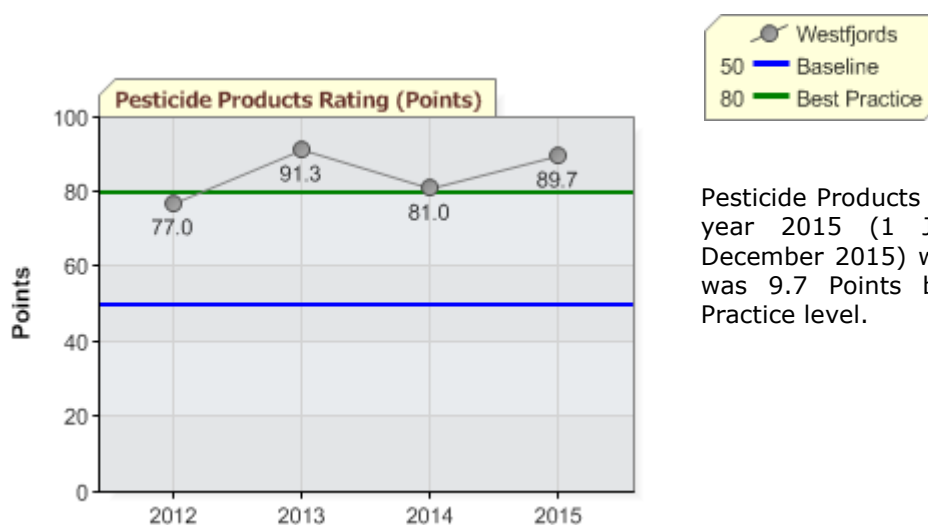
## Cleaning Products Rating (Points) ★



Cleaning Products Rating (Points) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 84.6 Points, which was 4.6 Points better than the Best Practice level.

| Cleaning Products Measures | Frequency / Percentage Rating | Cleaning Products Rating (Points) |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Hard floor cleaners        | 60-79%                        | 73.9 Points                       |
| Carpet cleaners            | 60-79%                        | 73.9 Points                       |
| Interior surface cleaners  | 80-99%                        | 88.9 Points                       |
| External surface cleaners  | 80-99%                        | 88.9 Points                       |
| Glass cleaners             | 80-99%                        | 88.9 Points                       |
| Detergents                 | 80-99%                        | 88.9 Points                       |
| Personal hygiene           | 80-99%                        | 88.9 Points                       |
|                            | <b>Overall Rating:</b>        | <b>84.6 Points</b>                |

## Pesticide Products Rating (Points) ★



Pesticide Products Rating (Points) for the year 2015 (1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015) was 89.7 Points, which was 9.7 Points better than the Best Practice level.

| Pesticide Products Measures | Frequency / Percentage Rating | Pesticide Products Rating (Points) |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Weed killers                | 20-39%                        | 58.8 Points                        |
| Fungal killers              | Not Relevant / Not Available  | 100.0 Points                       |
| Rodent killers              | Not Relevant / Not Available  | 100.0 Points                       |
| Insect killers              | Not Relevant / Not Available  | 100.0 Points                       |
|                             | <b>Overall Rating:</b>        | <b>89.7 Points</b>                 |

The supplied data has been compiled by **Westfjords** in the prescribed manner, authorised by a senior executive of the company and submitted for an annual assessment.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Congratulations, **Westfjords** has met the requirements to be recognised as an EarthCheck Benchmarked Community.

In addition to having a Sustainability Policy in place, seventeen of the assessed EarthCheck indicators are at or above the Baseline level.

From the benchmarking data provided, eight indicators, *Potable Water Consumption, Nitrous Oxides Produced, Sulphur Dioxide Produced, Particulate Matter Produced, Green Space, Destination Safety – Homicide Rate, Unemployment Rate, Paper Products Rating, Cleaning Products Rating, and Pesticide Products Rating* are at or above the Best Practice level.

The four indicators that fell below the Baseline level were *Destination Safety – Assault Rate, Accredited Operations, Water Savings Rating, and Waste Recycling Rating*.

The percentage of *Assault Rate* is 0.12% below the Baseline level. **Westfjords** is encouraged to work with the local hotel and tourism association to identify common threats and how the **Westfjords** could assist the community in providing more support to the police in reporting of crime.

The value for *Accredited Operations* was 4.0% below the Baseline Level. **Westfjords** is encouraged to promote environmental accreditation to hotels, restaurants and other business within the community.

The value for *Water Saving Rating* was 7.4 Points below the Baseline level. The **Westfjords** are encouraged, therefore, to review current on-site water use and the possibility of increasing on-site recycling and reuse (e.g. using non-hazardous rain water and/or grey water for watering plants and washing exterior surfaces). The **Westfjords** are also encouraged to regularly check for possible leaks, and fitting (where appropriate) water saving devices such as low-flow shower heads and dual flush toilet cisterns.

The value for *Waste Recycling Rating* was 4.2 Points below the Baseline level. A low rating for this indicator may be a reflection of the limited availability of external recycling facilities (for paper, cardboard, metals, plastics etc). The **Westfjords** are encouraged to review existing practices and procedures. This can include increasing on-site recycling and reuse (e.g. green wastes), donating recyclable materials to local crafts and trades people, and avoiding purchases with excessive disposable packaging.

The **Westfjords** is encouraged to continue to make improvements in the above indicators and to ensure that any indicators below baseline is addressed in the organisation's risk assessment and long term sustainability approach.

Improvements in all the EarthCheck indicators will not only help the environment, but can also help reduce operational costs. Due to the positive commitment that **Westfjords** has demonstrated to the environment, the assessors are confident that they can maintain or improve performance, where appropriate and practical, in all indicators. In particular over the next 12 months, the **Westfjords** is encouraged to ensure that *Destination Safety – Assault Rate, Accredited Operations, Water Savings Rating, and Waste Recycling Rating* are at Baseline

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performance or better. In line with EarthCheck Policy this would enable the **Westfjords** to continue to meet the benchmarking requirements of the EarthCheck program.

## APPENDIX

### PERSON YEARS

The Benchmarking Assessors sought clarification with regards to *Person Years*, as the data submitted was significantly greater than expected.

**Westfjords** advised:

*"Regarding persons year I used this formula: Total Destination Residents + (Total Guest Nights / 365) + (Total Day Guests / (3 x 365))*

*Day gests = 146.985 - 146985 / (3\*365) = 134,23288*

*Total gest night = 82.634 - 82634/365 = 226,39452*

*Total destination residents = 6970*

*Persons year = 6970+ (226,39+134,23) = 7330,6 This is right"*

| Person Years |       |       |
|--------------|-------|-------|
|              | 2014  | 2015  |
| Person Years | 7,142 | 7,331 |

Therefore, the Benchmarking Assessors updated *Person Years* to 7331, as per the information provided above.

### PURCHASED ELECTRICITY

The following comments were provided at the time of data submission:

*"Recorded electricity is only purchased electricity that the municipalities in the Westfjords are buying."*

The Benchmarking Assessors sought clarification with regards to *Purchased Electricity*, as the data submitted for Purchased Electricity from 2012 to 2015 are very different as shown in the table below:

| Purchased Electricity |             |                     |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------------|
|                       | Quantity    | Unit                |
| 2012                  | 222 954     | Kilowatt hour (kWh) |
| 2013                  | 225 417 000 | Kilowatt hour (kWh) |
| 2014                  | 219 342 000 | Kilowatt hour (kWh) |
| 2015                  | 10 996 797  | Kilowatt hour (kWh) |

**Westfjords** advised:

*"The 2012 electricity is not right. There is missing three zeros. It is supposed to be 222.954.000*

*Maybe it would be best to have this divided into two sector. One sector who is for the electricity for the institutions run by the municipalities and other for the usage in the whole municipalities.*

*I talked to the Electricity company to be sure they were sending me right numbers and they told me that I had forgotten to include the heating in the calculation so the 2015 for the municipalities is supposed to be:  
24.096.201 Kilowatt hour (kWh)*

*If I include all the residents in the municipalities the amount is:  
231.956.000 Kilowatt hour (kWh) for the year 2015."*

Therefore, the updated data for Purchased Electricity can be found below:



| Purchased Electricity |             |                     |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------------|
|                       | Quantity    | Unit                |
| 2012                  | 222 954 000 | Kilowatt hour (kWh) |
| 2013                  | 225 417 000 | Kilowatt hour (kWh) |
| 2014                  | 219 342 000 | Kilowatt hour (kWh) |
| 2015                  | 231 956 000 | Kilowatt hour (kWh) |

The updated data are reflected in this benchmarking assessment.

#### MOBILE FUEL COMBUSTION (ROAD)

The Benchmarking Assessors sought clarification with regards to *Mobile Fuel Combustion (road)*, as the data submitted was greater than expected. Additionally, there was no data submitted for 'LPG' when it was included in the previous assessment.

**Westfjords** advised:

| Mobile Fuel Combustion (road):<br>Litres (L) |           |           |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Fuel Type                                    | 2014      | 2015      |
| Motor Gasoline                               | 3,441,860 | 3,418,199 |
| Diesel                                       | 5,370,937 | 5,444,695 |
| LPG  | 230,619   | 230,619   |

Therefore, the Benchmarking Assessors updated *Mobile Fuel Combustion (road)*, 'Diesel', 'Motor Gasoline', and 'LPG' as per the information provided in the table above.

#### MOBILE FUEL COMBUSTION (WATER)

The Benchmarking Assessors sought clarification with regards to *Mobile Fuel Combustion (water)*, as the 'Fuel Type' was changed from 'Diesel' in the previous assessment to 'Motor Gasoline' in the current assessment.

**Westfjords** advised:

| Mobile Fuel Combustion (water):<br>Litres (L) |      |      |
|---|------|------|
| Fuel Type                                     | 2014 | 2015 |
| Motor Gasoline                                | -    |      |
| Diesel  | 7155 | 7157 |

Therefore, the Benchmarking Assessors updated *Mobile Fuel Combustion (water)*, 'Diesel' to 7157 as per the information provided in the table above.

#### POTABLE WATER CONSUMPTION

The Benchmarking Assessors sought clarification with regards to *Potable Water Consumption*, as the data submitted was greater than expected. Additionally, the unit measurement was changed from 'Litres' in the previous assessment to 'Cubic Metres' in the current assessment.

**Westfjords** advised:

"We got some new data showing that your water consumption is more than we expected the year 2014"

| <b>Potable Water Consumption:</b> |                            |                          |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                   | <b>2014<br/>Litres (L)</b> | <b>2015<br/>Litres L</b> |
| <b>Quantity</b>                   | 764,978,291                | 1,272,844,905            |

Therefore the Benchmarking Assessors updated the unit from cubic metres to litres as per the information provided above.

#### WATER SAVINGS RATING

It is noted that all Water Saving Measures had been submitted as 'Not Relevant / Not Available'. The following information was provided by **Westfjords** in relation to the Water Saving Measures in the past benchmarking clarification:

**Westfjords** advised the following (in red);

*"Does the Westfjords Office have any garden areas which had water sprinklers installed? If so, what is the percentage of these sprinklers used after dark? **No***

*Out of the total taps installed at the Westfjords Office, what is the percentage that are **low flow taps**? **Not relevant / Available***

*Can you please confirm it is correct that the Westfjords Office conducts checks for leaks on an **annual basis**? **Some municipalities started to check for leaks after we started this project so the answer I sent is correct.**"*

The Benchmarking Assessors sought further clarification with regards to the *Low flow taps* measure as it remained unclear the percentage (%) or taps installed that have low flow devices.

**Westfjords** advised;

*"Regarding the taps we do have taps in our offices. The only thing we have low flow are the toilets and they have two ways of flushing. It is about 65 % of them who are like that."*

#### **4. Water saving Rating**

Low flow tap fittings - Not relevant

Water sprinklers used after dark – Not relevant -

Minimal irrigation landscaping - Not relevant

Use of recycle/grey/ rain water – Not relevant

Therefore the Benchmarking Assessors updated the Water Savings Rating as per below in line with the previous benchmarking assessment:

| Water Savings Measures           | Frequency / Percentage Rating |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Check for leaks                  | Once a year                   |
| Low/dual flush toilets           | 60-79%                        |
| Low flow tap fittings            | 0%                            |
| Low flow shower fittings         | Not Relevant / Available      |
| Water sprinklers used after dark | Not Relevant / Available      |
| Minimal irrigation landscaping   | Not Relevant / Available      |
| Use of recycle/grey/rain water   | Not Relevant / Available      |

It is recommended that these percentages are verified at time of onsite audit.

### WASTE SENT TO LANDFILL

The Benchmarking Assessors sought clarification with regards to *Waste Sent to Landfill*, as the data submitted for 'Covered and/or managed waste treatment facility', 'Unknown (mixed waste types)' was greater than expected.

**Westfjords** advised:

*"To be honest, we have been digging into the waste management process in the Westfjords a lot better this time than we have in the recent years. Now we have been in better co-operation with more companies and have gotten numbers that we haven't even got before. We think that the companies that manage the waste from the area are waking up to the public image that they have created in the past and need to try everything they can to look better to the public. This is why they are sending us more accurate numbers both about waste and recycled waste. That will explain partly why the huge increase happened this year in landfill waste. The fact that we now have numbers from more companies that send their waste straight to Reykjavik, without even contacting the waste management companies in the Westfjords, explains why the recycling percentage has been growing since last year. The inhabitants are also getting more informed about their waste management and the impact they have been having on the environment in the past so they recycle more. The waste management companies have also put up more ways to recycle than there were before and it has made it easier to recycle waste. I can promise you that next year we will have better and more informing information about for example how much plastic is recycled."*

*We chose to put in: Mixed waste sent to an uncovered, managed landfill because that's exactly what it is. The Fíflholt Landfill is owned by the communities in the Western part of the country and they manage the waste that comes in from the Westfjords. It's mixed waste due to the fact that glass, food, paper, plastics and many other things that are not specifically sorted out by the inhabitants are getting into the landfill.*

*We chose to put in: Wood and Straw sent to an uncovered, unmanaged landfill because that explains exactly what it is. We have a few small landfills that accept Wood, straw and other garden waste. The landfills are owned by each community and they use the wood, straw and garden waste to make soil or compost for their own use."*

| Waste Sent to Landfill                                 |                                    |             |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------|
| tonnes (uncompacted)                                   |                                    |             |
|  | <b>2014</b>                        | <b>2015</b> |
| <b>Covered and/or managed waste treatment facility</b> | <b>Unknown (mixed waste types)</b> | 1792        |
|  |                                    | 3514,65     |
| <b>Uncovered and/or managed landfill</b>               | <b>Wood and straw</b>              | -           |
|  |                                    | 303.99      |

**Westfjords** later provided further clarifications with regards to *Waste Sent to Landfill*:

"We want to update our number regarding waste since we got new information's from waste manager.  
 Landfill - 871 ton  
 Managed landfill - 2.340 ton  
 Wood and straw - 303 ton"

Therefore, the Benchmarking Assessors updated *Waste Sent to Landfill* data as per the information provided above. 'Landfill' was input as 'Uncovered and/or unmanaged landfill' and 'Unknown (mixed waste types).

The submitted value of 3 514 tonnes (3 514 000 kg) of waste (specified by the operator as uncompact waste) has been converted into a volume by using the standard conversion of 1 kg (uncompact waste) = 0.00333333 m<sup>3</sup> or 3.33333 L (i.e. 3 514 000 kg x 0.00333333 = 11 716 m<sup>3</sup>). (If the waste is compacted, then the standard conversion is: 1 kg = 0.00153846 m<sup>3</sup> or 1.53846 L).

This equates to 1.6 m<sup>3</sup> per *Person Year*.

## WASTE RECYCLING RATING

**Westfjords** provided further clarification with regards to *Waste Recycling*:

"We want to update our number regarding waste since we got new information's from waste manager.  
 Glass - 3,31%  
 Paper - 14.9%  
 Metals - 26,38%  
 Plastics - 10,6%  
 Rubber - 1,93%  
 Other - 42-%"

Therefore, the Benchmarking Assessors updated *Waste Recycling* as per the information provided above.

## AIR QUALITY

The per Person Year Per Hectare figures for Nitrous Oxides Produced, Sulphur Dioxide Produced, and Particulate Matter Produced have been recalculated for all benchmark periods in which there had been a technical inaccuracy in factoring the population density loading. The system has been rectified and the figures recalculated for the Air Quality measures as shown below:

### 2015 Calendar Year

|                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Nitrous Oxides Produced:     | 0.06 kg per Person Year / Hectare  |
| Sulphur Dioxide Produced:    | 0.005 kg per Person Year / Hectare |
| Particulate Matter Produced: | 0.23 kg per Person Year / Hectare  |

### 2014 Calendar Year

|                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Nitrous Oxides Produced:     | 0.06 kg per Person Year / Hectare  |
| Sulphur Dioxide Produced:    | 0.005 kg per Person Year / Hectare |
| Particulate Matter Produced: | 0.23 kg per Person Year / Hectare  |

### 2013 Calendar Year

|                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Nitrous Oxides Produced:     | 0.05 kg per Person Year / Hectare  |
| Sulphur Dioxide Produced:    | 0.004 kg per Person Year / Hectare |
| Particulate Matter Produced: | 0.18 kg per Person Year / Hectare  |

### 2012 Calendar Year

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|                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Nitrous Oxides Produced:     | 0.05 kg per Person Year / Hectare  |
| Sulphur Dioxide Produced:    | 0.004 kg per Person Year / Hectare |
| Particulate Matter Produced: | 0.18 kg per Person Year / Hectare  |

#### DESTINATION SAFETY - ASSAULT

**Westfjords** advised the following after the initial release of the 2015 data benchmarking assessment report:

*"For all the municipalities or 6.970 people plus all the gest that year the rate was 2.0%, who is less than 10 assault the whole year. How can that be over the rate."*

Therefore the Benchmarking Assessors re-calculated the percentage of assault offences per head of population as per below:

$$= 10 \div 6\,970 \times 100$$
$$= 0.143\%$$

Therefore the Benchmarking Assessors have updated the Assault Rate to 0.143%.



EARTHCHECK

**Benchmarks Assessed by EarthCheck**

# SUMMARY OF SUPPLIED BENCHMARKING DATA

## Activity Measures

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Person Years           | 7331      |
| Total Destination Area | 884424.96 |

## Supplied Benchmarking Data

### Energy

#### Energy Consumption (GJ / Person Year)

|               |                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Supplied      | 1174036.4579 GJ                     |
| Calculated    | 160.14 GJ / Person Year             |
| Baseline      | 176.8 GJ / Person Year              |
| Best Practice | 123.7 GJ / Person Year              |
| Difference    | 9.4% better than the Baseline level |

#### Green Power (%)

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| Supplied   | Not Applicable |
| Calculated | Not Applicable |

#### Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year)

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Supplied      | 24389.3 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e            |
| Calculated    | 3.3 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Person Year  |
| Baseline      | 4.09 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Person Year |
| Best Practice | 2.86 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Person Year |
| Difference    | 18.8% better than the Baseline level    |

#### Direct Emissions (Scope 1) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year)

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Supplied   | 24345.9 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e           |
| Calculated | 3.3 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Person Year |

#### Indirect Emissions (Scope 2) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year)

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Supplied   | 43.3131 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e             |
| Calculated | 0.006 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Person Year |

#### Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year)

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Supplied   | 4768.2 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e             |
| Calculated | 0.65 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Person Year |

#### Waste Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Person Year)

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Supplied   | 4768.2 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e             |
| Calculated | 0.65 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Person Year |

### Water

#### Potable Water Consumption (kL / Person Year)

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Supplied      | 1272844.9 kL                              |
| Calculated    | 173.6 kL / Person Year                    |
| Baseline      | 846 kL / Person Year                      |
| Best Practice | 592 kL / Person Year                      |
| Difference    | 70.7% better than the Best Practice level |

#### Recycled / Captured Water (%)

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Supplied   | 0% |
| Calculated | 0% |

#### Water Savings Rating (Points)

|               |                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Supplied      | 42.6 Points                         |
| Calculated    | 42.6 Points                         |
| Baseline      | 50 Points                           |
| Best Practice | 80 Points                           |
| Difference    | 7.4 Points below the Baseline level |

### Waste

#### Waste Sent to Landfill (m<sup>3</sup> / Person Year)

|               |                                      |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| Supplied      | 11716.6 m <sup>3</sup>               |
| Calculated    | 1.6 m <sup>3</sup> / Person Year     |
| Baseline      | 1.73055 m <sup>3</sup> / Person Year |
| Best Practice | 1.21139 m <sup>3</sup> / Person Year |
| Difference    | 7.6% better than the Baseline level  |

#### Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%)

|            |       |
|------------|-------|
| Supplied   | 38.5% |
| Calculated | 38.5% |

#### Waste Recycling Rating (Points)

|               |                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Supplied      | 45.8 Points                         |
| Calculated    | 45.8 Points                         |
| Baseline      | 50 Points                           |
| Best Practice | 80 Points                           |
| Difference    | 4.2 Points below the Baseline level |

## Paper

### Paper Products Rating (Points)

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Supplied      | 100.0 Points                                    |
| Calculated    | 100.0 Points                                    |
| Baseline      | 50 Points                                       |
| Best Practice | 80 Points                                       |
| Difference    | 20.0 Points better than the Best Practice level |

## Cleaning

### Cleaning Products Rating (Points)

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Supplied      | 84.6 Points                                    |
| Calculated    | 84.6 Points                                    |
| Baseline      | 50 Points                                      |
| Best Practice | 80 Points                                      |
| Difference    | 4.6 Points better than the Best Practice level |

## Pesticides

### Pesticide Products Rating (Points)

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Supplied      | 89.7 Points                                    |
| Calculated    | 89.7 Points                                    |
| Baseline      | 50 Points                                      |
| Best Practice | 80 Points                                      |
| Difference    | 9.7 Points better than the Best Practice level |

## Sector Specific

### Nitrous Oxides Produced (kg / Person Year / Hectare)

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Supplied      | 202828.0 kg                               |
| Calculated    | 0.06 kg / Person Year / Hectare           |
| Baseline      | 0.93 kg / Person Year / Hectare           |
| Best Practice | 0.65 kg / Person Year / Hectare           |
| Difference    | 90.8% better than the Best Practice level |

### Sulphur Dioxide Produced (kg / Person Year / Hectare)

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Supplied      | 15884.0 kg                                |
| Calculated    | 0.005 kg / Person Year / Hectare          |
| Baseline      | 0.9 kg / Person Year / Hectare            |
| Best Practice | 0.63 kg / Person Year / Hectare           |
| Difference    | 99.2% better than the Best Practice level |

### Particulate Matter Produced (kg / Person Year / Hectare)

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Supplied      | 749709.0 kg                             |
| Calculated    | 0.23 kg / Person Year / Hectare         |
| Baseline      | 0.7 kg / Person Year / Hectare          |
| Best Practice | 0.5 kg / Person Year / Hectare          |
| Difference    | 54% better than the Best Practice level |

### Water Samples Passed (%)

|               |                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Supplied      | 72.0%                               |
| Calculated    | 72.0%                               |
| Baseline      | 70 %                                |
| Best Practice | 100 %                               |
| Difference    | 2.0% better than the Baseline level |

### Habitat Conservation Area (%)

|               |                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Supplied      | 22.6%                               |
| Calculated    | 22.6%                               |
| Baseline      | 20 %                                |
| Best Practice | 26 %                                |
| Difference    | 2.6% better than the Baseline level |

### Green Space (%)

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Supplied      | 99.0%                                     |
| Calculated    | 99.0%                                     |
| Baseline      | 15 %                                      |
| Best Practice | 20 %                                      |
| Difference    | 79.0% better than the Best Practice level |

### Significant Site Maintenance Fund (%)

|            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| Supplied   | Not Available |
| Calculated | Not Available |

### Destination Safety – Homicide Rate (%)

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Supplied      | 0.0%  |
| Calculated    | 0.000009%                                   |
| Baseline      | 0.001%                                      |
| Best Practice | 0.0007%                                     |
| Difference    | 0.0007% better than the Best Practice level |

### Destination Safety – Theft Rate (%)

|               |                                      |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| Supplied      | 1.0%                                 |
| Calculated    | 0.0008%                              |
| Baseline      | 1.27%                                |
| Best Practice | 0.89%                                |
| Difference    | 0.27% better than the Baseline level |

### Destination Safety – Assault Rate (%)

|               |                                |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Supplied      | 0.143%                         |
| Calculated    | 0.0002%                        |
| Baseline      | 0.023%                         |
| Best Practice | 0.0016%                        |
| Difference    | 0.12% below the Baseline level |

### Socio-Economic Benefit – Unemployment Rate (%)

|            |      |
|------------|------|
| Supplied   | 1.3% |
| Calculated | 1.3% |
| Baseline   | 6.6% |

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|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Best Practice | 4.6%                                     |
| Difference    | 3.3% better than the Best Practice Level |

**Accredited Operations (%)**

|               |                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Supplied      | 1.0%                          |
| Calculated    | 1.0%                          |
| Baseline      | 5 %                           |
| Best Practice | 6.5 %                         |
| Difference    | 4.0% below the Baseline level |



## DETERMINATION OF BASELINE AND BEST PRACTICE LEVELS

### General

The values for the Baseline and Best Practice levels for each indicator are derived from extensive worldwide research into available and appropriate case studies, industry surveys, engineering design handbooks, energy, water and waste audits, and climatic and geographic conditions.

National and regional data for per capita energy use, greenhouse gas and other emissions, wastes to landfill and water consumption, where available provide background data for normalisation of the expected performance values for per customer or employee, and/or overall performance of an enterprise being benchmarked. They are used to gauge the regional or national situation and environmental performances that an enterprise is based in, and hence what are reasonable levels to expect the enterprise to achieve.

A benchmarking result at, or above, the Baseline level demonstrates to all stakeholders that the enterprise is achieving above average performance. A result below the Baseline level indicates that an enterprise can and should carry out actions that will make beneficial improvements in performance.

### Consideration of Climate

A major determinant of energy consumption in some sectors, primarily those centred on buildings such as accommodation, visitor centres and administration offices will be the dominant climatic conditions in which the enterprise is located. In general, to maintain the same level of indoor comfort, enterprises operating in hot or cold climates will consume more energy than those in temperate climates.

Similarly, it is recognised that in certain sectors a major determinant of potable water consumption will be the climate in which an enterprise is located, in particular those with large grounds and/or significant water-based facilities or activities. That is, enterprises located in hot climates are more likely to consume more potable water than equivalent ones located in cooler climates. Factors that are likely to lead to a higher level of potable water consumption, for example in the accommodation sector, include increased evaporation rates of swimming pools, personal bathing and irrigation demands of grounds. In consideration of this factor, Baseline and Best Practice levels can vary in relation to country location.

### Waste Sent to Landfill

The benchmark indicator used for Waste Sent to Landfill is given in litres as waste bins are usually calibrated by volume, and it has been found that the majority of operations do not have access to the weight of material disposed of. However, if a weight is supplied, standard factors are used to convert from weight (e.g., kilograms (kg)) to volume (e.g., cubic metres (m<sup>3</sup>) or litres (L)). These are: 1 kg (uncompacted waste) = 0.00333333 m<sup>3</sup> or 3.33333 L and 1 kg (compacted waste) = 0.00153846 m<sup>3</sup> or 1.53846 L.

Operations should make note of the level of compaction when submitting data for assessment by EarthCheck.

### Review of Performance Levels

The Baseline and Best Practice performance levels for EarthCheck indicators are continuously reviewed and are likely to change over time. This review by a team of international experts, takes into account "business-as-usual" changes in practices, equipment and facilities, as well as regulations and general improvement trends in performance and procedures. This review is used to update the levels of Baseline and Best Practice, and provides useful feedback to the user of the indicators.

The list below summarises the basic generic rules used to determine Baseline and Best Practice levels for EarthCheck indicators.

- If relevant enterprise sector specific case studies are not available for a type of activity in a designated region, then national averages will be used to ascertain the Baseline level. In this case, the Best Practice level will be set at a minimum of 30% better performance than the Baseline.
- If case study or national data are not available for a specific indicator, then the first enterprise that benchmarks will have its results set as 15% better than Baseline (i.e., half way between Baseline and Best Practice).