

**Ashurst**

# UK Carbon Reduction Plan

October 2024

**Outpacing change**

# Commitment to achieving Net Zero

## Ashurst is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050

We have committed to near and long term Science Based Targets and Ashurst intends to disclose our progress against these targets which are in the process of being verified by the SBTi.

Ashurst has committed to near term targets to reduce absolute scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions 42% by FY2030 from a FY2023 base year. Ashurst also commits to reduce absolute scope 3 GHG emissions from business travel 42% by FY2030 from a FY2023 base year. Ashurst commits that 85% of its supplier emissions covering purchased goods and services will have science-based targets by 2027.

Ashurst commits to reduce Absolute scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG emissions 90% by FY2050 from a FY2023 base year.



# Baseline emissions footprint

## April 2022 to May 2023 (FY23)

Ashurst has submitted net zero science based targets to the SBTi for validation using financial year 2023 as the baseline. FY23 was Ashurst's most recent representation of our typical greenhouse gas (GHG) profile, with the most accurate and verifiable data. As such, we have updated our baseline year for the purpose of this Carbon Reduction Plan to ensure consistency of reporting and ease of comparison. Our net zero ambitions remain unchanged.

Baseline emissions are a record of the greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and were provided prior to the introduction of any strategies to reduce emissions. Baseline emissions are a reference point against which emission reduction can be measured.

We are reporting all sources of carbon emissions in the UK over which we have operational control and full authority to introduce and implement our operating policies.

| Baseline year                     | FY23 (1 May 2022 – 30 April 2023)            |              |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------|
| <b>Emissions</b><br>Total (tCO2e) | <b>Scope 1</b>                               | 663          |
|                                   | <b>Scope 2</b>                               | 1040         |
|                                   | <b>Scope 3</b>                               | 0            |
|                                   | Upstream                                     |              |
|                                   | (4) Upstream transportation & distribution   | 0            |
|                                   | (5) Waste generated in operations            | 208          |
|                                   | (6) Business travel                          | 2,344        |
|                                   | (7) Employee commuting                       | 1,976        |
|                                   | Downstream                                   |              |
|                                   | (9) Downstream transportation & distribution | 280          |
|                                   | <b>Total emissions</b>                       | <b>5,718</b> |

Note: Ashurst is a professional services firm and certain of the five mandatory Scope 3 categories required for CRP reporting to the UK Government have been assessed and are not relevant for our business. We have zero emissions for category 9 (Downstream Transportation and Distribution) as we do not sell any products.

\* Electricity consumption (kWh) was inclusive of two third-party UK data centres.

# Current emissions reporting

| Reporting year                                 | FY24 (1 May 2023 – 30 April 2024)            |              |
|--|--|--------------|
| <b>Emissions</b><br>Total (tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | <b>Scope 1</b>                               | 228          |
|  | <b>Scope 2</b>                               | 669*         |
|  | <b>Scope 3</b>                               | 2,869        |
|  | Upstream                                     |              |
|  | (4) Upstream transportation & distribution   | 2            |
|  | (5) Waste generated in operations            | 0            |
|  | (6) Business travel                          | 1,647        |
|  | (7) Employee commuting                       | 1,220        |
|  | Downstream                                   |              |
|  | (9) Downstream transportation & distribution | n/a          |
|  | <b>Total emissions</b>                       | <b>3,766</b> |

\* Electricity consumption (kWh) includes two third-party UK data centres.

## Additional details (relating to the current emissions calculations)

Scope 1, 2, and 3 consumption and CO<sub>2</sub>e emission data has been calculated in line with the 2019 UK Government environmental reporting guidance, using the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard. AIB (European Residual Mix) Emission factors 2022 have been used as Emission Factor calculation. A combination of Defra (BEIS) 2022, AIB (European Residual Mix) 2022, Exiobase (3.8.2), and IEA-Emissions-Factors (2023) have been used as the Emission Factor calculation. For Scope 2, using the location-based methodology, total energy emissions for the period up to and including 30 April 2024 were 625 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e (2022: 695 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e).

Ashurst does not procure any transportation or distribution of products, however 2 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e have been re-allocated from the submitted spend-based method values for Purchased Goods and Services, as designated by carbon accounting provider.

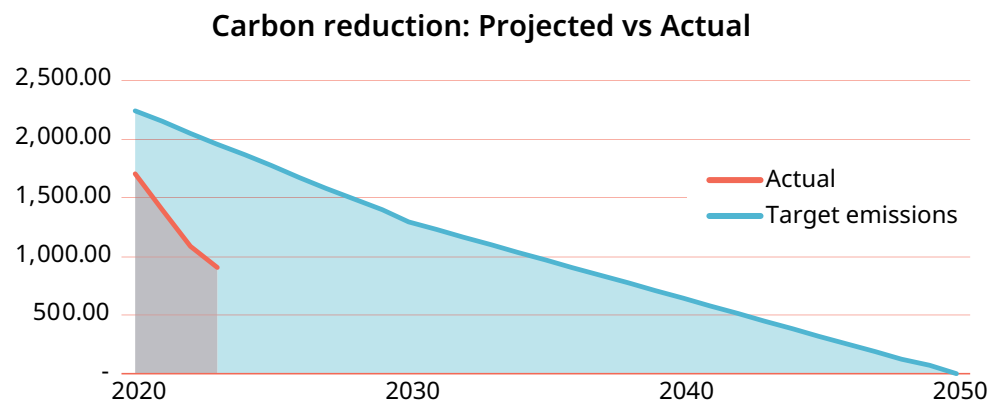
# Emissions reduction targets

In order to continue our progress to achieving Net Zero, we have committed to the Science Based Targets Initiative. We are awaiting confirmation of our near and long term reduction targets. However, we are assuming Ashurst's Global Scope 1 & 2 emissions will need to reduce by 42% between now and 2030, before progressing to net zero by 2050. In relation to Scope 3, we are assuming Ashurst's Global emission will need to reduce by 90% to reach net zero by 2050.

In relation to Ashurst's UK emissions, we project that they will decrease over the next 8 years to 1,298 by 2030. This is a reduction of 42% and is aligned to our forecast Science Based Targets goal.

We may correct these reduction goals once our final Science Based Targets are verified by the SBTi, in the event there is any difference. We also note that our initial baseline figures did not include complete data for Scope 3. However, we have assumed an estimated figure in our baseline modelling which was developed with support from carbon accounting software provider, Normative.

## Carbon reduction Projected vs. Actual\*



\*We note our initial baseline did not include Scope 3 categories. However, in the interests of providing a more complete picture of our reduction pathway, we have provided an estimate of our Scope 3 baseline using data compiled by Accenture from FY22.

### Additional details (relating carbon reduction: projected vs. actual)

Ashurst is a Global Organisation and is pursuing net zero emissions across the entirety of emissions within its Operational Control. We are awaiting verification of our Science Based Targets on this basis. This projection for the UK only portion of our business (referable to this contract) has been made using our best efforts. As we mature in our emissions data capture and forecasting, this projection may change to more effectively reflect our actual emissions.

# Carbon emissions reduction activity to date

The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented since the FY22 baseline and the measures will be in effect when performing the contract.

- Completion of our Global Greenhouse Gas Inventory with support from third party carbon accountants, Normative
- Submitted our near term and net zero targets to the SBTi for validation.
- Replaced our Trave Management System with a new global provider, allowing us to calculate business travel emissions globally.
- Updated our Conscious Travel policy to encourage virtual collaboration, ensuring travel is reserved for in-person experiences with the greatest impact.
- Launched an inaugural employee commuting survey to more accurately assess emissions in this category.
- Issued our voluntary Supplier Commitment Letter to select suppliers within our upstream value chain. Although the Purchased Goods & Services emissions category is not captured in this Report, Ashurst understands this to be a material emissions source for our Operations.

In the future we hope to implement further measures such as

- Continue to explore opportunities to enhance energy efficiency within our UK Operations as the technology in that space becomes more accessible to tenants.
- Develop campaigns to improve the use of rail for Business Travel between our London and Glasgow offices and increase the proportion of trips taken by rail.
- Maintain our practice of procuring renewable energy in our UK Premises.
- Continue to optimise the space we occupy through expanding our agile working strategy. We also intend to develop energy intensity dashboards to develop a data-led approach to space optimisation to reduce our absolute energy consumption.
- Expand our supplier engagement activities with our most emissions intense suppliers, ensuring we are reducing absolute emissions across our entire value chain.

# Declaration and sign off

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 06/21 and associated guidance and reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans.

Emissions have been reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company .

Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have been reported in accordance with SECR requirements, and the required subset of Scope 3 emissions have been reported in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3)

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the board of directors (or equivalent management body). Signed on behalf of the Supplier:



Name: Karen Davies

Title: Chair

25/10/24

Ashurst LLP

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1 <https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard>

2 <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting>

3 <https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-value-chain-scope-3-standard>

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