

UK CARBON REDUCTION PLAN

September 2022



COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING NET ZERO

Ashurst is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050.

We are at a relatively early stage of our carbon emissions reduction journey, however our aspiration is ambitious. We have a senior commitment to carbon emissions reductions as sustainability is owned and led by a senior partner for ESG globally and engagement is across the entire business.

We are working with independent consultants to set carbon emissions reduction targets and a pathway to be able to further refine and delineate our above commitment in the public domain.

These actions are designed to help Ashurst further understand our environmental impact and carbon footprint, which is relevant to the delivery of UK Government contracts.

About Ashurst

Ashurst is a global law firm with a reputation for high performance and a wealth of industry experience. We have more than 1,600 partners and lawyers across a network spanning Asia, Australia, Europe, the Middle East and North America. With offices in nearly 20 countries and a number of referral relationships covering numerous time zones, we are well positioned to provide a broad range of legal services to our clients.

Ashurst is celebrating our 200 year anniversary in 2022.

Alignment of our Carbon Emissions Reporting to UK Government

The CRP meets the UK Government requirements for CRPs as it is specific to the bidding entity which is the UK operation of Ashurst LLP (comprising two leased offices in London and Glasgow). The environmental measures set out are stated to be able to be applied by the bidding entity when performing the relevant contract.

Our CRP for the latest reporting period FY22 is aligned with our annual Energy and Carbon Reports (SECR).



BASELINE EMISSIONS FOOTPRINT

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	FY20 (01 MAY 2019 – 30 APRIL 2020)	
EMISSIONS Total (tCO2e)	SCOPE 1	663
	SCOPE 2	1,040
	SCOPE 3	0*
	Upstream (4) Upstream transportation & distribution	0
	(5) Waste generated in operations	0
	(6) Business travel	0
	(7) Employee commuting Downstream	0
	(9) Downstream transportation & distribution	0
	TOTAL EMISSIONS	1,703

Note: Ashurst is a professional services firm and certain of the five mandatory Scope 3 categories required for CRP reporting to the UK Government are not relevant for our business. We have zero emissions for category 4 (Upstream Transportation and Distribution) and category 9 (Downstream Transportation and Distribution) as we do not buy or sell any products. For category 6 (Waste generated in our Operations) we have no baseline as we operate a stock of mainly leased offices in shared buildings and this data is hard to segregate from other businesses on these premises. In addition FY20 was the start of the Covid-19 pandemic which lead to home working. A material category for our business is (6) Business Travel but we had no verifiable baseline data for this in FY20. Category (7) Employee Commuting at the time of our baseline would have been low due to the Covid-19 pandemic with little reliable data at that time.

Additional Details (relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations)

We reported our carbon emissions' baseline in our first SECR for FY20 following the UK Government requirement in 2018 (the 2018 Regulations) and guidance issued in March 2019¹.

The FY20 data was later restated in our SECR FY21. The baseline data included above is the restated data.

¹ <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/academy-trust-financial-management-good-practice-guides/streamlined-energy-and-carbon-reporting</u>

CURRENT EMISSIONS REPORTING

REPORTING YEAR	FY22 (01 MAY 2021 – 30 APRIL 2022)	
EMISSIONS Total (tCO2e)	SCOPE 1	384
	SCOPE 2	695
	SCOPE 3 Upstream	0*
	(4) Upstream transportation & distribution	0
	(5) Waste generated in operations	0
	(6) Business travel	0
	(7) Employee commuting Downstream	0
	(9) Downstream transportation & distribution	0
	TOTAL EMISSIONS	1,079

*Note to Scope 3: Ashurst is a professional services firm and certain of the five mandatory Scope 3 categories required for CRP reporting to the UK Government are not relevant for our business. We continue to have zero emissions for category 4 (Upstream Transportation and Distribution) and category 9 (Downstream Transportation and Distribution) as we do not buy or sell any products. In FY23 we will be contracting with a consultancy to help us with data collection processes across all our Scope 3 categories including the required category (5) Waste Generated in Operations, category (6) Business Travel and category (7) Employee Commuting. A material category for our business is (6) Business Travel and we have a public FY23 target to reduce CO2 emissions from travel by 20% as against 2019, based on our preliminary assessments of 2019 amounts. We have commenced a behavioural change purposeful travel campaign and we are also onboarding a new travel provider which will help with our continued evaluation of the data integrity.

Electricity and gas consumption data has been entered into a fully managed energy database run by Turnkey, up to and including 30 April 2022.

At the time of preparation, electricity and gas consumption data for our Glasgow and London offices for the month of April 2022 had not been finalised by the provider. As such, this consumption has been estimated based on the average data received during the reporting period.

Scope 2 emissions from electricity purchased now include two third party UK data centres; this third party electricity consumption data was not available in FY21.

The firm does not have transport consumption information that falls under mandatory SECR reporting for Scope 3 emissions.

EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS

During the reporting period FY22 there has been no organisational structural change.

Longer term emissions' reduction targets

In light of the Paris Agreement 2015 and further to our participation in COP26 in Glasgow in 2021, Ashurst is committed to establishing a net-zero carbon emissions reduction pathway comprising our direct and indirect emissions across Scopes 1, 2 and 3 together with setting ambitious long term carbon emissions reduction targets. At present, we are evaluating specialist consultants to work with us on setting our targets, in addition to our global internal efforts to verify and ensure the integrity of our data. We have committed to delivering a Carbon Neutrality Plan by April 2023 which is underway, which will be our roadmap and contain our commitments to sustainability, grounded in science and data and supported and approved by both our Board and Executive Committee on behalf of the partnership. We appointed a Global ESG/Sustainability Partner, Anna-Marie Slot, in December 2019 and have developed a firm wide Environmental Social Governance (ESG) taskforces to build internal capacity and support the delivery of our FY23 Sustainability Goals, announced in 2021. Our Global ESG/Sustainability Partner is also supported by a dedicated sustainability manager who joined the firm in 2022.

As a supplier to the UK Government we confirm that the environmental measures that we set out in this CRP will be applied by the bidding entity and parent company, Ashurst LLP, when performing the relevant contracts for the UK Government.

Carbon Emissions Reduction Goals FY23 published

In mid-2021, we announced our initial short term goals focused on social and environmental issues, with an emphasis on reduction. Our specific environmental goals for FY23 (against a 2019 baseline) include:

- 20% reduction in CO2 emissions from travel;
- 30% reduction in paper usage;
- 20% improvement in water, utility and energy usage efficiencies.

We plan to be able to announce our progress against our stated CY23 goals in 2023 and report against our carbon emissions targets in the future once our targets are produced.

Carbon emissions reduction activity to date

To date we have offset our carbon emissions through a formal process involving an independent third party, Climate Impact Partners (formerly Natural Capital Partners) underpinned by calculations produced by their partner organisation RSK. This commenced in calendar year 2020 and will be announced for financial year 2021 (FY21) on completion of the final GHG Assessment Report.



CARBON REDUCTION PROJECTS

Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives

Ashurst has been implementing a programme of energy efficiency and carbon emissions reduction measures globally across our portfolio of leased office buildings.

In the UK we have two leased offices in London and Glasgow. We moved into a new building premises (London) in June 2019 (FY20) and we have recently completed the refurbishment of our existing building premises (Glasgow) in September 2021 (FY22).

Our London office was selected based on various factors including its carbon efficiency and it has a BREAM UK new construction office (shell and core) certification (2014) with a rating of Excellent (74.2%)

The various energy efficient features of the London building include: LED lighting throughout the building for 99.5% of the lighting; renewable energy procured through our electricity provider and roof ecology with various plant varieties to aid biodiversity and reduce carbon emissions.

The building which houses our Glasgow office was built c.2004 and was recently refurbished. The projects implemented for carbon emissions' reduction as part of the office refurbishment include: Eliminating gas consumption; LED lighting; movement sensors; and renewable energy procured through our electricity provider.

During the FY22 reporting period (01 May 2021 - 30 April 2022) we have implemented the following energy efficient initiatives

During the FY22 reporting period we commenced a Scope 3 business travel reduction programme globally to reduce our associated material Scope 3 carbon emissions. This is ongoing with awareness building and programmes in place for tracking. We will be actively measuring and monitoring business travel.

In the building which houses our Glasgow office, we have implemented no further energy efficient and carbon reduction measures in FY22 since the completion of the office refurbishment.

Future Potential Carbon Reduction Initiatives

Further improvements to the building which houses our London office include potentially expanding our solar power generation for more uses such as potentially incorporating solar thermal panels on the roof for heating water. This would negate the use of gas boilers and eliminate or reduce these associated carbon emissions.

Currently no immediate energy efficiency projects are planned for the building which houses our Glasgow office due to the recent refurbishment completed in FY22. In the future we may review the benefits of adding solar panels to the roof for onsite renewable energy generation.

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 standard² and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting³.

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) Standard⁴.

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

Date: 28 SEPTEMBER 2022

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² <u>https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard</u>

³ https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting

⁴ <u>https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard</u>