

Carbon Reduction Plan

Supplier name: Energy Saving Trust

Publication date: September 2023

# **Commitment to achieving Net Zero**

# Energy Saving Trust is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2045.

# **Baseline Emissions Footprint**

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| **Baseline Year: 01.04.2020 – 31.03.2021** |
| **Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations.** |
| We acknowledge that the data gathered from our baseline year (financial year 2020 – 2021) does not represent pre-pandemic business as usual. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all Energy Saving Trust offices lay vacant, almost all employees worked from home, commuting ceased and business travel almost entirely halted through the entirety of our baseline year. Our emissions footprint for 2020-21 financial year was significantly smaller than if we were able to use data from the previous (pre-pandemic) 2019-20 financial year. Most of the emissions reduction between those two years would be generated from Government-mandated COVID-19 response (ie. lockdowns, travel restrictions).As we emerged into a new working world from COVID-19, we recognise that the emissions footprints from certain areas (office working, business travel) rose again.Despite data from the financial year 2020-21 not being entirely representative of business as usual, we have made the considered decision to use this data as our baseline year because;* It is the most complete emissions data set that we have. We do not have a full emissions data set from financial year 2019-20.
* We are prioritising beginning our journey towards net zero as soon as possible instead of waiting another year to collect baseline data that may or may not be more representative of business as usual. We believe progress towards net zero is urgent.
* It was impossible to predict the course of the COVID-19 pandemic; Government-mandated policies to curb the pandemic were likely to affect our emissions through financial year 2021-22.
* We believe re-emerging to a new business as usual from the COVID-19 pandemic presents a good opportunity to implement new policies to decarbonise our operations.

In April 2022, Energy Saving Trust acquired Solstice Associates. This acquisition falls within the 2021-22 reporting period and Solstice Associates fall under the organisational boundary (as defined by our consolidation approach) of Energy Saving Trust. As such, the GHG Protocol necessitates that base year emissions should be recalculated including this acquisition, because the acquisition exceeds the materiality threshold. The base year emissions presented in this report were therefore recalculated and baseline year emissions given include those of Solstice Associates. |
| **Baseline year emissions:** |
| **EMISSIONS** | **TOTAL (tCO2e)** |
| **Scope 1** | **0.93** |
| **Scope 2** | **69.27** |
| **Scope 3****(Included Sources)** | **2,675.01** |
| **Total Emissions** | **2,745.22** |

**Current Emissions Reporting**

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| **Reporting Year: 2022-2023** |
| **EMISSIONS** | **TOTAL (tCO2e)** |
| **Scope 1** | **0** |
| **Scope 2** | **24.25** |
| **Scope 3****(Included Sources)** | **4174.81** |
| **Total Emissions** | **4199.07** |

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# **Emissions reduction targets**

# In order to continue our progress to achieving Net Zero, we have adopted the following carbon reduction targets.

Near-term targets

* 42% absolute reduction in scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2030, against base year (2020-21)
* 25% absolute reduction in scope 3 emission by 2030, against base year (2020-21)

Long-term target

* 90% absolute reduction in scope 1, 2 & 3 emissions by 2045, against base year (2020-21)

Our targets have been verified by the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi).

# We project that greenhouse gas emissions will decrease over the next five years to 2000 tCO2e by 2028. This is a reduction of 46%.

# Progress against these targets can be seen in the graph below:

Since our baseline year of 2020-21, Energy Saving Trust has seen an increase in total greenhouse gas emissions. This rise can be attributed to the lifting of the Government mandated COVID-19 response measures and Energy Saving Trust doubling in employee numbers since April 2020. However, we have seen a decrease in emissions per person.

# **Carbon Reduction Projects**

### Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives

The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented since the 2020 baseline. The carbon emission reduction achieved for scope 1 and 2 by these schemes equate to 45.96 tCO2e, a 65%ge reduction against the 2020 baseline and the measures will be in effect when performing the contract. Achieving our scope 1 and scope 2 near-term target.

Given our baseline year and operational changes, we are unable to identify the total carbon emissions reduction achieved by the measures we have implemented. Please see below emissions reductions associated with individual measures and projects:

**Verification**

In 2022, Energy Saving Trust’s net zero targets became approved by the Science Based Targets Initiative.

**Travel**

In November 2021, we ceased our lease of the single diesel vehicle operated by the organisation. This removes all scope 1 emissions. The carbon emission reduction achieved by this intervention equates to **0.93 tCO2e, a 100% reduction against the 2020 baseline.**

We have reviewed the environmental credentials of the hotels employees regularly stay in for business travel. This comparison allows us to prioritise booking the hotels which are committed to reducing their environmental impact.

**Resource**

During 2022-2023, Energy Saving Trust created two new roles dedicated to implementing actions outlined in our net zero strategy. The Net Zero Lead provides the overall project management of aligning Energy Saving Trust’s operations with our net zero ambitions. Our Sustainable Procurement and Contracts Officer is responsible for implementing actions related to procurement and manages the continual improvement of the procurement procedure.

**Offices**

We moved our London office to a building that has a higher EPC rating and better public transport links as it is located near King's Cross Station.

Our Cardiff office was refurbished with a focus on re-manufactured furniture and recycled materials. According to our supplier it is estimated we **saved 600kg CO2e compared to buying all new furniture​.**

In August 2023, Solar PV was installed at our Solstice office, making that building completely powered by renewable energy.

**Employees support**

Energy Saving Trust offers eligible employees the opportunity to apply for an interest free net zero employee loan for use specifically towards measures that saves energy and/or reduces carbon emissions.

In May 2022, Energy Saving Trust launched an EV salary sacrifice scheme which offers employees the opportunity to drive a brand-new electric car using part of their gross salary and make savings on income tax and national insurance.

**Procurement**

We have begun improving our procurement process with a focus on reducing emissions associated with purchased goods and services. We implemented a circular economy approach to IT equipment. Refurbished laptops have been purchased and unused IT equipment was donated to the Turing Trust for reuse. According to the Turing Trust **our donation saved 6 tonnes of CO2 emissions.**

**Engagement**

The Sustainability Committee continues to promote a culture of sustainability. In 2022/23 we engaged with employees through writing blogs, creating vlogs, organising events, producing our quarterly newsletter and ran lunch and learn sessions.

In September 2022, we partnered with Pawprint. The app helps employees calculate their carbon emissions and change to more sustainable behaviours as the app suggests thousands of actions that reduce environmental impact. **As of September 2023, colleagues have saved over 68 tonnes CO2e.**

In 2023, we began running Climate Fresk workshops for employees. These collaborative workshops teach employees the fundamental science behind climate change and empower them to take action. We now have thirteen trained Climate Fresk facilitators at Energy Saving Trust which allows us to regularly run workshops and improve employee’s understanding of climate change.

**Identification of Future Areas of Action**

In the future we hope to implement further measures such as:

* Continue flexible working practices to reduce emissions from commuting.
* We are moving our Edinburgh office to a building with an EPC rating A, better active travel facilities and public transport links.
* Develop plans to encourage more sustainable commuting practices.
* Update our procurement strategy to include detailed carbon reporting and management requirements for our suppliers.
* Update our business travel policy.
* Increase upper limit for cycle to work scheme.
* Develop guidelines on carbon efficient homeworking practices.
* Develop sustainable office practices by improving water and waste policies.
* Become ISO14064-1 certified.
* Review our expenses policy to encourage employees to reduce their environmental impact when travelling for business.

# **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 standard[[1]](#footnote-2) and uses the appropriate [Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting)[[2]](#footnote-3).

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) Standard[[3]](#footnote-4).

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:



Bob Buckley

Date: September 2023

1. <https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. <https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)