

Carbon Reduction Plan

The Academic Health Science Network for the North East and North Cumbria (AHSN NENC) is committed to achieving net zero emissions, in terms of the NHS Carbon Footprint by 2030, and NHS Carbon Footprint Plus by 2040¹.

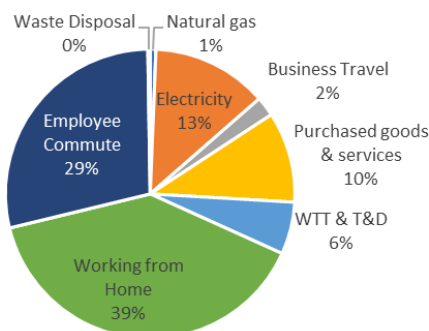
We have been measuring and reducing our carbon emissions since 2021 and in 2022, we reduced our overall emissions by 19.3%.

The AHSN NENC is an organisation comprising a team of approximately 80 people who predominantly provide professional services to the regional NHS and life sciences ecosystem in navigating the Innovation Pathway. The AHSN NENC initially aligned its carbon reduction planning towards the NHS 'Delivery of a Net Zero Framework', for measuring, and reporting our carbon reduction target. However, in recognition of the severe impact of climate emergency on every aspect of society, the AHSN NENC has committed to more stringent targets of reaching Net Zero by 2030; for emissions that we control directly, (which is 10 years ahead of NHS Carbon Footprint target), and for emissions we can influence by 2040, (which is 5 years ahead of NHS Carbon Footprint Plus target).

Carbon Emissions

Baseline emissions are higher in 2021-2022, the period prior to the introduction of any strategies to curb emissions and these will serve as the reference point against which future reductions are measured. Full details of the baseline emissions, including all relevant emissions are included in the table below.

Baseline period: April 2021 to March 2022				
Background: We have measured our emissions in accordance with Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHGP) ² and have included all relevant activities under Scope 1, 2 and 15 categories of Scope 3.				
Scope	Emissions Source	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)		Change from Base year (%)
		Base year (2021-22)	Current Year (2022-23)	
Scope 1	Natural gas	0.55	5.40	-882%
Scope 2	Electricity – Location based	11.16	10.02	10%
Scope 3	Purchased goods & services - Water	0.12	0.12	0%
	Fuel related activities	5.04	7.07	-40%
	Waste generated in operations	0.22	0.22	0%
	Business Travel	1.90	19.23	-912%
NHS Footprint total		18.65	26.64	-43%
Scope 3	Purchased goods & services (by expenditure)	8.63	8.13	6%
	Employee commute (including working from home)	59.01	34.89	41%
NHS Footprint Plus total		86.23	69.67	19%



Base year

- 1 Carbon Footprint and Carbon Footprint Plus as specified in statutory guidance document [Delivering a 'Net Zero' National Health Services](#)
- 2 The Greenhouse Gas Protocol – A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (<https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard>)
- 3 National Grid ESO - Future Energy Scenarios (<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/future-energy/future-energy-scenarios>)

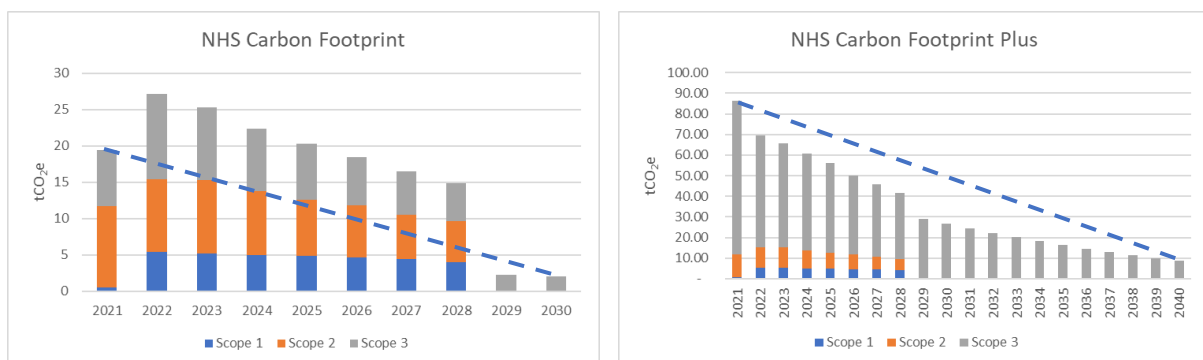
Emissions Reduction Targets

We have a long term target of achieving Net Zero against our baseline emissions of 2021. In accordance with the accepted practice, we aim to reduce our emissions by 90% and then implement insetting or offsetting of remaining 10%.

A significant portion of our 2022-2023 emissions (68%) arise from the Scope 3 sub-category of employees commuting, followed by electricity (13%) and purchased goods and services (10%).

The COVID-19 Pandemic during our base year, caused our business travel and employee commute emissions to be significantly lower than our current year's emissions. In 2022, resumption of business travel and staff commuting, has increased these emissions and accordingly our NHS Carbon Footprint shows an increase. Despite the planned implementation of a number of initiatives these emissions are not projected to go below the baseline figure before 2029.

We have based our reduction targets upon the Emissions Reduction Projects detailed below, in addition to the Future Energy Scenarios³ modelling.



Carbon Reduction Targets

Emissions Reduction Projects

In order to achieve our reduction targets, we plan to: -

- Reduce our Scope 1&2 emissions by relocating to a Net Zero building. Now that we have certainty, we will be relicensed for a further five years by NHS England to 2028, we plan to explore the options for relocating to an alternative business premises, which will be net zero in terms of its operational energy requirements, on or before 2029.
- Reduce the impact of employee commuting by 6% every year by actively encouraging staff to use public transport and where feasible carpooling. We will also encourage the adoption of EV cars via our employee lease car schemes ensuring all staff are aware of the benefit. Given the AHSN NENC's national role, many of our meetings are now online, travel has reduced and because of this national remit it is envisaged that the company will always support an element of home working.
- Our calculations show that staff working from home contributed 39% of our emissions in the base year. When we relocate to a new office, we will ideally look to double our desk capacity allowing more people to work in the office. As the new office will have minimal emissions, the net result will be a reduction in emissions even when the additional impact of commuting is added.
- Reduce business travel by 12% every year by optimising the journeys, utilising public transport, utilising EV cars, and implementing a green travel management plan.
- Reducing emissions from purchased goods and services by 3% every year. We will engage with our supply chain to encourage them to adopt net zero plans and collect their carbon emissions directly.

Declaration and sign off.

This Carbon Reduction Plan has completed in accordance with GHG Protocol reporting standards and reduction best practices.

We will monitor and review our plan on a regular basis to make sure we stay on track to our commitment to Climate change actions. Our progress will be shared with our external and internal stakeholders to inform, engage, and collaborate.

Signed

N Hutchinson

[N Hutchinson \(May 16, 2023 17:43 GMT+1\)](#)

Dr Nicola Hutchinson

Chief Executive Officer

Signed

Peter Lillie

[Peter Lillie \(May 16, 2023 15:07 GMT+1\)](#)

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Sustainability Lead







MR edit 150523 AHSN Carbon Reduction Plan NH MR KS comments included (AC) final 16 May PL (002) (002)

Final Audit Report

2023-05-16

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