Grant Thornton

Carbon reduction plan

April 2025

Commitment to achieving Net Zero

Grant Thornton UK and Grant Thornton UK Advisory and Tax LLP are committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2045

Baseline and most recent year emissions footprint

Baseline year: 2019

Most recent year: 2024

Additional Details relating to the Baseline and Most Recent Year Emissions calculations

Our baseline emissions inventory includes all our measurable Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions. We include all 7 Kyoto Protocol Greenhouse Gas groups in our emissions footprint calculations. Scope 2 market-based emissions data is included in line with our Science Based Targets.

Scope 3 emissions includes estimated emissions for purchased goods and services using a spend based methodology. These make up over 80% of Scope 3 emissions and we are working on collecting primary data from suppliers to improve our insight into our Scope 3 emissions.

EMISSIONS (tCO2e)		Most Recent Year emissions 2024	Baseline emissions 2019
Scope 1		478	1,016
Scope 2 market-based		276	718
Scope 3[5]	Purchased goods and services[1]	19,848	13,810
	Fuel and energy related activities	363	513
	Upstream transportation and distribution	15	0[2]
	Waste generated in operations	4	27
	Business travel	5,804	7,157
	Employee commuting[3]	2,448	8,618
	Downstream transportation and distribution[4]	0	0[2]
Total Emissions		**29, 236**	**31,859**

1. This has been restated: a spend-based method was used for 2019 to calculate the majority of purchased goods and services emissions using a third-party data platform. In 2024 the method used to calculate emissions was changed, the top 80% of suppliers by spend were analysed to determine the industry conversion factors to use. The remaining 20% was converted using the emissions factor within the third-party data platform for 'other business services'. Where available the most recent supplier specific emissions factors were used as of February 2025. Where these are not available industry conversion factors are used. Purchased goods and services emissions have increased since our baseline year as our spend has increased. As we move towards more primary data we expect to see supplier actions to reduce emissions reflected in this number.
2. Emissions from couriers were included within category 1 (purchased Goods and services) in our baseline year and has been split out into upstream transportation and distribution for our most recent year.
3. This is calculated based on survey data from our employees on what method of transport they use to commute to the office and the length of their commute. Frequency is based on desk booking data.
4. No emissions are included for downstream transportation and distribution as this is not relevant to Grant Thornton UK LLP and Grant Thornton UK Advisory and Tax LLP as professional services firms. The only transportation that occurs is through paid-for courier services and carbon emissions associated with this are included in category 4 Upstream transportation and distribution.
5. Categories which are not relevant include: Capital goods; Upstream leased assets; Downstream transportation and distribution, Processing of sold products; Use of sold products; End-of-life treatment of sold products; Downstream leased assets; Franchises; and Investments. Since FY24 we have reported homeworking emissions in our Carbon-Related Financial Disclosures that sits within our Members' Report and Financial Statements. Homeworking emissions do not fall within the minimum boundary for reporting under the GHG protocol, and since we did not collect this data in our 2019 baseline year, we have made the decision not to include these emissions in our Carbon Reduction Plan.

The changes to the GHG emissions since last year are a result of:

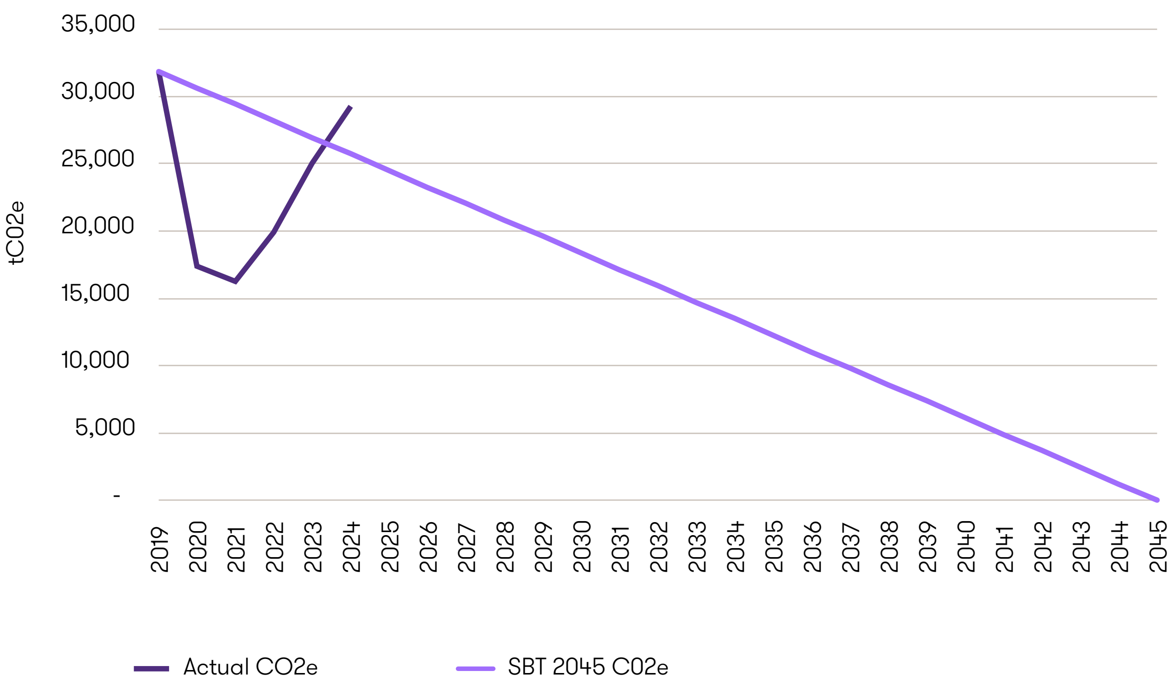
- An increase in travel due to business priorities. Specifically, our air travel had increased by 1,039 tCO2e, a 27% increase;
- A refrigerant gas leak in our Finsbury Square London office leading to an increase in scope 1 refrigerant gases of 154 tCO2e, a 217% increase;
- An increase in spend, specifically in overseas spending, which has impacted our scope 3 purchased goods and services emissions. We will endeavour to collect more supplier specific data where possible to continue to improve the accuracy of this data; and
- The inclusion of our Cyprus operations, acquired during 2024, has increased our location and market-based scope 2 emissions.

Emissions reduction targets:

- We first set validated science-based targets from 2018 to 2023. In 2023 we set Long and updated Near-Term carbon reduction targets which have been validated by the Science Based targets initiative.
  - We will reduce our Scope 1 & 2 emissions 70% by 2030 from our 2019 baseline
  - We will reduce business travel and commuting emissions 50% by 2030 from our 2019 baseline
  - By 2027 55% of our suppliers by emissions will have science -based targets
  - We commit to reaching Net Zero (reducing our emissions by at least 90%) by 2045 from a 2019 baselin

Progress against this target can be seen in the graph below:

Carbon reduction actual vs SBT



For years where certain emissions were not calculated such as PG&S in 2020 to 2022, and Employee Commuting in 2021, an assumption has been made to estimate the increase from the previously calculated period the next known period and show and increase/decrease on a straight line basis.

In line with our carbon targets, we projected that total scope 1, 2 and 3 carbon emissions will decrease to 18,380 tCO2e by 2030. This is a reduction of 42% from our 2019 baseline.

Carbon reduction projects

Completed carbon reduction initiatives

The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or started since the 2019 baseline. The carbon emission reduction achieved by these schemes equate to 980 tCO_2e, across scope 1 and 2, a 57% reduction against the 2019 baseline. Business travel emissions have reduced by 1,353 tCO_2e since 2019 and the measures will be in effect when performing the contract. Emissions from purchased goods and services have increased since our baseline due to increased spend.

- We have used our property guidelines to set targets on property moves in 2024 (including consideration of waste, water and energy). In our Liverpool office move we achieved 100% of desks reused (cut to smaller size, resprayed and resurfaced), reuse of reception wooden slatted shutters, doors to meeting rooms and store cupboards. This resulted in a saving in embodied carbon compared to the expected fit out.
- We have reduced our property footprint.
- We have engaged with the landlords of the remaining offices with non-renewable energy to seek assurances that renewable energy will be prioritised at the next contract renewal.
- As part of ESOS phase 3 reporting we surveyed our offices and identified opportunities for energy savings, and submitted an action plan in 2024 including monitoring the temperature of our offices where we can track the temperature precisely, with the expectation of reducing kWh by over 86,000kWh by December 2027.
- We have built consideration of the environment into our procurement policy and third-party code of conduct. We have invested into a third-party system to help us manage our supplier emissions data and target setting more efficiently. This will help us track our progress towards our target and identify where suppliers are falling behind their peers in their environmental credentials.
- We have reduced combined Scope 3 business travel and commuting emissions by 48% since 2019 baseline, although these have risen in recent years. We are starting to set reduction plans for business travel across the firms , using data from our emissions dashboard to encourage behaviour change.
- We commenced with a move to our new London property during 2024, due to be completed in the middle of 2025, and we have set targets to make it sustainable in terms of the refurbishment and operations.

Planned carbon reduction initiatives

Over the next five years we plan to implement further measures which will continue to drive down emissions. We are considering several initiatives and those listed below are some examples of areas we are discussing.

- Reducing our property footprint and moving to more sustainable properties;
- Continuing to procure renewable energy and completing the switch of the final 5% to renewable sources;
- Reducing energy consumption in offices;
- Work with suppliers to understand their own emissions. Educate and encourage suppliers to set their own carbon reductions targets in line with the science;
- Integrate climate consideration into firm decision making; and
- Continue to educate our people to reduce their carbon impact both in and outside of work.

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 Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard[1] and uses the most relevant emissions factors sourced from government and official environmental bodies, and suppliers[2].

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].

The Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and approved by the Designated Members of Grant Thornton UK LLP (Registered no. OC307742) and Grant Thornton UK Advisory & Tax LLP (Registered no. OC454533). Signed on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP and Grant Thornton UK Advisory & Tax LLP:

Fiona Baldwin

Fiona Baldwin
Partner, Head of Operations, Strategic Leadership Team

Wendy Russell

Wendy Russell
Partner, Head of Audit

Date: 24 April 2025

1 https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard
2 https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting
3 https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard

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