

## **Carbon Reduction Plan 2025**

**Supplier name:** Public Digital **Publication date:** 01/10/2025

#### Commitment to achieving Net Zero

**Public Digital** is committed to taking action to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions down to net zero **by 2050**.

All of our work involves helping organisations use digital to deliver outcomes that measurably improve people's lives. We promote conscientious design and development practices that produce good user experiences and high performance, and <u>our approach is inherently mindful of social and ecological impact.</u> In order to progress towards being net zero, we are undertaking a combination of emission limitation, reduction and elimination.

As a company we are committed to public disclosure of our emissions. We began calculating, monitoring and publishing our emissions data in 2022. We are continuing to account for our emissions and progress in reduction and elimination on an annual basis. Using this data, we are reviewing our goals and actions each year in order to make our commitments stronger and our corresponding activities more effective.

#### **Baseline Emissions Footprint**

Baseline emissions are a record of the greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and the reference point against which emissions reduction can be measured.

We had a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory carried out by an independent third-party expert (C-Free) covering January - December 2022 (followed by a realignment report conducted by Groundwork East), which serves as our Baseline emissions calculation. The results were as follows in the table below.

## Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions (and subsequent) calculations:

Scope 1 emissions are direct greenhouse gas emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by our organisation. As a digital consultancy, we do not own or control any sources that produce direct emissions, such as company-owned vehicles, on-site fuel combustion, or industrial processes. Therefore, our Scope 1 emissions were 0 tCO<sub>2</sub>e for the baseline year and remain 0 tCO<sub>2</sub>e for the current reporting year.

Baseline Year: 2022	
BASELINE YEAR EMISSIONS	TOTAL (†CO₂e)
Scope 1	0.00
Scope 2	4.69



Scope 3  Included Sources (tCO <sub>2</sub> e): Category 4: Transportation & Distribution (Upstream) Category 5: Waste Generated in Operations Category 6: Business Travel Category 7: Employee Commuting Category 9: Transportation & Distribution (Downstream)	480.70
Total Emissions	485.39

In 2023 we had a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory carried out by an independent third-party expert (Groundwork East) covering January - December 2023. The results were as follows:

Reporting Year: 2023	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (†CO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1	0.00
Scope 2	2.32
Scope 3  Included Sources (†CO <sub>2</sub> e): Category 4: Transportation & Distribution (Upstream) Category 5: Waste Generated in Operations Category 6: Business Travel Category 7: Employee Commuting Category 9: Transportation & Distribution (Downstream)	966.74
Total Emissions	969.06

# **Current Emissions Reporting: 2024**

We have had a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory carried out by an independent third-party expert (Groundwork East) covering January - December 2024. The results were as follows:

Reporting Year: 2024	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (†CO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1	0.00
Scope 2	2.34
Scope 3  Included Sources (tCO <sub>2</sub> e): Category 4: Transportation & Distribution (Upstream): N/A (incl. in Cat.1) Category 5: Waste Generated in Operations: 0.78 Category 6: Business Travel: 614.17 Category 7: Employee Commuting: 21.01 Category 9 - Transportation & Distribution (Downstream): N/A	761.92
Total Emissions	764.27



### **Carbon Reduction Targets**

Acknowledging the climate crisis and committing to net zero are important things to do; achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions is practically very difficult.

In the immediate term, Public Digital is taking action to limit any increase in future carbon emissions, while using offsets to neutralise existing emissions.

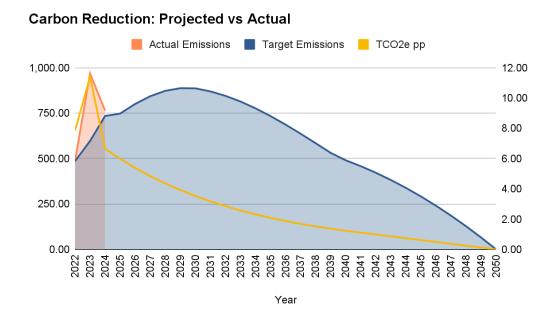
Our steps to reduce our carbon emissions are overseen by our Management Team, and are integrated into a holistic Environmental, Social and Governance efficiencies policy.

In order to continue our progress to achieving Net Zero, we have adopted carbon reduction targets. We have decided to offset 100% of our estimated emissions. We are targeting becoming certified as a carbon neutral company (in line with PAS 2060) by mid-2025.

We have set an initial goal of reducing our emissions against each of our intensity metrics (per per client hour, FTE person, and per £10k of turnover) annually. We will review this year on year with the goal of becoming net zero in advance of 2050.

We project that the intensity of our carbon emissions will decrease over the next six years to 3.7tCO<sub>2</sub>e per person by 2030. This is a reduction of 47%.

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



Carbon reduction, offsetting and neutrality are positive steps on the journey towards net zero emissions. As our data and experience improve, we will tighten up our practices and push ourselves for more ambitious goals.



### **Carbon Reduction Projects**

**Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives:** 

The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented and in progress since the 2022 baseline.

- Maintaining our use of office space that is powered renewable energy, including securing certification of the energy's origin, and increasing the energy efficiency of hardware and software used in our delivery work
- Minimising staff travel by delivering services remotely wherever suitable
- Limiting air travel to long haul, using public transport and electric vehicles for transit whenever possible, selecting accommodation that can evidence sustainability practices, and exploring sustainable travel booking options
- Identifying a reduction target for carbon emissions per person as an intensity unit
- Compiling advice and activities to support employees in making ethical and sustainable choices in the course of their work and personal lives, including switching to renewable energy providers and opting in to salary-sacrifice schemes
- Developing our capabilities to advise and support clients in reducing the planetary impacts of their operations through technology and internet ways of working
- Offsetting our carbon emissions

The carbon emission reduction achieved by these schemes equate to  $1.2 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e}$  per person, a 15% reduction against the 2022 baseline.

In the future, we hope to implement further measures, we are continuing to review these and to put them into practice, and we look forward to sharing our progress, as well as collaborating and learning alongside our peers and clients, to improve our collective efforts toward healthier environments and fairer societies.

For an organisation like ours some overseas travel is unavoidable and there is not yet a dependable path to net zero aviation. We want to eliminate our emissions without relying on technologies which take carbon out of the atmosphere, which are currently still at an early development stage but we continue to closely monitor aviation and sequestration technologies, welcoming the innovation in these areas and looking for opportunities to use them to further reduce our emissions.

## **Declaration and Sign Off**

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 006 and associated guidance and reporting standards 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<sup>1</sup> and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting<sup>2</sup>.

https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard

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



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<sup>3</sup>.

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

Both

Ben Terrett, CEO **Date:** 01/10/2025

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard