



Carbon
Reduction
Plan

Commitment to achieving Net Zero

AHR Architects and AHR Building Consultancy Practices collectively employ circa 300 staff across 8 offices in the UK. Our commitment to climate and sustainability is central to our practice ethos.

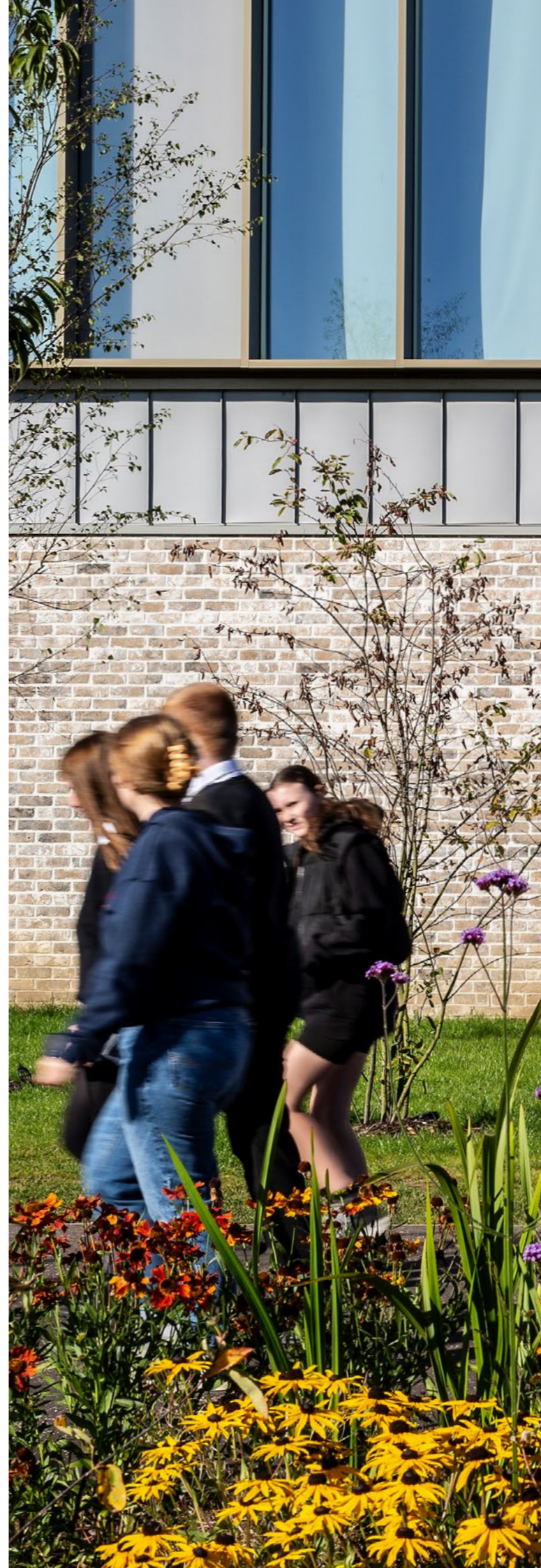
We are signatories to the RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge and Architects' Declare and have pledged to support our clients, and the wider built environment, with the climate challenges we all face.

When creating or caring for buildings and spaces, we believe every project counts. We have developed a reputation for delivering sustainable design solutions and our current portfolio is rich with projects that consider Operational Energy and Embodied Carbon from the outset.

We currently operate out of eight permanently staffed offices which are strategically located across the country to provide design services to a broad range of public and private sector clients. All our office space is leased, as is the practice IT infrastructure (i.e. hardware and software).

We welcome the opportunity to demonstrate to the UK Government and to our clients our commitment to managing carbon across the AHR's operations. This Carbon Reduction Plan is now in its fourth year and continues to plan our ongoing journey to net zero.

We have reviewed our progress through 2024 and believe we are on target to transition to Net Zero by 2030 for our Scope 1 and 2 activities. In addition, we plan to be carbon neutral with regard to our declared Scope 3 activities by 2030.



We are an agile and progressive organisation and we believe we can complete the transition by 2030, in line with the aspirations of RIBA, RICS, and Architects Declare – ahead of the 2050 target date mandated by the Climate Change Act.

About the AHR Plan

This Plan summarises AHR's baseline carbon footprint and our commitment to reducing our Green House Gas (GHG) emissions to Net Zero. We are an agile and progressive organisation and we believe we can complete the transition by 2030 – in line with the aspirations of RIBA, RICS, and Architects Declare – ahead of the 2050 target date mandated by the Climate Change Act

The Scope of the AHR Plan is as defined by the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard. In addition to measuring against their Scope 1 and 2 boundaries, we have established further (and as yet voluntary) Scope 3 boundaries for aspects that we have some influence over.

Emissions have been calculated using the 'Control Approach'. That is to say, we have accounted for 100 percent of the GHG emissions from operations over which AHR has full financial control. Full calculations are available on request.

Baseline emissions footprint

Baseline emissions are a record of the greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and were produced prior to the introduction of any strategies to reduce emissions.

Baseline emissions are the reference point against which emissions reduction can be measured.

Baseline Year: 2019

Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations

Baseline emissions calculations commenced in January 2019, based on AHR's organisational and Operational Boundaries at that time. Emissions have been calculated using the 'control' approach – calculated by office location before being consolidated for the purposes of reporting on overall tonnes CO2e, per Scope, for the Practice.

The extent of each Scope, as applicable to AHR's Organisational and Operational Boundaries, is set out below, along with the calculation methodology used.

Baseline year emissions:		
Emissions	Total (tCO2e)	
Scope 1	165.5 tonnes CO2e	(Fleet emissions calculated using GHGP Transport Tool V2.6) (A/C emissions calculated from manufacturer performance data by A/C unit)
Scope 2	144.3 tonnes CO2e	Electricity GHG emissions calculated as kWh x CO2e (with CO2e figures derived from UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2018) Gas GHG emissions calculated as kWh x CO2e (with CO2e figures derived from UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2018)
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	360.8 tonnes CO2e	Includes business travel, staff commute, AHR waste streams as well as fuel and energy-related services such as off-site data centres GHG emissions calculated as distance (or) weight (or) kWh per scope item x CO2e (with CO2e figures derived from UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2018) Staff commuter habits were measured using a staff survey
Total Emissions	670.6 tonnes CO2e	

Current Reporting Year: 2024

Emissions	Total (tCO2e)	
Scope 1	54.54 tonnes CO2e	(Fleet emissions* calculated using car manufacturer engine data x mileage per annum) (A/C emissions calculated as a consequence of GHG replacement through maintenance) *Excludes EVs, which are accounted for in Scope 2 figures
Scope 2	62.11 tonnes CO2e	Electricity GHG emissions calculated as kWh x CO2e (with CO2e figures derived from UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2024) Gas GHG emissions calculated as kWh x CO2e (with CO2e figures derived from UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2024)
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	229.93 tonnes CO2e	Includes business travel, staff commute, staff homeworking, AHR waste streams as well as fuel and energy-related services such as off-site data centres GHG emissions calculated as distance (or) kWh per scope item x CO2e (with CO2e figures derived from UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2024) Staff commuter habits were measured using a staff survey (59.5% returns)
Total Emissions	346.58 tonnes CO2e	

Scope 1 and 2 targets update

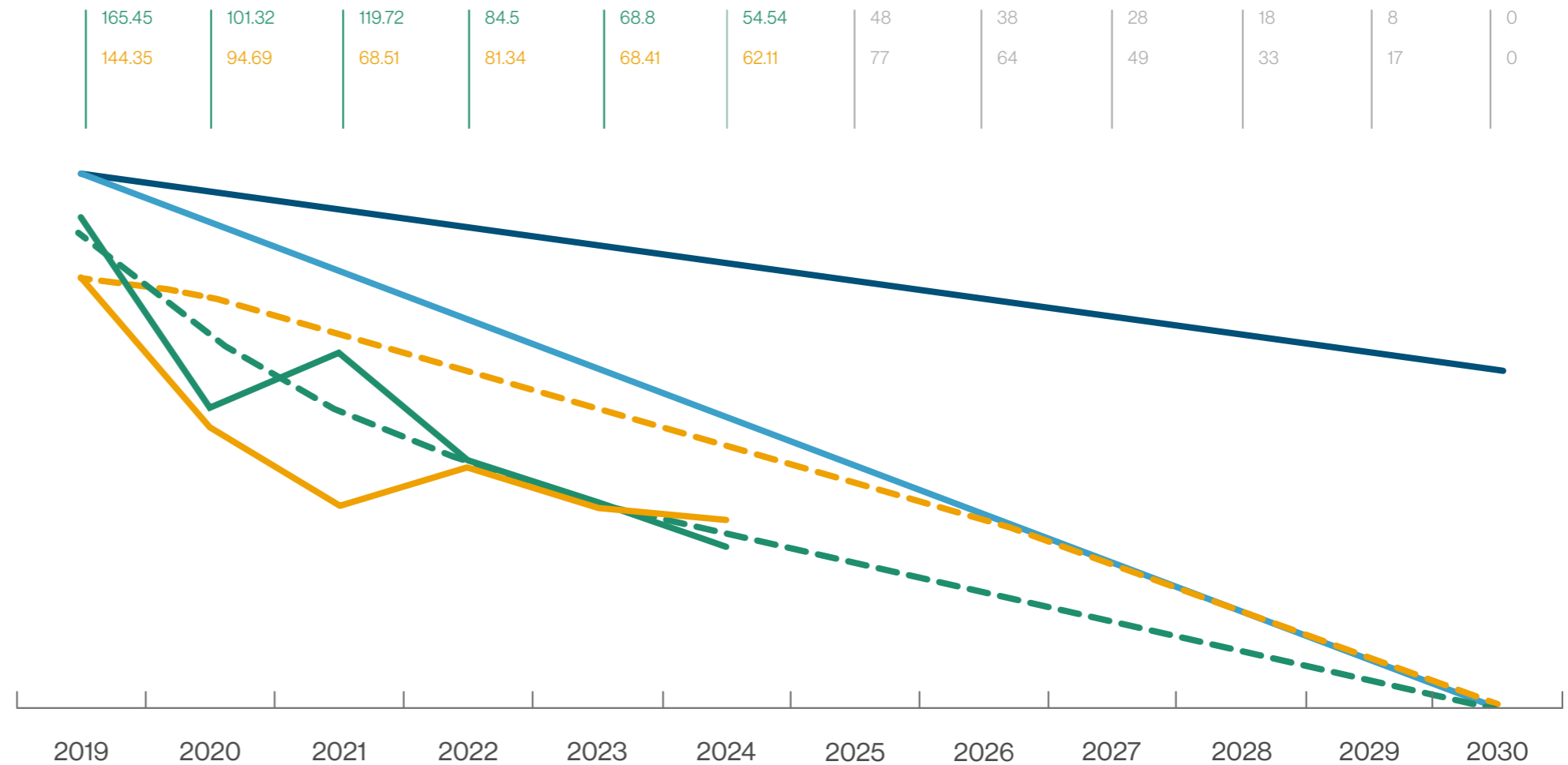
Our emissions reduction targets for Scope 1 & 2* continue to exceed expectations. We have realised a 20% improvement against 2023 figures – caused in part through action we took in 2023 to transition our fleet away from carbon technology – and partly due to a 10% drop in fleet vehicle numbers. Increases in PHEV and EV leasing costs slowed our transition down by 50% in 2024 and will be a focus of review in 2025.

During 2024, AHR's phased transition to cloud-computing continued - yielding a 9% Scope 2 (purchased electricity) reduction through the phased removal of on-site servers. Powering the cloud is increasingly accounted for in Scope 3

*The data used to calculate our CO2e footprint is, to the best of our knowledge, accurate. However, our commitment to continually improving the quality of this data may from time to time flag a requirement to re-calibrate our statistics. In such instances we reserve the right to do this without penalty.

With regard to Scope 1 and 2 emissions, we remain on track to hit our Net Zero by 2030.

- Net Zero timeline (2050)
- Net Zero timeline (2030)
- AHR forecast scope 1
- AHR actual scope 1
- AHR forecast scope 2
- AHR actual scope 2



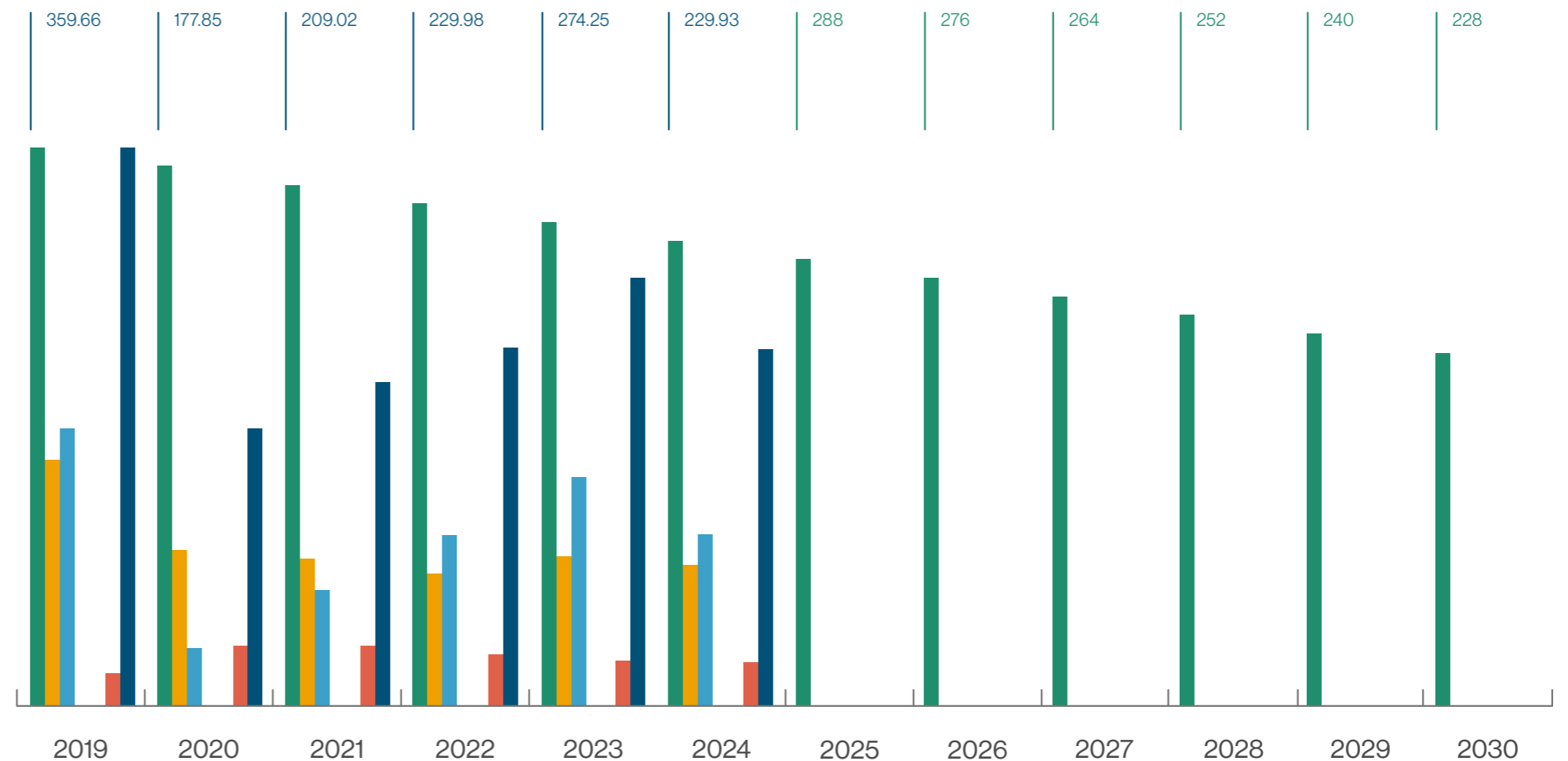
Scope 3 targets update

AHR's Scope 3 emissions for 2024 reduced by 16% over the course of the year. Factors included the stabilisation of hybrid-working – with less staff spending more time in the office – and changes to UK Government Conversion Factors for waste (the multiplier reducing from 21.281 to 6.411). Our increased use of cloud processing and storage also had a positive effect on CO₂e reduction.

In addition, AHR's figures for business travel dropped by 5% in 2024 – signalling perhaps the end of the post-Lockdown desire to 'get out and meet'.

Whilst Scope 3 reporting remains voluntary to AHR, our organisation is committed to driving down our CO₂e emissions with regard to down-stream energy use, business travel, the staff commute and homeworking, plus AHR waste streams.

- Net Zero timeline (2050)
- Business travel
- Staff commute
- Fuel and energy related services
- Total



Carbon Reduction Initiatives

Review of our 2024 carbon reduction initiatives



Green energy

The move, by our Landlords to green energy, is out of our hands. We have had the conversation, but it will be a commercial incentive, and not tenant pressure, that will see them make the transition.



Premises upgrades

When the opportunity arose to vacate our Georgian premises in Shrewsbury, it was the lack of high-quality office alternatives, in the town, that prevented us from upgrading.



Greening the grey fleet

In 2024, AHR undertook a review of salary sacrifice schemes, to see whether it was possible to transition high-business-miles staff from diesel vehicles to EV. Unfortunately, the idea proved prohibitive, due to the artificially and prohibitively high cost of leasing an EV in 2024.

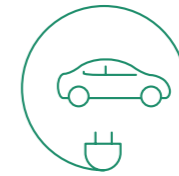


Transition to cloud computing and storage

In 2024 AHR became less reliant on in-house servers – choosing instead to subscribe to the ‘cloud’ for data processing and storage. The initiative, which began in 2023, took a further step forward and proved the viability of securing CO2e savings through cloud computing.



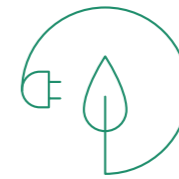
2025 carbon reduction initiatives



Scope 1

Fleet transition to PHEV and EV

This was disrupted in 2024 by an affordability issue, whereby the lease costs for PHEV and EV vehicles almost doubled. The AHR Directors will assess the cost of re-instating the transition (currently paused).



Scope 2

Energy monitoring

Landlords have improved the quality of data they give us with regard to AHR's energy use. However, because we are not generally metered, we cannot verify this data. In 2025 we want to investigate potential reporting anomalies across key AHR sites, using an agile monitoring systems that provide real-time energy consumption data.



Scope 2

Transition to cloud computing and storage

In 2025 we will continue to shut down local servers in favour of cloud computing and storage. The move is already yielding CO2e savings for us, and is expected to yield further opportunities of partnering with data centres that use green energy.



Scope 3

Staff commute

In 2025 and via our sustainability group, we'll review commute habits with staff, to see if we can pro-actively and permanently reduce the 347,000 miles of driving to work. This will be a challenge and we will need to look outside of AHR, to see what others are doing in this space.

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

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:



Anthony Langan
Managing Director,
Architecture



Allan Hunt
Managing Director,
Building Consultancy

For and on behalf of AHR: 10th March 2025

We approach every project with the same commitment to quality, excellence and integrity in all we do.

