



Environmental Sustainability Strategy

Greenhouse gas assessment and Carbon reductions pathway

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Introduction

Horizon Building Services are a small building consultancy based in Yorkshire, providing building services engineering design, surveys and reports to a range of building projects in the region.

Established in 2018, we have always held environmental sustainability as a key pillar of our work and how we operate.

We are based out of York Science Park, which holds sustainable innovation at its heart, and we have run our operations in a lean and environmentally conscious way since our formation.

In 2026, we have decided to formalise our commitment to the environment through the completion of a greenhouse gas emissions assessment of our own operations, and the development of a carbon reductions pathway. This document highlights the work achieved to date in being a sustainable consultancy, and our plans for the future.

in order to ensure that our work is produced to the highest independent standard, we utilised sustainability consultancy White Griffin, who are qualified carbon accountants.

Our greenhouse gas emissions will be reported every year and we are committed to achieving Net Zero by 2050, through our Carbon Reductions Plan.





Sustainability at Horizon Building Services



Sustainability commitments

Our goal has always been to provide an excellent service to our clients, whilst delivering our operations in a sustainable way. We have done this through three key measures:

Qualifications	Training competencies and certifications in sustainable building design
Operations	Focusing on a low carbon operation through our offices and transport
Consultancy	Support our clients with recommendations for low carbon buildings

Qualifications

The team at Horizon hold CIBSE qualifications in Low Carbon Consultant Building Design, Low Carbon Consultant Simulation and Low Carbon Energy Assessor EPC Level 5. In addition we keep ourselves well appraised of changing legislation and innovation in the field of sustainable and low carbon building design, including the 2026 UK Net Zero Carbon Building Standard, which we are utilising in our consultancy for a Yorkshire based venue.

Operations

Since 2018, we have sought to run our operations with as little negative impact on the environment as possible.



Travel & transport

In 2024, we leased our first cars, which are 100% electric. Whilst this keeps our travel emissions low, we also prioritise the use of public transport for meetings with York City Centre, as well as car sharing for meetings outside the public transport network. Where an in person meeting is not necessary, we eliminate emissions altogether through the use of video conferencing.



Office

We are based in rented office space at York Science Park within York University. The office currently runs off electricity and natural gas, for which we occupy 34m2. We prioritise low waste through predominately digital working practices. Where printing and plotter paper for larger drawings is required, everything is recycled once completed.



Purchased goods & services

We keep our consumption very low, only purchasing the professional services we need from local experts. We do not purchase any unnecessary sundry items, with a small requirement for stationery and IT equipment forming the majority of our annual needs.

Consultancy

Through our low operational carbon footprint and our knowledge and experience of low carbon building design, we are proud to have a wider net positive impact on emissions in the local area. We ensure that the buildings of tomorrow have sustainability at the forefront and offer a high level of sustainable energy management, heating and cooling capability.

Sustainability commitments

Striving towards Net Zero by 2030

Based upon the greenhouse gas emissions reporting and subsequent carbon reductions pathway, we are undertaking a range of carbon reductions initiatives in alignment with our clients' commitments to Net Zero.

Recent carbon-reduction measures include operating from the Innovation Centre at York Science Park, which benefits from the University of York's carbon-reduction initiatives. The building was upgraded with LED lighting with daylight and occupancy controls and is being decarbonised by connection to the University heat network, removing gas-fired heating. The office location is also well served by bus, cycle and road links, encouraging sustainable travel.

Future plans include reduction of business travel where practical, ongoing digitalisation of project information and work with our supply chain to reduce Scope 3 Emissions.

Supporting carbon reduction and sustainability within the City of York

Horizon supports the local economy by using York-based services and supporting local engineering employment. As building services consultants, reduction of energy use and carbon emissions is a core part of our professional services. Through low-carbon design, technical consultancy, energy modelling and design we identify opportunities to improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and support others Net Zero objectives.

Our engineering approach promotes low-energy design, high-performance building fabric and the appropriate application of renewable technologies. We aim to reduce operational energy consumption through efficient building-services design, careful equipment selection, effective controls strategies and the integration of renewable and low-carbon technologies.

We encourage the use of low Global Warming Potential (GWP) refrigerants such as R32 and R290. We undertake TM54 energy modelling to support the design of energy-efficient buildings and inform design decisions. We are conversant with sustainability and environmental building standards such as BREEAM, UK Net Zero Carbon Building Standard and PAS Retrofit Standards.

Our commitment to the local community

Horizon's business strategy is directed towards the growth of technical ability, productivity and personnel. We actively seek opportunities to recruit local engineers and develop technical capability within the business.

Sustainability commitments

Business growth and recruitment over the past two years demonstrates the value of local investment in skills and employment. Recruits will continue to be provided with opportunities to develop their expertise in building services engineering and consultancy through involvement in design, technical consultancy, engineering calculations, specifications, energy modelling, drawing production and project delivery activities.

Horizon supports fair employment practices and exceeds the Living Wage Foundation rate for personnel delivering the services. Horizon strongly promotes personal development by mentoring engineers to further their status with professional bodies.



Greenhouse gas emissions reporting

Greenhouse gas assessment

We decided to undertake a full carbon footprint assessment in 2026, in order to understand what a carbon reductions pathway for Horizon could look like. The assessment provided us with the following key insights:

Overview & methodology

This assessment focuses specifically on the emissions associated with the operational footprint of Horizon Building Services for the period 1st July 2025 to 30th June 2026. The emissions data has been reported following the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol Scopes framework and an operational control approach has been used.

UK Government DESNZ GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting (2025) have been used for activity-based data. UK Government DEFRA Spend Based Emission Factors (2022 - most recent update with Bank of England Inflation Calculations applied to adjust to the 2025 annual inflation rate) have also been used to calculate emissions from spend based data where activity data was not available or provided.

Scope 1 and 2

The business has no scope 1 emissions, due to occupying a leased, managed office space which is captured in scope 3 under upstream leased assets. All company-owned vehicles are electric, so emissions from these electric vehicles (EV) are captured under scope 2 purchased electricity.

Scope 3

Data was captured for all scope 3 sources relevant to the business, which included:

- Purchased Goods and Services
- Upstream leased assets (office)
- Fuel and energy related activities
- Commuting
- Business Travel
- Waste

No emissions have been intentionally excluded from the assessment.



Greenhouse gas assessment

Results overview

There are no scope 1 emissions. Scope 3 emissions account for 96% of the total emissions for this assessment period.

Within scope 3, purchased goods and services accounted for 80% of total emissions, and 83% of scope 3 emissions. Other hotspots within scope 3 were from vehicle maintenance, pensions, office emissions, and commuting.

Breakdown by scope

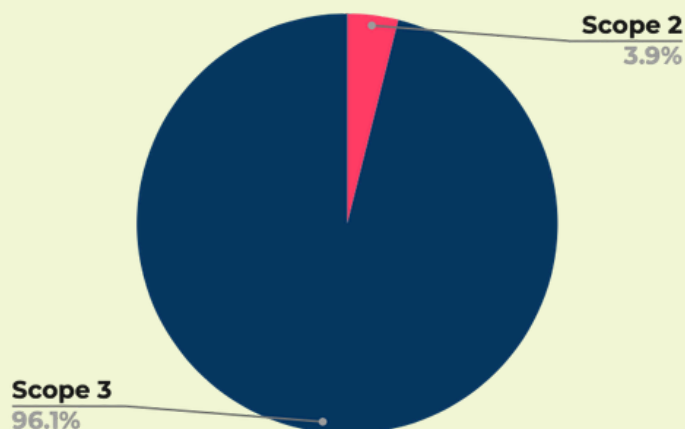


Fig1: breakdown by scope

Total emissions for the period are 13.90 tCO₂e, of which 13.37 tCO₂e are in scope 3. This is predominantly based on spend-based metrics, which give us an understanding of our emissions hotspots and focus areas.

In the next reporting year, and going forwards we aim to improve data quality in order to utilise activity-based data instead of spend.

Total GHG breakdown

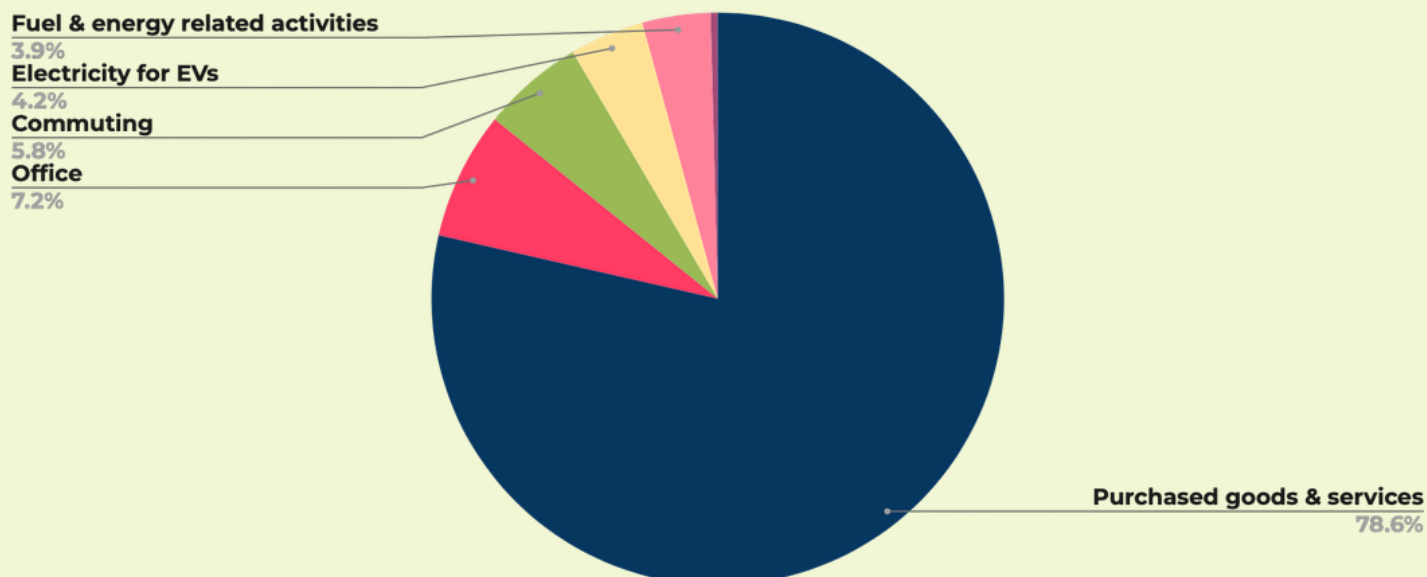


Fig 2: total ghg breakdown for 2025 - 2026 period



Carbon reductions plan

Carbon Reductions Plan

In accordance with PPN 006, we have undertaken to develop a Carbon Reductions Plan, so that we can achieve Net Zero by 2050.

Baseline Year:	1st July 2025 - 30th June 2026
Total emissions (location-based tCO₂e):	Scope 1: 0 Scope 2: 0.54 Scope 3: 13.37 Total: 13.90

In order to progress towards achieving Net Zero, we have adopted the following carbon reduction targets as we project that carbon emissions will decrease over the next five years.

We will aim to achieve Net Zero by 2030 across our scope 2, and the majority of our scope 3 emissions. This includes business travel, waste, commuting and our office space, which is undergoing a decarbonisation programme to align with York University's Net Zero by 2030 target.

Additionally, our target is to reach Net Zero across all of our operations by 2050, expanding on our short-term (Net Zero by 2030) target to also include our supply chain.

We plan to achieve our targets by:

- 1 Data improvement:** sourcing activity data across all our scope 3 categories, in order to accurately measure and monitor our supply chain's decarbonisation.
- 2 Engage with the University of York:** supporting its own commitment to Net Zero by 2030 and the decarbonisation of its leased office spaces, some of which we occupy. Their low-carbon energy programme includes the removal of gas for heating on site which will in turn reduce our own emissions from leased assets.
- 3 Influence stakeholders:** speak with our stakeholders to understand that decarbonisation plan and ensure that it aligns with our overall Net Zero commitment
- 4 Mandate decarbonisation:** put in place a deadline of 2029, in which time suppliers should either have a confirmed pathway, or made the necessary changes to decarbonise their operations.
- 5 Switch towards low carbon alternatives:** suppliers who have been unable to commit to Net Zero by 2029 will be replaced by sustainable alternatives, who utilise renewable energy, low carbon transport and have a Net Zero trajectory in place.
- 6 Minimise our paper use:** source only recycled paper that is FSC certified and switch to digital alternatives where possible to avoid printing as much.

Carbon Reductions Plan

Emissions source	Carbon reduction measure
Electricity for Electricity vehicles	Aim to charge using renewable electricity, at source and from within the grid (i.e. via 100% renewable tariffs)
Natural Gas	York University commitment to upgrade heating system
Electricity	Obtain data from York University on tariff information and encourage the use of renewable electricity either via on site generation, or electricity tariffs
Commuting and national travel	Reduce business travel where possible, and continue to use public transport as the primary choice for mode of transport
Paper use & printing	Continue to digitise practices, use only recycled, FSC certified paper for essential use, and recycle all used paper
Advertising & Marketing	Continue to use digital marketing, and gather the activity-data for our digital impact
Professional services	Use of suppliers with Net Zero by 2050 targets in place and evidenced
Business Insurance	Use an insurer that has a Net Zero by 2050 commitment in place
Entertainment & travel meals/Subsistence	Utilise local suppliers, seasonal options and low waste
IT Software and Consumables	IT equipment to be maintained, repaired instead of replaced where possible, or leased to minimise consumption and maintain our principles on circularity and minimising waste.
Motor Vehicle Expenses	Minimise business travel where possible to reduce wear and tear, and keep vehicles in good condition to maintain efficiency
Office/General Administrative Expenses	Fractional use currently, no change required
Pensions Costs	Consider green pension investments and ask for supplier data on emissions impacts from our pension product.
Repairs & Maintenance	Fractional use currently, no change required
Telephone & Internet	Fractional use currently, no change required
Water consumption & wastewater treatment	Fractional use currently, no change required

Carbon Reductions Plan

We will update and report on our carbon emissions annually, in order to ensure that we are on target to achieve Net Zero.

Declaration and sign off

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 006 and associated guidance and reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans.

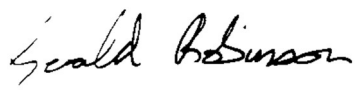
Emissions have been reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate standard and uses the appropriate UK government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting.

Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have been reported in accordance with the GHG protocol, 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.

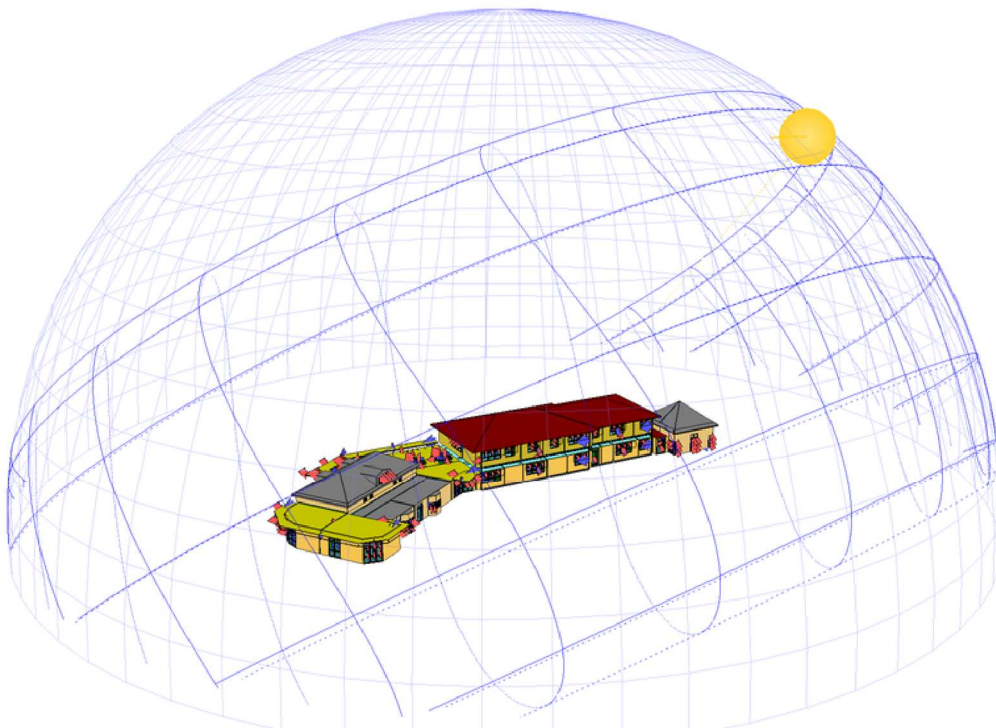
This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the company directors.

Signed on behalf of Horizon Building Services

Name: Gerald Robinson

Signature 

Date: 29th October 2026



Produced for Horizon Building Services by

