

Innovation Through Collaboration

Primary
+ Eyecare

Carbon Reduction Plan

April 2022 – March 2023

Executive Summary

“Ensuring that we implement a carbon reduction plan is imperative in demonstrating our commitment to achieving Net Zero status. Primary Eyecare Services is dedicated to reducing our carbon footprint to support NHS commitments. By evaluating results from our Greenhouse Gas Report (GHG) we can identify and address key areas for improvement.”

Dharmesh Patel, Chief Executive



Board Commitment

Primary Eyecare Services is committed to achieving Net Zero for our directly controlled (Scope 1 and 2) emissions by 2025 and committed to Net Zero for NHS-reportable (Scope 3) emissions by 2040.

This commitment has been made by members of the board.

This report summarises the results of our GHG emissions assessment and is based on the information collected from across the organisation. This assessment is useful in identifying the main areas to address, in order to enable us to reduce our environmental impact.

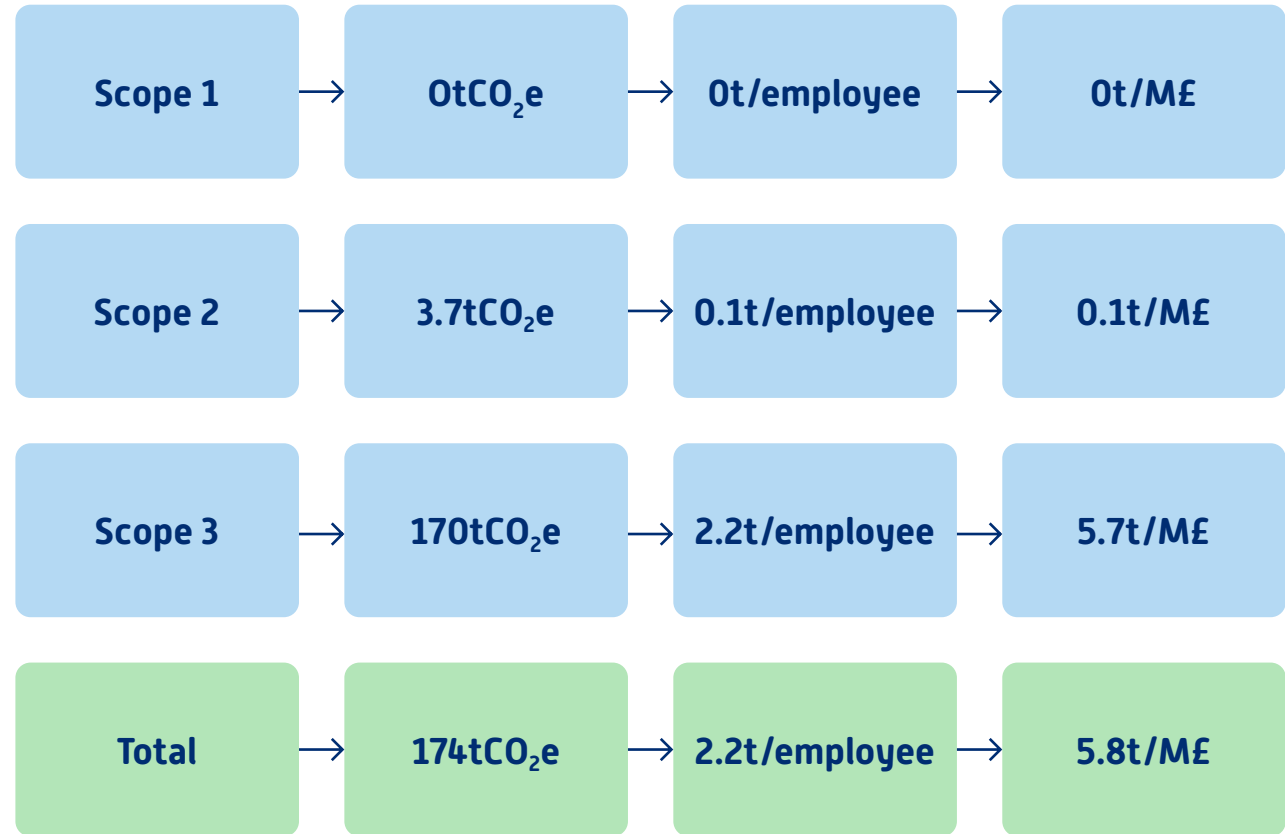
Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Assessment

Our Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Assessment provides an evaluation of the emissions generated by our organisation. The purpose of this assessment is to measure, analyse, and report on our carbon footprint, ensuring transparency and accountability in our efforts to reduce our environmental impact.

Timeline of Actions

- 1 Launch
- 2 Data collection
- 3 Employee survey
- 4 GHG emissions report
- 5 Climate strategy
- 6 Continuous follow up

GHG Emission Assessment Result



Tonnes [t] of carbon dioxide [CO₂] equivalent [e]

Why is Carbon Reduction Important?

“As the Net Zero Lead for Primary Eyecare Services, it is evident that having a clear carbon reduction plan is paramount in reaching our Net Zero goal. Taking actions to minimise our carbon footprint and making a conscious effort to reduce our environmental impact aligns with our core sustainability values.”

Rupesh Bagdai, Net Zero Lead

The World Health Organisation (WHO) emphasises the importance of carbon reduction to mitigate the adverse health impacts of climate change.

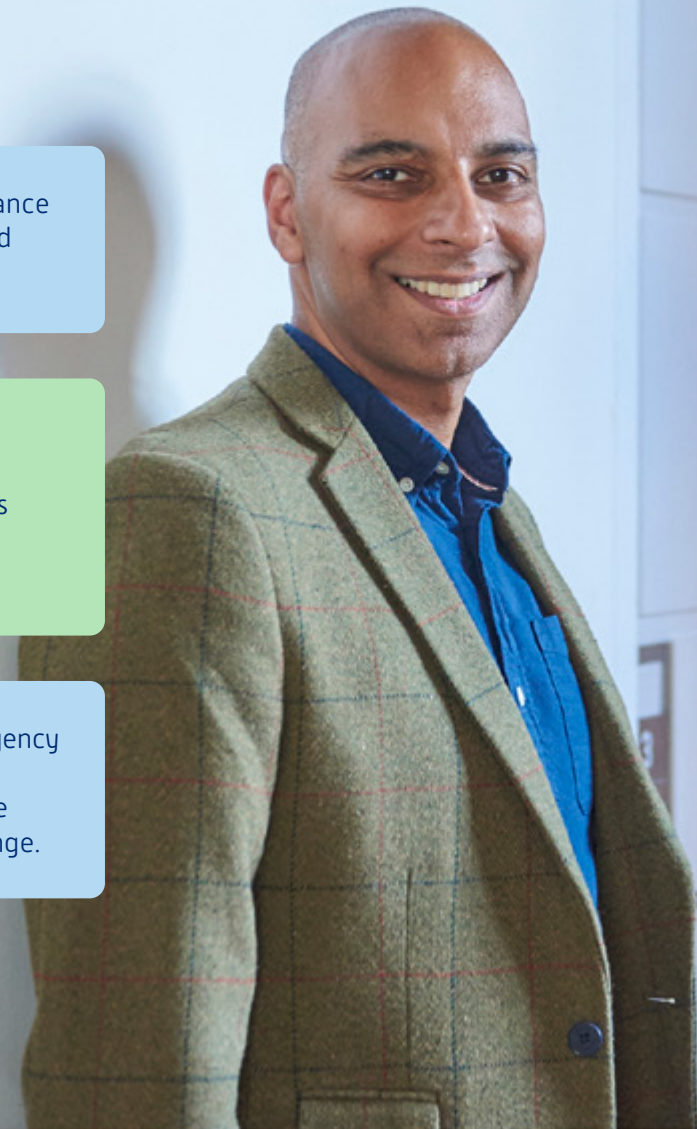
Effective carbon reduction strategies enhance public health, reduce healthcare costs, and improve overall quality of life globally.

The World Health Organisation highlights the undeniable link between the climate crisis and a health crisis, predicting that from 2030 to 2050, climate change will lead to roughly 250,000 additional deaths.

Disadvantaged communities face greater exposure and barriers to adaption, which can exacerbate existing health inequalities and create new vulnerabilities if not properly addressed.

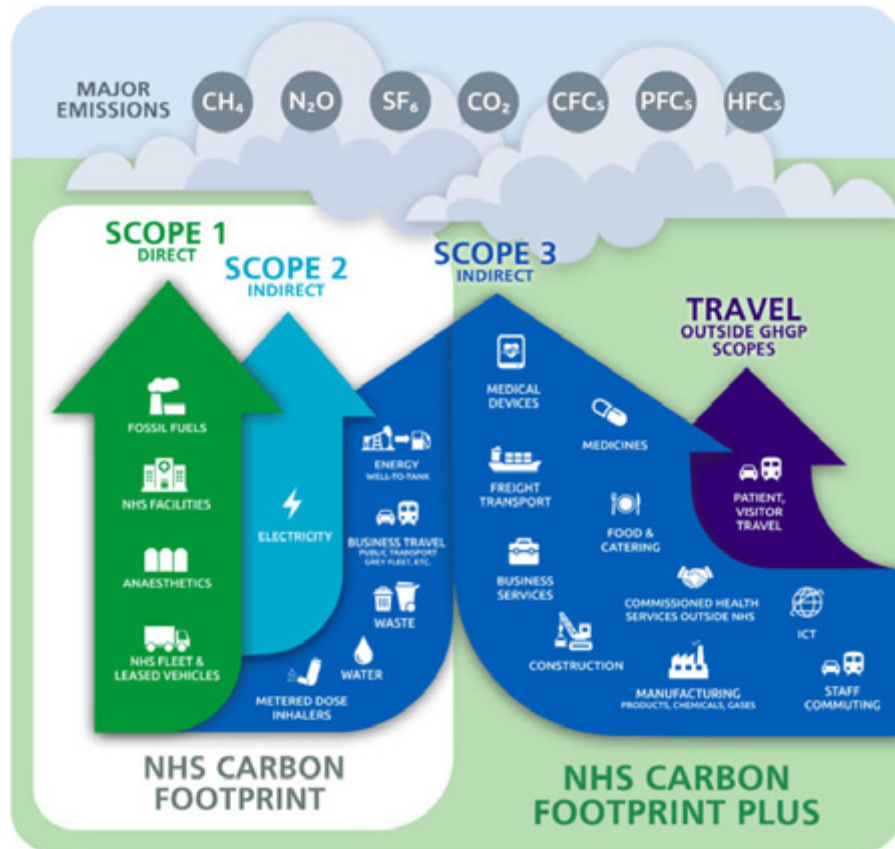
The health service contributes around 4–5% of total UK carbon emissions. Health services have a responsibility to reduce emissions and help to safeguard the health of future generations.

A 2021 report by the UK Health Security Agency in partnership with the NHS highlighted that disadvantaged communities are more susceptible to the impacts of climate change.



NHS Carbon Reduction

The NHS accounts for 4% of England’s carbon emissions. In October 2020, it became the first national health system globally to pledge reaching net zero carbon emissions and the first healthcare system to incorporate net zero commitments into law via the Health and Care Act 2022.



Delivering a net zero NHS

Primary Eyecare Services Carbon Reduction

Primary Eyecare Services are committed to reducing our carbon footprint. The organisation works with optometry practices across England, to provide patients with care closer to home.

Scope	NHS Target	Our Target
1	2040	2025
2	2040	2025
3	2045	2040



Everglades National Park

Carbon Accounting Methodology

Measurement Scope

All emissions under our operational control include:

- Scope 1
- Scope 2
- Scope 3: Primary Eyecare Services work with optometry practices across England providing patients with care closer to home

Exclusion: Subcontractor emissions are excluded from purchased goods and services (Scope 3.1).

Scope 1 – Direct Emissions

GHG emissions generated directly by the organisation and its activities.

Examples: Combustion of fossil fuels, refrigerant leaks, etc.

Scope 2 – Indirect Emissions Related to Energy Consumption

Emissions related to the organisation's consumption of electricity, heat or steam.

Example: Electricity consumption, etc.

Scope 3 – Other Indirect Emissions

Emissions related to the organisation's upstream and downstream operations and activities.

Example: Transportation, purchased goods and services, sold products, etc.

Solving The Climate Equation

Primary Eyecare Services commissioned Greenly to support us to develop a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) report. Greenly collaborates with the healthcare sector to tackle climate change, enhance sustainability, and improve public health outcomes.

We have utilised the expertise from the Greenly carbon management team to measure, reduce, remove and report our CO₂ emissions.





Tree covered in lichens and mosses

How Are Emissions Calculated?

Official and Approved GHG Protocol Methodology

The greenhouse gas (GHG) protocol is an international standard of carbon accounting, offering the best emission factors from a range of national and internal databases. The GHG protocol offers a standardised framework for quantifying and managing scopes 1, 2 and 3 emissions. The GHG protocol utilises methodologies such as GWP 100, used within our carbon reduction plan.

General Emissions Calculation Formula

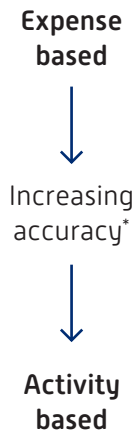
The General Emissions Calculation involves taking our expense based data and/or our activity based data and multiplying by the relevant emission factor to calculate our CO₂ emissions.

GWP 100

The Global Warming Potential (GWP) is a measure of how much heat a greenhouse gas traps in the atmosphere over a specific period, relative to carbon dioxide (CO₂).

The GWP100 protocol specifically assesses this impact over a 100-year period, providing a standardised method for evaluating and comparing the long-term effects of various GHGs on global warming.

International agreements, such as the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, utilise GWP100 values to ensure consistency and comparability across commitments and actions.



Activity metrics x emissions factors = CO ₂ eq. emissions		
Total expense 80 GBP	1.75 kgCO ₂ e/£	140 kgCO ₂ e
Total distance 700 miles	0.2 kgCO ₂ e/mile	140 kgCO ₂ e
Total fuel 50 gallons	2.8 kgCO ₂ e/gallon	140 kgCO ₂ e

Kilograms (kg) of carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent (e). Methodological reference: ADEME note on the use of accounting data for the GHG accounting. *Depending on the availability of data

Emissions

The GHG Assessment provides a comprehensive evaluation of the emissions generated through our operations.

Scope 1 and 2

Scope	Name	tCO ₂ e
1.1	Stationary combustion	0
1.2	Mobile combustion	0
1.3	Physical or chemical processing	0
1.4	Fugitive emissions	0
2.1	Electricity related indirect emissions: Building electricity	3.7
2.2	Steam, heat, and cooling related indirect emissions	0

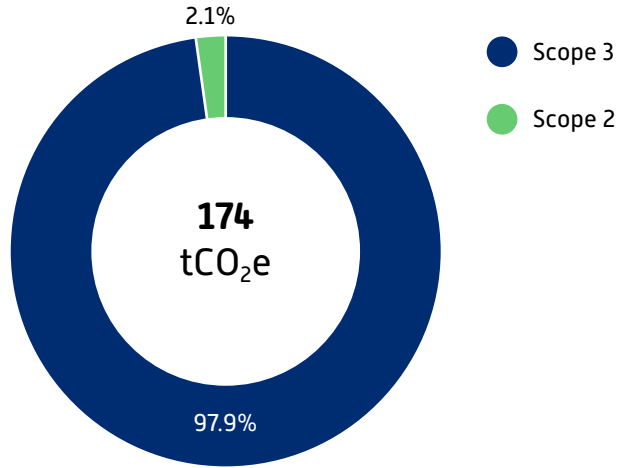
Scope 3

Scope	Name	tCO ₂ e
3.1	Purchased goods and services: Accounting data and IT inventory. Subcontractors' emissions are excluded from this scope and will be accounted for in the future	94.2
3.2	Capital goods: Accounting data	41.9
3.3	Upstream transportation and distribution: Building electricity (upstream)	1.8
3.5	Waste generated in operations: Building module	7.4
3.6	Business travel: Business trips data, accounting data	10.4
3.7	Commuting: Employee survey	13.6

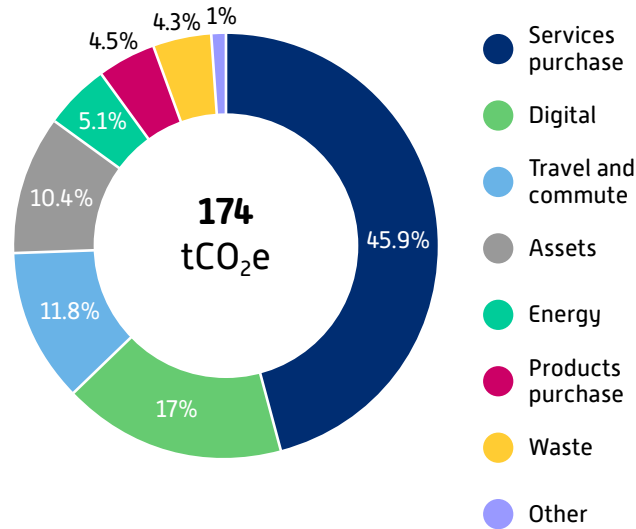
Tonnes (t) of carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent (e)

Emissions Report General Overview

Total Emissions by Scope (%tCO₂e)



Total Emissions by Activity (%tCO₂e)



174tCO₂ is Equivalent to:

- 100 London – New York round trips.*
- The annual emissions of 14 British citizens.*
- The amount of CO₂ sequestered annually by 16 hectares of growing forest.*

*Sources: Labos1Point5, ExioBase, French National Forests Office

Scope	Primary Eyecare Services tCO ₂ e/employee	Potential for reduction
1	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	< 0.1	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	2.2	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Our tCO ₂ e	tCO ₂ e Per Employee
Services purchase	80	1
Digital	30	0.4
Travel and commute	21	0.3
Assets	19	0.2
Energy	8.9	0.1
Product purchase	7.8	0.1
Others	9	0.1

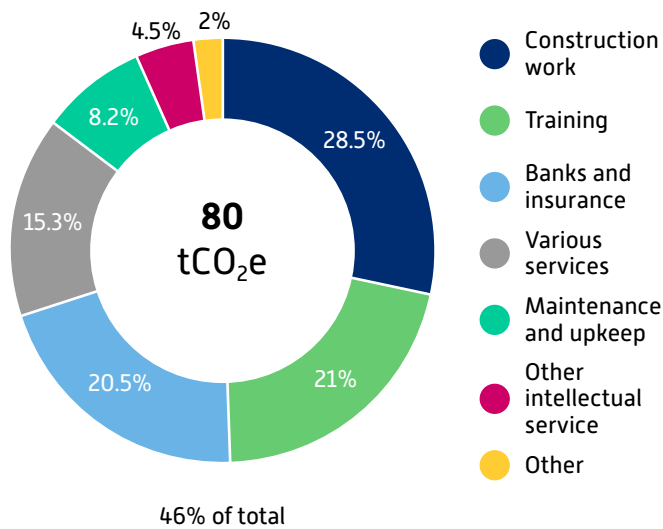


Focus on Service Purchase and Digital

Service Purchase Emissions

The CO₂ emissions in this category relate to our service purchases and are generated by the consumption of various services by individuals and businesses. These emissions arise from professional services, ranging from high value-added work such as legal and financial services. A smaller proportion of the energy consumed during the provision of the services is for transportation or heating our central office.

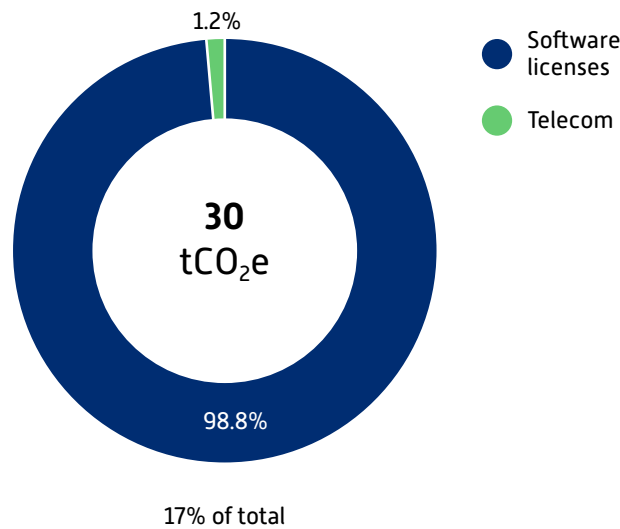
Service Purchase Emissions by Category (%tCO₂e)



Digital Emissions

CO₂ emissions from our digital activities refer to the CO₂ generated by our use of digital technologies and services. This category includes emissions from our digital activities such as internet use and data storage. It encompasses the energy consumed by disposal of digital devices, our network infrastructure and data storage. The emissions are influenced by factors such as our energy efficiency, data storage and processing requirements and the carbon intensity of the electricity used.

Digital Emissions by Category (%tCO₂e)



Methodology

- 1 Emissions calculated using a monetary approach, by multiplying the price by a monetary emission factor (kgCO₂e/£).
- 2 Monetary emissions factors (kgCO₂e/£) consist of three types: average carbon intensity per unit of revenue of a group of companies for the concerned sector activity; carbon intensity per unit of revenue for the concerned sector activity (ADEME's monetary emissions factors); monetary emissions factors derived from studies conducted by Greenly.



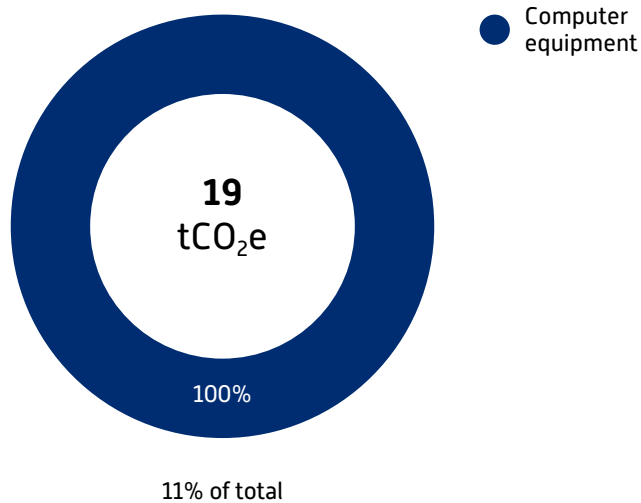
Focus on Assets, Travel and Commute

Assets Emissions

CO₂ emissions in this category relate to our capital assets. These emissions are generated throughout the lifecycle of various assets, such as buildings, and IT inventory. This category represents a depreciation over a fixed period for emissions resulting from the maintenance of these assets. It does not include energy consumption during our assets usage or decommissioning of assets.

These emissions can vary significantly depending on factors such as the type and volume of materials used, including the depreciation period.

Assets Emissions by Category (%tCO₂e)



Travel and Commute Emissions

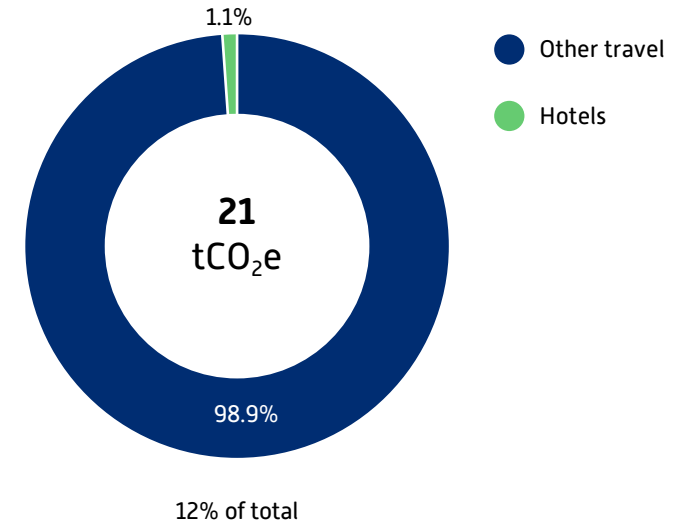
CO₂ emissions from our travel and commuting refer to those generated during transportation activities, including commuting to work and business travel. This category includes emissions from various modes of transportation, such as cars, buses and trains. It covers both direct emissions from fuel combustion and indirect emissions from fuel production and distribution of the vehicles.

These emissions can vary based on the distance travelled, the mode of transport used, and the fuel efficiency of the vehicles.

Methodology

- 1 Emissions calculated using a monetary approach, by multiplying the price by a monetary emission factor (kgCO₂e/£).
- 2 Monetary emissions factors (kgCO₂e/£) consist of three types: average carbon intensity per unit of revenue of a group of companies for the concerned sector activity; carbon intensity per unit of revenue for the concerned sector activity (ADEME's monetary emissions factors); monetary emissions factors derived from studies conducted by Greenly.

Employee Travel and Commute Emissions by Category (%tCO₂e)



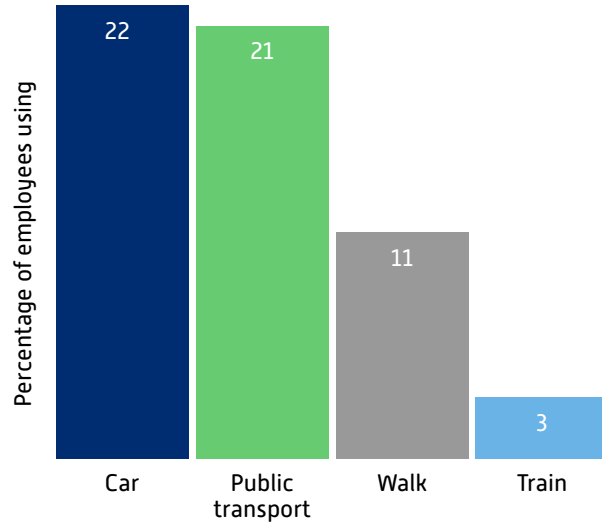
Focus on Action

We have reviewed recommendations from our GHG assessment and are implementing actions to reduce our climate impact.

Title	Focus	Initial Situation	Final Situation	Status
Carbon reduction training	Digital	No organisational training in place	We have introduced carbon reduction training across the organisation	In progress
Electric cars	Travel and commute	No organisational policy in place	We will be implementing an electric car salary sacrifice scheme to reduce carbon emissions and encourage the use of low and ultra-low emission vehicles	In progress
Replace part of your business travel with video conferencing	Travel and commute	Specific teams within the organisation were full time office based	The whole organisation is hybrid following a successful probation period	Complete
Cycle to work scheme	Travel and commute	No organisational policy in place	We have implemented a cycle to work scheme	Complete
Public transport loans	Travel and commute	No organisational policy in place	We have implemented a public transport loan scheme for employees	Complete

Focus on Employee Commute

Distribution of Users by Means of Transports



Data taken from percentage of hybrid employees that travel to work.

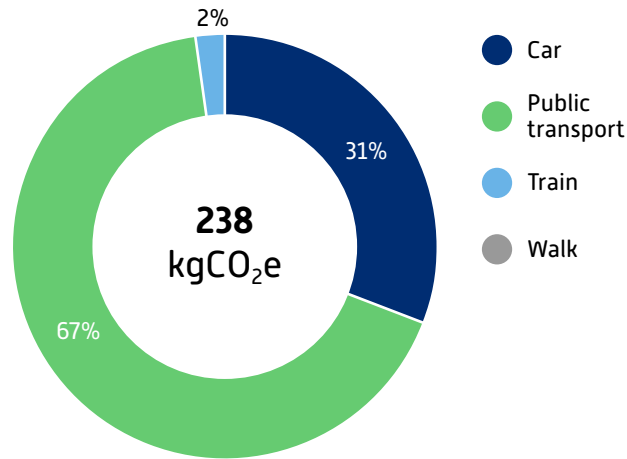
Methodology

Physical consumption data is based on a survey across our employees.

The minimum response rate recommended by our carbon reduction experts is 60%, we recieved a response rate of 82%.

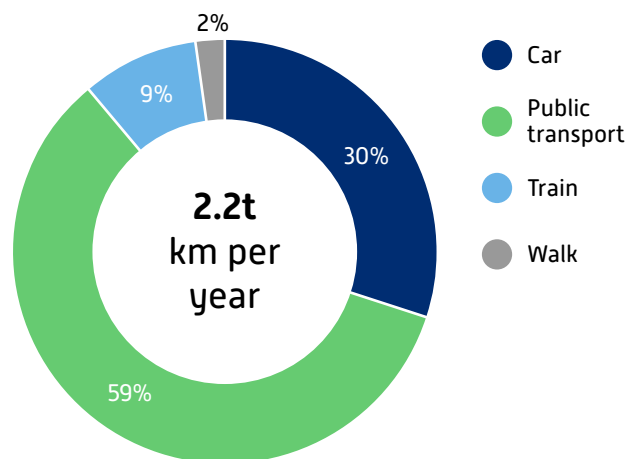
The data used to calculate commute related emissions are from the French Agency for Ecological Transition (ADEME).

GHG Emissions (%tCO₂e / employee)



On average, our employees travel 2.2k kilometres each year, emitting 238 kgCO₂e for home to work commuting.

Yearly Mean Distance Distribution



Emerald swallowtail butterfly wing

Engaging Employees on Climate Change

Next Steps

The next steps for our employees is engaging them with a continuous training programme focused on climate change and carbon reduction.

This training programme includes the following modules:

- GHG effect
- Energy-climate
- Digital technology
- Agricultural food
- Transportation
- Industry
- Electricity production
- Buildings
- Waste
- Water
- Biodiversity
- Positive impact



Month 1
Onboarding



Month 2
Quiz 1
climate
science



Month 3
Quiz 2
IT



Month 4
Quiz 3
food



Month 5
Quiz 4
transport



Month 6
Quiz 5
energy



Month 7
And more...



Month 12
A look back
at the year



Amazon Rainforest, Guyana

Summary of Best Practices in Reduction Actions

Our carbon reduction experts have recommended the following actions over the next year. We are committed to implementing these actions within our carbon reduction plan. Our dedication ensures that we continuously uphold the highest standards in our efforts to reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainability throughout our operations.

Service purchase, digital, travel and commute, and assets amount to 86% of our total emissions and we will prioritise reducing these over the next year.

Service Purchase

46% of total

Travel and Commute

12% of total

Digital

17% of total

Assets

11% of total

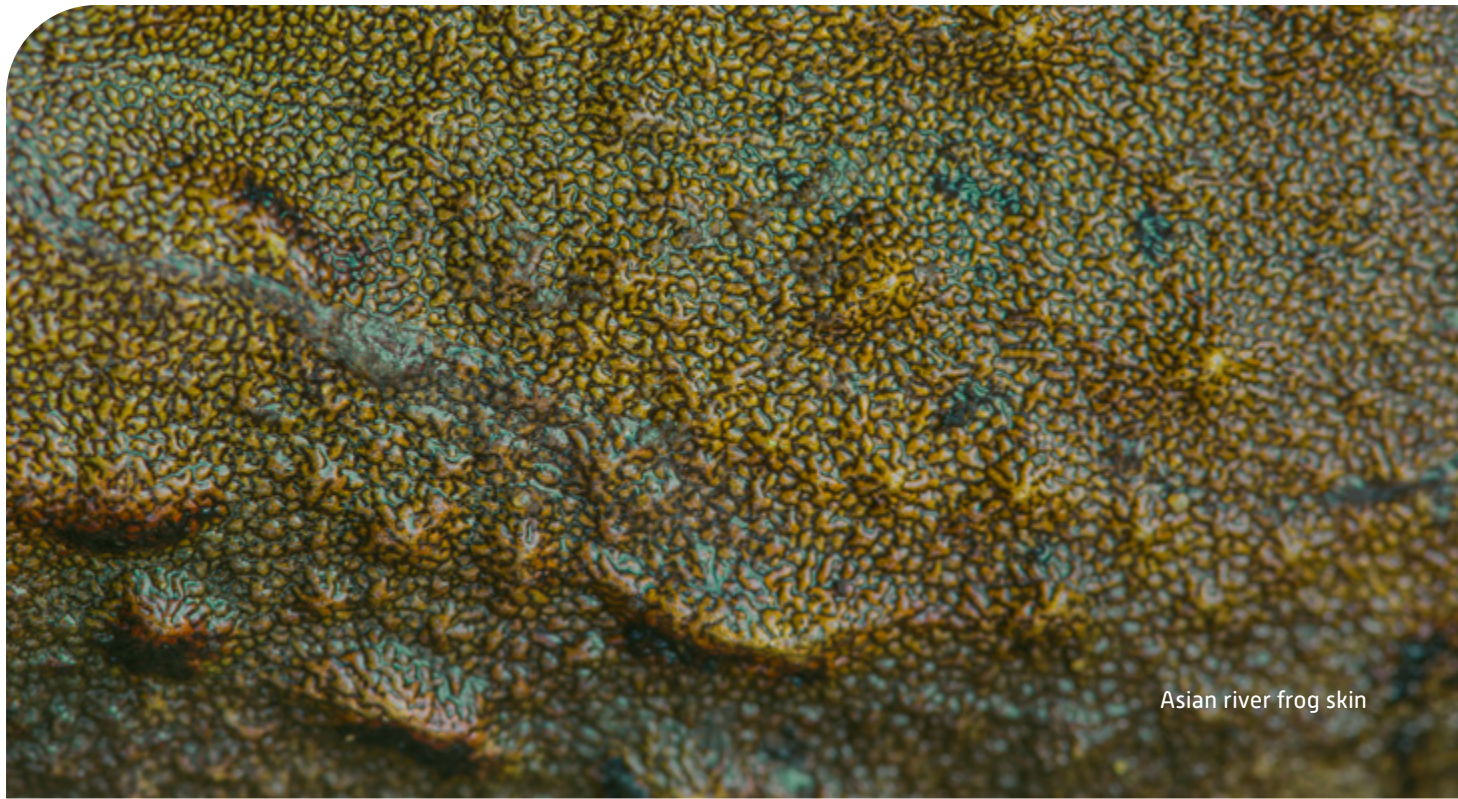
1 Implement carbon impact conditions in our purchase policy.

2 Extend the lifetime of equipment.

3 Favour the train for regional or national travel of employees.

4 Replace part of our business travel with video conferencing.

5 Promote remote work and carpooling.



Asian river frog skin

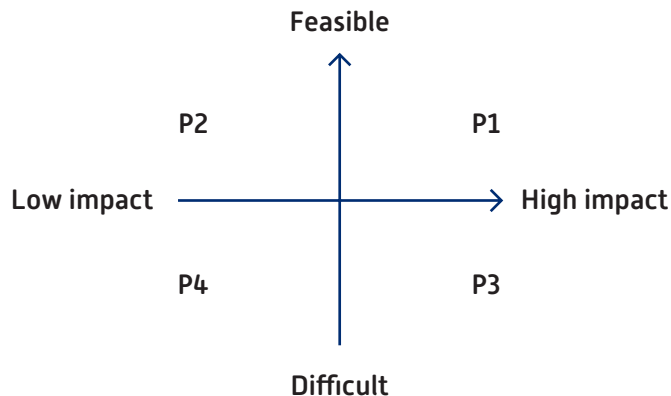
Conclusion

How Can We Build Our Reduction Trajectory?

We began our journey towards sustainability with a comprehensive carbon benchmarking process to establish a clear understanding of our current emissions. This foundational step is essential for implementing our carbon reduction plan.

By identifying key areas of impact, we have strategically prioritised our efforts, as illustrated in the diagram below. We are steadfast in our commitment to reducing our carbon footprint and are diligently working towards our goal, continually aligning our actions with the steps outlined in our plan. We will place our actions on the matrix diagram below after identifying operational constraints in consultation with our teams.

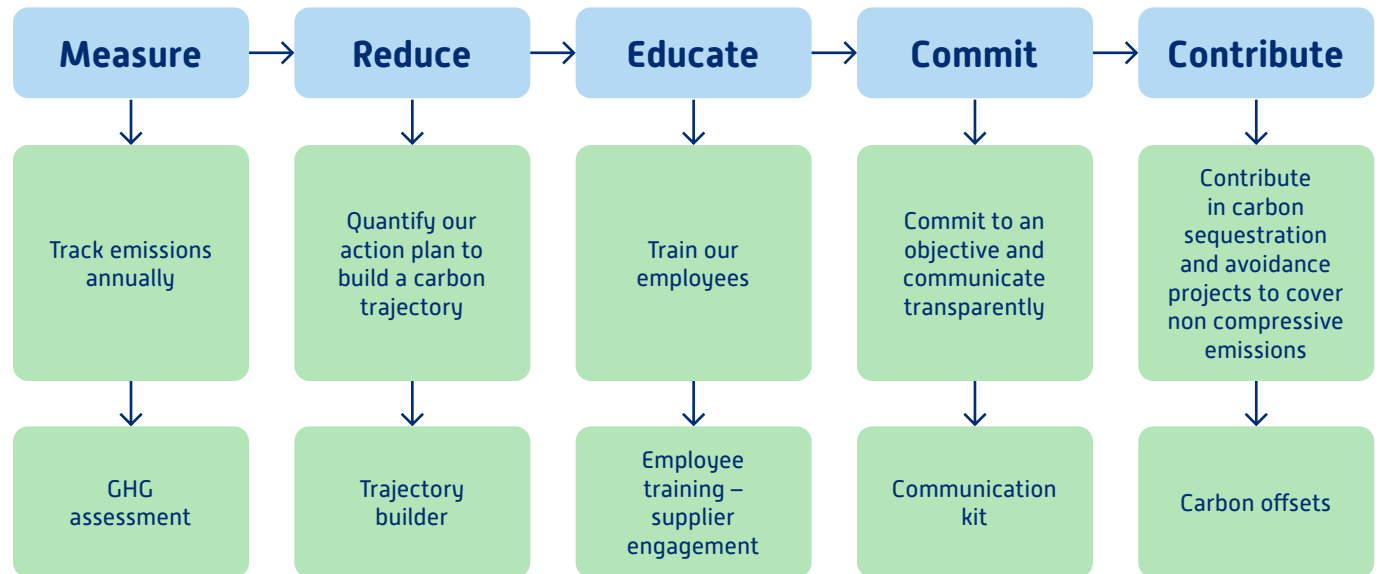
Prioritise Your Actions



Timeline of Actions

The recommended next steps in our strategy are:

- 1 Implement actions identified in the Carbon Reduction Plan.
- 2 Study our emission sources in greater depth.
- 3 Establish our GHG emission reduction targets and implement an action plan to achieve these targets.
- 4 Engage our suppliers using the supplier engagement tool.
- 5 Engage our employees using the interactive training quizzes.
- 6 Communicate with our stakeholders about our commitment and carbon footprint, our reduction targets and the action plan considered.



Maturity of Climate Change

Primary Eyecare Services have partnered with Greenly to comprehensively map our emissions, using their expertise to develop our carbon reduction plan. Greenly will conduct an annual review and provide strategic recommendations to ensure continuous improvement with our carbon reduction goals.

At present, we have attained a score of 33 points. Which corresponds to a silver climate score. We are committed to enhancing this score each year, underscoring our dedication to environmental sustainability and our proactive organisational approach to carbon reduction.

The Intermediate Greenly Climate Score of Primary Eyecare Services is 33 Points



Great Barrier Reef



Points are distributed as follows:

Creating and fine-tuning the Greenhouse Gas report – **33/40**

Action plans – **0/36**

Climate targets – **0/4**

Carbon contributions – **0/10**

Greenly Score Criteria



Pioneers in the climate transition
< 1% of companies [score \geq 75]



Responsible companies
5% of companies [score 55–74]



Building a company in transition
15% of companies [score 30–54]



Beginners committed to the transition
30% of companies [score 5–29]

Enthusiasts to awaken
10% of companies [score 0–4]

Lack of interest in the climate
40% of companies