



# CARBON REDUCTION PLAN

RCS is committed to minimising the impact our activities have on the environment.

We will always strive to continually improve our performance to ensure the protection of the environment is a key consideration across all aspects of the organisation.

Our Carbon Reduction Plan details our organisational carbon footprint, and confirms our commitment to reducing emissions to achieve Net Zero by 2050.

## Baseline Emissions Footprint

Baseline emissions are the reference point against which we measure our emissions reduction. The baseline emissions record the greenhouse gases that were produced prior to the introduction in 2022 of our strategy to reduce emissions. We created a base-line using pre-pandemic data in order to give a more realistic representation of our standard emission levels, as the pandemic resulted in a substantial reduction in our emissions due to the restrictions on travel and office-working.



### Baseline Year: 2019-20

EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1 <i>Direct energy</i>	16,510
Scope 2 <i>Indirect impact from electricity</i>	5,848
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	N/A
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b>22,358</b>



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## Current Emissions Reporting

Reporting Year: 2022-23	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1 Direct impact	12,986
Scope 2 Indirect impact	3,391
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	N/A
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b>16,377</b>

## Emissions reduction targets

In order to continue progress towards achieving Net Zero by 2050, we adopted a target of reducing our carbon emissions to 16,765 by 2027 – a reduction of 25% on our baseline.

This year's report shows that we have already achieved this target in 2022-23, with our emissions totalling 16,377 – a reduction of 26.75% on our baseline year emissions.

We will seek a further reduction of these emissions to 15,650 CO<sub>2</sub>e or 30% on our baseline by 2025.

## Carbon Reduction Measures

The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented since the 2020 baseline.

- We have switched to remote / blended delivery of the majority of our services, leading to a reduction in business mileage.
- We have adopted a hybrid model of working, leading to a reduction in commuting mileage.



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- We have installed a Living Wall at our Rhyl headquarters.
- We have installed a more energy efficient ventilation system in the Rhyl head-quarters

## During 2022 – 2023 we have:

- Closed our Bangor office
- Installed LED lighting in parts of the ground floor in the Rhyl Hub
- Promoted the use of digital delivery of services where possible and in line with customer preference
- We have incentivised and encouraged the use of bicycles and public transport by updating our Expenses Policy and joining a discount scheme for public transport use.

## Environmental Sustainability Action Plan

Our Environmental Sustainability action plan sets out our planned future actions and activities in support of this Carbon Reduction plan. The plan for 2022-3 includes the following key actions

- Undertaking an environmental audit at our Rhyl headquarters to identify areas for improvement
- Adopting measures and incentives to further encourage use of bicycles and public transport

## Review

This Carbon Reduction Plan will be reviewed and updated annually. It will be published on the RCS website at [www.rcs-wales.co.uk](http://www.rcs-wales.co.uk).

## Calculations

Calculations were made using the SME Carbon Footprint Calculator through the Carbon Trust.

Version	Date	Summary of changes	Authorised
2	September 2023	Annual update	HOR