

Environmental report

1st May 2011 – 30th April 2012

Aldersgate Group emissions	2010-2011 Kg CO2e	2011-2012 Kg CO2e
Scope 1	n/a	357
Scope 2	n/a	966
Scope 3	n/a	675
Total		1,999

Background

The Aldersgate Group is an alliance of leaders from business, politics and civil society that drives action for a sustainable economy. Formed in 2006, the Group now has 80 members and a permanent Secretariat of three. It's principle activities are:

- Secretariat services for members
- hosting public and private events
- writing reports
- meeting with stakeholders and influencers

Principle areas of responsibility to be reported are:

- emissions associated with the Secretariat's work (office space, commuting)
- business travel by Secretariat and Board
- paper use through production of reports

Calculations

All calculations are made using the Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)'s tables, "Greenhouse gas conversion factors for company reporting: 2012 guidelines".¹

Office space

The Aldersgate Group moved offices on 3rd January 2012, from the Hub Angel to the Hub Westminster. Both are open plan, shared office spaces. Energy bills for both spaces have been sourced and the Aldersgate Group's responsibility calculated based upon the number of days the Secretariat used those spaces, compared to the total number of days available (average number of people in the office x total working days in the year). This has provided a percentage for the Aldersgate Group's responsibility for energy bills in each office (10.09% in Angel, 1.67% in Westminster).

Commuting

Distances have been calculated by postcode for each staff member to the office. All staff members live within London and associated carbon emissions were provided by www.travelfootprint.org.²

¹ Available from Defra website: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2012/05/30/pb13773-2012-ghg-conversion>

² This website is run by Camden and Clear Zones and the online tool is funding by Transport for London and Defra.

Business travel

Expenses incurred through business travel are itemised over the course of the year. Associated carbon emissions were provided by www.travelfootprint.org.

Other Scope 3 emissions

The Aldersgate Group’s principle activities (listed above) rely upon travel and paper use. These areas have been reported on, below.

IT is also an important component of the Aldersgate Group’s activities but will not be reported upon this year. For further information, see Next Steps, below.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

Scope 1

The Hub Angel is heated by burning wood chips. The emissions for this fuel type are taken as zero. Hub Westminster is heated by gas.

	Gas	
	KwH	Kg CO ² e
Hub Angel	n/a	n/a
Hub Westminster	1,738	357

Scope 2

Both Hubs use electricity and Hub Westminster’s electricity is purchased on a green tariff; further details pending.

	Electricity	
	KwH	Kg CO ² e
Hub Angel	1,332	693
Hub Westminster	525	273
Total	1,858	966

Scope 3

Commuting

The Secretariat is comprised of three permanent staff. Staff commutes were all undertaken from within London, by tube, bus and cycling.

	Hub Angel		Hub Westminster	
	Miles	Kg CO ² e	Miles	Kg CO ² e
Cycling	1,172	0	649	0
Bus	783	32	0	0
Tube	1,479	25	1,092	18
Total	3434	57	1,740	18

Business travel

Seven individuals made business trips on behalf of the Group, by car, taxi, train and one short-haul flight to Geneva. The taxis were hailed on the street, rather than pre-booked. A van was also hired to move offices (classed as a large diesel car in table below).

Business travel		
	Miles	Kg CO²e
Car	92	22
Taxi	69	25
Tube	18	0.6
Train	1,769	55
Aeroplane	943	349
Total	2,891	452

Supply chain emissions		
	Number printed	Kg CO²e
Paper - reports	1,050	119
Paper – envelopes	1,500	17
Pre-booked taxis	34	11
Total		147

Paper

The Aldersgate Group has a paperless office with emphasis on keeping electronic files, rather than hard copies. Staff seek to print only when strictly necessary.

Over the financial year 2010-2011, the Aldersgate Group published three reports (1,050 copies in total) and a supply of branded envelopes. Defra figures (Annex 14, Table A) provide conversion factors for primary material production, the results of which are shown in the table above.

Pre-booked taxis

The Secretariat used a total of 34 pre-booked taxis to reach Aldersgate Group events with relevant materials. The vehicles provided by the supplier are hybrid Toyota Priuses, which run on 100% electricity when travelling up to 30 mph. Their carbon emissions are consequently lower than traditional taxis. More information can be found here: <https://www.climatecars.com>. The carbon emissions for this service were provided by the supplier.

Next steps

Reporting 2012-2013

The Aldersgate Group will engage with Hub Westminster to develop the information required for robust reporting. It is notable that the Aldersgate Group's work has been viewed as a test case to help the Hub Westminster office managers understand what is needed for other Hub tenants to report. New Zealand House, within which Hub Westminster sits, has a commitment to high environmental standards and is willing to engage.

Key areas for improvement are IT and waste.

IT

The Aldersgate Group website is hosted by swisshost.ch, which is unable to calculate the power required for each hosting they provide, but is aware of its considerable energy usage. Their power is certified by the 'naturemade' quality mark for ecologically produced energy. This hosting is under review and may be moved to a host with a commitment to green IT solutions. Using an English-speaking host would also improve information exchange.

Waste

Hub Westminster divides its waste into landfill, recycling and biodegradable. To date, the weight of each type of waste in an average week is not available. Hub Westminster is now measuring its waste with a view to providing greater accountability in the coming year.

Reduction strategy

As the Aldersgate Group does not own or control its office premises, reducing its carbon emissions are restricted to Scope 3. Key targets are:

- Pre-book low carbon taxis, instead of hailing black cabs on the street.
- Print handouts and briefings for meetings only when necessary
- Restrict print copies of reports