

Carbon Reduction Plan 2025-30

Commitment to achieving net zero

Aldersgate Group is committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050. This includes an interim target of a 50% reduction in emissions by 2030, in line with the Race to Zero Campaign.

Introduction

Since 2011, Aldersgate Group has voluntarily monitored and reported on the climate and environmental impacts arising from the Secretariat carrying out its business across scopes 1, 2 and 3. We have re-baselined our emissions data for 2023-24 using internationally accepted reporting standards, so the specific target will be for a 50% reduction between financial years 2023-24 and 2030-31.

Baseline emissions are the reference point against which emissions reduction can be measured, and are a record of the greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and were produced prior to the introduction of the new reduction strategy.

Aldersgate Group activities

Aldersgate Group's work focuses on triggering the change in policy required to address environmental challenges, by managing a politically impartial, multi-stakeholder alliance including some of the largest UK businesses, leading NGOs, professional institutes and academic institutions. A significant aspect of Aldersgate Group's operating activity revolves around evidence gathering, policy development and targeted engagement with policy makers, putting forward practical policy solutions to deliver efficient investment in climate and environment. The Group has 68 member organisations and a permanent Secretariat. The carbon footprint refers to the Secretariat activities, employing 9 paid staff in FY 23/24.

2018-2023 emissions summary

Table 1 summarises emissions data collected in previous years. Given the small overall numbers, there is substantial year-on-year fluctuation in this data. The Covid-related increase in home working during 2021 also had a notable impact on emissions.

Table 1: 2018-2023 summary of emissions (including renewable tariffs) - tCO2e					
Reporting Period	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Scopes 1&2	0.34	0.39	1.68	0.93	1.16
Scope 3	3.26	2.35	1.22	3.73	2.68
Total	3.60	2.74	2.89	4.67	3.36
Total Change Yr on Yr	n/a	-24%	5%	61%	-18%
No. of employees	5	5	6	8	9
Per Employee	0.72	0.55	0.47	0.58	0.43
Per employee y-o-y change	n/a	-24%	-14%	24%	-27%

It is possible to compare Scope 1 and 2 Emissions from 2018 against data for each year up to 2023/24 (see table below), although this assumes that Aldersgate Group has been on a 100% renewable energy tariff since 2018, which is unconfirmed.

Table 2: annual emissions comparison, scope 1/2

Year	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Scope 1 & 2 Emissions	0.34	0.39	1.68	0.93	1.16	0.42

2023-2024 carbon calculation partner

Aldersgate Group commissioned Bioregional to calculate our 2023-24 emissions report. The carbon footprint calculations include scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG emissions for the Group’s own operations and value chain during the 2023/24 financial year (1 May 2023 to 30 April 2024). Aldersgate Group uses an operational control consolidation approach to account for its emissions. Percentages are reported as a portion of the total market-based footprint.

While carbon footprint reports have been carried out since 2018, the 2023/24 report evolves the approach taken previously, measuring at least five Scope 3 categories as required by the UK Government’s approach taken in Procurement Policy Note 06/21.

Table 3: updated baseline data	
A 2023-24 baseline year has been set as there is no evidence that previous Scope 3 emissions reports included at least five of the fifteen Scope 3 categories. For this reason, the historic baseline deviates from the PPN-0262 requirements.	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO₂e)
Scope 1	0.01
Scope 2	0.41
Scope 3	49.97
Total Emissions	50.38

Scope overview

Carbon emissions are divided into Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3 in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol:

- Scope 1 are the emissions from fuel burned directly in premises or vehicles.
- Scope 2 are the emissions produced by energy used that is generated by someone else (such as electricity).
- Scope 3 are all other emissions across our value chain, including products and services bought and waste generated.

Carbon intensity

In order to track emission reduction progress, regardless of company growth, we can calculate intensity emissions by the number of full-time equivalents (tCO₂e/no.of FTEs). Aldersgate Group will continue to monitor this annually.

Table 5: carbon intensity calculation

Year	Emissions: tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e)	No. of employees	Carbon Intensity by Employee tCO₂e
2023/24	50.38	9	5.6 tCO ₂ e/FTE

Net zero target

The Aldersgate Group’s previous target was to reduce our scope 1 & 2 emissions by 42% and our scope 3 emissions by 46.2% by 2030, against a baseline of emissions from 2019–2020.

Building on our new baseline data, and in line with the Race to Zero campaign, Aldersgate Group now makes the following commitments:

- Reduce total emissions by 50% by 2030 (target emissions, from a 2023-24 baseline year: 25 tCO2e)
- Reduce emissions to net zero by 2050.

2023-2024

Our carbon footprint report, as produced by Bioregional, allows us to understand where the most substantial impacts are.¹ Table 6 includes all subcategories with an impact over 0.5 tCO2e, all of which are in Scope 3.

Table 6: material impacts by emissions			% of Total
Purchased Goods & Services	Professional Services: Consultants	27.37	54%
Purchased Goods & Services	All other	4.34	9%
Purchased Goods & Services	Professional Services: Staff Training	3.97	8%
Purchased Goods & Services	Professional Services: Design & Printing	2.29	5%
Capital Goods	Computer & Office Equipment	2.22	4%
Employee Homeworking	Homeworking: Electricity	1.09	4%
Employee Homeworking	Homeworking: Gas	0.88	
Purchased Goods & Services	Food, Drink & General Expenses	1.23	2%

¹ https://www.aldersgategroup.org.uk/content/uploads/2024/10/Aldersgate_Carbon-Footprint-FY-23.24_Final-Report-For-Publication.pdf

Carbon reduction practices

The following environmental management measures and projects were completed or implemented **before** the 2023 baseline, so the associated emissions reductions cannot be captured in future plans. However, for the sake of completeness, it is worth noting that our recent carbon reduction initiatives have included:

- Basing our Secretariat in the Sustainable Ventures workspace. Set within London's iconic County Hall, the unique space incorporates sustainable design, historic features and inspirational stories from their climate community. [Learn about their impact.](#)
- Being a Climate Perks accredited employer, which means offering employees up to four days paid travel time a year if they elect to travel to their holiday destinations via land or sea rather than via air.
- Being members of Cyclescheme, encouraging staff to travel to the workplace in an environmentally friendly way.
- Minimising meeting-related travel by switching to online events and roundtables where appropriate, and taking no business flights.

In 2021 Aldersgate Group joined the Race to Zero campaign as an accelerator – encouraging members to join the initiative – and set a net zero science-based target which was in line with a 1.5 degree of warming pathway. We have now improved the accuracy of our reporting by using a different provider and have set a more ambitious net zero target.

Table 7: emissions reduction plan - future improvements

Subcategory	2030 Net Zero Target	Actions
Freelancers/ Consultants	13.69 tCO2e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ask contractors whether they are on a renewable energy tariff, and encourage them to switch if not - Track results from the survey (by expense) in a spreadsheet
Computer & Office Equipment	2.22 tCO2e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue with implementing sustainable procurement, considering the lifecycle of products and engaging team in delivering lowest emissions from products in use
All other purchased Goods & Services	2.17 tCO2e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evolve emission methodology to scope 3 reporting by 2030
Staff Training	1.99 tCO2e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Optimise outdoor training to reconnect employees with nature (and to reduce energy usage) - If training in person, choose premises with 100% renewable energy tariffs where possible
Design & Printing	1.15 tCO2e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Track use of office printer and address any excess - Minimise printing of reports - Avoid printing any reports with virgin materials - Find suppliers that use plant-based inks
Homeworking	0.98 tCO2e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to improve the accuracy of home working data (Employee: hours working at home, energy tariff for gas and electricity) and raise awareness of best practice for home energy efficiency
Food, Drink & General Expenses	0.62 tCO2e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigate this category to understand where emissions are coming from (audit 24-25 data) - Continue to raise awareness about the carbon benefits of plant-based diets

This Carbon Reduction Plan will be updated as needed.

Declaration and sign-off

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.

Signed

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Date: 13/03/2025