



# **Carbon Reduction Plan**

Name: Blake Morgan LLP

Publication date: August 2022

# **Commitment to achieving Net Zero**

Blake Morgan LLP is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050.

# **Baseline Emissions Footprint**

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

Baseline Year: FY20 (May 2019 to April 2020)

## Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations

FY20 is Blake Morgan's first financial year specifically reporting on Emissions are part of our compliance with Streamlined Energy and Carbon reporting (SECR).

Data has been collected and calculated based on method used for ESOS and CRC reporting and through guidance provided by CIBSE and EMA.

All data is captured through a review of energy consumption data including but not limited to invoices provided by energy suppliers, tenant recharge invoices and supporting schedules for energy consumption for our landlords or their agents as well as expenses claimed by employees for the reimbursement of business mileage.

## **Baseline year emissions: FY20**

EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1	183
Scope 2	512
Scope 3  • Business travel in rental/employee-owned vehicles	104
Total Emissions	799

## **Current Emissions Reporting**

### Reporting Year: FY21 (May 2020 to April 2021)

### **Additional Comments**

Our FY21 figures have seen a significant drop on FY20 as a result of the surrender of our Portsmouth office which was our least energy efficient office. There has been a reduction in Scope 3 emissions due to the global COVID-19 pandemic and the reduction of business travel by employees during this period.

As a firm we are investigating how to better detail our waste reporting and employee commuting in our Scope 3 emissions reporting.

EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO₂e)
Scope 1	99
Scope 2	364
Scope 3  • Business travel in rental/employee-owned vehicles	10
Total Emissions	473

# **Carbon Reduction Projects**

# Blake Morgan's approach to carbon reduction commitments

As a firm, we are committed to minimising the impacts of our working practices on the environment, our communities and to promoting environmental awareness among our people at all levels.

We hold ISO 14001 Environmental Standard Certification and are committed to minimising the impacts of our working practices on the environment. Our commitments include:

- Protection of the environment, prevention of pollution, reduction in waste to landfill, reduction in use of non-renewable energy, lowering the carbon footprint.
- Adopting the highest standards in all areas of operation, meeting all compliance obligations.
- Continually identifying areas where we can implement improvements/enhancing environmental performance.
- Minimising waste through careful and efficient use of all materials and through our recycling programme.
- Purchasing locally sourced/sustainable products.
- Setting objectives to meet the environmental goals outlined in the policy.

## **Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives**

The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented since the FY20 baseline. The carbon emission reduction achieved by these schemes equate to **326** tCO₂e, a **59**%ge reduction against the FY20 baseline and the measures will be in effect when performing the contract:

- Surrender of our Portsmouth office and a reduction in the size of our offices in Cardiff, London, Oxford and Reading.
- Introduction of LED lighting in our Southampton and Oxford offices and reduction of the wattage of the bulbs used in the remaining offices.
- Replacement of printers throughout the firm as well as carbon off-setting as part of our printer contract.
- An E-signature document platform has been rolled out across the firm.
- Smart working policy and video conferencing facilities to support remote working for reduced commuting emissions.

# In the future we hope to implement further measures such as:

- Influencing staff, clients, suppliers and communities to support environmental protection and improvement.
- The implementation of the firm's ESG group to achieve net zero by 2050.
- Improved waste reporting and employee commuting data for our Scope 3 emissions reporting.
- Ensuring that we meet our ISO14001 objectives as follows:

#### Energy

 Reducing energy use in our offices by 10% year on year. We hope to achieve this through the use of employee awareness programmes, the use of LED and PIF lighting as well as using temperature controls on air con units within our offices where possible.

## Travel

Reducing fuel use by 20% year on year. We will encourage the use of remote meetings, use of
public transport and promotion of hybrid/electric vehicles. We also offer interest free loans for
public transport season tickets/encourage lift sharing schemes and the firm is a member of the
Cycle2Work scheme. We have also limited air travel to necessary travel only with no use of first class or
business class.

## **Waste generation**

- Reducing paper use by 75% of 2019's figures. Our staff have embraced electronic working.
- Each office maintains a recycling programme and routinely recycle paper/tonel cartridges/batteries/furniture/plastic/glass/metal/electrical items where possible and cardboard.

#### **Suppliers**

- Prior to engagement all suppliers complete a questionnaire and are required to demonstrate environmental responsibility.
- All suppliers must comply with relevant Environmental UK/EU/International legal requirements. Contractors are validated with the Environment Agency/Natural Resource Wales for specific licences.
- We plan to implement a supplier portal encouraging major suppliers to provide us with regular/consistent sustainability performance data.

### Clients

• We encourage clients to meet virtually, alleviating the need to travel and to make use of secure online portals when sending or receiving documents rather than printing documents.

We include below examples of ongoing initiatives and activities which have been driven by our staff, many in partnership with our clients and communities.

#### **Partnerships**



Ecovadis - In 2021 we achieved 'silver medal rating' in recognition of our sustainability/corporate social responsibility practices. We are ranked in the top 25% of companies assessed 2020-2023.

• Business Healthy Travel Charter for Wales, which focuses on sustainable travel



- <u>Ethical Reading</u> working together to improve local and wider environment in Berkshire.
- South Coast Real Estate Network lobbing for green infrastructure projects.
- Redundant IT assets are re-purposed with **KOcycle** 'One Tree Planted initiative'. 2021 has seen 50 trees planted on the firm's behalf.









# Promoting values to staff

• We celebrate *World Environment Day* and promote ways in which staff can support our wider environment and communities. We focussed on the UN's decade on Ecosystem Restoration by raising awareness/promoting environmental concerns within the organisation.

# **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<sup>1</sup> and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup>.

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the board of directors (or equivalent management body).

Signed on behalf of the Blake Morgan LLP

Kath Shimmin Chair 15 August 2022

Mike Wilson Managing Partner 15 August 2022

1https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard

2https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-forcompany-reporting

https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard



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