



Carbon Reduction Plan

January 2025

- Active Care Group is passionate about working to mitigate our impact on the world in which we live and conduct our business. We're committed to pursuing initiatives that are good for the environment and smart for our business, while caring for our people and the communities where we work and live. Caring for our planet is a vital part of fulfilling that purpose.
- Making our climate commitments real is not only important to us as an organisation, but to our colleagues, commissioners and those who use our services.
- Active Care Group recognise that to be an attractive employer, people are rightfully demanding more from us in our corporate climate responsibility. All of us as individuals want to know that actions and decisions in the workplace are taken with a positive climate impact in mind. In making clear our commitments, we will be the organisation of choice for colleagues, for those who need our services, and for our commissioners.
- In October 2020, the Greener NHS National Programme published its new strategy, Delivering a net zero National Health Service. This report highlighted that left unabated climate change will disrupt care, with poor environmental health contributing to major diseases, including cardiac problems, asthma and cancer.
- Active Care Group is committed to achieving Net Zero by 01 July 2050.

Active Care Group (ACG) is committed to reducing its carbon footprint and contributing to environmental sustainability. This plan outlines key strategies and actions to achieve measurable reductions in carbon emissions while maintaining high standards of care across the entire ACG portfolio.

The 8 key strategic measurables for the business are:



1. Energy Efficiency



2. Waste Reduction and Recycling



3. Water Conservation



4. Sustainable Transport



5. Sustainable Procurement



6. Green Spaces and Biodiversity



7. Staff and Resident Engagement



8. Monitoring and Reporting



1. Energy Efficiency

Key Strategies:

- Regularly undertake energy audits to identify inefficiencies.
- Continued investment in energy efficiency projects which include heating and cooling upgrades as well as lower energy lighting throughout the group.
- Install smart thermostats and motion sensors to optimise heating and lighting usage.
- Improve insulation and draught-proofing to reduce heat loss.
- Transition to renewable energy sources such as solar panels and green energy tariffs to focus on reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

Completed initiatives:

- Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) audits undertaken regularly with the outcome measures implemented as part of ongoing capital investment.
- Site refurbishments automatically retrofitted with LED lighting; gas equipment replaced with electric whilst upgrading insulation to improve energy loss.
- Motion sensor lighting installed in support offices as well as sites where appropriate.
- New windows and doors have been installed as part of rolling capital expenditure programme.
- 100% renewable electricity utilised throughout the group since October 2024 which will reduce the tCO₂e generated against electricity consumption figures by 95%.
- Solar panels installed across 2 sites with feasibility study underway to install more Solar panels across the group.



2. Waste Reduction and Recycling

Key Strategies:

- Implement a comprehensive recycling program for paper, plastics, glass, and organic waste.
- Reduce single-use plastics by switching to biodegradable alternatives.
- Encourage digital record-keeping to minimise paper use.
- Work with suppliers to reduce packaging waste and opt for sustainable products.

Completed initiatives:

- Recycling audit undertaken across the group to educate staff on how to reduce, reuse and recycle.
- Single-use plastics phased out across the group with suppliers monitored and scored under tenders in terms of their reduction targets.
- Digital record keeping introducing across all sites.



3. Water Conservation

Key Strategies:

- Install water-efficient fixtures such as low-flow taps and dual-flush toilets.
- Educate staff and residents on water-saving practices.
- Introduce rainwater harvesting systems for non-potable uses such as gardening.

Completed Initiatives:

- Dual flush toilets installed in newly refurbished facilities.
- Staff engagement and representation on the ESG committee that meets quarterly with suggestions encouraged to promote ownership.



4. Sustainable Transport

Key Strategies:

- Promote car-sharing and cycling among staff.
- Provide incentives for electric vehicle (EV) use and install EV charging points.
- Reduce the need for travel by facilitating virtual meetings where possible.

Completed Initiatives:

- Digital screens installed across sites to promote the use of public transport.
- EV charging points factored into the schedule of works for all significant redevelopments.
- Virtual meetings promoted over face-to-face meetings where appropriate.
- Promoting the benefits of designated no travels days to reduce carbon emissions associated with travel.
- Integration of the Legionella Digital Dossier system has improved efficiency of required maintenance visits by:
 1. Enabling more targeted planning of essential engineer site visits and optimization of travel routes for water safety inspections
 2. Allowing remote access to compliance data, reducing the need for management travel between sites.
 3. Maintaining full compliance with UK regulations (HSE ACOP L8 and HSG274) while reducing travel-related emissions



5. Sustainable Procurement

Key Strategies:

- Understand Scope 3 emissions that are produced by the supply chain and work to obtain and improve data capture.
- Source food and supplies from local and sustainable vendors.
- Prioritise eco-friendly cleaning products and non-toxic materials.
- Work with suppliers who have strong environmental credentials.

Completed Initiatives:

- Scope 3 emissions for the baseline period have been devised based on an estimate, year on year this will become more accurate as the business challenges the supply chain to be more accountable and to embed reporting into their overall service provision.
- eProcurement platform introduced to verify supplier credentials and understand the supply chain's approach to achieving targets by taking a science-based approach to setting and achieving targets.



6. Green Spaces and Biodiversity

Key Strategies:

- Embed environmentally friendly sustainable design focus to all new developments and major refurbishments.
- Maintain gardens with native plants to support local wildlife.
- Encourage the use of vegetable gardens for homegrown produce, reducing food miles.
- Encourage outdoor activities to engage residents with nature.

Completed Initiatives:

- Annual gardening competitions across all sites to promote the benefits of
- Residents regularly undertake outdoor activities and supported by central function with the provision of new vehicles to replace aging fleet.



7. Staff and Resident Engagement

Key Strategies:

- Provide training on sustainability practices for staff.
- Involve residents in eco-friendly initiatives such as gardening and recycling.
- Communicate progress and achievements through newsletters and meetings.

Completed Initiatives:

- Digital notice boards installed throughout the group to recognise individual achievements and communicate group wide news and awards.



8. Monitoring and Reporting

Key Strategies:

- Set measurable targets for carbon reduction and review them annually.
- Track energy, water, and waste data to identify further improvement areas.
- Publish annual sustainability reports to showcase progress.

Completed Initiatives:

- Waste data regularly reviewed with suppliers and then shared with sites to ensure open dialogue with staff to promote further education about individual waste streams and diverting from landfill to recycling.
- Annual reporting as part of financial reports/statements
- Implementation of the Legionella Digital Dossier system in partnership with GMS services.

By implementing these strategies, Active Care Group aims to significantly reduce its carbon footprint while maintaining a comfortable and safe environment for residents. Continuous monitoring and staff engagement will be key to ensuring long-term sustainability and positive environmental impact.

Baseline year 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

Emissions are calculated against the volume of available beds across the organisation which factors in growth from the baseline date of 2022.

Baseline emissions (2022)

| EMISSIONS | TOTAL (tCO2e) |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Scope 1 | 1,886 tCO2e |
| Scope 2 | 855 tCO2e |
| Scope 3 | 160 tCO2e |
| Total Emissions | 2,901 tCO2e |

Current emissions reporting (2024)

| EMISSIONS | TOTAL (tCO2e) |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Scope 1 | 1,847 tCO2e |
| Scope 2 | 861 tCO2e |
| Scope 3 | 174 tCO2e |
| Total Emissions | 2,882 tCO2e |

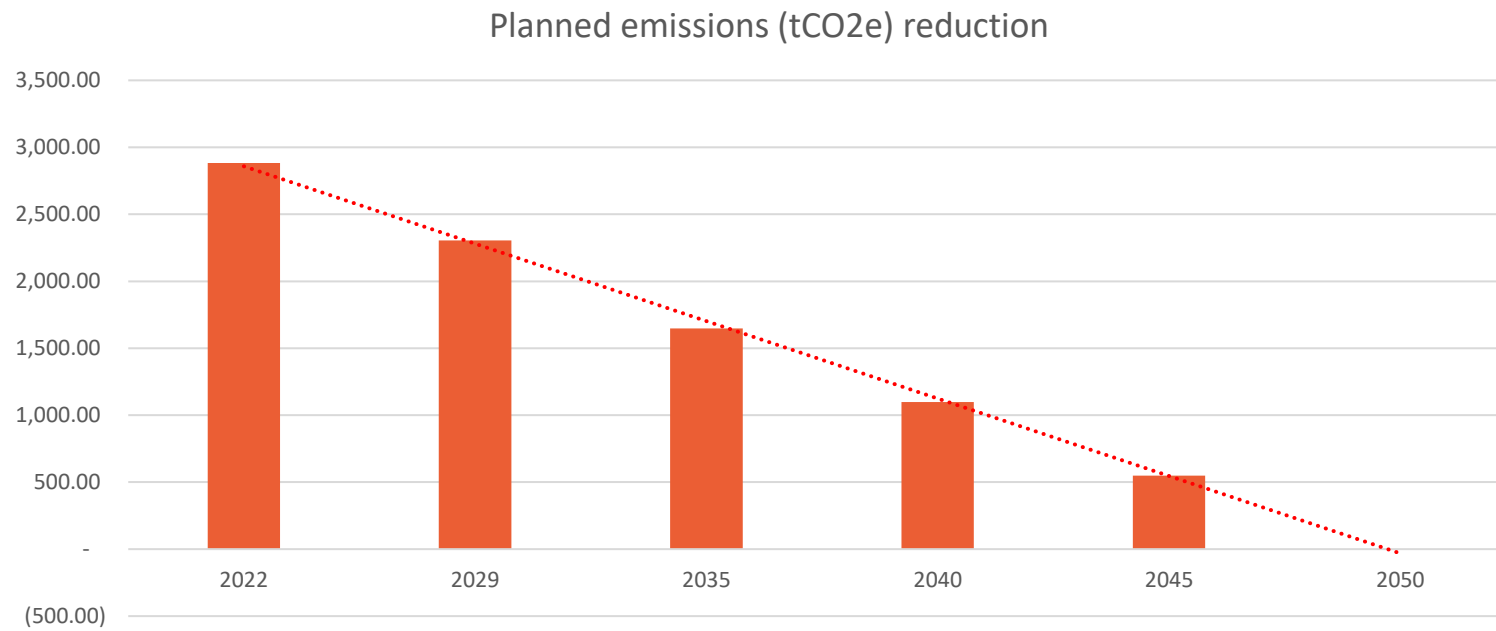
Emissions reduction targets

Active Care Group project that carbon emissions will decrease over the next 5 years to 2,305.6 tCO2e by 2029 and by 5% year on year thereafter to achieve the Net Zero target by 2050. This is a reduction of 20% from the current (2024) baseline emissions.

Active Care Groups progress to achieving Net Zero will be assisted by the following carbon reduction initiatives which or are in the process of being implemented across the business.

| Scope 1 | Scope 2 | Scope 3 |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Direct (ACG related)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgraded gas boilers with energy efficient alternatives - Reducing the impact of patient transportation by investing in ULEZ complaint vehicles | <p>Indirect (produced whilst enabling ACG to operate)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Switched to 100% renewable energy from October 2024 - Upgrading lights to LED fittings as part of a rolling capital investment programme - Implementation of motion or passive infrared (PIR) sensor lighting across the estate – care facilities as well as regional and central offices - Installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels | <p>Indirect responsibility (supply chain)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continued engagement with the supply chain to understand the environmental impact associated when receiving goods and services - Engage with local providers that have a focus on investment in social enterprises - Increased sustainability focus for all tenders undertaken across the group - Promote a Reuse, Reduce and recycle approach and embed targets into suppliers KPI's (Key Performance Indicators) which are monitored quarterly - Increased focus on home grown and products produced within the UK |

Planned progress against these targets can be seen in the graph below



Declaration

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 standard⁴ 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.

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the board of directors.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Browner".

Keith Browner

Chief Executive Officer, Active Care Group

January 2025



we will be
kind & honest



we will
listen, learn & act



we will be
fair & inclusive

