Carbon Reduction Plan

Supplier name: Medical Architecture
Publication date: October 2024

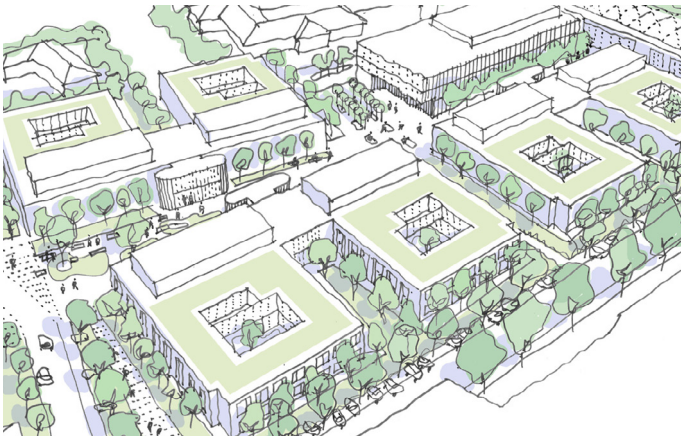
Medical Architecture

Commitment to achieving Net Zero

Medical Architecture is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2040.

Medical Architecture have developed this Carbon Reduction Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Procurement Policy Note PPN 06-21 to evidence our practice-wide commitment to achieving net zero carbon by 2040 or earlier. It is written to closely correlate to our objectives and improvement aspirations within ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management Systems.

The company recognises that we are in a Climate Emergency and have joined UK Architects Declare (Climate and Biodiversity Emergency) and RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge networks to contribute and participate in the profession's initiatives and activity to rapidly reduce carbon.



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: 2021	
Additional details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations: Medical Architecture commenced our Net Zero Carbon Plan in 2022. However, as we have been ISO 14001 accredited since 2009, we had data available for earlier years and used that data to be able to set our base line from 2021.	
Baseline year emissions:	
Emissions	**Total (tCO_2e)**
Scope 1	0
Scope 2	11
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	25
Total Emissions	36

Current emissions reporting

Reporting year: 2023	
Emissions	**Total (tCO_2e)**
Scope 1	0
Scope 2	10
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	12
Total Emissions	22

Emissions reduction targets

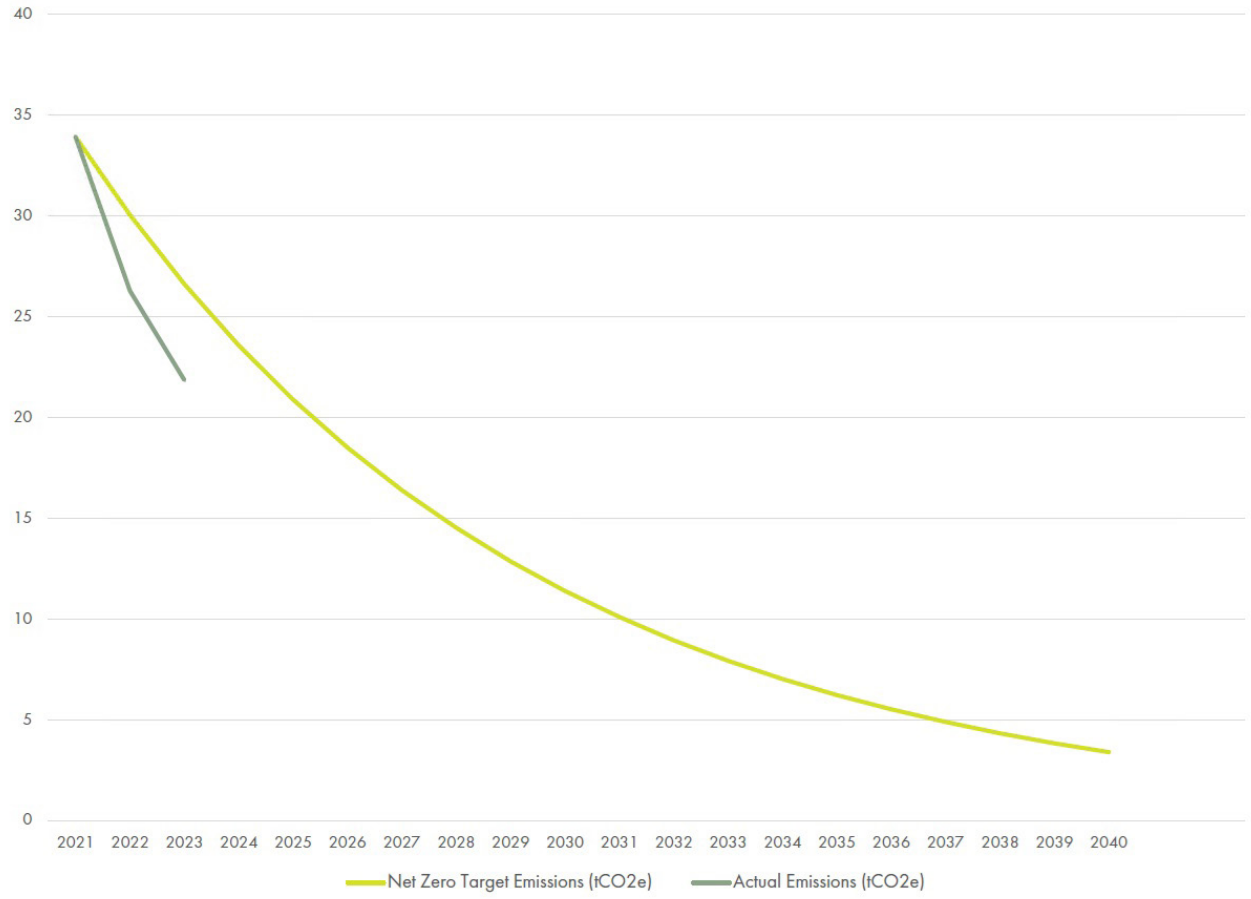
We project that carbon emissions will decrease over the next five years to 11 tCO2e by 2029 . This is a reduction of

50%

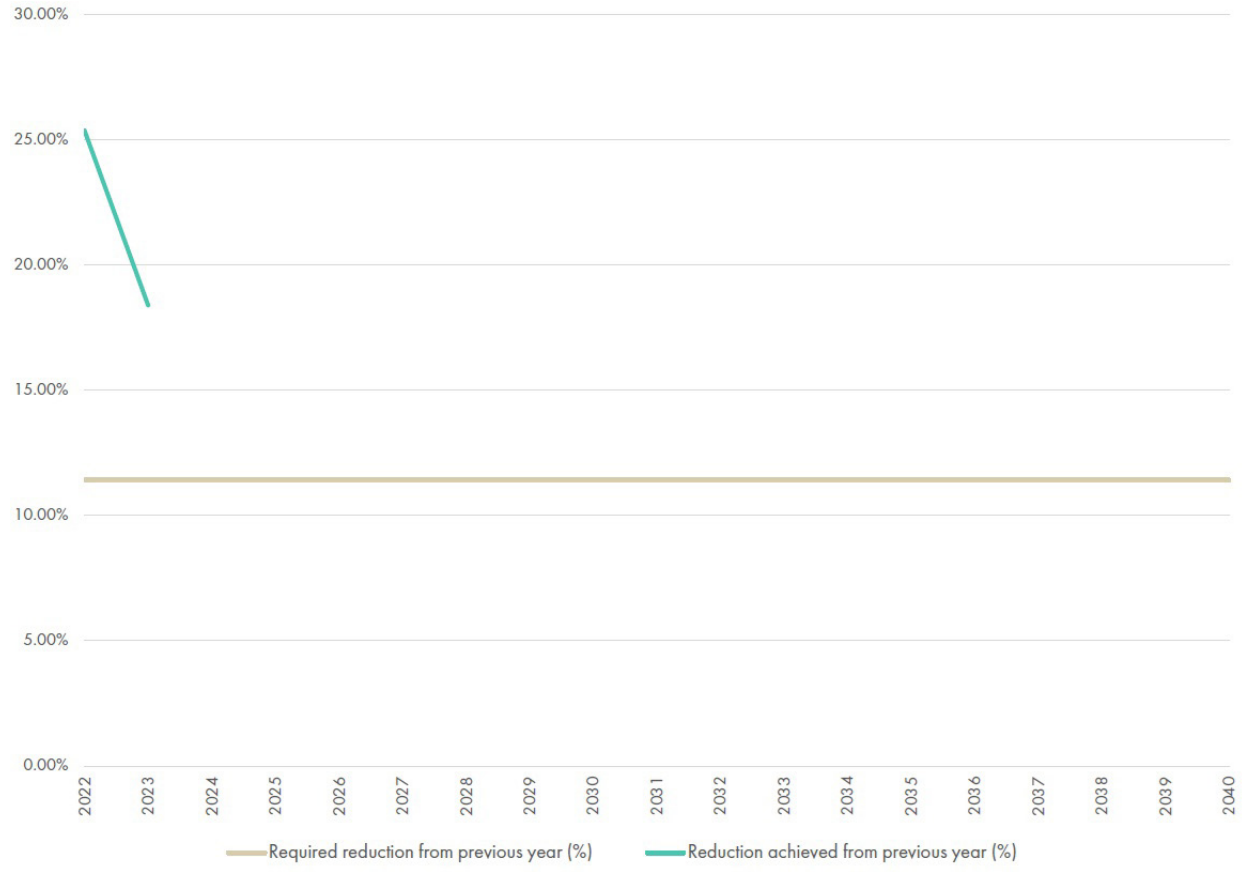
Progress against are carbon emissions targets can be seen in the graphs on the next page.

We are currently ahead of the required reduction percentage to meet our carbon reduction targets, however we are aware that we must continue to work hard to maintain our progress.

Actual emissions vs net zero target emissions

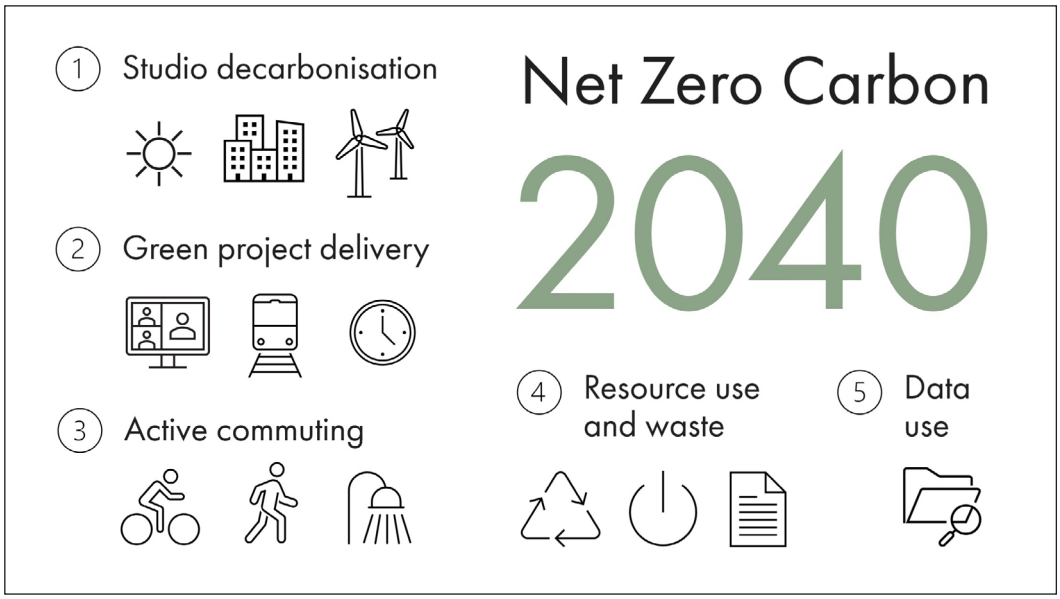


Required reduction vs achieved reduction



Carbon reduction projects

To meet our emissions reduction targets we have outlined a number of key projects to focus our activity in the areas that will make the most impact.



Studio decarbonisation

- At our London studio, we are planning with the building landlord, to install energy conserving secondary glazing and to replace our gas-fired boiler with an all-electric Air Source Heat Pump supported heating system. Combined with electricity supplied by a 100% renewable energy supplier, this will dramatically reduce our carbon footprint from heating and power supply.

- At our Newcastle studio, we are planning with the building landlord, to undertake a major refurbishment project and retrofit of an all-electric Air Source Heat Pump supported heating system to replace the current gas-fired boiler. Combined with electricity supplied by a 100% renewable energy supplier, this will dramatically reduce our carbon footprint from heating and power supply.

Green project delivery

- We understand that there are carbon footprints involved in both virtual meetings (e.g. energy associated with data usage), and in-person meetings (e.g. energy usage from travel). There is therefore a judgement to be made on which is more carbon efficient, depending on the duration of the meeting, number of attendees and distance of travel required. We provide guidance to our staff members to help in their decision making, with consideration for the environmental impact of travel, as well as the efficient use of time and resources.

- There are times when a project and/or the clients require face-to-face meetings and site visits to gain accurate information to measure, plan and design buildings. As we have offices in London and Newcastle, we can cover the whole of the UK with an efficient footprint. We will continue to encourage the most carbon efficient forms of transport to visit clients and project sites.

- As well as working on projects in the UK we also work on projects internationally. Whilst we work with local partners to keep the need for travel to site a minimum, this is often necessary in the planning stages. We are monitoring our air travel usage closely and are investigating the use of offsetting measures to reduce its carbon impact.

Active commuting

- Both of our Studios are city centre located with excellent public transport links. We have always encouraged our employees to use public transport and active travel whenever possible, and provide incentives to encourage adoption of these, including cycle-to-work schemes and discounted travel passes.

- We are reviewing our studio facilities for bicycle storage and washing/changing to ensure there are no barriers to adoption of active travel.

Resource use and waste

- To reduce our demand on supplies of renewable energy, we will continue to reduce our electricity usage by procuring

energy efficient lighting, equipment and appliances (including computers, a major component of our energy usage).

- We are actively encouraging the reduction of paper usage, primarily by printing fewer documents (including plans) and using online versions for reviewing purposes. We continually review our tools and processes to ensure that this is an efficient and effective way to operate.

- Our process for procuring equipment and materials considers longevity, environmental performance, and waste reduction, in equal terms to performance. This is a particular priority for high carbon footprint items such as computers and electrical equipment.

Data use

- We are conscious of the environmental impact of data storage and transmission. We therefore encourage efficient use of data, the avoidance of unnecessary duplication, and the timely deletion of obsolete data.

- We are investigating the carbon credentials of our data storage providers to ensure that they are aligned with our environmental objectives.

Design Advocacy

- In the work that we do, we are committed to advocating the use of sustainable design approaches to minimise the carbon footprint of our client's buildings. A recent example for NHS England was designed in collaboration with Passivhaus design specialists Architype. Setting a bold new vision for the delivery of community health services, this exemplar Health and Wellbeing Hub adopts a pioneering approach to sustainable design, designed to Passivhaus accreditation standards, exceeding the requirements of the NHS net zero carbon standard.

Completed carbon reduction initiatives

The carbon emissions reduction achieved by our progress against our carbon reduction projects to date (2023) equates to 12 tCO2e, a 36% reduction against the 2021 baseline.

We our continuing to develop our environmental management measures and carbon reduction projects as part of our ongoing certification to ISO 14001:2015.

Particular progress has been made on the reduction of our energy usage, a reduction in carbon emissions associated with project travel, and a reduction in paper usage due to electronic review processes.

In the future we aim to implement

In the future we aim to implement further measures related to our carbon reduction projects. We recognise that the energy usage of our studios and emissions related to project travel and commuting make up a large proportion of our carbon emissions. We also see these areas as having the greatest potential for significant reductions.

In the next five years, we will continue to develop our plans to retrofit our London and Newcastle studios to improve their environmental performance, reduce their energy demand, and enable the supply of renewable forms of energy.

We are also conscious that demand for our services and expertise from international clients is growing, and this is leading to an increasing number of projects overseas. Whilst we aim to keep air travel to a minimum, this can not always be avoided and there is the potential for our carbon emissions in this area to increase in the short term. It is important that we look to develop strategies to mitigate this and potentially to use offsetting measures to maintain our progress against our targets.

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.

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

Signed on behalf of the Supplier:

Bob Wills

Bob Wills
Director - Medical Architecture