

Purpose

As a company that works directly for Central Government Departments, their Executive Agencies and Non-Departmental Public Bodies we are required to have a Carbon Reduction Plan in place in line with the requirement of PPN 06/21: Public Policy Note - Taking Account of Carbon Reduction Plans in the procurement of major government contracts

Scope

This Carbon Reduction Plan relates to our Scope 1, 2 and 3 carbon emissions and covers all of Ground Control operations involving direct employees and Field Teams operatives.

Definitions

See [Glossary of terms](#)

Commitment to achieving Net Zero

Ground Control is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050.

In 2021 Ground Control formally committed, through the Science Based Target Initiative, to achieve Net Zero by 2050, however we have a board commitment to achieve this much sooner in line with our GC Net Zero plan taking into consideration global, technological, and economic challenges. We are currently developing and setting science-based targets which will be verified by the Science Based Targets Initiative. Our current carbon neutral status is the first step in our carbon reduction journey whilst we plan to achieve our ambition of net zero much sooner than 2050.

IMS Reference	GC04SUP04	Revision	0.1
Issue Date	25/10/2022	Page	1 of 6
Owner	Sophie Stephens ,		

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: FY2020

Additional details relating to the baseline emissions calculations:

Our carbon footprint will be measured and monitored internally, and we will recertify annually as a carbon neutral organisation. Our baseline scope three emissions are currently based on financial data; however, we are continually improving how we collate specific activity data, monitor, and report emissions. Ground Control will assess the need to re-baseline our emissions as the business changes or restructures with acquisitions and improved data collation.

Baseline year emissions: (01.04.2020 – 31.03.2021)

EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO ₂ e)	SOURCES
Scope 1	2,548	Natural gas, fuels, refrigerants, and owned vehicles
Scope 2	68	Electricity for buildings and vehicle charging (market- based)
Scope 3	816	4: Upstream transportation and distribution
	5,693	5: Waste generated in operations
	100	6: Business travel
	199	7: Employee commuting
	0	9: Downstream transportation and distribution*
Total Emissions	9,424	

* This category was excluded from our footprint as Ground Control is a service provider and our operations do not include the downstream distribution of products and therefore is not material.

IMS Reference	GC04SUP04	Revision	0.1
Issue Date	25/10/2022	Page	2 of 6
Owner	Sophie Stephens ,		

Current Emissions Reporting

Current Year: FY2021

Ground Control will continue to report on our scope one, two and three emissions annually updating our carbon reduction plan and financial reporting. Because we are coming out of coronavirus restrictions and continually growing as a business, emissions have increased from our baseline year to current reporting year (intensity figures included below).

Reporting Year: FY2021 (01.04.2021 – 31.03.2022)

EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO ₂ e)	SOURCES
Scope 1	3,185	Natural gas, fuels, refrigerants, and owned vehicles
Scope 2	29	Electricity for buildings and vehicle charging (market- based)
Scope 3	1,062	4: Upstream transportation and distribution
	7,407	5: Waste generated in operations
	130	6: Business travel
	259	7: Employee commuting
	0	9: Downstream transportation and distribution*
Total Emissions	12,072	

*This category was excluded from our footprint as Ground Control is a service provider and our operations do not include the downstream distribution of products and therefore is not material.

Table 1: Ground Control carbon intensity figure by revenue

	FY 2020-2021	FY 2021-2022
Turnover (£ million)	111.20	144.69
Carbon intensity figure	84.75	83.44

Emission Reduction Target

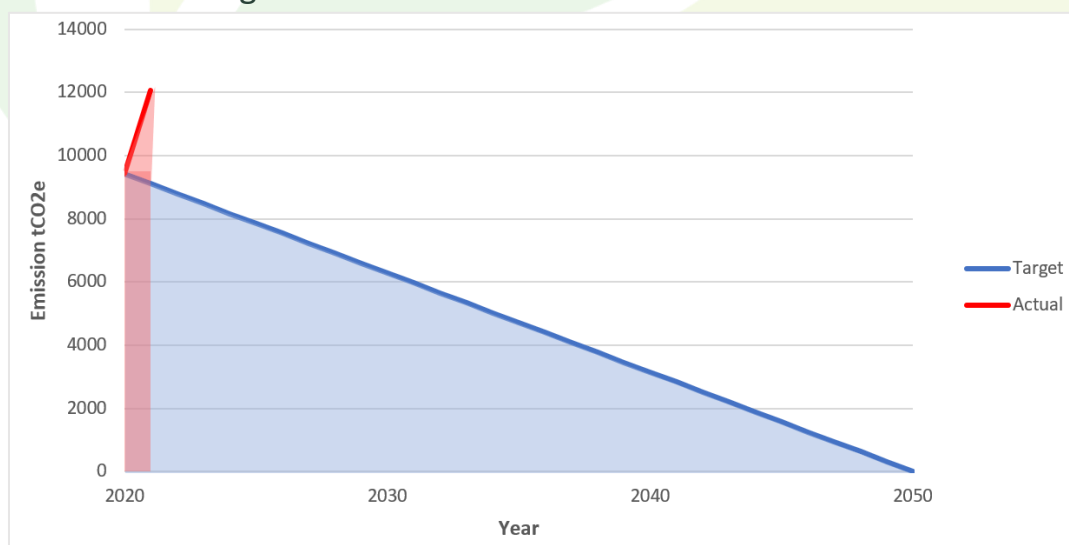


Figure 1: Ground Control carbon footprint FY2020/21 and our projected reduction in emissions to Net Zero in 2050.

IMS Reference	GC04SUP04		
Issue Date	25/10/2022	Revision	0.1
Owner	Sophie Stephens ,	Page	3 of 6

Ground Control's absolute carbon emissions have increased from the baseline year as we have grown as a business as shown by the 30% increase in turnover. Despite this growth, our carbon intensity has not increased. Ground Control is at the beginning of our carbon journey as we implement further carbon reduction initiatives and improve our data quality and quantity we will achieve greater reductions in emissions.

Reductions in our scope two so far have been achieved by switching to renewable electricity at our fixed offices and we have limited the potential increase in scope 1 emissions by starting our investment in electric tools and vehicles. To continue our progress to achieving Net Zero, we are planning to adopt the following carbon reduction initiatives.

Carbon Reduction Projects

Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives:

The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented since the 2020 baseline to reduce our carbon emissions and these measures will remain in effect when performing the contract.

- We report on our energy consumption and associated greenhouse gas emissions within the financial reporting published on Companies House as part of Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting requirements.
- Ground Control have worked with The Carbon Trust to calculate our carbon footprint and verify this in line with BSI: PAS 2060: 2014 specification for carbon neutrality. We are implementing our carbon management plan across the company to achieve our target for net zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- All company hand tools purchased are fully electric (where technology is available) with a target of 100% being fully electric by Q4 2023. So far, we have purchased over 250 tools.
- All new company passenger vehicles purchased are fully electric, with a target for 100% of our fleet fully electric by Q4 2024. So far, we have purchased over 170 Tesla's.
- All company vehicle drivers with EVs are required to have their home electricity from renewable sources in their homes.
- To support our employees using active and sustainable transport methods for their commute to work, we have introduced interest free travel loans, Cycle2Work initiative, and affordable EV car leasing.
- Our in-house ICT Team has developed a bespoke site density modelling and route optimisation software which calculates the most efficient team allocation for every site. Therefore, reducing travel time, increasing productivity, and lowering carbon emissions for each project. This software completes c. 200 million calculations to analyse site specific data, visit schedules, team skills and specifications to ensure the most efficient allocation for every single site. We recently calculated the carbon savings for our winter maintenance business for the winter season, the route optimisation software avoided an extra 257,243 miles and saved over 162 tCO₂e.
- Ground Control is certified to the ISO: 14001 recognising our commitment to reducing our environmental impact, achieving our environmental objectives, and fulfilling our compliance obligations. We are also working towards continually improving our operations following the plan, do, check, act cycle.
- We have committed to install of 10,000 Electric Vehicle chargers for our customers by 2025 and are part of 'EV100'; a global initiative to bring together forward-thinking companies committed to accelerating the country's transition to EVs.
- Ground Control is a Certified B Corporation, and we are members of the University of Cambridge Sustainable Leaders Group. These schemes pledge to work towards COP26 and the UK's Net Zero Carbon by 2050 target.

Upcoming Carbon Reduction Initiatives:

- Ground Control are developing and setting science based near-term and net zero targets which will be verified by the Science Based Targets Initiative aligned to the SBTi's Corporate Net-Zero Standard. The Standard provides

IMS Reference	GC04SUP04		
Issue Date	25/10/2022	Revision	0.1
Owner	Sophie Stephens ,	Page	4 of 6

robust requirements for achieving Net Zero, most importantly achieving a 90% absolute reduction across scope one, two and three emissions without offsetting.

- Ground Control are continually improving our environmental data collection aligning our financial system to the EEIO carbon reporting categories to increase accuracy for more detailed reporting for emissions by contract, client, and field team. As part of our submission to SBTi and improving our data accuracy, we are expanding our reporting across all 15 scope 3 categories.
- We aim to have sustainability and carbon reduction plans in place with all our Tier 1 suppliers by 2025.
- We are now implementing our carbon reduction strategy across the company including our buying standards and supply chain management to achieve our target for net zero carbon emissions by 2050 at the very latest.
- We are committed to our Ground Control 4x4 and commercial vehicle fleet transition to non-ICE by 2030.
- We are committed to 100% of our electric powered hand tools by 2023 where the technology is available. We will continue to collaborate with machinery manufacturers, including Mean Green, Stihl, Husqvarna, Makita, Honda, and Ego, to research, trial and implement the use of battery powered equipment and auto mowers.
- Ground Control are also exploring options to support our supply chain and Field Teams to transition to battery powered to reduce whole supply chain emissions.
- We will develop incentives and an educational/ communication programme to engage with colleagues and field teams to promote EVs, green tariffs and other energy savings.
- Our new Sustainability Committee with senior leaders in the business is set to drive the Environmental Strategy forward and improve governance.

IMS Reference	GC04SUP04		
Issue Date	25/10/2022	Revision	0.1
Owner	Sophie Stephens ,	Page	5 of 6

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 standard⁴ and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting⁵.

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) Standard⁶.

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

Signed on behalf of Ground Control:

Signature:



Jason Knights, Managing Director

Date: 30th November 2022

⁴ <https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard>

⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting>

⁶ <https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard>

IMS Reference	GC04SUP04	Revision	0.1
Issue Date	25/10/2022	Page	6 of 6
Owner	Sophie Stephens ,		