Active Connect Sustainability Report

Our roadmap to sustainability...

We have already taken our first steps on the pathway to carbon neutrality and we invite you to join us on our journey.

The effects of Climate Change are scientifically proven and we need to act now if we want to provide an environmentally sustainable future for our world.

carbon footprint standard™

CO_2e Assessed
Organisation

carbon footprint standard™

CO_2e Reduced
Organisation

Our Sustainability Statement

"Our views on sustainability have already changed for the positive and we're pleased to note that our efforts to date are producing small but tangible results. We're very proud of our own 'Active8Zero' initiative, which aims for carbon neutrality by 2028, and we welcome the continued support of both our clients and supply chain. Our business is developing and we're adapting to change but all decisions are now undertaken with a view to how it affects our sustainability."

Drew Minty

Drew Minty - Business Director

December 2023


Where we are now
FUTURE
PRESENT
PAST

What is a carbon footprint?

A carbon footprint is a measure of the impact our activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of greenhouse gases produced, measured in units of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO2e). A carbon footprint is made up of two parts, direct and indirect emissions.

1. Direct emissions:

Direct emissions are produced by sources which are owned or controlled by the reporting organisation and include electricity use, burning oil or gas for heating, and fuel consumption as a result of business travel or distribution. Direct emissions correspond to elements within scopes 1, 2 and 3 of the World Resources Institute GHG Protocol, as indicated in **Table 1**.

2. Indirect emissions:

Indirect emissions result from a company's upstream and downstream activities. These are typically from outsourced/contract manufacturing, and products and the services offered by the organisation. Indirect emissions correspond to scope 3 of the World Resources Institute GHG Protocol excluding employee business travel as indicated in **Table 2**.

Table 1: Direct emissions sources

Footprint	Activity	Scope
Direct	Electricity, heat or steam generated on-site	1
	Natural gas, gas oil, LPG or coal use attributable to company-owned facilities	1
	Company owned vehicle travel	1
	Production of any of the six GHGs (CO_2, CH_4, N_2O, HFCs, PFCs and SF_6)	1
	Consumption of purchased electricity, heat steam and cooling	2
	Employee business travel (using transport not owned by the company)	3

Table 2: Indirect emissions sources

Footprint	Activity	Scope
Indirect	Employee commuting	3
	Transportation of an organisation's products, materials or waste by another organisation	3
	Outsourced activities, contract manufacturing and franchises	3
	GHG emissions from waste generated by the organisation but managed by another organisation	3
	GHG emissions from the use and end-of-life phases of the organisation's products and services	3
	GHG emissions arising from the production and distribution of energy products, other than electricity, steam and heat, consumed by the organisation	3
	GHG emissions from the production of purchased raw or primary materials	3
	GHG emissions arising from the transmission and distribution of purchased electricity	3

Why is it important?

Climate change is a global threat which will impact the lives of everyone on the planet.

Over the past two decades the effects of climate change have accelerated. Considerable evidence exists proving climate change has been exacerbated by human activity. Changes in our post-industrial lifestyles have altered the chemical composition of the atmosphere, generating a build-up of greenhouse gases – primarily carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide levels – raising the average global temperature.

The consequences are already evident and will continue to worsen unless significant action is taken and quickly. Sea level will continue to rise and local climate conditions to be altered, causing an increase in extreme weather events, affecting forests, crop yields and water supplies. This can lead to homelessness, famine and conflict as resources become scarcer.

Environmental pollution and climate change affect human health, accelerate species extinction and disrupt vital ecosystems. Ambient (outdoor) air pollution is responsible for at least 4 million human deaths each year[1]. In addition to this, poor air quality and issues of clean water availability leave us more susceptible to diseases such as COVID-19. Combined with rises in temperature and deforestation (from direct human action and climate change related events), resulting in the displacement of animals from their native habitats, the frequency of disease occurrence will increase, as disease will transfer from animals to other geographical areas and larger human populations.

It is vital that all individuals, businesses, organisations and governments work towards the common goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Active Connect are now taking their first steps towards monitoring, reducing and off-setting its emissions.

1 World Health Organisation. https://www.who.int/health-topics/air-pollution

Reporting:

We first approached a third party to carry out an audit in 2021 but Due to Covid-19 we had to use our last full years record of normal business operations (2019) for all further reporting emissions to be compared against.

To date, we have been assessed on direct GHG emissions only within the following boundaries:

Scopes explained

Scope 1
Direct emissions created by your activities

This is the exhaust that comes from the vehicles on your campus, natural gas that your buildings directly consume, and the generators you might run.

Scope 2
Indirect emissions from the production of the electricity or heat you use

This type of emission comes from the traditional energy sources that power your office buildings or your home.

Scope 3
Indirect emissions from all other activities in which you're engaged

These emission sources can be extensive. They cover all parts of your supply chain, from materials in buildings, business travel for your team, and product lifecycle all the way to the electricity your customers consume.

This is the largest category of all the different emission scopes and poses one of the largest areas for improvement.

Scope 1 Direct emissions	Scope 2 Energy Indirect	Scope 3 Other Indirect
Fuel combustion None	Consumption of purchased electricity, heat steam and cooling Electricity	Purchased materials Water, paper
Owned Transport Company car, van travel		Transmission and distribution of energy Electricity
Process emissions None		Leased assets, outsourcing and franchising None
Fugitive emissions Refrigerants		Transport related activities Flight travel
		Use of sold goods & services None
		Waste Disposal Residual & Recyclable

Key:

Within the assessment boundary	Not included within the assessment boundary

Carbon Footprint Results

The total location-based carbon footprint for Active Connect for the period ending 31st December 2022 is 148.3 tonnes CO_2e, with a market-based total of 148.5 tonnes CO_2e. This see's an increase in total emissions but a decrease in per employee total emissions (6.6%) against the baseline year and a decrease in per million total emissions (2.4%) against the previous year. Our significant increase in turnover has again contributed to our overall emissions increase but it's pleasing that our efforts to date are reflected in the "per million" value as this allows for a more fair and accurate comparison of our carbon efficiencies to date. We note that our vehicle and transportation emissions have, yet again, had a negative impact on our total emissions and we are excited to confirm that we will now implement a focused effort to reduce this going forward.

Table 3: Results of Active Connect's carbon footprint assessment by scope and source activity

Scope	Emission Source	Location-Based	Market-Based
1	Owned vans	67.41	67.41
	Company vehicles	30.54	30.54
Scope 1 Total		**97.95**	**97.95**
2	Electricity	5.15	5.30
Scope 2 Total		**5.15**	**5.30**
3.1	Paper	0.11	0.11
	Water	0.02	0.02
3.3	Scopes 1 and 2 WTT	24.68	24.68
	Transmission & Distribution	0.58	0.58
3.4	Outsourced vans	19.43	19.43
3.5	Waste	0.27	0.27
	Wastewater	0.03	0.03
3.7	Home-working	0.12	0.12
Scope 3 Total		**45.25**	**45.25**
All	**Total tonnes of CO_2e**	**148.34**	**148.49**
	Tonnes of CO_2e per employee	**5.71**	**5.71**
	Tonnes of CO_2e per £M turnover	**42.38**	**42.43**

Figure 1: Percentage contribution of each element of Active Connect's carbon footprint

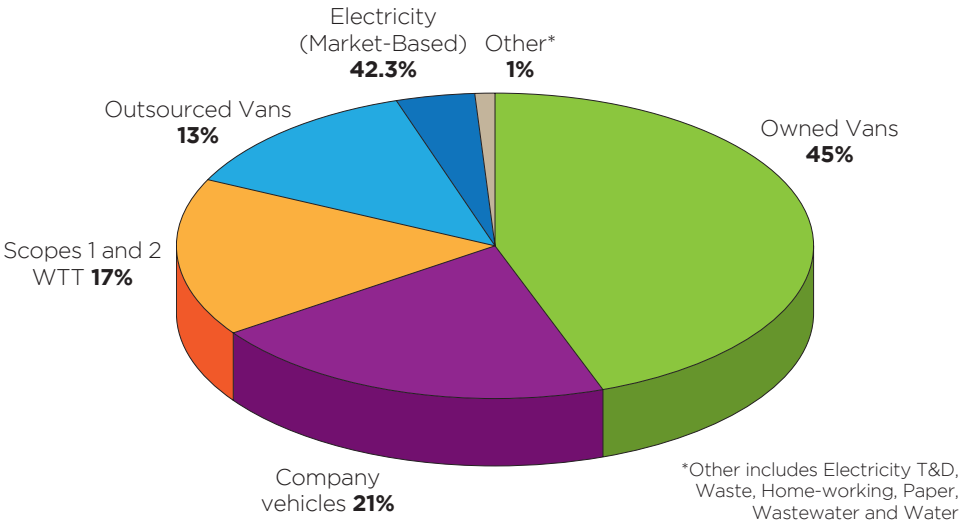
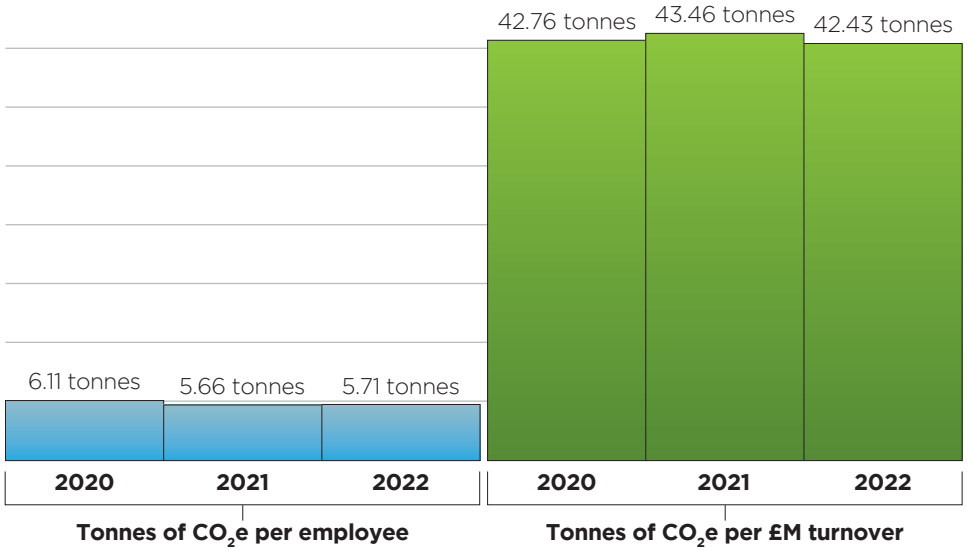


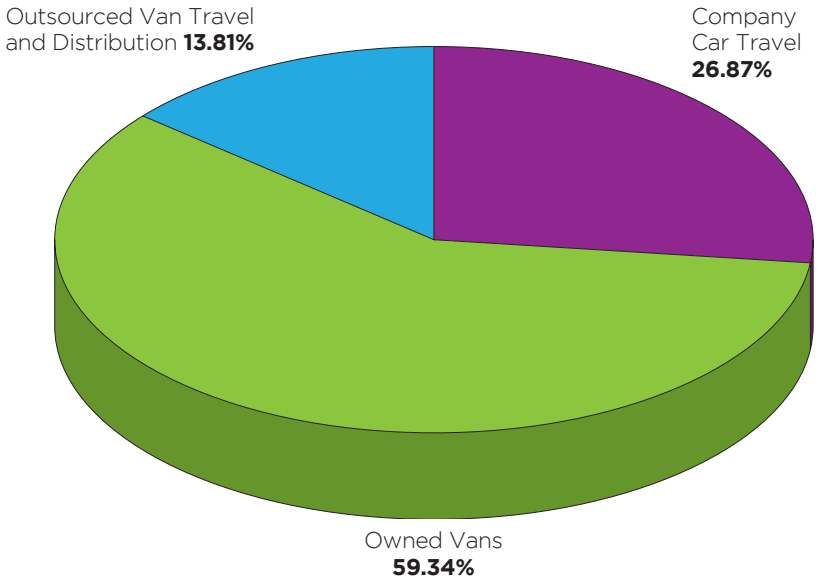
Figure 2: Tonnes of CO_2e per employee and per £M turnover

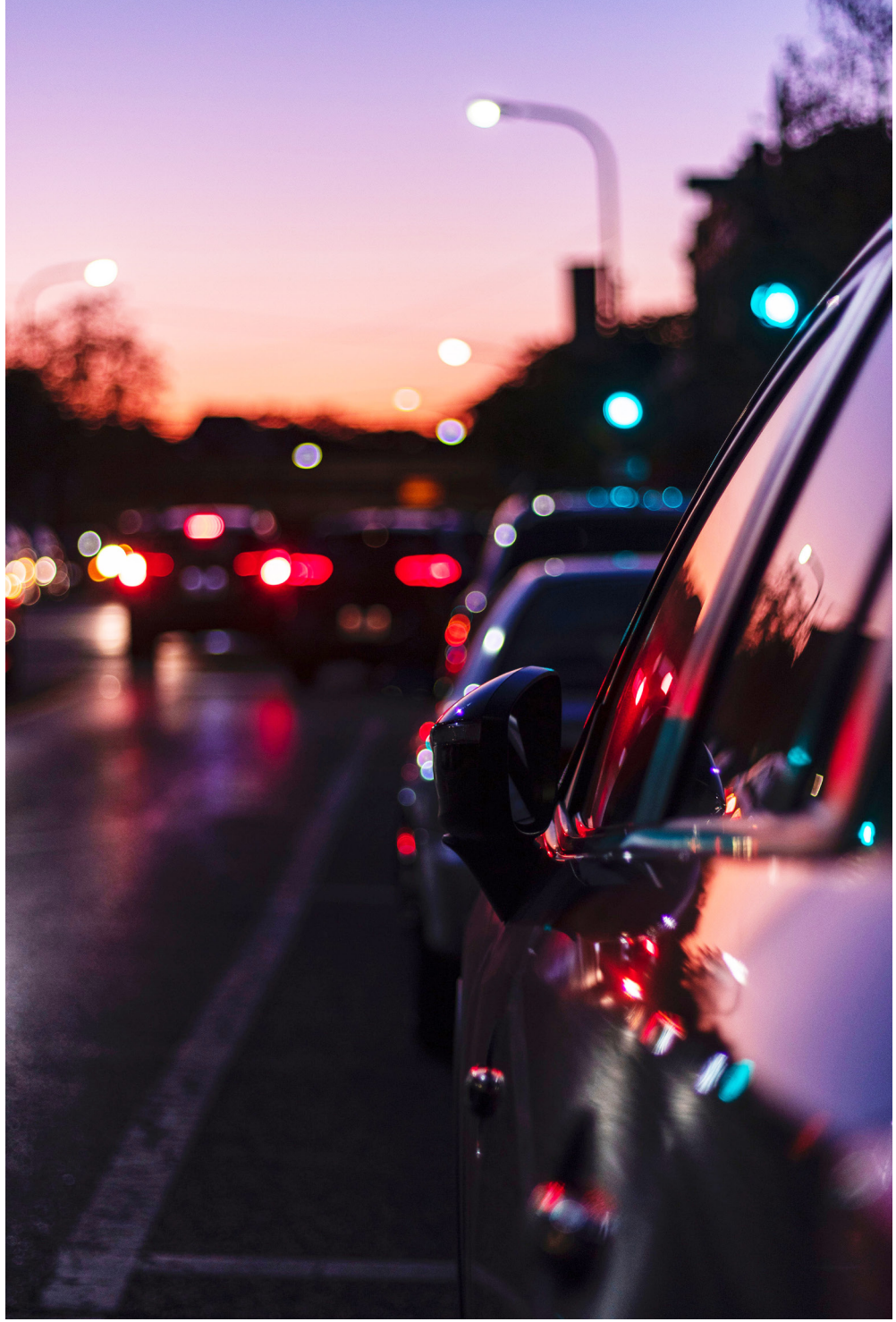


Emissions from business travel and logistics

Travelling is a major contributor to our company's footprint and our efforts to reduce emissions suffer as a direct consequence of our increased business activity and turnover. We have been able to reduce our company car emissions by adding a full electric car to our fleet and trying to utilise modern technology (Teams & Zoom) to reduce the need to attend site so often. Travel accounted for an incredible 76.6% of our total emissions and is therefore the most important area for us to tackle.

Figure 3: CO_2e emissions breakdown of Active Connect's business travel





Emissions from energy usage at site facilities

Electricity usage at our Active Connect offices in West Molesey contributed 4% to our total market-based emissions. Solar PV was installed in February 2021 and therefore this is the first full year which has been assessed since the installation. We were able to generate 800.24 kWh in 2022 which has meant a 3% saving of usage from the grid.

Table 4: CO_2e emissions as a result of site energy consumption and per employee

Site	No. of staff	Electricity (tCO_2e)	Location-based (tCO_2e)	Emissions per employee (tCO_2e)
West Molesey	26	5.77	5.62	0.21

Emissions from water (and wastewater), waste, and paper

Tables 5, 6 and 7 show the emissions associated with water (and wastewater), waste and paper consumption associated with Active Connect's West Molesey office site, with all three elements representing a relatively minor component of the company's footprint. Last year, water and wastewater generation represented the largest of the three elements, at just 0.15 tonnes of CO2e, but this year its reduced to an overall sum of 0.04 tonnes. The generation and treatment of office waste and paper consumption still represent a minor element of Active Connect's total footprint but the company has strived to recycle even more of its project based site waste via licenced third party recycling contractors.

Table 5: Water Table

Site	Water Supply (m^3)	Water Supply (tCO_2e)	Wastewater treatment (tCO_2e)	Total emissions (tCO_2e)
West Molesey	105	0.02	0.03	0.05

Table 6: Paper Table

Reams/Sheet	Paper Size	Pages	Emissions (tCO_2e)
Sheets	A3/A4	11,500	0.11

Table 7: Waste Table

Type of Waste	Waste produced per year (tonnes)	Disposal Route	Total Emissions (tCO_2e)
Municipal waste	12.86	Open Loop Recycling	0.27


Where we want to be

Active Connect are committed to addressing climate change and are still on course for achieving our Active8Zero directive of carbon neutrality by 2028. Our efforts over the last few years have helped keep our emissions to a minimum but it's clear that the time has come to address the amount of emissions from our traveling and vehicle use.

THE FOUNDATIONS HAVE BEEN LAID and we strive for the reduction in our overall carbon emissions.

We will continue with our re-active and pro-active endeavours in the spirit of our company name and ethos.

Re-active	Pro-active
Continue to adapt to technological advancements which will reduce our carbon emissions	**Search for other ways we can reduce emissions**
Continue to analyse existing company procedures	**Implement energy saving solutions on projects**
Add to our existing EV Fleet and look for alternative fuel solutions for our existing ICE vehicles	**Request client/supplier sustainability targets**
Continue to champion our efforts to reduce emissions	**Continue to educate staff in the need for sustainability**
Collaborate with likeminded organisations	**Advocate positive change**

2028 active8zero

#active8zero

CARBON NEUTRAL
CO2
NEUTRAL
CARBON NEUTRAL


How we're going to get there

Our latest independent assessment again highlights the travelling aspect of our business as the largest contributor to our carbon emissions. Our assessors recommend we continue to add to our EV Fleet and switch to a renewable energy tariff. They also point out that we can offset our calculated footprint by supporting climate change solutions around the world to become a 'Carbon Neutral Organisation'.

As previously detailed, we have already added an Electric Vehicle to the fleet and more will certainly follow but our most likely solution in reducing our travelling based emissions will be utilising an alternative to hydrocarbon fuels. Our company car travel has again reduced which, in part, is down to the utilisation of communication advancements. We will continue to roll out our sustainable clothing and other accessories as this helps advertise our carbon cutting measures to both our clients and employees. Once we've implemented our alternative fuel option we can measure any remaining emissions and look to offset accordingly.

Finally, we have re-evaluated our targets and now ensure they are based on per employee and/or £M turnover values as this accounts for potential business growth.


The future...
Could the future be Carbon Negative?
Yes, this is a realistic goal and once we've achieved our carbon zero status we will look to take the next step of our sustainability journey!
Active Connect
Powering Success
active8zero
Active Connect Ltd 137D Armfield Close • West Molesey • Surrey • KT8 2RT
Tel: 0845 873 8444 Email: sales@activeconnect.co.uk Web: www.activeconnect.co.uk