Active Connect Sustainability Report 2022

Powering Success

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

The journey so far...

Understanding

“Although we have already taken the first steps on our journey to sustainability, we first had to understand which areas of the business were the biggest contributors to our company’s carbon footprint. By employing a third party to audit our emissions we have been able to secure a base measurement which all future decisions can be delivered on. This was also an opportunity for us to learn about the different types of emission sources and enable us to target our endeavours accordingly.

Commitment

“Once we’d received our carbon footprint and understood the factors that contributed to its result we were able to take the next step of our journey. We were able to quickly identify the areas we needed to look at immediately and also start to consider future plans for the overall reduction in our greenhouse gas emissions. It also meant we could commit to an achievable timeline and thus our Active8Zero commitment to carbon neutrality by 2028 was born.

We are serious about sustainability and we are committed to achieving our objectives. Our latest carbon footprint audit supports these views and we are very pleased to publish our latest Sustainability Report.

Drew Minty – Business Director – December 2022


Where we are now

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.

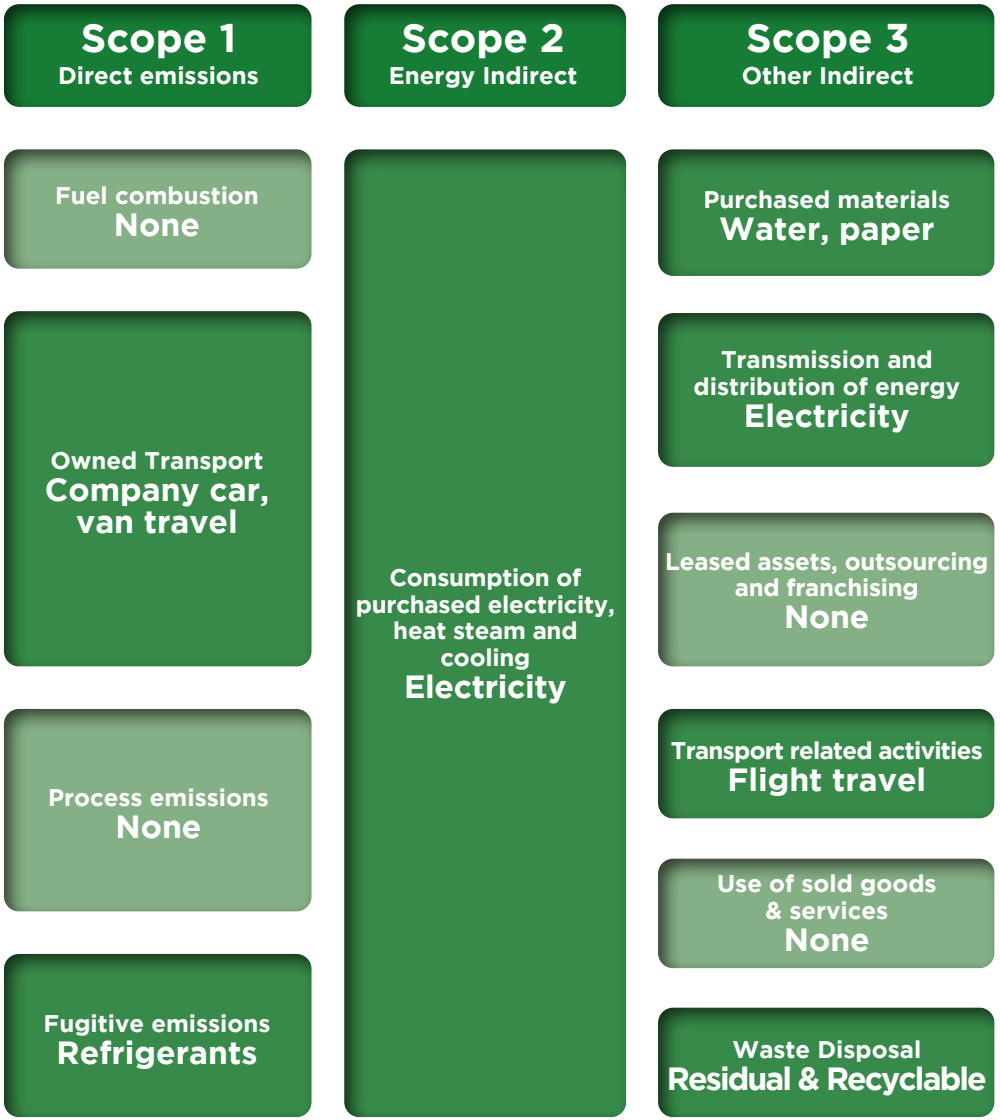
Scope 2
Indirect emissions from the production of the electricity or heat you use

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.



Carbon Footprint Results

The total carbon footprint for Active Connect Ltd for the period ending the 31st of December 2021 was 130.21 tonnes CO2e, with a market-based footprint of 129.48 tonnes of CO2e. This has unfortunately seen a slight increase in total emissions against the baseline year (1.5%) but highlights a per employee total emissions decrease of 7.3% during the same period. The results show that the most significant change in emissions is due to a slight increase in emissions associated with company travel and vehicle usage (with emissions from these sources accounting for 63.2%) and this reflects extremely positively against the considerable increase in business growth for this period.
Active Connect will therefore continue to focus its reduction efforts on the business transport element of its footprint.

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

Scope	Activity	Location-Based	Market-Based
Scope 1	Company car travel	37.49	37.49
	Owned vans	20.17	20.17
Scope 1 Sub Total		**57.66**	**57.66**
Scope 2	Electricity generation	2.00	1.86
Scope 2 Sub Total		**2.00**	**1.86**
Scope 3	Van travel and distribution (Outsourced)	44.27	44.27
	Well to tank	25.88	25.88
	Electricity transmission & distribution	0.18	0.16
	Water (and wastewater)	0.09	0.09
	Paper	0.08	0.08
	Waste	0.03	0.03
	Home-workers	0.02	0.02
Scope 3 Sub Total		**70.55**	**69.96**
Total tonnes of CO_2e		**130.21**	**129.48**
Tonnes of CO_2e per employee		**5.66**	**5.54**
Tonnes of CO_2e per £M turnover		**43.40**	**42.49**

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

*Other includes Site electricity, Water (and wastewater), Paper, Waste, & Home-workers

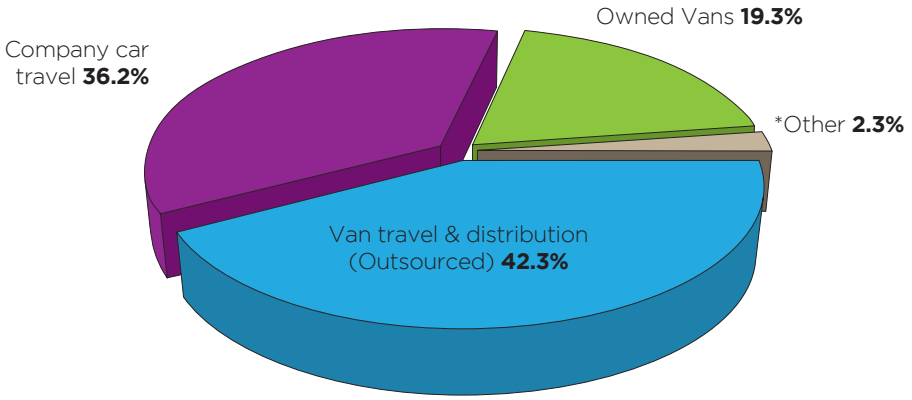
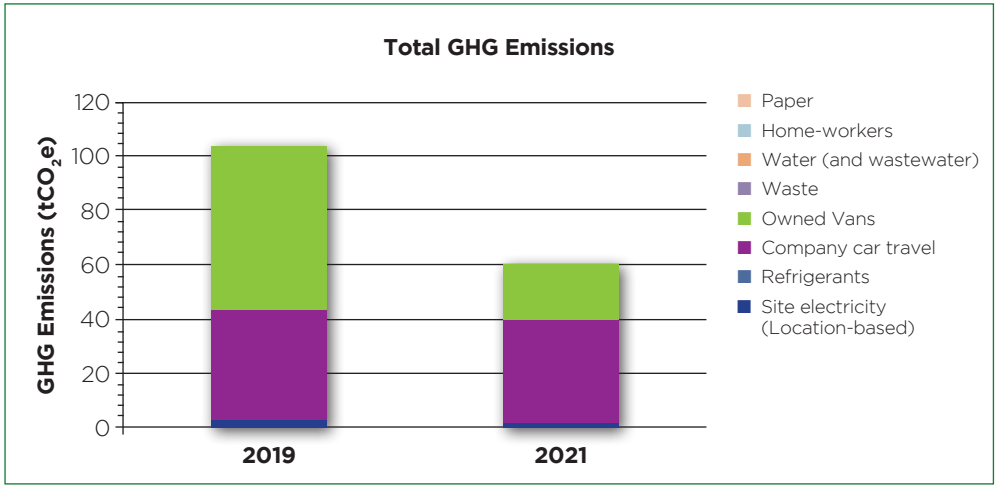


Figure 2: Detailed emissions comparison for the various aspects of Active Connect's emissions

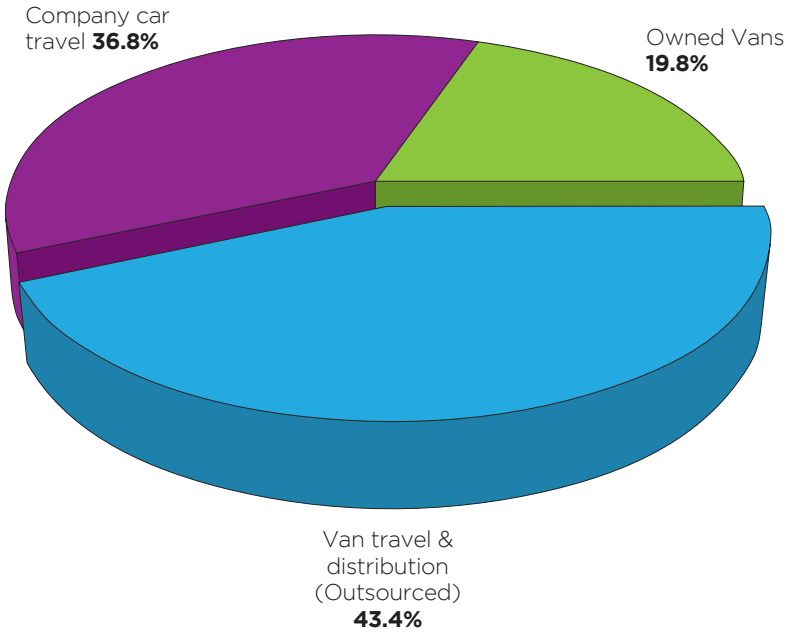


Emissions from business travel and logistics

Active connect provide a range of electrical services to both commercial and residential clients, and as a result the company's engineers require regular company car and van travel to attend. Emissions associated with road vehicle travel when journeying to meet clients is therefore likely to always be a material aspect of the company's footprint.

The most significant source of emissions associated with transport activity is van travel & distribution, accounting for 63.2% of Active Connect's total business travel-related emissions. (Figure 3)

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



Emissions from energy usage at site facilities

Active Connect operate from a single office site located at the company's headquarters in West Molesey, UK. We had previously undertaken a number of carbon reduction measures aimed at reducing the emissions associated with office energy consumption, including measures such as switching to LED Lighting and utilising cloud-based IT Systems. We have also looked to maintain our recycling and low usage of water, wastewater, paper and waste.

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	23	2.18	2.18	0.09

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.

It can be seen that water and wastewater generation represent the largest of the three elements, at just 0.15 tonnes of CO2e, and with the majority of these emissions associated with the wastewater treatment component (Table 5). The generation and treatment of office waste and paper consumption represent a minor element of Active Connect's total footprint (at just 0.08 and 0.03 tonnes of CO2e respectively), with all of the company's 1.44 tonnes of annually generated office waste being disposed of via recycling.

Table 5: Water Table

Site	Water Supply (m^3)	Water Supply (tCO_2e)	Wastewater treatment (tCO_2e)	Total emissions (tCO_2e)
West Molesey	140	0.05	0.10	0.15

Table 6: Paper Table

Paper (Amount)	Reams/sheets	Paper Size	Pages	Emissions (tCO_2e)
30	Reams	A4	15,000	0.08

Table 7: Waste Table

Type of Waste	Waste produced per year (tonnes)	Disposal Route	Total Emissions (tCO_2e)
Municipal waste (average)	1.44	Open Loop Recycling	0.03


Where we want to be

Our aim is simple. We are committed to addressing climate change. By 2028 we will be carbon neutral.

Previously we had implemented a number of changes to reduce our emissions. Our efforts continue and we have now added the following:

- Installation of Photovoltaic (PV) Panels to our offices
- Addition of EV Vehicle to our fleet
- Provision of recycled workwear to employees
- Roll out of E-Learning training to staff
- Subscription to tree planting scheme to off-set CO2e from fleets EV Charging
- Issue of refillable water bottles to all staff promoting sustainability
- Off-set equivalent amount of CO2e planting trees instead of sending out Christmas cards

The foundations have been laid and we will look to implement further ideas and procedures to maintain our overall reduction in 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	**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**

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How we're going to get there

The independent assessment again highlights the travelling aspect of our business as the largest contributor to our carbon emissions.

Our assessors make the following recommendations:

- When leasing/purchasing new vehicles, consider transitioning to electric vehicles (EV)
- Switch to a renewable energy tariff to reduce emissions associated with electricity use.
- Offset the calculated footprint by supporting climate change solutions around the world to become a 'Carbon Neutral Organisation'.

We have already added an Electric Vehicle to the fleet and more will certainly follow but until technological advancements are made it seems unlikely we will be able to replace our van fleet with EV alternatives at this present time. We will continue to monitor the market and will react as soon as it's practical to do so.

We've already seen advancements in the world of communications which has resulted in a 6.1% reduction of our business Company Car travel related emissions and we will continue to utilise the likes of Teams and Zoom wherever possible.

As well as continuing our roll out of sustainable clothing and accessories it seems likely that we'll have to expand our current scope towards carbon off-setting.

Finally, we may look to re-evaluate our target setting for the future by considering mid and long term targets based on per employee and/or £M turnover which will account for potential business growth.

The future...

Could the future be
Carbon Negative?

Yes it can!

Active Connect

2028 active zero

Powering Success

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