Our carbon footprint for the financial year April 2022 to March 2023

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Our carbon footprint for the year was **870,107 KgCO2e**.

This was an increase of **11.7 per cent** since the previous year, when our carbon footprint was **778,820 KgCO2e** and it reflects the opening up of activity after the Covid-19 pandemic.

We remain on track with our longer-term goal of net zero by 2030, having achieved a **48 per cent** reduction when compared to our baseline year, which ended in March 2020.

Why did our carbon footprint increase during the year?

Show

The two main reasons our carbon footprint increased in 2022 to 2023 are:

- our staff count grew from **136 employees** in March 2022 to **201 employees** in March 2023.

  We use Welsh Government's benchmark factors for some categories of spend and multiply these by the number employees we have to estimate our carbon emissions.

- we reopened our office space after the Covid-19 pandemic, so our commuting and office use increased.

What have we done to reduce our carbon footprint?

Show

We've moved most of our ICT systems to the cloud, making us more energy and carbon efficient.

We've formally adopted a hybrid way of working to allow our staff to continue to work from home, reducing the need to commute.

We've adopted new ways of working, which means people who use our services can now access all our services online and don't need to go to our offices.

We've also built decarbonisation and environmental sustainability into our procurement processes and our Social Care Wales Workforce Development Programme (SCWWDP) grants.

We now ask potential suppliers and beneficiaries about their approach to decarbonisation and how they're taking it into account.

What are we doing to support others to reduce their carbon footprint?

Show

We've been working with Welsh Government to develop their decarbonisation plans for the social care sector.

We fully support the need to include requirements for carbon reporting in the new National framework for commissioning care and support that's being developed by Welsh Government.

As part of our leadership role in social care, we're also working to influence and support decision makers to make sure organisations take environmental sustainability into account when they're making decisions and developing their policies and strategies.

Our carbon footprint in numbers

They are summarised below with comparisons to the previous year.

Our energy usage

In 2022 to 2023, our emissions due to energy use were:

- **641,635 KgCO2e from electricity** (up 7.3 per cent from 641,635 KgCO2e)
- **31,761 KgCO2e from gas** (down 12.2 per cent from 36,190 KgCO2e)

Staff transport and home working

This is the first year since we reopened our offices to all staff after the Covid-19 pandemic.

While the percentage increases shown here are large, our overall carbon emissions remain very small.

We survey our staff each year to find out how they travel to our offices and how often they visit them. We use our expenses system to analyse our business travel.

During the year, our:

- business travel emissions were **11,664 KgCO2e** (up 468 per cent from 2,491 KgCO2e)
- commuting emissions were **14,498 KgCO2e** (up 188 per cent from 7,701 KgCO2e)
- home working emissions were **121,298 KgCO2e** (up 222 per cent from 84,617 KgCO2e).

The resources we used

We separate and recycle our office waste, though we're unable to measure it. So we've calculated our carbon footprint in this area based on our staff numbers and by applying benchmark factors.

In 2022 to 2023, we used:

- **1,522 KgCO2e from waste disposal** (down 33 percent from 2,284 KgCO2e)
- **47,729 KgCO2e from water usage** (up 12 per cent from 42,976 KgCO2e).

Our supply chain

We've estimated our supply chain emissions using benchmark factors that are based on the amount we spent:

- **ICT: 279,457 KgCO2e** (down 12 percent from 315,863 KgCO2e)
- **office services: 51,265 KgCO2e** (up 65 per cent from 31,020 KgCO2e)
- **furniture and equipment: 3,480 KgCO2e** (down 12 per cent from 4,439 KgCO2e)
- **communications: 97,470 KgCO2e** (up 44 per cent from 67,466 KgCO2e)
- **professional advice services: 213,162 KgCO2e** (down 51 per cent from 438,354 KgCO2e)
- **HR activities: 366 KgCO2e** (down 99 per cent from 25,429 KgCO2e)
- **food and drink: 1,951 KgCO2e** (up 3,982 per cent from 49 KgCO2e)
- **building services: 20,046 KgCO2e** (no change).