Sport England Base Year Carbon Footprint and Decarbonisation Report

Internal methodology report
Useful Projects

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1/Introduction

This section of the report:

• Summarises the project scope and context
• Presents Sport England’s organisational context
• Highlights external targets and frameworks to align with
Introduction
Project scope and context

Scope and purpose of this report
In October 2022 Sport England appointed Useful Projects to measure their carbon footprint, suggest appropriate targets and decarbonisation actions, and support the implementation of decarbonisation actions.

This work is aligned with Sport England’s recently released ‘Uniting the Movement’ strategy, which includes a commitment to ‘step up on environmental sustainability.’ This report supports Sport England to get its ‘own house in order’, before looking externally at how it can support the grassroots sports and physical activity sector to decarbonise and make progress on environmental sustainability – which is part of a separate project.

Outputs
• An internal-facing summary carbon footprint report, presenting the calculation methodology used, base year emissions, carbon hotspots, recommended decarbonisation targets and associated pathways (this report).
• An internal-facing working decarbonisation plan based in excel, presenting recommended decarbonisation actions, proposed sequencing, and high-level RAG ratings for: ease of implementation, potential carbon reduction, and estimated cost of implementation.
• A page or two in the external-facing Sport England Environmental Sustainability Strategy for the sector, summarising the base year carbon footprint and the key decarbonisation actions.
• The Useful Projects’ Get Set Zero carbon footprint tool used to calculate Sport England’s base year carbon footprint, which includes all base year input data and emissions factors used.

Structure and content of this report
• Section 1 summarises the project scope and context.
• Section 2 summarises the methodology for undertaking the analysis.
• Section 3 presents Sport England’s base year emissions for the 2019/21 financial year.
• Section 4 sets out recommended targets and visual, indicative decarbonisation pathways.
• Section 5 summarises key actions.

In this report we refer to ‘Sport England’s Base Year Carbon Footprint’, this could also be called Sport England’s base year greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory and is sometimes called a baseline carbon footprint.
**Introduction**

**Project scope and context**

Sport England is a non-departmental public body under the Department for Culture, Media, and Sport (DCMS).

Sport England controls two subsidiary companies: the Sports Council Trust Company (SCTC), and the England Sports Development Trust. These subsidiaries are for specific purposes, such as property owning and leasing, and media purchasing. For simplicity of this carbon footprint and report, when we refer to Sport England, these subsidiaries are included.

Sport England aims to provide everyone in England the chance to benefit from sport and physical activity. Their vision is to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity, driven by Uniting the Movement, a 10-year strategy of change.

In the Sport England Uniting the Movement Years 2 – 4, 2022 – 2025 Implementation Plan, ‘stepping up on environmental sustainability’ was defined as one of the actions Sport England would focus on: “We’ll develop our own organisational approach to environmental sustainability by evaluating and updating our policies and procedures.”

Sport England employed around 300 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employees in the 19/20 financial year. It is important to note that Sport England have head count limitations as an arms-length body of government, and therefore rely on external consultants for support. This will mean that the carbon emissions per employee may look high for Sport England as only FTE employees are considered.

Sport England has two distinct components, which are important for the context of their carbon footprint:

- **Corporate Offices & Operations**, including leased office spaces and internal operational processes.
- **Asset owner of four National Sports Centres**, which are leased to other sporting organisations to use.

Due to the complexity of the sports sector funding and financial boundaries, this analysis focuses on activities within Sport England’s operational control only, that is; emissions associated with **Offices & Operations** and **National Sports Centres**.

Please refer to the methodology section for more information on the organisational boundaries used for Sport England’s base year carbon footprint.

*The carbon emissions associated with Sport England’s external grants and awards funding to English sport and physical activity organisations are excluded from this organisational carbon footprint. This funding, however, presents the largest opportunity for Sport England to influence and reduce carbon emissions. To demonstrate leadership to the wider sport and physical activity sector, Sport England need to harness this opportunity while allowing space for a just transition for smaller organisations.*
Introduction
Overview of the National Sports Centres

The Sports Council Trust Company owns four National Sports Centres (NSC). These tend to be lesser-known aspects of Sport England’s operations and are an important part of their carbon footprint.

- Bisham Abbey and Lilleshall NSCs are operated by Serco.
- Plas Y Brenin (Snowdonia, Wales) is operated by the Mountain Training Trust.
- The Redgrave Pinsent (RP) Rowing Lake is operated by GB Rowing.

The Bisham Abbey NSC includes an 800-year-old Grade I listed Abbey Building. Lilleshall NSC includes an 1831 Grade II listed hunting lodge. Historic listed buildings like these are challenging to improve in terms of energy efficiency and have significant maintenance requirements.
Introduction

Previous carbon reduction actions

This is not the start of the journey. Sport England has taken several carbon reduction and broader environmental sustainability actions in recent years – some small, and some significant. The aim of this work is to accelerate further action, in a more strategic and focused way.

Offices & Operations

- Procured a new Corporate Travel Management (CTM) tool with Agiito, which presents an alternative lower-carbon option when flights are selected, maps EV charging points, includes a carbon emissions selection filter, enables preferred choice designation (e.g., for more sustainable hotels), and provides a live emissions tracker.

- In 2022, the Sport England head office was relocated to a new Government Agency hub in Canary Wharf. The building is operated by the Canary Wharf group, which has a strong focus on sustainability, including a Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) backed green tariff supplying 100% renewable electricity.
  - In addition to the office move, Sport England now only leases 30 desks, rather than being the lead tenant of an entire office building and leasing out space to other organisations. Many team members have moved to predominantly homeworking. Therefore, in future emissions reporting, the scope 1 and 2 emissions associated with office electricity will be reduced, and the emissions from Scope 3.13 downstream leased assets will no longer be applicable.

- Switched to Aviva pension provider, which provides ethical pension options for all Sport England employees.

- Furniture was reused for the new office.

- Disposable Costa coffee cups were removed from the office.

- Appointed a new Environmental Sustainability Strategic Lead in 2023.
Introduction
Previous carbon reduction actions

National Sport Centres
12 years ago, ambitious contracts were set up with the NSC operators, requiring them to deliver a sustainability strategy on how they would achieve environmental sustainability at the NSC, and report annually on progress.

Bisham Abbey and Lilleshall
- Active relationship with operator Serco on energy efficiency and broader sustainability improvements.
- Energy efficiency upgrades, including LED upgrade programme, boiler upgrades, building management systems, double glazing.
- 100 Solar panels installed at Bisham.
- Biomass boiler installed at Lilleshall.
- Boreholes installed on both sites for irrigation.
- EV chargers installed on both sites.
- Onsite leased vehicles are moving to electric as existing leases end. At Lilleshall – there is a waste management emphasis on recycling and zero waste to landfill, including food waste sent to the biodigester.
- At Lilleshall – the new Archery building in design is aiming for carbon neutral operations and to be self-sufficient through solar PV electricity generation.

Plas Y Brenin
- A full window upgrade programme was undertaken in 2023.
- Through the Dark Skys project – minimised all lighting onsite to reduce light pollution in the National Park.
- The team focus on repairing and reusing mountaineering equipment.

Redgrave Pinsent Rowing Lake
- Solar panels on the training facility roof.
- All lights are LED and use motion sensors.

Useful Projects

Solar PVs at Bisham Abbey NSC (polytan)
Introduction
Project context: external targets and frameworks

As an arms-length government sporting organisation, the following external targets and frameworks are relevant to Sport England, and have influenced this work:

- **United Nations (UNFCCC) Sports for Climate Action Framework**, which aims to catalyse new and enhance existing environmental commitments (see following page for more information).

- **UK Government Greening Government Commitments**, which Sport England is required to report on as an arms-length body of government.

- **Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Accounting Standard**, which provides standards and guidance for companies and other types of organisations preparing a GHG emissions inventory.

- **Science-Based Targets initiative**, is deemed a best practice approach to carbon reduction target setting. Sport England cannot currently have a SBTi verified target, however, they can align their target-setting with the science-based mitigation pathways provided.

In addition, aligning Sport England’s carbon footprinting approach and targets with other funding bodies such as the Arts Council, the National Lottery Community Fund, and UK Sport has been an important factor. See page 35 for more information on the targets that these organisations have set.
Introduction
Project context: external targets and frameworks

UN Sports for Climate Action Framework
The UNFCCC Sports For Climate Action Framework requires signatories to commit to the following climate action principles:

1. Undertake systematic efforts to promote greater environmental responsibility;
2. Reduce overall climate impact;
3. Educate for climate action;
4. Promote sustainable and responsible consumption;
5. Advocate for climate action through communication.

The UN Sports for Climate Action invites all sports to adopt the following targets:

- One mid-term target to reduce GHG emissions by 50% by 2030 at the latest. 2019 baseline is recommended but signatories should choose the latest year for which data is available.
- One long-term target to reach net zero GHG emissions by 2040.
- Targets should be inclusive of scopes 1, 2 and 3 (categories which are material to total emissions and where data availability allows them to be measured sufficiently).
- Organizations for which scope 3 represent 40% or more of total emissions generated by the organization to model Scope 3 emissions and set Scope 3 targets as well.
- Process of Commit, Plan, Proceed and Report will enter into force effective December 2021.

Greening Government Commitments
As an arms-length body, Sport England is required to report against the Greening Government Commitments (GGC).

The GGC set out the actions UK government departments and their agencies will take to reduce their impacts on the environment. DCMS provide Sport England with a template to complete annually, including gas, electricity, and water use, waste generated, business travel, and paper consumption. Effectively collecting scope 1 and 2 emissions, and selected scope 3 emissions.

The GGC do not yet require reporting of many scope 3 emissions sources that were included within this carbon footprint for completeness and best practice. For example, scope 3.1 purchased goods and services are often an organisation’s largest emissions source.
**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Calculation Context**

*Project context: external targets and frameworks*

**Science-Based Targets initiative**

The Science-Based Target initiative (SBTi) Corporate Net-Zero Standard provides a standardised approach to set net zero targets that are aligned with climate science. The SBTi does not currently assess targets for Sport England’s sector classification: ‘cities, local governments, public sector institutions, educational institutions or non-profit organisations.’ However, these organisations can align their target-setting with the science-based mitigation pathways provided.

It is recommended Sport England consider the Net-Zero Standard for alignment, to understand the key elements of a science-based net zero target and the recommended target setting method.

The following table from the Net-Zero Standard defines what proportion of emissions scopes the near-term and long-term science-based targets must include.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MINIMUM % BOUNDARY COVERAGE BY SCOPE</th>
<th>Near-term targets</th>
<th>Long-term targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GHG inventory scope</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scopes 1+2</td>
<td>95% minimum coverage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 3</td>
<td>67% minimum coverage (if scope 3 emissions are at least 40% of total scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions)</td>
<td>90% minimum coverage (all companies)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GHG Protocol**

The GHG Protocol ‘Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard’ provides standards and guidance for companies and other types of organisations preparing a GHG emissions inventory. The GHG Protocol presents five principles to underpin and guide GHG accounting and reporting:

1. Relevance
2. Completeness
3. Consistency
4. Transparency
5. Accuracy

The GHG Protocol Corporate Standard requires reporting a **minimum of scope 1 and scope 2 emissions**. Reporting scope 3 emissions is currently optional.

The Protocol requires companies to select a representative **base year** as a performance datum to track emissions over time. This base year can also be used as a basis for setting and tracking progress towards a GHG target.

Reporting companies are required to present the chosen organisation boundaries, consolidation approach, operational boundaries, reporting period, base year, significant context, methodologies, and exclusions.
GHG Emissions Overview
The GHG Protocol and emissions scopes

The GHG Protocol is the global accounting standard for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. The Protocol defines three scopes of emissions that organisations have control and/or influence over, either directly or indirectly.

- **Scope 1**: direct emissions from owned or controlled sources, e.g., gas boiler at the office
- **Scope 2**: indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity
- **Scope 3**: indirect emissions from the value chain (upstream and downstream)

These scopes are neatly summarised in the figure across, from the GHG Protocol Corporate Value Chain Accounting Standard.

The vast majority of emissions from professional service organisations typically reside within scope 3.

The scope of this work covers scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions.
2 / Methodology

This section of the report:
- Summarises the methodology adopted, which follows a best-practice approach to greenhouse gas measurement.
- Presents the organisational and operational boundaries used for the Sport England base year carbon footprint calculation.
- Summarises the data quality and limitations, and the assumptions made during the calculation, followed by recommended improvements for future calculations.
## The Carbon Footprint Process
### Alignment with the GHG Protocol

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Define the base year</td>
<td>• Ideally the latest year for which data is available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Define the organisational and operational boundaries</td>
<td>• Interviews with data owners to understand the organisation’s boundaries and operations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3. Collect activity data, review the quality, and identify gaps | • Briefing of activity data required  
• Data collection by the SE team  
• Data quality reviews by Useful Projects |
| 4. Calculate the base year carbon emissions in the Get Set Zero carbon tool | • Input activity data into the calculation tool  
• Sense check calculated emissions throughout |
| 5. Prepare the base year carbon footprint report | • Visual presentation and analysis of footprint calculation results |
The Useful Projects’ GET/SET/ZERØ carbon footprint tools have been used to calculate Sport England's base year emissions in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol and Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi). Sport England will be provided with a copy of the tools for future reference and calculations.

The GHG Protocol requires that the following information is provided for an emissions inventory (carbon footprint). The following table summarises Sport England's base year carbon footprint boundaries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GHG Protocol Requirement</th>
<th>Sport England base year details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Base Year</td>
<td>Financial Year 2019/2020 (FY 19/20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational boundary</td>
<td>Scopes 1, 2, and 3 (see page 19 for scope 3 categories that are included and excluded).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A note on base year selection requirements:

- The GHG Protocol requires a base year for which verifiable emissions data is available, and that the reasons for selection are specified.
- SBTi requires the base year be representative of a typical GHG profile for the organisation, and no earlier than 2015.
- The UNFCCC Sport for Climate Action recommends signatories choose the latest year for which data is available.

Base year selection

The FY 19/20 base year was selected due to later years Covid-19 lockdowns heavily impacting the use of the NSCs, and therefore the emissions. In line with the GHG Protocol principles of relevance and accuracy, FY 19/20 was chosen to be a more accurate representation of a standard year for Sport England.

Organisational boundary and consolidation approach

Sport England leases their London office and Loughborough office, and the three biggest National Sports Centres are each on an operating lease; operated by Serco and the Mountain Training Trust, used by various National Governing Bodies on a day-to-day basis. The Financial Control approach allows Sport England to directly include the energy use emissions from these spaces within their footprint and take ownership over the reduction required.

Therefore, the Sport England GHG organisational boundary includes subsidiaries SCTC and the England Sports Development Trust subsidiary, the London office, the Loughborough University office, the Bisham Abbey office, and energy emissions from the NSC: Bisham, Lilleshall, Plas Y Brenin, and Redgrave Pinsent Rowing Lake.

Operational boundary

Sport England was head tenant in the FY 19/20 Bloomsbury office space, therefore is directly responsible for the energy use within their occupied space (scope 1 and 2), and indirectly responsible for the energy use within the spaces leased out to tenants (scope 3.13 – downstream leased assets).

Regarding the NSCs, due to the lease arrangements, the energy emissions from Bisham, Lilleshall, and Plas Y Brenin fall within Sport England’s direct scope 1 and 2 emissions. Whereas the energy emissions from the RP Rowing Lake NSC fall within Sport England’s indirect, downstream leased assets emissions (scope 3.13).

The following pages provide further explanation on these boundary definitions.
Sport England Organisational Boundary
Alignment with the GHG Protocol

The figure opposite represents the organisational boundary for Sport England’s base year carbon footprint, defining which facilities are included in which emissions scope.

In summary:

- The three offices included are: London Bloomsbury, Bisham Abbey, and Loughborough University. Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions for these office spaces have been accounted for.
- The Manchester office desks (2) were excluded due to negligible size.
- The three NSC included in Sport England’s scope 1 and 2 emissions are Bisham, Lilleshall, and Plas Y Brenin because Sport England has control and influence.
- The final NSC, the Redgrave Pinsent Rowing Lake, is included in Sport England’s scope 3 emissions (downstream leased assets) because Sport England has no operational control or influence. It is on a 25-year financial lease to British Rowing.
Sport England Operational Boundary

Alignment with the GHG Protocol

Sport England (SE) both owns (through SCTC) facilities that it leases out to other entities (is a lessor), as well as leases assets from other entities (is a lessee). These definitions, alongside the type of lease and the consolidation approach selected for the emissions inventory, defines whether the emissions from leased assets are accounted for in scope 1, scope 2, scope 3.8 (upstream leased assets), or scope 3.13 (downstream leased assets). The types of lease considered are:

- **Finance or capital lease**: enables the lessee to operate an asset and also the risks and rewards of owning the asset.
- **Operating lease**: enables the lessee to operate an asset, but not the risks and rewards of owning the asset.

**Table [A.1] Leasing agreements and boundaries (lessee’s perspective)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SE facilities</th>
<th>SE Lessor (owns) or Lessee?</th>
<th>Type of lease</th>
<th>Energy emissions scope 1 and 2, or 3?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SE Bloomsbury Office – Sport England occupied space</td>
<td>Main Lessee</td>
<td>Financial Lease</td>
<td>Scope 1 and 2 (direct)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE Bloomsbury Office – non-SE occupied space – leased-out to tenants</td>
<td>Main Lessee</td>
<td>Financial Lease</td>
<td>Scope 3 (downstream leased assets)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE Loughborough office</td>
<td>Lessee / desk licences</td>
<td>Financial Lease</td>
<td>Scope 1 and 2 (direct)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE NSCs: Bisham, Lilleshall, and Plas Y Brenin</td>
<td>Lessor</td>
<td>Operating Contract / Lease</td>
<td>Scope 1 and 2 (direct)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE NSC RP Rowing Lake</td>
<td>Lessor</td>
<td>Financial / Capital Lease</td>
<td>Scope 3 (downstream leased assets)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: for the NSC facilities, only energy emissions (fuel and electricity use) are in scope for Sport England. NSC scope 3 emissions, including waste generated, are out of scope.

**Table [A.2] Leasing agreements and boundaries (lessor’s perspective)**

- **Table [A.1] Leasing agreements and boundaries (lessee’s perspective)**
  - **Lessor: SE offices**
    - **Type of leasing arrangement**
      - **Finance/capital lease**
        - Lessee has ownership and financial control, therefore emissions associated with fuel combustion are scope 1 and use of purchased electricity are scope 2.
      - **Operating lease**
        - Lessee does not have ownership or financial control, therefore emissions associated with fuel combustion and use of purchased electricity are scope 3.

- **Table [A.2] Leasing agreements and boundaries (lessor’s perspective)**
  - **Lessor: SE National Sports Centres**
    - **Type of leasing arrangement**
      - **Finance/capital lease**
        - Lessor does not have ownership or financial control, therefore emissions associated with fuel combustion are scope 1 and use of purchased electricity are scope 2.
      - **Operating lease**
        - Lessor has ownership and financial control, therefore emissions associated with fuel combustion and use of purchased electricity are scope 3.

The GHG Protocol organisational boundary consolidation approach used for the Sport England base year carbon footprint is the **financial control approach**.

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Sport England Operational Boundary
Alignment with the GHG Protocol

The GHG Protocol emissions scope categories and the applicability of each scope category to the Sport England carbon footprint are presented in the adjacent table.

Note regarding Scope 3.15 - investments:
- Scope 3 category 15 ‘Investments’ is only applicable to investors (i.e., companies that make an investment with the objective to make a profit) and companies that provide financial services. The GHG Protocol is primarily concerned with emissions resulting from an organisation’s own activities and those associated with its supply chain. It does not specifically address the emissions associated with external grants or funding (GHG Protocol reference).
- Therefore, scope 3 category 15 is not relevant for Sport England.
- However, the largest opportunity for Sport England to influence and reduce carbon emissions is through its funding and grants to sport and physical activity organisations. This approach of excluding funding emissions from the organisational carbon footprint is aligned with similar organisations, including UK Sport, Arts Council England, and the National Lottery Community Fund.
Carbon Footprint Calculation Methodology

Recommended steps for future footprint calculation

The following high-level steps are recommended for the calculation of carbon footprints for subsequent years.

1. Communicate data requirements and timeframes with the data owners
2. Carry out an employee commuting survey
3. Review the organisational boundaries and consolidation approach selected
4. Review operational boundaries
5. Review progress against the action plan
6. Collect emissions data for the latest Financial Year from the data owners
   • Input data into the Get Set Zero tool
   • Ensure emissions factors are relevant for the reporting year (details adjacent)
6. Calculate the Financial Year emissions
7. Analyse data
8. Compare to base year emissions
9. Present results
10. Update the decarbonisation action plan and prioritise in line with carbon hotspots

Calculation notes:
- For the FY 19/20 base year, the 2019 UK GHG emissions factors were used. For future calculations, the team should use the updated emissions factors from the ‘Government conversion factors’ for company reporting of greenhouse gas emissions’ website.
- As described above, for FY 19/20, Sport England were the lead tenant at the London Bloomsbury office. With the 2022 office move to a larger Government hub and leasing only 30 desks, the calculation will be simplified.
  • Sport England will have to consider and add any future new offices, this will likely be considered organic growth and not trigger a base year calculation, however, please see GHG Protocol base year guidance here in case.

Recommended data improvements are presented from page 21.
The Get Set Zero Tool
Carbon footprint calculation tools

Useful Projects’ Get Set Zero tools enable the calculation of an organisation’s carbon footprint within a reporting year in line with best-practice guidance. The tools provide an estimate emissions figure from which organisations can prioritise carbon reduction actions.

The Get Set Zero tool will be made available for Sport England’s future carbon footprint calculations, and the team will be upskilled on how to use it.
Office energy and electricity use

Scope 1 and 2

SE was head tenant in the Bloomsbury office space, therefore was directly responsible for energy use within the space SE occupied (scope 1 and 2 emissions), and indirectly responsible for the energy use within other tenants’ spaces (scope 3.13 emissions).

Fugitive emissions

Scope 1

Fugitive emissions from air-conditioning equipment were not included in the calculation due to lack of data provided.

Electricity

Scope 2

For the Bisham and Lilleshall NSCs, it was stated that renewable energy was used in FY19/20, but no REGO backed renewable energy certificate was provided. Current emissions reporting best practice requires organisation’s report their purchased electricity emissions (scope 2) using location-based grid average emissions factors.

Energy use

Scope 1 and 2

The carbon emissions associated with the SE Bisham office energy use are covered within the Bisham NSC energy use emissions. The Bisham office had 10 leased desks in FY 19/20, therefore the emissions associated with the SE office waste generation were anticipated to be negligible and were not specifically collected or included in the calculation.

Energy use

Scope 1 and 2

The Manchester office consisted of two desk licences, therefore the SE emissions associated with this facility were anticipated to be negligible and not collected or included in the base year calculation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emission type</th>
<th>Emissions scope</th>
<th>Limitations / assumptions / exclusions</th>
<th>Recommended improvements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSC value chain emissions</td>
<td>Scope 3</td>
<td>Due to the lease arrangements of the NSCs, the emissions associated with most scope 3 value chain emissions sources, such as waste generation and employee commuting, on those sites do not fall within SE’s carbon footprint boundaries, but instead within the operators and users’ (NGBs etc). However, scope 3.3 fuel- and energy-use activities have been considered included within SE’s total footprint, given these emissions arise directly from the fuel-use allocated for in scopes 1 and 2, which the SE footprint includes. The onsite waste data was collected to help the team complete the Greening Government Commitments, both for this year and future years, and to educate the NSC team on the data required for carbon reporting.</td>
<td>It is recommended that SE encourages the NSC users to improve their waste and recycling practices, and for each NSC to calculate their operational carbon footprint.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procurement spend categorisation</td>
<td>Scope 3.1</td>
<td>The SE supplier spend data is currently not categorised. The finance team helped retrospectively categorise the data, however complete accuracy cannot be guaranteed.</td>
<td>To improve accuracy for future carbon footprints, it is recommended that the SE team categorise the procurement spend data as it is entered into the system, in line with the purchased goods and services emissions categories.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procurement spend includes grants</td>
<td>Scope 3.1</td>
<td>The SE supplier spend / financial data provided included some grant and award funding. As mentioned above, the carbon emissions associated with Sport England’s external grants and awards funding are excluded from their organisational carbon footprint. The finance team helped classify and remove some of these spends, however it is assumed that some may have accidentally been included.</td>
<td>For future calculations, it would be useful to have the finance team provide supplier spend / financial data with all grant and award funding removed. This may require another financial system category to easily filter out grant and award funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSC repair and maintenance</td>
<td>Scope 3.1</td>
<td>It is assumed that all repair and maintenance costs for the NSC were included within the SE supplier / spend financial data provided. Therefore, the emissions associated with these works have been included within the Offices &amp; Operations footprint, rather than the NSC footprints.</td>
<td>For future calculations, if SE wish to split these costs out to understand procurement emissions associated with NSC upkeep, it is recommended another procurement category be created for financial data / spends associated with NSC works.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sport England Emissions Data Improvements (page 3)

Exclusions, limitations, assumptions, and recommended data improvements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emission type</th>
<th>Emissions scope</th>
<th>Limitations / assumptions / exclusions</th>
<th>Recommended improvements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchased goods</td>
<td>Scope 3.1</td>
<td>Emissions factors for purchased goods and services are a combination of UK Government GHG Conversion Factors, and ‘The Carbon Footprint of Everything’ by Mike Berners-Lee emissions factors. These spend-based emissions factors for purchased goods and services can only provide a high-level estimate of emissions associated with the good or service.</td>
<td>The most accurate way to calculate emissions from purchased goods and services is to engage with suppliers and obtain product-specific emissions factors from them. Spend-based emissions factors will be updated as new data becomes available, SE should stay up to date with the latest GHG accounting guidance and check they are using the most up to date emissions factors in future calculations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital goods</td>
<td>Scope 3.2</td>
<td>The capital goods expenditure was incorporated within the supplier spend data the finance team sent through. Following engagement with the finance team it was decided to include the capital goods spend within purchased goods and services for FY 19/20 for ease. Current emissions factors are the same for these two categories.</td>
<td>For future years, it is recommended that there is a procurement category defining whether a spend is on a capital good, aligned with the organisation's financial accounting definition of a capital good.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel spend</td>
<td>Scope 3.6</td>
<td>The business travel data provided for FY 19/20 was only available for rail and air over 9 months. This does not include taxi, Uber, or bus travel. Hotel stays were included within the financial data. These limitations in the data required manipulation and assumption-making for completeness.</td>
<td>The SE team have recently implemented a new Corporate Travel Management (CTM) system, which will improve the business travel data collected. Hotel stays should be included within business travel data in future. Travel from taxis / Ubers / buses that are associated with business travel should also be captured within this data. SE employees should be encouraged to switch to the new CTM system to avoid data being in multiple places / systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>through CTM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee</td>
<td>Scope 3.7</td>
<td>There is currently no data available on employee commuting. For the base year calculation, the London commuting averages have been used, as the majority of employees worked from the London office in FY19/20. These averages provided by UK Govt statistics, which have a high percentage of private vehicle use, which is relevant to employee commuting to the regional offices and NSCs.</td>
<td>For future accuracy, it is recommended SE perform an employee commuting survey to more accurately estimate this emissions source.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>commuting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work from home</td>
<td>Scope 3.7</td>
<td>There is minimal data on SE employees' ways of working, such as remote, hybrid, and full-time office-based employees. The SE HR team provided an estimate that of the 300 employees, 200 were office based, and 100 were home based. For the base year calculation, UK home energy use averages have been used to estimate WFH emissions.</td>
<td>It is recommended SE build an understanding of their employee's ways of working, particularly as these settle into the post-Covid new normal. This survey could be included in a wider sustainability behaviours survey, including questions about commuting modes and distances, average days spent WFH / in office / field based, and if they have a green energy tariff at home. This will be important moving forward due to SE's increased number of homeworking employees.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 / Base Year Carbon Emissions

This section of the report:
- Presents Sport England’s base year carbon footprint
- Presents the emissions breakdown in key scope categories
- Summarises carbon hotspots
Sport England’s Base Year Footprint Breakdowns
Offices & Operations and NSC

The Sport England total carbon footprint is broken into two components, as follows:

• **Offices & Operations footprint**
  - This includes the scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions associated with Sport England’s corporate operations, including office energy use, business travel, employee commuting, procurement etc.

• **National Sports Centres (NSC) footprint**
  - This includes the scope 1 and 2 emissions from Bisham, Lilleshall, and Plas Y Brenin (where Sport England have Financial Control and the operator is on an operating lease).
  - It also includes emissions from the RP Rowing lake which are scope 3 for SE (within downstream leased assets).

• **Total Sport England Footprint**
  - Combined Offices & Operations and NSC footprint.
Sport England’s FY 19/20 base year carbon footprint (scope 1, 2 and 3) is approximately 7679 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gases: 7700 tCO₂e.

This is equivalent to 26 tCO₂e per employee*, based on 300 average FTE in the base year FY 19/20.

- The majority of Sport England’s carbon footprint is within its scope 3 emissions at 72%.
- The emissions scope totals are provided in the summary table below and scope category breakdowns are detailed further on the following pages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emissions scope</th>
<th>tCO₂e</th>
<th>% of footprint</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope 1 – fuel use</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 2 – electricity use</td>
<td>1331</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 3 – value chain</td>
<td>5559</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>7679</td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The tCO₂e per employee figure is higher than we would typically expect, this is likely due to SE having headcount caps and requiring subcontractors to fill any resource gaps. SE also doesn't have many employees working at the NSC, which are used by other organisations.
Sport England’s scope categories with the highest carbon emissions are estimated to be:

- Scope 3.1 purchased goods and services at 63%
- Scope 2 purchased electricity at 17%
- Scope 1 stationary combustion sources (fuel use) at 10%

About two thirds of Sport England’s carbon footprint is from procurement ("purchased goods and services"). It is very common for a professional service organisation’s highest emissions category to be purchased goods and services.

About a third of Sport England’s carbon footprint is from energy use, in the NSCs and offices.

Sport England total base year carbon footprint breakdown by scope category:

- Purchased goods and services: 63%
- Purchased electricity: 17%
- Stationary combustion sources (fuel use): 10%
- Downstream leased assets: 5%
- Fuel- and energy-related activities: 2%
- Business travel, homeworking energy use, employee commuting, waste generated in operations: >1%
Sport England’s Offices & Operations Base Year Carbon Footprint

Estimated emissions from Offices & Operations activities only

Sport’s England’s Offices & Operations base year FY 19/20 carbon footprint (scope 1, 2 and 3) is approximately 5424 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gases: 5400 tCO₂e

- Compared to the total Sport England footprint, the Offices & Operations footprint is almost completely made up from scope 3 emissions sources. This is due to the NSC energy emissions not being included within this footprint.
- Scope 1 and 2 emissions are much lower due to only accounting for the energy use from the Bloomsbury London office and the Loughborough office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emissions scope</th>
<th>tCO₂e</th>
<th>% of Offices &amp; Operations footprint</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope 1 – direct</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 2 – indirect</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 3 – indirect</td>
<td>5,306</td>
<td>97.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,424</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Offices & Operations carbon footprint breakdown by scope

- **Scope 3** (98%)
- **Scope 2** (14%)
- **Scope 1** (0.8%)
Sport England’s Offices & Operations scope categories with the highest carbon emissions are:

- Scope 3 purchased goods and services at 89%
- Scope 3 downstream leased assets at 5%
- Followed by purchased electricity, business travel, homeworking energy use, and employee commuting on just over 1% each

It is very common for a professional service organisation’s highest emissions category to be purchased goods and services. This is particularly high for Sport England due to the reliance on external consultant (subcontractors) support, which is included in this category.

For Offices & Operations, the downstream leased assets emissions are only from the leased-out Bloomsbury office space. Therefore, due to the 2022 office move, these emissions will not exist for future footprints.
Purchased goods and services make up approximately 89% of Sport England's Offices & Operations base year carbon footprint.

- The graph presents the breakdown in estimated emission sources within purchased goods and services based on spend.*
- Repair and installation emissions account for the highest contribution at 42%. This is likely due to the ongoing repair and maintenance of the NSC, of which the spend is currently collected within the Offices & Operations finance data.
- Consultants / office-based work was the second highest contributor at 39% of purchased goods and services emissions.

As mentioned in the limitations and assumptions, these emissions are based on spend-based emissions factors, therefore provide a high-level approximation.

*Useful Projects Offi ces & Operations Base Year Carbon Footprint Breakdown

Results by scope: 3.1 purchased goods and services

- Repair and installation: 56%
- Consultants / Office-based work: 28%
- Services to Buildings and Landscape: 4%
- Web hosting: 2%
- Education: 2%
- Telecommunications: 2%
- Insurance: 2%
- <4%
Sport England’s National Sport Centres Base Year Emissions

Estimated SE scope 1 and 2 emissions from Bisham, Lilleshall, and Plas Y Brenin, and scope 3.13 emissions from RP Rowing Lake

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NSC</th>
<th>Emissions scope</th>
<th>tCO₂e</th>
<th>% of scope 1 + 2 per NSC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bisham</strong></td>
<td>Scope 1 – natural gas</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scope 2 – electricity</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Bisham scope 1 + 2</td>
<td>879</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lilleshall</strong></td>
<td>Scope 1 – fuel use</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scope 2 – electricity</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Lilleshall scope 1 + 2</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plas Y Brenin</strong></td>
<td>Scope 1 – fuel use</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scope 2 – electricity</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total PYB scope 1 + 2</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total SE NSC scope 1 + 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>2000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RP Rowing Lake</strong></td>
<td>Scope 1 – fuel use</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scope 2 – electricity</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total SE NSC scope 3.13</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>274</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sport England Emissions Source Ratios
Including Offices & Operations and NSC emissions

The adjacent proportional shape visual presents the scale of Sport England’s various estimated carbon emission sources.

This graph reinforces that scope 3, SE Offices & Operations value chain emissions*, are SE’s largest emissions source, as presented on previous pages. Scope 1 and 2 emissions from the energy use at NSCs are the second largest source presented here, dwarfing the emissions from office energy use emissions.

This provides an indication of where SE should focus their efforts to reduce emissions. However, SE need to demonstrate leadership with every move, recognising the importance of marginal gains and implementing some ‘visible’ office actions that might have low carbon impact but have employee engagement benefits.

*As mentioned in the limitations and assumptions, Sport England’s carbon footprint does not include the scope 3 value chain emissions from the NSC operations, only those from fuel- and energy- related activities.
4 / Decarbonisation Targets and Pathway

This section of the report:

• Summarises existing net zero commitments and frameworks to align with
• Summarises net zero targets from government, funding bodies, and sports peers
• Recommends emissions targets for Sport England
• Shows the emissions reduction pathway for achieving the targets, which are a combination of emissions reduction and offsetting

GET/SET/ZERO
### Reference Decarbonisation Targets
Existing commitments and frameworks to align with

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commitment</th>
<th>Alignment</th>
<th>Commitment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Greening Government Commitments:</strong> mitigating climate change</td>
<td><strong>Science-based targets: target options for SMEs (under 500 employees)</strong></td>
<td><strong>United Nations Sports for Climate Action Framework</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions from a 2017 to 2018 baseline – working towards net zero by 2050.</td>
<td>• Near-term: 46.2% reduction of scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions by 2030 from a 2019 base year (aligned to a 1.5°C pathway), and 27.5% reduction of scope 3 emissions from a 2019 base year.</td>
<td>• Mid-term: reduce GHG emissions by 50% by 2030 at the latest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Long-term: absolute scope 1, 2, and 3 GHG emissions reduction achieved by 2050, from a predefined base year (minimum 90% reduction, 10% offset).</td>
<td>• Long-term: reach net zero GHG emissions by 2040.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A commitment to neutralise any residual emissions when the long-term science-based target is achieved.</td>
<td>• Targets should include scopes 1, 2, and 3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Organisations for which scope 3 represent 40% or more of total emissions generated by the organisation to model scope 3 emissions and set scope 3 targets as well.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Least ambitious | Net zero by 2050 | 46% reduction (scope 1 & 2) by 2030 | 50% reduction by 2030 |
| Most ambitious | Net zero (all scopes) by 2050 | Net zero by 2040 | |
## Reference Decarbonisation Targets

**From government and sports sector peers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arts Council England</th>
<th>The Environment Agency</th>
<th>National Lottery Heritage Fund</th>
<th>Lawn Tennis Association UK</th>
<th>International Olympic Committee</th>
<th>UK Sport</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • By 2023/24, reduce office energy use emissions and business travel emissions by 25% compared with 2019/20 | • Reducing total carbon emissions, including those of the EA supply chain, by 45% by 2030.  
• The EA will offset the rest through projects that harmlessly lock up carbon and offer wider benefits, such as reduced flood risk and more habitat to boost biodiversity. | • As an organisation, The National Lottery Heritage Fund will reach net zero aligned carbon emissions by 2030.  
• Joint Heritage Sector statement on Climate Change: action plans for each of our organisations to reach carbon net zero before 2050. | • Achieve net zero carbon emissions from LTA operations and major events by 2030 and support the wider tennis community in reducing carbon emissions. | • The IOC is already carbon neutral and aims to become climate positive by 2024.  
• Reduce direct and indirect emissions by 30% by 2024, and 50% by 2030.  
• Compensating more than 100 per cent of remaining emissions, mainly through the Olympic Forest project. | • UK Sport published its Environmental Sustainability Strategy in early 2023. Including:  
• A goal for high-performance sport to have a net positive impact on the environment by 2040.  
• UK Sport’s own activities and operations, to achieve net zero aligned by 2030. |

| Target currently under review | Reduce 45% by 2030  
‘Net zero by 2030’ | ‘Net zero by 2030’ | ‘Net zero by 2030’ | ‘Net zero by 2030’ | Net zero aligned by 2030 |

**Note:** There is currently a lot of discrepancy in the use of the ‘net zero’ term. In line with the Science-Based Targets initiative, near-term (2030) targets are ‘net zero aligned’ when targeting an approximate 50% reduction in emissions, whereas long-term (2050) targets are considered ‘net zero’ when they achieve a minimum of 90% emissions reduction, and only have 10% residual emissions to offset. These SBTi near-term and long-term targets exact percentages depend on your base year. ‘Carbon neutral’ indicates that an organisation has offset all emissions, there are no reduction requirements we are aware of.
**Recommended Decarbonisation Targets for Sport England**

**Aligned with Science-Based Targets**

We recommend that Sport England sign up the United Nations Sports for Climate Action Framework, and align with the Science-Based Targets initiative, and set the following targets and commitments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets:</th>
<th>Base year emissions</th>
<th>Near-term target (2030)</th>
<th>Long-term target (2040)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SE Offices &amp; Operations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 1 and 2</td>
<td>119 tCO$_2$e</td>
<td>50% reduction, 59 tCO$_2$e</td>
<td>90% reduction, 12 tCO$_2$e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SE Offices &amp; Operations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 3</td>
<td>5306 tCO$_2$e</td>
<td>50% reduction, 2653 tCO$_2$e</td>
<td>90% reduction, 531 tCO$_2$e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SE National Sports Centres</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 1 and 2*</td>
<td>2001 tCO$_2$e</td>
<td>50% reduction, 1000 tCO$_2$e</td>
<td>90% reduction, 200 tCO$_2$e</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Provide leadership for broader environmental sustainability actions associated with our national sports centres, offices and operations.

Commitment to influence and support the grass sports and physical activity sector on environmental sustainability.

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*Scope 3 emissions for the NSC facilities are excluded from Sport England's carbon footprint. However, Sport England will influence and collaborate with the NSC partners and users over time to reduce scope 3 emissions.*
Recommended Decarbonisation Targets for Sport England

Offices & Operations and NSC

We recommend that Sport England signs up the United Nations Sports for Climate Action Framework, aligns with the Science-Based Targets initiative, and sets the following targets and commitments:

- For our offices and operations, target 50% reduction in emissions across all scopes by 2030, working towards net zero by 2040 (90% reduction, 10% residual offsetting).
- For our National Sports Centres scope 1 and 2, target 50% reduction in emissions by 2030, working towards net zero by 2040 (90% reduction, 10% residual offsetting).*
- Provide leadership for broader environmental sustainability actions associated with our national centres, offices and operations.
- Commitment to influence and support the grass sports and physical activity sector on environmental sustainability.

*Scope 3 emissions for the NSC facilities are excluded from Sport England’s carbon footprint. However, Sport England will influence and collaborate with the NSC partners and users over time to reduce scope 3 emissions.

These targets align Sport England with peer organisations, align to the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework targets and exceed Science-Based Targets. For the National Sports Centres, which include listed heritage buildings, Sport England recognises that achieving net zero for these assets will be more difficult, and will require substantial investment in energy systems.

These commitments also recognise the importance of Sport England’s role in influencing and supporting the wider sports and physical activity sector to reduce emissions.
This is an indicative, visual pathway for SE to reach net zero emissions based on the proposed carbon reduction targets. There are external factors that will influence these emissions. Some of the potential policy factors are presented below the graph, and are discussed further on page 41.

**Targets**

The near-term and long-term targets provided on the graph are aligned to the UN Sports for Climate Action framework; 50% reduction by 2030, (5.4 tCO$_2$e annual reduction until 2030), 90% by 2040 (4.3 tCO$_2$e annual reduction 2030 until 2040).

The SBTi mitigation pathways for scope 1 and 2 require a 46.2% absolute reduction by 2030, and 90% reduction in line with net zero by 2050. Therefore, the proposed SE carbon targets exceed SBTi requirements.

If SE were to offset residual emissions from 2030, they could achieve net zero aligned carbon neutral.

**Decarbonisation strategies for scope 1 (gas):**

- Attend the London office monthly sustainability working group and influence landlords to move away from fossil fuel energy sources including natural gas for heating and high-GWP refrigerants for air-conditioning.
- Consider avoiding fossil-fuel energy use where possible for any new office spaces.

**Decarbonisation strategies for scope 2 (electricity):**

- SE recently moved London office spaces to one with a high-quality renewable electricity tariff.
- Focus on efficient use of electricity through:
  - Employee engagement and education.
  - Improving the default power-savings settings on all IT equipment.
This is an indicative, visual pathway for SE NSC to reach net zero scope 1 and 2 emissions based on the proposed carbon reduction targets. There are external factors that will influence these emissions. Some of the potential policy factors are presented below the graph, and are discussed further on page 41.

**Targets:**

Appreciating the challenges associated with listed heritage buildings, whilst maintaining sector-leading ambition, Sport England will target the same emissions reduction for the NSCs scope 1 and 2 emissions, at 50% reduction by 2030.

The near-term and long-term targets provided on the graph are aligned to the UN Sports for Climate Action framework; 50% reduction by 2030, (167 tCO₂e annual reduction until 2030), 90% by 2040 (134 tCO₂e annual reduction 2030 until 2040).

The SBTi mitigation pathways for scope 1 and 2 require a 46.2% absolute reduction by 2030, and 90% reduction in line with net zero by 2050. Therefore, the proposed carbon targets exceed SBTi requirements.

If SE were to offset residual emissions from 2030, they could achieve net zero aligned carbon neutral.

**Strategies to reduce Scope 1 & 2 include:**

- Agree a contractual commitment to achieve net zero by 2040 with the operators of all NSCs.
- Develop a detailed net zero energy strategy for each NSC.
- Influencing and collaborating with onsite partners to reduce ‘shared emissions’.

* privately rented commercial buildings in England and Wales
Offices & Operations scope 3 emissions indicative pathway

Value chain emissions from Offices & Operations

Key
- Purchased goods and services
- Downstream leased assets energy use
- Business travel
- Homeworking energy use
- Employee commuting
- Offset

This is an indicative, visual pathway for SE to reach net zero offices and operations scope 3 emissions based on the proposed targets. There are external factors that will influence these emissions. Some of the potential policy factors are presented below the graph, and are discussed further on page 41.

Targets
The near-term and long-term targets provided on the graph are aligned to the UN Sports for Climate Action framework: 50% reduction by 2030, (443 tCO₂e annual reduction until 2030), 90% by 2040 (354 tCO₂e annual reduction 2030 until 2040).

The SBTi mitigation pathways for scope 3 require a 27.5% absolute reduction by 2030, and 90% reduction in line with net zero by 2050. Therefore, the proposed SE carbon targets exceed SBTi requirements.

If SE were to offset residual emissions from 2030, they could achieve net zero aligned carbon neutral.

Decarbonisation strategies for scope 3:
- Update procurement policy and processes
- Decarbonisation supplier engagement programme with top 20 existing suppliers
- Influence energy efficiency and low carbon energy at the Redgrave Pinsent Rowing Lake buildings
- Reduce business travel
- Embed carbon and sustainability considerations within travel policy and CTM system
Decarbonisation pathway external factors

The pathways presented on the previous pages provide an indicative, visual, high-level carbon reduction pathway for Sport England based on their proposed carbon reduction targets (page 36).

These pathways will be impacted by external factors, including decarbonisation of the electricity grid (and supply chains), technological improvements, shift to electric vehicles, and shift away from gas boilers. Some of the potential policy factors are presented below the pathway graphs.

The current decarbonisation of the UK electricity grid has been modelled based on the BEIS predicted marginal emissions factors published in 2022, and is presented in the adjacent graph.

It is important to note that policy factors are likely to change with new governments and should not be relied upon. As we have seen recently in Autumn 2023, Government can roll back and weaken policy at any time.

It is therefore vital for Sport England to commit to action that is within their control and influence, and not rely on these external factors.
5 / Recommended Decarbonisation Actions

This section of the report:

- Presents the key decarbonisation focus areas for Sport England over the next few years
- References a detailed internal decarbonisation action plan that has been developed

| GET/SET/ZERØ | Useful Projects | 42 |
The proposed Sport England operational decarbonisation focus areas for the next three years are summarised below. These align with the base year carbon footprint hotspots, include ‘enabling’ actions (such as employee engagement and training) to achieve an internal catalyst effect, and consider the capacity of the Sport England Sustainability Team (currently one person) to drive these forward.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Become a Sports for Climate Action Framework signatory</td>
<td>Employee engagement and training</td>
<td>Travel (business and commuting)</td>
<td>Investigating appropriate offsetting and insetting approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee engagement and training</td>
<td>Procurement</td>
<td>IT equipment</td>
<td>Continuous improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership and governance</td>
<td>NSC sustainability initiatives</td>
<td>Employee benefits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Recommended annual priorities*
Decarbonisation Action Plan
Detailed internal working document

A detailed internal decarbonisation action plan has been developed, with specific actions for both Offices & Operations and National Sports Centres.

The action plan includes focus areas with associated proposed actions, for each of these actions the following is included:

• Detailed action descriptions
• Proposed sequencing and target start year
• Action owners
• Ease of implementation commentary
• Potential carbon reduction commentary
• Cost of implementation commentary
• High-level co-benefits
• Further details and ideas for each action

All actions proposed are subject to business case development and securing funding.

Housed in excel, the internal action plan is designed to be a ‘live document’ that the SE Environmental Sustainability team can use to track actions and progress.

Key internal colleagues have been consulted during the development of the action plan, to gain their input and support.

Delivery of the action plan will be a team effort, involving employees from across the organisation. It will be spearheaded by the SE Environmental Sustainability Strategic Lead.

The focus areas, and the specific actions within each focus area, will be reviewed and updated regularly. New actions may arise over time, in response to new opportunities or risks, or technological or market advancements.
Contact:
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