

# **CARBON REDUCTION PLAN**

Version No. 2

Published – January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Author: Ian Adams** 

### Our commitment to achieving Net Zero

Q3 Services Ltd is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2035.

#### Introduction

This Carbon Management & Reduction Plan (CMRP) demonstrates our commitment to Net Zero for Q3's UK operations. The company's approach to the environment and a sustainable business is embodied in the Q-Aware programme, supported by our ISO14001 Environmental Management System.

## **Baseline Emissions Footprint**

Baseline emissions are a record of the greenhouse gases that have been produced by our organisation, measured prior to the introduction of any strategies or initiatives to reduce emissions. Baseline emissions are the reference point against which emissions reductions are now being measured.

Baseline Year: 2020-21

#### Additional details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations.

Q3 is now in the second year of monitoring and reporting its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The original baseline calculations were significantly skewed by the COVID lockdown. Disruption to the delivery of our services had a positive impact on the carbon emissions of our business, particularly in relation to reducing fleet vehicle emissions, which accounted historically for most of our CO<sub>2</sub> activity.

From the time the organisation was established, we have operated a lean operating model with most senior and middle managers embracing remote, flexible working. Consequently, our investment in corporate real estate is relatively small and as a result, the output from buildings is smaller than many organisations of our size and turnover.

We have worked with the Planet Mark organisation to identify and record the data presented in the baseline figures and the 2022-2023 reporting year, below.

This 2020-21 baseline data includes Scope 1 and 2 emissions, and business travel emissions from Scope 3 (category 6 of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol). Data is not currently available for the following categories, which will be added as part of our assessments in future years:

- 4: Upstream Transportation and Distribution
- 5: Waste Generated in Operations
- 7: Employee Commuting
- 9: Downstream Transportation and Distribution

Any subsequent changes required to the Baseline Emissions calculations as a result of incorporating the above, will be applied to the figures retrospectively.

Baseline year emissions: 2020-2021	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO₂e)
Scope 1	230.7
Scope 2	1.4
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	31.7
Total Emissions	263.9

# **Current Emissions Reporting**

Reporting Year: 2021-2022	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1	162.3
Scope 2	1.6
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	18.9
Total Emissions	202

#### **Emissions reduction targets**

To progressively reduce our carbon footprint and ultimately deliver our Net Zero target, we have adopted the carbon reduction targets listed below.

With COVID restrictions lifted, the 2022-23 reporting year represents a more typical operational year and we would have expected a rise in our overall emissions, but this did not occur. The acquisition of Newtons Group Ltd with an office based in Southend-on-Sea, increased our emissions from buildings, but this was more than counterbalanced by a downsizing of our Grounds/landscaping business, resulting in a significant reduction in vehicle emissions. The net effect was to produce a 27% reduction in emissions against the benchmark year.

We anticipate continuing this progress with a forecast decrease over the following three years to **150** tCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2025. This represents a reduction of **25%**.

## **Carbon Reduction Projects**

Q3 has been implementing a programme of initiatives aimed at reducing our carbon footprint. We have engaged with the Planet Mark organisation to help deliver our CMRP and in addition to our ISO14001 accreditation will be pursuing the ISO 27400 Sustainable Procurement Framework.

We will continue to pursue our policy for encouraging remote working and minimising reliance on corporate real estate, to reduce the carbon impact created by large buildings.

The majority of our cleaning contracts are now operating with environmentally friendly chemicals, supplied in recyclable containers.

In the future we hope to implement further measures, outlined below:

- 2024: All cleaning materials to be eco-friendly and supplied in recyclable containers (Scope 3)
- 2025: 100% of office electricity provision generated from renewables (Scope 1)
- 2025: 100% of cars operated privately by senior management will be electric (Scope 1)
- 2028: 100% of all vans and operational fleet vehicles will be electric, achieved by switching out diesel vehicles at the end of existing lease period (Scope 1)
- 2030: All suppliers will be operating a Net Zero policy and plans (Scope 3)

#### Plan Review

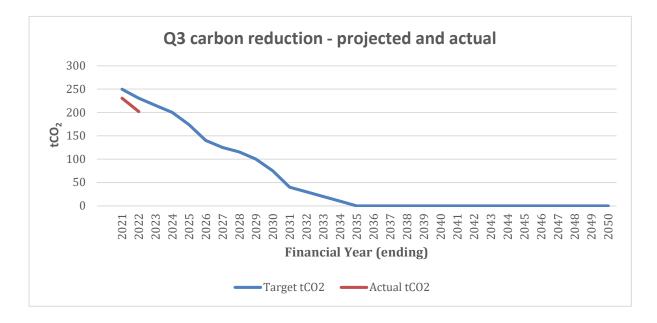
To ensure we deliver on our commitments, the CMRP will be reviewed annually as part of our year-end financial reporting process.

## Approach to offsetting

Q3 aims to pursue our strategy for achieving Net Zero through aggressive reduction of our carbon footprint, avoiding wherever possible the deployment of carbon offsetting as a means of attaining carbon neutral status. This will be reviewed in the current year if a suitable, truly sustainable form of offsetting can be identified.

As a result of the measures outlined in this plan, we project that carbon emissions will decrease over the next five years to **93.2** tCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2028-29. This is a reduction of over **50**%

Progress against these targets can be seen in the graph below:



## **Declaration and Sign Off**

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 06/21 and associated guidance and reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans.

Emissions have been reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate standard<sup>1</sup> and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting<sup>2</sup>.

Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have been reported in accordance with SECR requirements, and the required subset of Scope 3 emissions have been reported in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Standard<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the board of directors.

# Signed on behalf of Q3:

Malin Treeman.

Martyn Freeman, CEO

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023