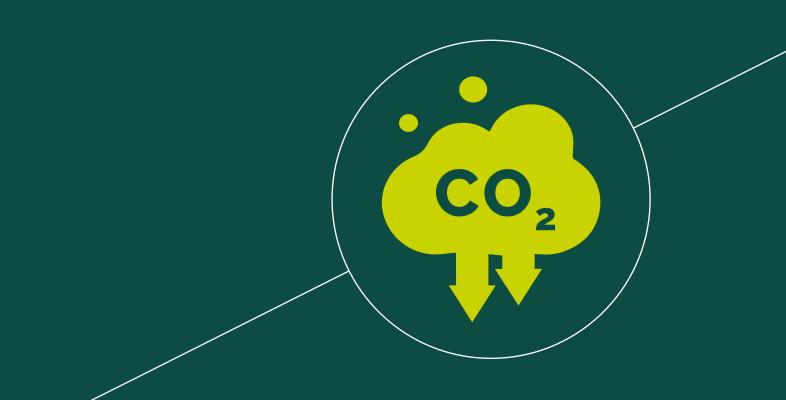


# Options' carbon reduction plan

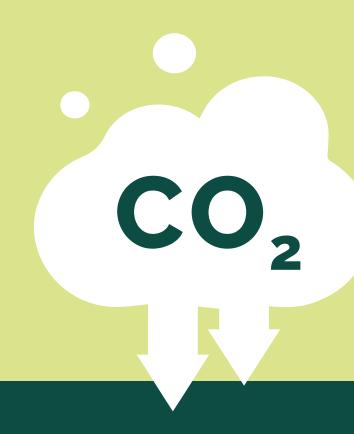


## Commitment to achieving net zero

Options is committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050

## **CONTENTS**

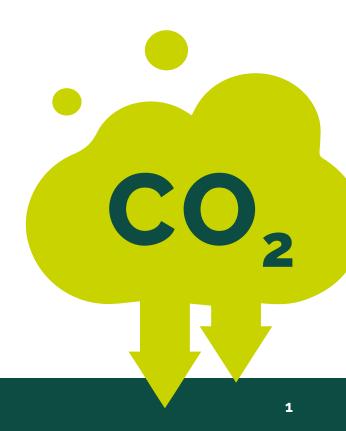
Foreword	1
Baseline emissions footprint	2
Current emissions footprint	3
Emissions reduction targets	5
Carbon reduction projects	5-6
Declaration and sign off	7



#### **FOREWORD**

As a global health consultancy that drives transformational improvements in the health and wellbeing of the most vulnerable populations, ensuring women, adolescents and children can access high-quality health services they need, we recognise that environmental sustainability is an increasingly critical component of a strong health system and a key determinant of health.

Options is committed to promoting and embedding environmentally sustainable operational practices throughout the organisation – meeting our compliance obligations and inspiring staff, partners, and suppliers towards more sustainable practices. Options' aim is to protect environmental ecosystems and benefit communities worldwide, building a better working environment for staff whilst extending our reach by promoting sustainability beyond the boundaries of the business. Options' ambition is to become a net positive contributor to the environment, committing to be **net zero by 2050**, growing a global culture of environmental responsibility.



#### **BASELINE EMISSIONS FOOTPRINT**

Baseline emissions are a record of the greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and prior to the introduction of any strategies to reduce emissions. Baseline emissions are the reference point against which emissions reduction can be measured.

Baseline: 2022

2022 was the first year Options has reported its carbon emissions. The calculation was based on self-assessment data using the required methodology for the calendar year. The organisation boundary used for this baseline is the London (UK) office.

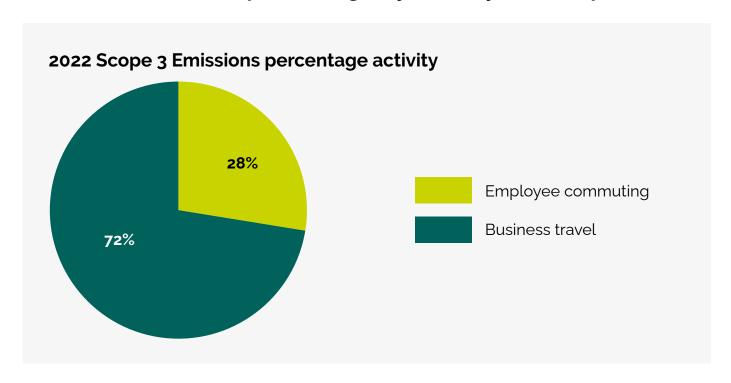
## Baseline year emissions (updated):

Emissions	Total (tCO2e)	
Scope 1	No direct emissions	
Scope 2	No direct emissions	
Scope 3	o (not applicable)	Waste generated
	21.57	Employee commuting
	56.70	Business travel
	o (not applicable)	Purchased goods and services
	o (not applicable)	Fuel and energy related activities
	o (not applicable)	Upstream transportation and distribution
	o (not applicable)	Downstream transportation and distribution
Total	78.27	

Options transferred its office into the MSI Reproductive Choices (MSI) building in January 2022. As a wholly owned subsidiary of MSI, Options does not currently own assets or purchase utilities. To acknowledge the floor space allocated to Options staff within the MSI building, emissions were calculated as a percentage (20%) of MSI's utility charges.

In our 2022 report, utility charges were reflected in Scope 3 'Waste Generated' and 'Fuel and Energy Related Activities'. Options has updated the 2022 baseline to re-classify this usage into 'Upstream Leased Assets', which is not in scope for the carbon reduction.

## Restated emissions percentage by activity and scope



## **CURRENT EMISSIONS FOOTPRINT**

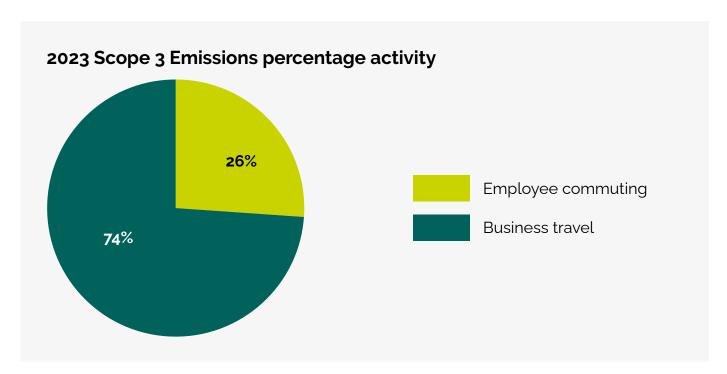
Reporting year: 2023

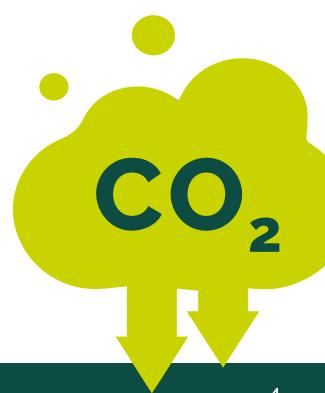
Emissions	Total (tCO2e)	
Scope 1	No direct emissions	
Scope 2	No direct emissions	
Scope 3	o (not applicable)	Waste generated
	24.53	Employee commuting
	69.43	Business travel
	o (not applicable)	Purchased goods and services
	o (not applicable)	Fuel and energy related activities
	o (not applicable)	Upstream transportation and distribution
	o (not applicable)	Downstream transportation and distribution
Total	93.96	

Options main source of carbon is from employee commuting and business travel. There was an increase in emissions in 2023 from 2022 due to Options' need to visit overseas countries for intensive positioning and new business opportunities. This was expected, and the international nature of our business model and operations recognises that there will continue to be a need to visit programmes internationally.

There was a slight increase in emissions from employee commuting in 2023. Options embraces remote working rather than mandating attendance in an office, however in 2023 staff increased their attendance in the London office, with many returning to working patterns closer to those seen pre-Covid. We will continue to promote a flexible working policy in the coming years and allow staff the choice of a hybrid working approach.

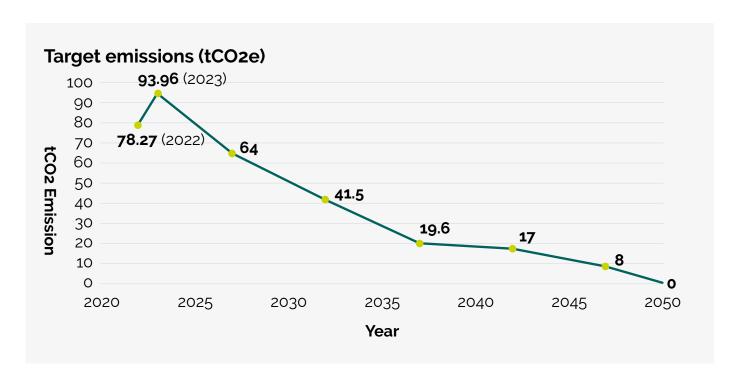
## Emissions percentage by activity and scope





#### **EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS**

Our commitment is to reach net-zero by 2050, based on a baseline of 2022.



Within the next 10 years, we expect to make significant progress against our target with the use of current and future carbon reduction projects detailed below.

## **CARBON REDUCTION PROJECTS**

## Carbon reduction initiatives completed and underway

The following environmental management measures and projects are completed or are underway since the baseline in 2022.

- **1.** Ensuring that remote collaboration tools are in place and working effectively, reducing the need for business travel.
- 2. Developing an Environmental Strategy M&E Framework.
- 3. Continue to use a digital desk booking system to record data on when employees are booked into the UK office, the distance to/from their homes and assumed modes of travel.
- **4.** Continue to implement a hybrid approach to working location. The Options hybrid working policy has been reinforced and allows staff to split their time between attending the workplace and working remotely. The office uses a 'hot desk' approach, reducing the number of desks available to staff in recognition of this change.
- 5. Conduct our training courses online to minimise the need for travel to in-person meetings.

- **6.** Continue to create informative resources for staff encouraging greater energy efficiency, waste reductions, and other environmental improvements.
- **7.** Continue to integrate sustainable business travel guidance into travel policy and processes.
- 8. Continue to promote cycle-to-work scheme and environmentally friendly commuting.
- **9.** Continue to support staff to be able to work from home by ensuring they have the appropriate equipment.

## In the future and in the delivery of contracts, we hope to implement carbon reduction measures such as:

- 1. Continue to work with MSI to coordinate environmental strategic measures and opportunities to reduce emissions.
- 2. As part of the Environmental Strategy M&E Framework, we may explore incorporating our operations beyond the UK within this framework to minimise our impact globally.
- 3. Explore implementing Environmental Management System ISO14001 certified by the British Standards Institution (BSI). This certification verifies that we minimise the negative impacts of our operations on the environment, comply with laws and continually improve our policies and processes.
- **4.** Review carbon credit and offsetting schemes by considering which would be most appropriate from an ethical and environmental perspective.
- **5.** Source products from local suppliers and look to engage with all third parties prior to contracting to discuss their carbon footprint and carbon reduction plans.
- 6. When appropriate, bulk purchase more in order to reduce the number of deliveries.

#### **Business travel**

Our targets currently reflect the need for international and domestic travel. We will look to explore whether business travel is critical for Options' business model and will consider:

- 1. Rail travel to be proposed as an alternative to domestic and short-haul flights in the UK.
- 2. The plans to decarbonise aviation through the further development of suitable sustainable aviation fuels, as mentioned in the UK government's Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener, to reduce our carbon footprint from international and domestic travel significantly.
- **3.** The use of electric vehicles becoming more prevalent, and the electricity grid being further decarbonised, reducing the carbon footprint of land travel.
- **4.** Options will use its best endeavours to make a meaningful contribution to the UK's net zero target.

#### **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 required methodology and published reporting standard for carbon reduction plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate standard and uses the appropriate government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting.

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.

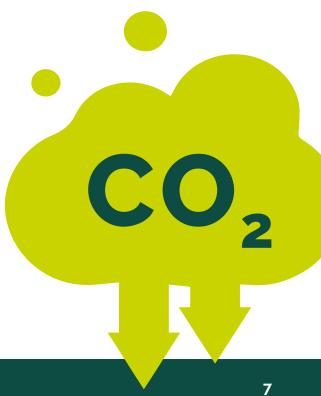
This carbon reduction plan has been reviewed and signed off by the Options board of directors.

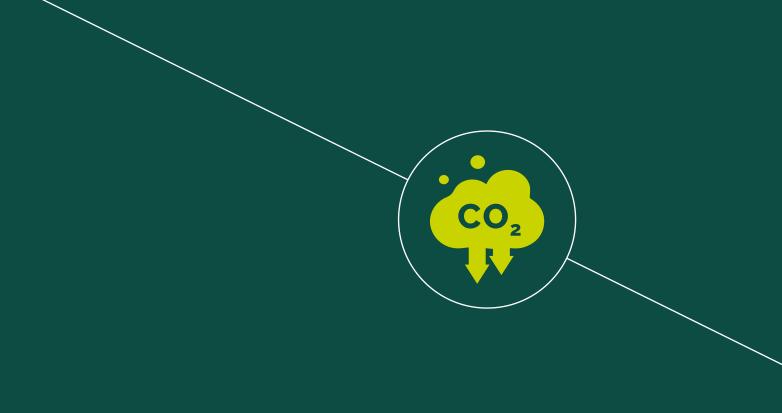
Signed on behalf of Options board:

James Harcourt

Managing Director

Date: 30/04/24





#### **CONTACT US**

Eva Rahman, Assistant Director, New Business and Partnerships: e.rahman@options.co.uk

Options New Business and Partnerships: newbusiness@options.co.uk

#### **Options Consultancy Services Ltd**

1 Conway Street | Fitzroy Square | London | W1T 6LP | United Kingdom







Options Consultancy Services is a global team of experts and innovators tackling some of the world's most pressing health challenges. Over the last 30 years, we have worked in more than 50 countries to provide ideas, advice and technical know-how that enable our partners to build a path to lasting change. We are a health systems organisation that understands reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health service delivery. We lead emerging work on the sustainable use of renewable energy in health, shock resilient and climate sensitive infrastructure, and reducing the health system's own direct carbon footprint to build a greener future.

