



TOMLINSON
Est. 1892



Carbon Reduction Plan

Reporting year ending
30th June 2025
v2



Introduction

G F Tomlinson operate across Central England and is one of the Midlands largest privately-owned construction companies. We recognise our activities generate greenhouse gas emissions from energy use, waste, travel and the construction services we deliver and are therefore contributing to the Climate Emergency we all now face.

It is now beyond question climate change is the single biggest threat to our planet and that human activity is the main contributing factor. It is therefore incumbent on us all to play our part in tackling this head on.

Our aim is to proactively reduce our carbon footprint from our own operations, and our supply-chains to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2035, well ahead of the target of 2050 set by the UK Government in the Climate Change Act.

Our offices benefit from the use of air source heat pumps for our heating needs instead of gas boilers. We have also instigated a proactive programme of measures to reduce our energy consumption and carbon emissions. In 2015 we installed PV arrays to our office buildings, changed our company car policy to incorporate Hybrid vehicles and began upgrading our office lighting to LEDs. To date these initiatives have collectively reduced our greenhouse gas emissions and increased our energy efficiency.

In 2019 we began to formally coordinate our carbon reduction activities, delivering a more focussed and joined up approach through the development of our initial 'Carbon Management Plan.' Whilst we have taken many positive steps, the gains realised, cannot be achieved again, however we need to build them into "business as usual", and continue to do more.

We have introduced Net Zero Carbon Reporting Software to streamline, improve and expand reporting and provide independent validation of both process and performance.

Our Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Taskforce report directly to the Managing Director, who will drive delivery against our ambitious targets. By increasing efficiency, reducing waste, minimising our energy consumption and changing existing practices, we will reduce our carbon footprint, and are committed to investing time, resources and finances to ensure we achieve this. This Carbon Reduction Plan is how we will deliver on this commitment.

Our Plan builds on our BS EN ISO 14001 UKAS accredited Environmental Management System and our Greener now For a better Tomorrow strategy. Together these define robust management processes and procedures and an overarching strategy for minimising our own environmental impacts, working with our supply chain to help clients decarbonise their Estate, and delivering buildings designed to be zero carbon in operation with reduced embodied carbon.

As well as setting out our carbon emissions targets and performance this Carbon Reduction Plan also identifies some of the initiatives, completed, current and planned which will help us realise our goal of Net Zero by 2035 including:

- a) Installation of PV arrays to Head Office buildings**
- b) Using electricity suppliers who offer a carbon free / renewable tariff**
- c) Mandating EV choices only on Company Car fleet**

Commitment to achieving Net Zero

G F Tomlinson Building Ltd is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2035.

This is ahead of the target set by the UK Government within the Climate Change Act of Net Zero by 2050 and is testament to our commitment and desire to creating a more sustainable future and a better tomorrow for all.

Our Approach

Our Carbon Reduction Plan is focused upon quantifying and facilitating the improved management of our principle sources of GHG emissions, including recognising and realising opportunities to improve the management of those indirect emission sources that we can influence. This Plan will document our progress in reducing corporate GHG emissions, our corporate commitments and the actions taken to achieve them.

Emissions Footprint

During 2019 we began to implement the procedures and methodology of recording the emissions which form a record of the greenhouse gases that we have produced in the past and were produced prior to the introduction of strategies to reduce emissions. Our Benchmark year is 2020, the emissions in this year are the reference point against which our emissions reduction are measured.

The benchmark calculations, and all others within this plan are reported on an “operational control” basis and have followed the methodology set out in the Environmental Reporting Guidelines published by the UK Government.

Benchmark Year: 2020

Our initial ‘Carbon Management Plan’ was introduced during 2019, this enabled us to establishing the benchmark data recorded below. We initially focused on the core activities where greenhouse gas emissions could more easily be measured, monitored, recorded and realistic reduction targets set.

We have calculated our 2020/2021 Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions and taken this as the benchmark for setting emission reduction targets. We currently measure and report GHG emissions associated with our Scope 1 and 2 GHG emission sources:

Scope 1 – fuel use for company vehicles and used on site.

Scope 2 – electricity used at our offices and on site.

Scope 3 – We took the decision at the time of establishing our benchmark to exclude certain Scope 3 emissions from our initial Plan due to the difficulty in recording the data to any acceptable level of accuracy and our limited ability to directly influence a reduction in emissions. However, we recognise our ability to exert positive influence over the energy performance and GHG emissions associated with our Scope 3 GHG emission sources. For this reporting period we have put measures in place to record our Scope 3 emissions to report against the following categories - Transmission & Distribution of Electricity, Waste generated; Business travel; Employee commuting & Water.

We are investigating how best to record category 4 emissions (Upstream transportation) and have currently benchmarked this using spend based data.



Scope 3 emissions

Emission Source	Description	Reported
Purchased goods and services (which includes upstream transportation and distribution)	Extraction, production and transportation of goods and services purchased or acquired by the reporting company in the reporting year.	Purchased Goods and Services, including upstream transportation has been evaluated via spend-based data.
Waste from operations	Disposal and treatment of waste generated in the company's Head Office operations in the reporting year.	Disposal and treatment of waste generated is included in the Scope 3 figure.
Business travel	Transportation of employees for business-related activities during the reporting year (in vehicles not owned or operated by the reporting company).	Included. All business travel including via train is recorded.
Employee commuting	Transportation of employees between their homes and their worksites during the reporting year (in vehicles not owned or operated by the reporting company).	Included. Commute car mileage is included as well as commuting via train. Data is based on an annual staff survey.
Downstream transportation and distribution	Transportation and distribution of products sold by the reporting company in the reporting year between the reporting company's operations and the end consumer (if not paid for by the reporting company), including retail and storage (in vehicles and facilities not owned or controlled by the reporting company).	G F Tomlinson provides principal contracting and construction services. The physical assets we construct are delivered directly on-site for the client; we do not produce, warehouse, or transport commercial goods downstream to an end consumer.

As our processes for capturing and recording the necessary data mature along with our ability to positively influence Scope 3 emissions, we have extended the scope of initiatives designed to reduce our Scope 3 emissions including:

- Continuing to focus on Local sourcing of our supply chain to minimise emissions from transportation of personnel and materials.
- Designing and constructing buildings with reduced operational energy requirements and embodied carbon seeking to improve on the RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge targets.

Our Carbon Reduction Plan continues to be a 'work in progress'. We will develop further emission reduction targets as the data to inform our decision making becomes available and to explore the potential of extending our scope of reporting to include additional Scope 3 sources. Additionally for 2025 we have assessed the impact of company vehicle commuting within our Scope 3 reporting.

We already have a number of initiatives underway which will facilitate not only the additional recording of these emissions but will over time lead to their reduction. More details of these initiatives are set out in the Carbon Reduction Initiatives section of this Plan.

Benchmark and Current Year Emissions

Benchmark year emissions: Benchmark Year 2020 (Start: July End: June)	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO ₂ e)
Scope 1	444.10
Scope 2	62.90
Scope 3	6.50
Total Emissions	513.5

Current Emissions Reporting: Reporting Year 2025 (Start: July 24 End: June 25)	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO ₂ e)
Scope 1	234.30
Scope 2	50.30
Scope 3	4,488.127
Transmission & Distribution of Electricity	4.80
Waste Disposal	0.85
Business Travel	106.3
Employee Commuting	110.70
Water	0.10
Purchased Goods and Services	4,265.377
Total Emissions	4,772.73

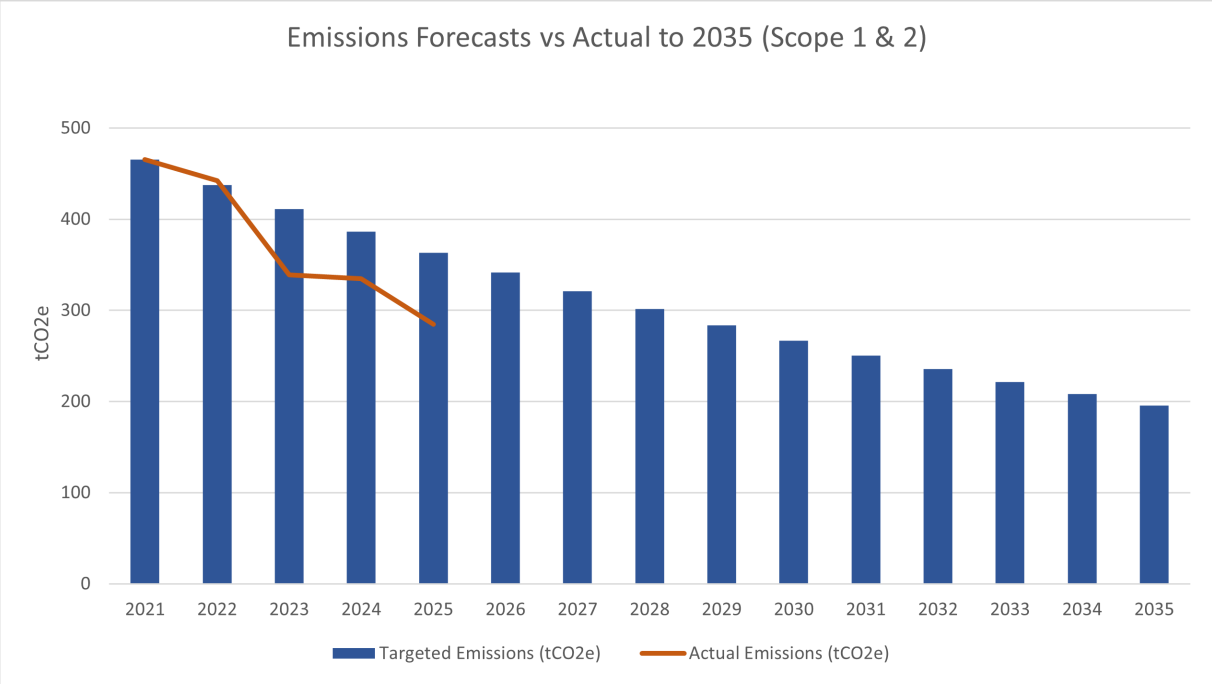
Although our overall footprint has increased, due to including new Scope 3 data, like for like emissions over the period have seen a 6.9% reduction. These changes are a result of improved processes and data capture/recording. This is the third period where we have recorded Employee Commuting data within our Scope 3 emissions (110.70 tCO₂e). Also, the internal supply of diesel for use in site generators is now recorded at the point of use. This was historically recorded within the reporting data of an associated company (199.6 t CO₂e).

Emissions Reduction Targets

In order to continue our progress to achieving Net Zero by 2035 we have adopted a carbon reduction target of an average 6% per annum against the benchmark of 2020).

Carbon Reduction Projects

We have adopted a Carbon Hierarchy in prioritising the type and nature of our carbon and greenhouse gas reduction projects, designed to deliver a year on year reduction. The graph below shows the progress of G F Tomlinson Building Ltd Scope 1 and 2 emissions reduction, up to our target date of 2035.



Our current emissions intensities are 3.54 t/£m turnover, and 2.16 t/per employee.

We project that carbon emissions will decrease over the next five years to 260 tCO2e by 2030. This is a reduction of 46% from baseline.

Our priority will always be to firstly **avoid** activities that generate GHG emissions wherever possible. This would be achieved for example by avoiding fossil fuel consumption. We would then look to **reduce** emissions through energy efficiency, before considering **substitution** via the use of low-carbon and renewable energy sources. We understand that Carbon **offsetting** is not of itself the answer, however we believe it has an important part to play in the overall Carbon Reduction strategy as we move towards our Net Zero objective. This is particularly the case whilst the necessary structural changes both within wider construction industry and G F Tomlinson to achieve Net Zero are still in their formative stages. With this in mind, we are currently exploring how best to develop an offsetting strategy for G F Tomlinson while at all times following the Avoid, Reduce, Substitute hierarchy.



Carbon Reduction Initiatives

Greener now For a better Tomorrow

Our commitment to the environment is long established and was first formalised in 2008 when we received UKAS accreditation of our ISO 14001 Environmental Management System. The following environmental management measures and projects have been implemented which have produced a reduction in emissions. The emission reductions achieved by these schemes equate to 677 tCO₂e. The measures will continue to be in place and will be supplemented by further initiatives in order to deliver continuous improvement and to meet our carbon reduction targets.

Behaviour Change

Engagement of employees is critical to the successful delivery of the programme, because ultimately, they will be the ones implementing its activities. We will do this through the issuing of guidance notes and in-house training workshops, so that they all appreciate how carbon reduction benefits, them their families and our local communities.

We have developed a number of initiatives in order to try and encourage a behaviour change culture within our organisation. These include the “Big Switch-Off”, “Christmas Switch-Off” to focus employees to reduce energy waste when they will not be there to use it. We have incorporated sustainability training within our annual in-house environmental awareness seminars, including training on carbon footprint reduction and waste elimination/management. Additional training has also been provided on sustainable leadership modules to key staff and Senior Leadership within the business.

Existing GHG/Carbon Reduction initiatives:			
Carbon Reduction initiative	Year Introduced	Total Saving to date tCO ₂ e	Ongoing annual benefit tCO ₂ e
PV Array to Head Office Building	2015	64	7
Electricity supply 100% carbon neutral	2017	204	28
Introduction of Hybrid vehicles to company fleet	2019	389	206
Upgrading head office lighting to LED	2018	20	4



Increased Vehicle Charging Points

In line with the planned conversion of our company fleet to EV we now have 14 dedicated charging bays. These are available for use by owner drivers as well as company fleet and save an average of 8.12tCO₂e p.a.

Reducing Embodied carbon

At Nottingham University Grade II listed Amenities Building, rather than replacing the roof and cladding we proposed refurbishment, resulting in an embodied carbon saving of 135tCO₂e.

HVO Diesel and Electric Plant

In 2022 we switched to using Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil (HVO) to fuel site plant and equipment. This fuel source produces 90% less CO₂e than conventional diesel and, so far, we have reduced emissions from liquid fuels by 210tCO₂e from our benchmark. On our Stephenson Memorial Hall project, in combination with using electric plant, we have reduced emissions by 16.3tCO₂e.

Local Supply Chain

Since 2008 we have had in place targets to maximise engagement with supply chains local to our sites. Initially this was to meet the socio-economic agenda, creating employment and training opportunities within the local authority areas where the project funding was generated. This initiative has reduced the emissions generated by individual projects by reducing material and personnel travel distances to and from site. Within the last twelve months 36% of labour travels less than 20 miles to site, and 68% travel less than 40 miles. We are currently improving our data capture process to more accurately calculate supply-chain GHG emissions.

Sustainability and Carbon Taskforce (CAST)

We have established a Sustainability and Carbon Taskforce (CAST) with membership drawn from all areas of the business. The remit of the taskforce is to review business operations and identify areas for reducing our carbon footprint.

Office Energy Efficiency

Since 2016, we have undertaken several energy efficiency measures at our offices, resulting in a reduction of 699tCO₂e of Scope 1 and 2 emissions across the Group. Installing PV has generated over 960,000kWh of electricity to date. This has saved 64tCO₂e, with an average annual ongoing saving of 7tCO₂e per annum. LED upgrades have saved an estimated 4tCO₂e per annum, and a total of 20tCO₂e to date. Reviewing hot water systems and turning down background heating and cooling has saved 33,560kWh, or 8.5tCO₂e. Replacing washroom taps for self-closing has contributed another annual reduction of 485m³.

Energy Efficient Printers

We have reduced the number, and improved efficiency of, printers at our offices. This will reduce printer energy consumption by 89% p.a., equating to 1.53tCO₂e over 5 years. We are also supporting the Forest Positive printing programme Papercut Grows, investing in reforestation to positively offset the paper used during printing.



FUTURE Carbon Reduction Initiatives

Zero Carbon Designs

We have developed standardised school design (2FE primary school and a 6FE secondary school) using fabric first and Passivhaus principles which are Zero Carbon in operation. We are undertaking further feasibility work to incorporate these standardised design solutions to enable a wider range of schemes/project types to benefit.

Working with and influencing our chosen design teams and supply chain partners we are also undertaking further R&D to reduce the embodied carbon within our school designs enabling us to drive the Net Zero targets and support our clients in meeting their targets also.

Digital Execution of Sub-contracts

We are currently investigating implementing digital execution of subcontracts, removing the need for printed hard copies. This should not only bring operational efficiencies but also significantly reduce the quantity of paper and energy used to print the subcontracts. It is forecast this initiative would reduce our paper consumption by 12%, saving the equivalent of 7 trees and approximately 3tCO₂e per annum.

Investment in Carbon Reporting Tool

We have recently invested in One-Click LCA a UKGBC endorsed carbon reporting tool enabling the benchmarking, and reporting of the embodied, operational and whole life carbon at every stage of construction, from initial feasibility through to in-use.

This investment will:

- Further support our understanding of Scope 3 carbon reporting
- Drive identification and specification of materials/components with lower embodied carbon
- Enable us to advise Clients on the best value balance between Capex / Opex and embodied and whole life carbon.
- Integrate and enhance our BIM capabilities and support our delivery of Zero Carbon building design
- Assist clients in delivery of their Net Zero 2050 targets.

Increased EV within Company Fleet

We continue to invest in updating our company fleet increasing the number of hybrid vehicles. In the last year we increased the number hybrid/EVs.

Hybrid/EV now represents over 75% of the entire fleet (up from 51% in reporting year 2024).



Energy Efficient Printers

While our ongoing aim is to reduce the amount of paper used, we are also investing in new copiers/printers which are more energy efficient, lower maintenance and less carbon intensive. This should reduce printer energy consumption by 89% per annum, equating to 1.53tCO₂e over 5 years.

Low embodied carbon Materials

Our CAST is investigating the suitability of alternative 'low embodied carbon' materials to support the reduction of embodied carbon in the projects we build.

Site Accommodation

To reduce the impact of our site accommodation we have been working closely with our accommodation provider and sister company, Total Hire & Sales Limited, to specify Eco friendly cabins wherever possible which could reduce energy consumption by up to 50%, compared to older standard units.

Features of these cabins include the following:

- Better insulated walls, ceiling and floors to reduce energy demand for heating
- Electric heaters fitted with timers to provide control over on and off times during the full 24 hours
- UPVC windows which are double glazed
- Low flow taps, reducing hot water demand and water consumption
- A future initiative we are looking at is to generate the energy supply to the cabin using PV panels, to reduce the mains or a site-based generated electricity consumption.
- In build EV charging points.



Governance

Overall responsibility for setting our carbon emission targets and our overall Carbon Reduction strategy sits with the Managing Director who chairs our Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Taskforce whose remit is to review business operations and drive a company-wide carbon reduction programme.

The taskforce takes responsibility for our Carbon and Sustainability programme for the administration of the Carbon Reduction Plan, including coordinating initiatives, communicating best practice, case studies, and monitoring performance across the company.



Our Carbon Reduction Taskforce consists of representatives from across the business including:



Carl Tidey
Managing Director
Total Hire & Sales



Kevin Dodds
Construction Director
G F Tomlinson Building



Siman Preston
Group Property Manager



Emma Morley
Performance
Framework Controller



Emma Murfin
Performance Information
Manager

Declaration

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 006 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 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 (where required), 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 board of directors (or equivalent management body).

Signed on behalf of G F Tomlinson Building Ltd:



Adrian Grocock

Group Managing Director

Date: July 2025

Date of next review: July 2026





G F Tomlinson Building Ltd

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