



Carbon Reduction Plan

Public

Node4 limited

23/02/2024

CARBON REDUCTION PLAN

COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING NET ZERO

Node4 Limited is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2030 and maintaining this commitment through to 2050.

Energy efficiency and environmental sustainability are a part of everything Node4 do, whether we're building new data centres or upgrading existing facilities. We have committed to design, build and operate our data centres with high energy efficiency standards and we are proud to say that our data centres, including those with attached offices, are now powered by 100% clean and renewable energy. This is not just a short-term achievement but a standard we are committed to maintaining in the long term. Our goal is to ensure that our operations remain sustainable and environmentally friendly at all times.

BASELINE EMISSIONS FOOTPRINT

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

Baseline Year: 2021	
Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations.	
Node4 have calculated and reported our emissions in line with the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (revised edition) and emission factors from the UK Government's GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.	
SECR methodology and the CO2 calculation has been verified by ISO 50001 UKAS accredited auditor.	
Usage Data has been taken from energy supplier billing information.	
Baseline year emissions:	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO₂e)
Scope 1	Emissions from activities for which the group is responsible including combustion of fuel and operation of facilities (Scope 1) / tCO ₂ e. Data centres and attached offices = 38,919 kWh (Generator Diesel - average biofuel blend) = 9.4 tonnes CO ₂ e
Scope 2	Emissions from purchase of electricity, heat, steam and cooling purchased for own use (Scope 2) / tCO ₂ e. Data centres and attached offices: 27,615,172 kWh (Mains) = 5,340 tonnes CO ₂ e
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	Emissions from offices (not attached to data centres), vehicles, water, employee communicating, homeworking (Scope 1) / tCO ₂ e Offices, vehicles, water, employee commuting, homeworking: = 394 tonnes CO ₂ e
Total Emissions	5,743 tonnes CO ₂ e

CURRENT EMISSIONS REPORTING

Reporting Year: 2023	
Additional Details relating to the Current Emissions calculations.	
<p>In 2022, Node4 acquired 2 businesses, Tiski and risual Limited. 2023 marked the first year in which the effects of the business acquisitions could be observed, particularly in terms of environmental impact. This was due to factors such as employees travelling to other offices for meetings and collaboration. Company and marketing events also began to be jointly organised. While Node4 continued to operate predominantly remotely, there was a push for employees to return to the office for collaborative work.</p>	
Baseline year emissions:	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO ₂ e)
Scope 1	<p><i>Scope 1 emissions are direct greenhouse gas emissions that occur from sources that are controlled or owned by the reporting organization. e.g., emissions associated with fuel combustion in boilers, furnaces, vehicles.</i></p> <p>Total Scope 1: 77.41 tonnes CO₂e</p> <p>Diesel for the generators – 55.23 tonnes CO₂e</p> <p>Fleet vehicles (diesel and petrol) – 22.18 tonnes CO₂e</p> <p>Node4 Limited confirms that all direct (Scope 1) emissions are accurately reported in accordance with the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard and SECR requirements.</p>
Scope 2	<p><i>Scope 2 emissions are indirect greenhouse gas emissions associated with the purchase of electricity, steam, heat, or cooling. They are accounted for by the reporting organization as they are a result of the organization's energy use.</i></p> <p>Node4's electricity usage at data centres with attached managed offices, and electric fleet vehicles are the only factor that falls into scope 2, however Node4 procure 100% renewable energy (RE-GO) which zero's our emissions associated with electricity usage. Emissions associated to electricity T&D are included in scope 3.</p> <p>Total Scope 2: 25.41 tonnes CO₂e</p> <p>Electricity usage at Data Centres and Managed Offices (Derby D1 and D2, Wakefield DC3, Northampton DC4) – 0 tonnes</p> <p>Electric / hybrid vehicles – 25.41 tonnes CO₂e</p> <p>Node4 Limited confirms that all indirect (Scope 2) emissions are accurately reported in accordance with the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard and SECR requirements.</p>
Scope 3	<p><i>Scope 3 emissions are indirect greenhouse gas emissions that occur as a result of activities both upstream and downstream of the organisation's operations. They</i></p>

<p>(Included Sources)</p>	<p><i>are not directly controlled by the organisation but are generated by sources such as business travel, employee commuting, waste disposal, and the production of purchased materials. These emissions are accounted for by the reporting organisation as they represent a significant component of the organisation's overall carbon footprint.</i></p> <p>Total Scope 3: 1,321.56 tonnes CO2e</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste (black bag, wood, and mixed catalogue) – 84.95 tonnes CO2e • Hotel stays – 7.92 tonnes CO2e • Business Travel (land and air) – 163.09 tonnes CO2e • Water Supply – 3.36 tonnes CO2e • Employee commuting – 336.14 tonnes CO2e • Gas usage (homeworkers) – 217.50 tonnes CO2e • Electricity usage (homeworkers) – 22.48 tonnes CO2e • Electricity T&D (data centres with attached offices) – 486.12 tonnes CO2e <p>Node4 Limited confirms that all required categories of Scope 3 emissions, including waste generated in operations, business travel, and employee commuting are comprehensively covered and accurately reported.</p>
<p>Total Emissions</p>	<p>1424.38 tonnes CO2e</p>

EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS

In order to continue our progress to achieving Net Zero by 2030, we have adopted the following carbon reduction targets to facilitate a gradual decrease in Node4’s emissions. Our aim is to reduce emissions gradually by increasing the percentage of emissions offset each year, starting from 2024.

2024 – 1281.94 tCO2e (offsetting 10% of 2023 emissions = 142.44 tCO2e)

2025 – 1139.5 tCO2e (offsetting 20% of 2023 emissions = 284.88 tCO2e)

2026 – 997.07 tCO2e (offsetting 30% of 2023 emissions = 427.31 tCO2e)

2027 – 854.63 tCO2e (offsetting 40% of 2023 emissions = 569.75 tCO2e)

2028 – 712.19 tCO2e (offsetting 50% of 2023 emissions = 712.19 tCO2e)

2029 – 356.09 tCO2e (offsetting 75% of 2023 emissions = 1068.29 tCO2e)

2030 – 0 tCO2e (offsetting 100% of our 2023 emissions = 1424.38 tCO2e)

This plan assumes a linear increase in the percentage of emissions offset each year. It also assumes that our total emissions remain constant at the 2023 level, which may not be the case in reality. We will regularly monitor and evaluate our progress towards our carbon neutrality goal. This will allow us to make necessary adjustments to our strategies and keep our emissions reduction on track.

In situations where our emissions are found to be higher than the 2023 baseline, we commit to offsetting these additional emissions. This is to ensure we meet the target emissions set out in this carbon reduction plan. By doing so, we maintain our commitment to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030, regardless of fluctuations in our emission levels.

Carbon Reduction Projects in 2023

Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives

Node4 has remained committed to reducing its environmental impact, securing fixed renewable energy (RE-GO) tariffs at its data centres and attached offices in 2023. This means that the electricity used by Node4 emits zero emissions, with the only emissions resulting from the transmission and distribution of electricity.

Significant upgrades were made to Node4's data centres in 2023 to enhance energy efficiency. These upgrades included the installation of larger coils and fans in the Computer Room Air Conditioning (CRAC) units in DC3 Hall 1, and a refresh of the condenser in DC1. These changes have improved airflow, reduced the recirculation of hot air, and increased the efficiency of the fans.

As a result, the data centres now operate more efficiently, using less power and reducing the carbon footprint. The improved heat exchange has also eliminated the need for sprinklers to run in hotter weather, saving water.

In 2023, Node4 began replacing some of its fleet vehicles with electric or hybrid models, further reducing emissions. This initiative will continue as lease contracts end, replacing any diesel or petrol vehicles with more sustainable options.

To further its commitment to sustainability, Node4 has significantly improved the accuracy of its employee commuting data compared to previous years. This has been achieved by generating reports on office utilisation, allowing us to understand which offices were used more frequently. This is a marked improvement from previous years, where a flat rate was applied for employee commuting, regardless of actual office usage. For any employees not commuting to the offices, it is assumed they are working from home. This expanded scope allows Node4 to track its emissions more accurately, aiding its journey towards becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

In line with group integration, Node4 has begun merging its management systems with other entities within the group. This collaborative approach allows Node4 to learn from and leverage the strengths of the group, enhancing its own management systems. A monthly management review is conducted with the quality and compliance team across the group, ensuring emissions are consistently scrutinised and monitored.

Node4's partnership with the non-profit organisation Laptops4Learning has continued to thrive. This collaboration not only reduces waste and emissions from the production of new laptops but also increases the availability of laptops in local communities and schools.

Node4 has also maintained its ISO 14001 and 50001 certifications and its EcoVadis Silver award. These recognitions validate Node4's commitment to environmental management, energy efficiency, and corporate social responsibility, and ensure its information is externally audited and validated.

Future Carbon Reduction Initiatives

In the future we hope to implement further measures such as:

- Expanding the scope of the ESOS assessment to include offices acquired through mergers and acquisitions. This will ensure that Node4 not only meets compliance regulations but also works towards making these offices energy-efficient.
- Continuing to invest in REGO energy to further reduce our carbon footprint.
- Investing further time and resources in improving the energy efficiency of our offices.
- Launching an environmental homeworking survey for our employees. This will help us understand if employees power or heat their homes using renewable energy, thereby increasing the accuracy of our emissions reporting.

- Increasing staff awareness of environmental issues by ensuring all staff complete environmental and energy training. This will keep employees updated on relevant legislation and changes.
- Encouraging the selection of the emissions offsetting option when booking flights and public transport. This will contribute to our carbon offsetting efforts.
- Launching volunteering activities that contribute to carbon offsetting as part of our CSR engagement and projects. This will not only help offset our carbon emissions but also boost employee engagement and contribute to our wider CSR goals.
- Ensure that all offices are equipped with sufficient facilities to support the Cycle to Work scheme. By providing secure bike storage, changing rooms and other facilities, we aim to encourage employees to cycle to work instead of commuting by car where possible.

Annual Review and Update

Node4 Limited is committed to conducting an annual review and update of this Carbon Reduction Plan. This review will reflect our progress in reducing emissions and incorporate any changes in our organisational structure, operations, or external factors. By regularly updating our plan, we ensure that our strategies remain effective and aligned with our commitment to achieving Net Zero emissions.

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 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.

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by Paul Bryce (CEO).

Signed: 

Name: Paul Bryce

Position: Chief Experience Officer (CEO)

Date: 24-06-2024