

Carbon Reduction Plan

Dawsongroup plc

Publication date: 19th July 2024

Commitment to achieving Net Zero

Dawsongroup is committed to achieving Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

The commitment to achieving net zero by 2050 is supported and adopted by:
Dawsongroup | vans - A wholly owned subsidiary of Dawsongroup plc.

Emissions Footprint

Baseline Year: 2022 (Jan – Dec)	
Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations.	
Our carbon emissions are calculated using an operational control accounting approach as described in the GHG Protocol.	
* Scope 3 data unavailable for baseline year.	
Baseline year emissions:	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO_{2e})
Scope 1	2,666
Scope 2	513
Scope 3 *	
Total Emissions	3,179

Current Reporting Year: 2023 (Jan – Dec)	
Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations.	
Our carbon emissions are calculated using an operational control accounting approach as described in the GHG Protocol.	
*Upstream and downstream emissions data unavailable	
Baseline year emissions:	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO₂e)
Scope 1	3,348
Scope 2	475
Scope 3 *	4,895
Waste	3,973
Commuting	849
Business Travel	32
Total Emissions	8,718

Emissions reduction targets

In order to continue our progress towards achieving Net Zero, we are moving ahead with plans to reduce our carbon footprint as fast as possible and are adopting the following carbon reduction targets:

- Net Zero by 2040 for emissions we directly control
- Net Zero by 2050 for emissions we can externally influence

Carbon Reduction Projects

Since the 2022 baseline, various environmental management measures and projects have been completed or are in progress. However, despite these efforts, Dawsongroup has experienced a 20% increase in scope 1 & 2 emissions from 2022 to 2023, amounting to 644 tCO₂e. This rise can be explained by the return to normal operations following the Covid emergency, with emissions reductions expected to be realised in the future.

The following environmental management measures and projects have commenced since the 2022 baseline year and are either completed or ongoing.

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Head Office Redevelopment

We are in the pre-construction phase of the redevelopment of our head office site for greater energy efficiency and environmental performance. Our new building is being designed by industry leaders in sustainable development, will adhere to strict energy efficiency standards and will be powered entirely by electricity.

The new building is forecast to reduce our total energy consumption from 658,234 kWh/yr (gas and electricity) to 273,960 kWh/yr, of which approximately 30,000 kWh/yr will be generated via solar PV. An energy saving of 58% is forecast, translating to an **80 tCO₂e** saving – 44 tCO₂e saved by eliminating gas usage, and 36 tCO₂e saving due to reduced electricity consumption.

Partial Refurbishment of Regional Depot

We've undertaken a partial refurbishment of our Garforth depot. We had all new windows fitted in the building, along with new reception and boardroom corridor doors. During the window upgrades, we removed the lower plastic panels and had the lower window sections bricked up and insulated to help retain heat and improve security.

Site Consolidation

In addition to the redevelopment of our Head Office site, as of 2021 we have consolidated three distinct sites, home to four Dawsongroup businesses, to a purpose-built facility in Avonmouth, Bristol. This site has been built with sustainability at the forefront and features a solar PV system, a wash bay water recycling system for reuse of water, and a full recycling station for organising all types of recyclable materials for collection.

With LED lighting throughout the site and the latest air conditioning system comprising air source heating and cooling, the site provides the highest level of comfort to employees.

Renewable Energy Generation at Dawsongroup sites

We investigated the potential for renewable energy across the Dawsongroup estate and, as of 2023, have now completed solar PV installations at two sites, which are expected to produce 105,000 kWh/year.

We expanded our existing solar PV system at our Avonmouth site, resulting in additional emissions savings of approximately **12.6 tCO₂e/year**. Furthermore, we've installed solar PV at our Heathrow site, achieving a saving of **6.6 tCO₂e/year**. We have learned from these experiences and will use this knowledge to assess the renewable energy potential of our other sites.

LED Lighting

We are replacing lighting with energy efficient LEDs. This initiative commenced in 2020 and is ongoing. We have changed approximately 70% of the lightbulbs at our head office and are calculating the energy savings from this initiative.

Solar Van Port

We are in the planning phase of constructing a 1250m² solar car port at our Milton Keynes depot. The estimated annual output of the installation is 230,000 kWh, saving around **54 tCO_{2e}** per annum. We will be able to charge 17 vans simultaneously and will be generating twice the amount of electricity the site presently consumes.

Renewable Energy Procurement

We are increasingly sourcing our electricity through renewable energy contracts. In 2023, our first renewable tariffs became active, providing our sites with 27,000 kWh of green energy in the final quarter of 2023, and an additional 190,000 kWh annually through 2027.

Staff Company Car and Fleet Vehicle Upgrade

The majority (approximately 75%) of our carbon emissions result from the use of company cars and fleet vehicles. To combat this we are switching all staff company vehicles to PHEVs and BEVs and installing electric vehicle charging ports across all our sites to make this transition as smooth as possible for our employees. We also have a fleet of electric minibuses that we use to bring our drivers back to base upon deliverance of a fleet of vehicles to a customer.

We are also transitioning our hire fleet to electric where practicable. For instance, between 2022 and 2023, we acquired 98 electric vans to offer to the lease and rental markets. Our purchasing strategy plans for an additional 186 electric vans in 2024. In 2025, we anticipate integrating 480 more electric vehicles into our rental fleet. As we continue to replace traditional vehicles with EVs, the cumulative reduction in emissions will contribute substantially to our long-term carbon reduction goals as well as those of our customers.

Carbon Saving Technologies on Fleet

To reduce our scope 3 emissions and assist our customers in lowering their scope 1 emissions, we are exploring both available and emerging technologies that can be retrofitted to our existing fleet to enhance performance and reduce emissions.

We are installing Electronic Brake Performance Management Systems on all our trailers. In addition to improving safety, proactive maintenance, and performance optimization, these systems are recognized by the DVSA as an alternative to physical roller-brake testing. This recognition allows us to reduce trips to approved testing centres by over 75%, saving an average of 7.5 litres of fuel per trailer per test. This simple solution translates to an annual emissions reduction of approximately 110 tonnes of CO_{2e} for the 2,000 trailers currently equipped with this technology. We plan to install this equipment on all of our approximately 7,000 trailers in the fleet.

Furthermore, we have integrated Hulsteins Ecogen hydraulic refrigeration systems into our refrigerated trucks. Traditional diesel refrigeration relies on an integrated diesel engine, resulting in two polluting engines operating simultaneously on one vehicle. Hultsteins' technology allows our customers to harness engine power via a power take-off to transmit energy to a conventional diesel fridge, eliminating the need for additional fossil fuels.

Declaration and Sign Off

The commitment to achieving net zero by 2050 is supported and adopted by Dawsongroup and its subsidiaries. The commitment to achieving net zero by 2050 is supported and adopted by: Dawsongroup | vans - A wholly owned subsidiary of Dawsongroup plc.

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 06/21 and the associated guidance and reporting standards 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, 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.



Steve Miller

Group Chief Executive

For and on behalf of the board of directors

Date: 19th July 2024