



CHEC
healthcare for local people

www.chec.uk

Carbon Reduction Plan

Publication Date: August 2023

Summary

CHEC's commitment to achieving Net zero

'Don't stop till Zero'

CHEC understand that continually improving our environmental performance should be at the forefront of our business. We share the NHS understanding that climate change undermines the core foundations of good health, contributing to cardiovascular disease, asthma, and cancer. Action to tackle climate change also reduces the burden of disease from air pollution, obesity, and poor diet whilst directly addressing health inequalities experienced across the UK

We understand the impact of rising temperatures, extreme weather and the increased pressures climate change is and will have on the NHS, our carbon reduction plan ensures CHEC are pro-actively managing and minimising our environmental impact through scientific data reporting.

CHEC's carbon reduction plan aligns with the NHS Green Plan. CHEC are committed to achieving Net zero for:

- *Scope 1 and Scope 2 (the emissions we control) directly to be net zero by 2040, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction benchmarked on our base year by 2032*
- *Scope 3 (NHS reportable) emissions we can influence to be net zero by 2045, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction benchmarked on our base year by 2039*

About CHEC

CHEC are growing in terms of number of hospitals, number of staff and number of patients treated. This will naturally result in activity with the subsequent increase in emissions in greenhouse gasses. Our total carbon footprint will therefore likely increase in the short to medium term. Implementing our Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP) will result in a fall in our intensity ratio year on year whilst it takes several more years for total emissions to see a significant decline, aiming to achieve Net Zero by 2045. To provide a true reflection of carbon performance we measure performance of the following:

- *Performance of total carbon emissions we control directly benchmarked against the base year of Financial Year 2021.*
- *Performance of intensity ratio measuring number of patient appointments against scope 1, scope 2 and scope 3 emissions required by the NHS.*

Scope 3 reporting requirements from the NHS includes:

- *Upstream transportation and distribution*
- *Waste generated in operations*
- *Business travel*
- *Employee commuting*
- *Downstream transportation and distribution*

Compliance

CHEC have been captured by the Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) compliance to report on scope 1 and 2 emissions in addition to carbon emissions from transport since 2022. As part of SECR, an intensity ratio against number of patient appointments has been created to measure carbon performance.

Complementing our compliance with SECR, CHEC are in the process of completing ESOS Phase 3. Several recommendations to improve energy efficiency and carbon performance are captured in the report and summarised as actions within the CRP.

In 2022, CHEC joined with several organisations to share learning from environmentally conscious organisations. Membership of IHPN and the use of the Green impact for Healthcare Toolkit (GIFH) has allowed CHEC to shape the roadmap to Net Zero by 2040.

Baseline Emissions

The emissions baseline represents CHEC's Carbon Footprint if our CRP was not implemented. This includes both total emissions required as per the NHS Green Plan and an intensity ratio.

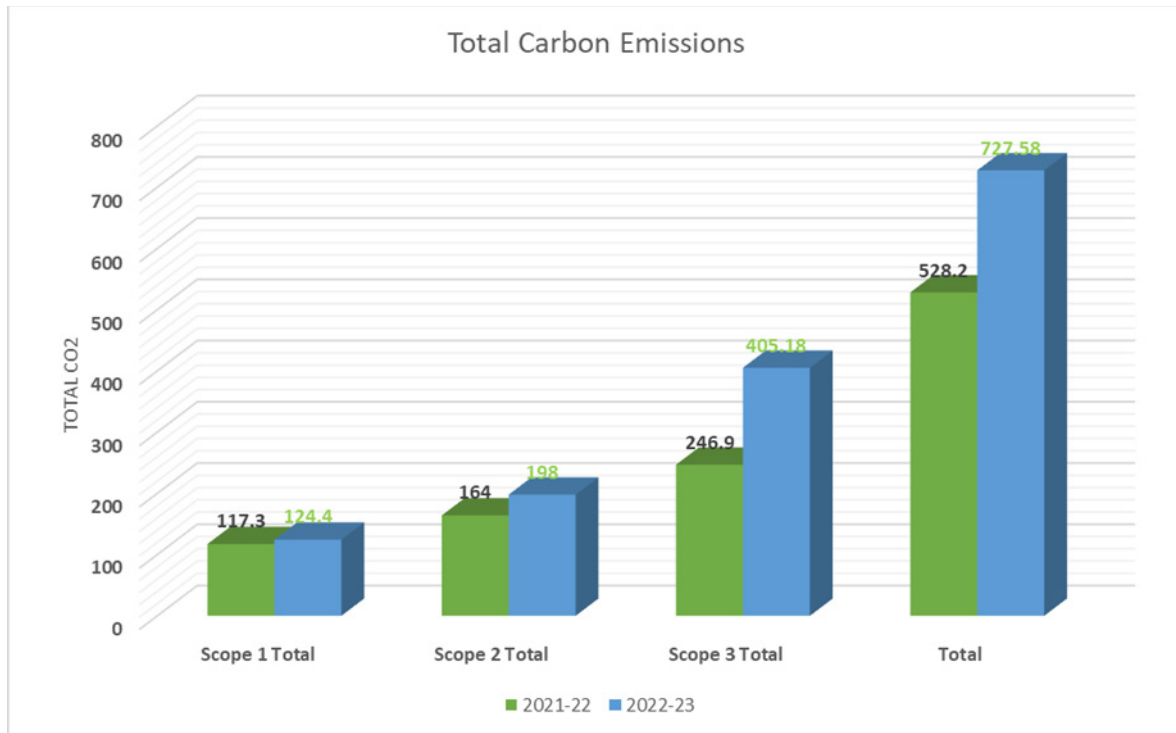
The emissions baseline provides a point against which we measure changes in the number of emissions produced. We have chosen the baseline to be the Financial Year 2021 when carbon emission reporting was required in line with SECR compliance.

Performance

	2021 (Baseline)	2022
Greenhouse Gas Scope (GHG)	Total CO2 (tCO2e)	Total CO2 (tCO2e)
Scope 1 (Company owned vehicles, heating and cooling)	117.3	126.0
Scope 2 (Purchased electricity)	164.0	198.0
Scope 3 (Waste, Employee commuting, Business travel)	246.9	405.4
CO2 Total (tCO2e)	528.2	729.4
No Patients per 1000 Patient appointments	269.778	338.109
Intensity Ratio	1.96	2.16
Carbon Efficiency Improvement (%)		-10.2%

Table 1 above represents Carbon Emissions from baseline year 2021 to reporting year 2022. Table 1 presents an expected increase in carbon emissions across scope 1, 2 and 3 as the business opened a further nine hospitals, increased staff count by 152 (56%) and increased the number of appointments for the year by 68,331. A 25% increase on the previous year.

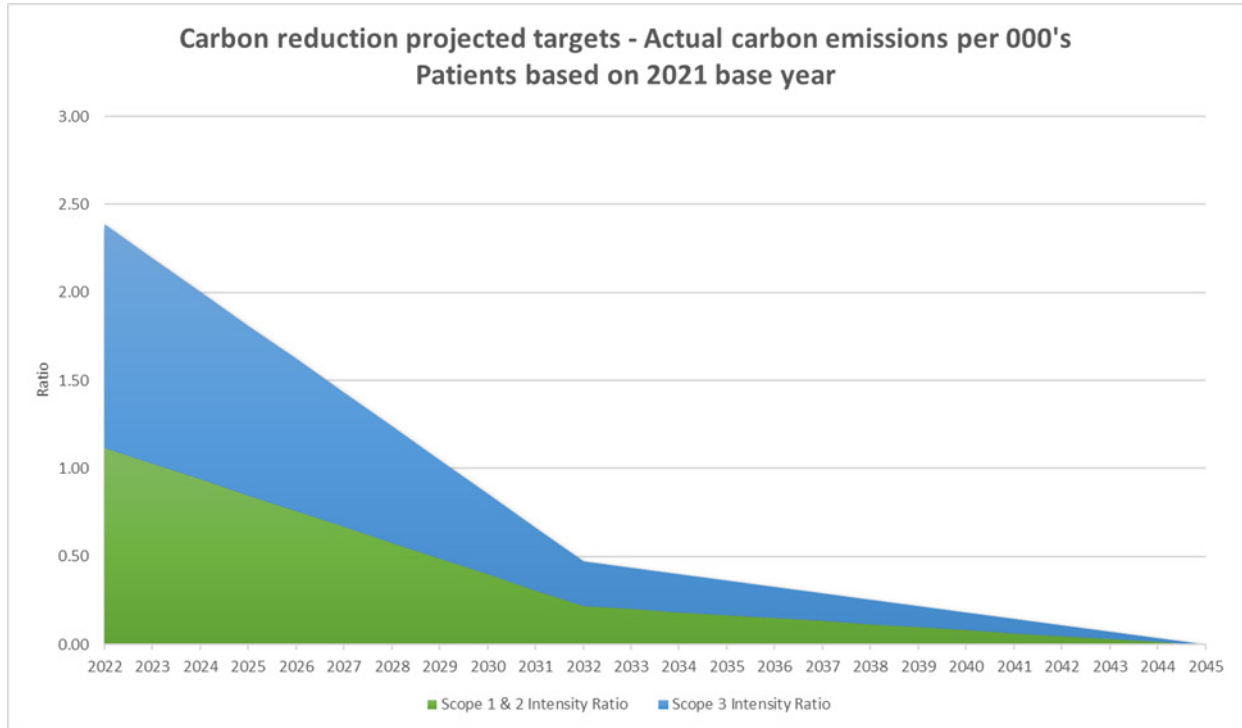
Whilst the above table summarises year on year intensity carbon performance, our total carbon footprint has increased and is expected to increase further as the business continues to grow. A comparison of the year-on-year scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions total is summarised in the graph below.



Graph 1. Demonstrating an increase in Carbon Emissions aligned with the growth of CHEC hospitals from Baseline 2021 to Reporting year 2022.

Carbon Reduction Targets

As CHEC continues to grow in terms of number of hospitals, number of staff and number of patient appointments we expect our total carbon footprint to increase with this growth. Our carbon plan is to ensure a year-on-year improvement in carbon efficiency in line with our long-term carbon intensity performance targets. Graph 2 below separates scope 1 & 2 emissions from scope 3 emissions, summarising how carbon performance is to evolve to meet our carbon reduction plan targets by 2045



Graph 2 separates scope 1 & 2 emissions from scope 3 emissions, summarising how carbon performance is to evolve to meet our carbon reduction plan targets.

Projects to ensure year on year carbon performance improvements are summarised below.

Carbon Reduction Projects

Whilst CHEC's carbon footprint has increased and customer appointments have increased by 25%, energy efficiency performance has increased just 10% year on year. As CHEC's main business is to deliver healthcare, there is a reliance on instruments, consumables and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for direct care and back office, sterilisation and transport as support functions.

Energy efficiency projects implemented through the latest financial year include optimising heating levels, monitoring energy through granular data at site level, using operationally appropriate fuel-efficient vehicles for patient transportation, reducing fuel consumption within fleet vehicles, and transitioning to low emissions and alternative fuel vehicles.

We continue to focus on areas that generate Carbon Emissions and combine these with recycling and reusing consumables wherever we can. As we continue our growth programme, we continue to drive down carbon emissions by using current successful methodologies, combined with newer innovations to have an amplified effect on reduction in Carbon Emissions.

Consumables and PPE

- Re-usable instruments for surgical and outpatient procedures
- Re-usable scrubs and re-usable gowns with outsourced laundry contractors
- Using biodegradable surgical gloves where appropriate
- Ensuring all stock is used before expiry dates to prevent waste
- Rare expired stock is used for training new staff
- Using cleaning fluids that are quality controlled with long shelf life
- Waste recycling units at each hospital to allow recycling

Staff and patient transport

- Reducing average miles travelled by staff and patients to CHEC locations by using Hub and Spoke model with patients being seen closer to home
- Ensuring appropriate fuel levels within vehicles are suitable for the journey in order to reduce fuel consumption with fleet vehicles
- Transitioning from diesel fuelled vehicles to low emission and electric vehicles for patient transport and company vehicles, with salary sacrifice schemes solely for conversion to electrical vehicles for staff.
- Operate cycle to work schemes.
- We have also implemented staff behavioural training to decrease energy waste, such as turning off lights and car sharing.
- Developing an internal network of environmental champions to drive Net Zero targets.

Using technology

- CHEC introduced the CHEC booking app allowing digital appointment booking. Almost 45% of patients book online limiting paper appointments, phone calls and staff resource.
- Paperless record systems.
- Induction and training online where possible for staff.
- Ability to work from home enabled by continued investment in IT infrastructure.
- Ensuring black and white printing when printing with smart printer setting, reducing paper, delivery and consumables.
- Centralised shutdown of all computers at 7pm ensuring we use minimum electricity in non-operational hours.

Facilities management

- Optimise facilities management by ensuring window closing, appropriate temperature control and appropriate centralised setting of heating and cooling systems, monitored by regional managers.
- New hospital locations are pro-actively chosen to be within easy access of public transport for patients and staff, supported by our Hub and Spoke Model.
- Use of PIR and LED bulbs in all new hospitals.
- Accurate monitoring of electricity and gas consumption.
- Posters and stickers throughout CHEC hospitals as a reminder to turn off lights and reduce electricity usage.
- Convert to green energy suppliers where there is a Carbon Neutral generation of electricity.
- Decarbonising electricity consumption by utilising Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).

Governance

- Provide leadership through CHEC ESG group to drive Carbon reduction plans.
- Implement CHEC's ESOS audit ahead of June 24 deadline and implement identified opportunities for carbon reduction and ensure ESOS compliance.

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, 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 of CHEC. Signed on behalf of CHEC.

Signed on behalf of CHEC

Date