

Publication date: ...22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024.....**Commitment to achieving Net Zero**

QA Plus Ltd is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2030.

**Baseline Year: 2019**

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.

Scope/ Category	Applicability	Baseline 2019:
1	The company does not feature in direct fuel burn	not applicable
2	Baseline power consumption was 12.4 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	
3.4	QA has minimal upstream [equipment purchasing] consumption	not applicable
3.5	QA has minimal waste product	not applicable
3.6	Business travel featured in 2019 baseline as below	
3.7	Commuting travel features in QA baseline as below	
3.9	QA has minimal downstream [delivery] output	not applicable

Baseline business travel, commuting and homeworking was 61.1 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

Year	Business		Commute	
	Travel Scope 3	Power etc. Scope 2	Travel Scope 3	Home Work Scope 3
2019	36.9	12.4	22.7	1.4

Prior to 2020, the majority of our carbon footprint came about through travel, both commuting to the office for our staff and visiting clients for a wide array of reasons including meetings, installations and training.

2019 Business travel approx. 110,000 miles  
 2019 Commute: 68,000 miles.

We have used .3357 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e per mile as an average for our metrics.

**QAPL Training & Consultancy Travel Policy: 2021**

**Training:** The company has invested in training videos and online tutorials. Since 2021 this has reduced client related business travel from approximately 60,000 miles a year to zero.

**Office Travel Policy:** Since 2021 on average staff work 1 day a week from home.

**Project Boards:** From 2022 these are usually conducted through Zoom and Teams.

**Business travel:** In the past 3 years, that has drastically reduced. Originally as a response to Covid lockdown but established use of Teams for project management and consultancy coupled with Videos for training has become a common business model.

## **IT Platform 2022/23**

Currently 35 servers in the network and 12 home-based 'clients'. We have targeted 10 servers for power down. Consolidation of 4 to 1 is planned for 2024/25. This will reduce platform power consumption by around 25%.

## **QAPL Motor Vehicle Policy: 2022/23**

Currently staff drive petrol and diesel vehicles under a car allowance scheme. Business related travel for 12 vehicles, after travel policy change, is expected to fall from 15,000 miles a year to 7,000.

Thereafter will be dependent on staff changing their vehicles to EV over the next 10 years.

**Commuting:** This fell significantly during lockdown but reverted in 2022 and is unlikely to change significantly until staff-owned vehicles change over to EV.

## **Emissions reduction targets**

In order to continue our progress to achieving Net Zero in those areas we can control we have adopted the following carbon reduction targets. We project that controlled carbon emissions will decrease by 80% from 49.4 [2019] to 10.0 [2025].

## **Carbon Reduction Projects**

At the end of 2023 we began to replace servers with a more energy efficient platform, reducing the number of online servers. We expect a reduction in power consumption in 2024.

## **Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives**

The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented since the 2019 baseline. The carbon emission reduction achieved by these schemes at December 2022 equate to a 48% reduction against the 2019 baseline and the measures will be in effect when performing government contracts

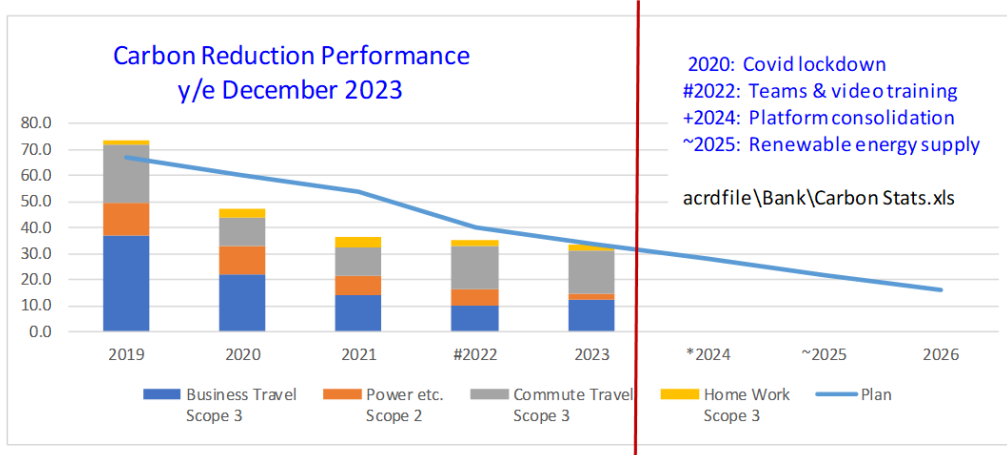
- **Changed working practices eliminating most business travel**
- **Move to electric / hybrid vehicles**
- **Use of solar panels for common areas by our landlord**

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

- **As occupants of leased premises there is a limit to the control we can exert on office reduction. We will need our landlords to switch to 'green energy' suppliers and staff to switch to EVs to achieve our reduction to zero.**

Progress against these targets can be seen in the graph below:

## Baseline, Plan & Performance 2019~2026



## 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<sup>1</sup> and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup>.

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the board of directors (or equivalent management body).

## Signed on behalf QAPLus Ltd

Chris Davis

Director

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

<sup>1</sup><https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting>

<sup>3</sup><https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard>