Carbon Action Plan: Progress 20/21

Lead: Motoko Doolan

As part of its vision to achieve carbon neutrality, WLWA established a carbon project team to start measuring and reducing the organisation’s own carbon footprint. Key visions and the actions plan have been drawn up and the majority of the baseline data relating to internal operations has been gathered during 2020/21. Some of key projects such as utilities contract renewal is currently underway.

# Key Visions and Scope

The WLWA Carbon Plan aims to focus on reducing internal (in-house) emissions to demonstrate our leadership (walk the talk) and to provide useful case studies for HRRC sites and the Council Offices. It sets out 5 key visions/outcomes:

Test the concept of Zero-waste office at our Office at Britannia Court and Abbey Road and create a model case for other HRRCs and the Council offices. This project will enable us to better understand practical issues and barriers we need to overcome in achieving ‘no-more waste’ which is a crucial concept within a circular economy. We aim to also extend this concept to campaign and events we run (currently on hold due to Covid-19), i.e. *zero-waste events/campaigns*.

**Zero Waste Office**

Procurement of green energy (e.g. REGO/RGGO certified energy) will significantly reduce our carbon footprint. We aim to engage with suitable suppliers that will assist us to also install smart meters and other solutions which enable us to continue monitoring and reducing our energy usage.

**Carbon Neutral Office**

We aim to continue supporting staff to work remotely which reduce the need for travel, better work-life balance (well-being). We aim to also encourage the use of alternative transport versus private car use to/from work and during work, e.g. public transport, cycling, car clubs.

**Low Carbon Travel**

To reduce carbon emissions from our wider operations, we will also be reviewing the environmental impacts of our operations through contractors and suppliers. We will use contract/supplier management process and procurement process to work jointly with our partners to identify and implement improvements and solutions.

**Stronger Partnership with Contractors**

We will promote more environmentally friendly actions among our members of staff. We will engage with them through workshops/training and encourage them to be advocates for sustainability when interacting with the public, contractors and any other external stakeholders.

**Sustainability Culture at WLWA**

# 2019/20 Baseline Data (Preliminary results as of Feb 21)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Emission Sources (GHG scope)** | **Britannia Court** | **Abbey Road** |
| Electricity (scope 2) | 2.4t | 32.1t |
| Gas (scope 1) | 11.8t | - |
| Water (scope 3) | - | 8.4t |
| Fuels | 0.66t  (elec van- scope 2) | 101.0t  (gas oil – scope 1) |
| Business Travel / Commute Travel (scope 3) | 2.13t | |
| **Total (known so far)** | **158.5 tCO2e** | |
| *\*This table does not include any ‘indirect’ emissions from our contracted operations (e.g. transportation of waste, treatment of waste/resources).* | | |

The Carbon Trust’s online benchmarking tool suggest that Britannia Court is performing within the industry standard (Carbon Trust’s estimated energy profile for Britannia Court below)

# Action Plan – Key Activities

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Emission Sources** | | **Key Actions** |
| 1 | Project Initiation Activities | * Establish a Project Plan * Baseline data collection/analysis (and audit) |
| 2 | Staff Engagement – behavioural change | * Initial discussion / baseline gathering * Programme of internal workshops / training |
| 3 | Utility Usage – gas, electricity, fuel and water usage | * Contract renewal of elec/gas/water * Meter reviews (incl. smart meter installation) * Alternative fuel / fuel efficiency reviews |
| 4 | Transport – fleet, business travel and commuting travel | * Baseline gathering / usage review * Alternative options review |
| 5 | Waste production – from own offices | * Baseline gathering * Installation of appropriate collections/sorting |
| 6 | Consumables consumptions, e.g. paper, plastics, stationery | * Baseline gathering / Procurement review * Zero-waste event/campaign |
| 7 | Contractors/Operational Emissions, e.g. haulage of waste, disposal / treatment | * Baseline gathering (existing contract reviews) * Prioritisation of contractors and key actions, e.g. alternative fleets/fuel sources * Programme of collaboration projects with key contractors * Programme of new tender procurements |

# Key Milestones and Targets

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * 2020/21 | The baseline established |  |
| * 2021/22 | Renewable/Green energy contract (green electricity/gas) |  |
| * 2022/23 | Zero Waste Office |  |
| * 2023/24 | Low Carbon Travel |  |
| * 2024/25 | Carbon Neutral Office (Near-Zero Carbon) |  |