**STRIDE TREGLOWN** 

### Environmental Management Report

2022





### **Executive summary**

Our previous Environmental Report covered an 18-month period, July 2020 to December 2021. The reason for the extended period of reporting was to enable future reports to align with the company's annual financial reporting period. As a result, this year's Environmental Report aligns with the financial reporting year, January 2022 to December 2022.

This development has allowed us to establish a direct comparison between financial and environmental performance across a calendar year, allowing 'People, Planet & Profit' to be reported together in one combined annual report.

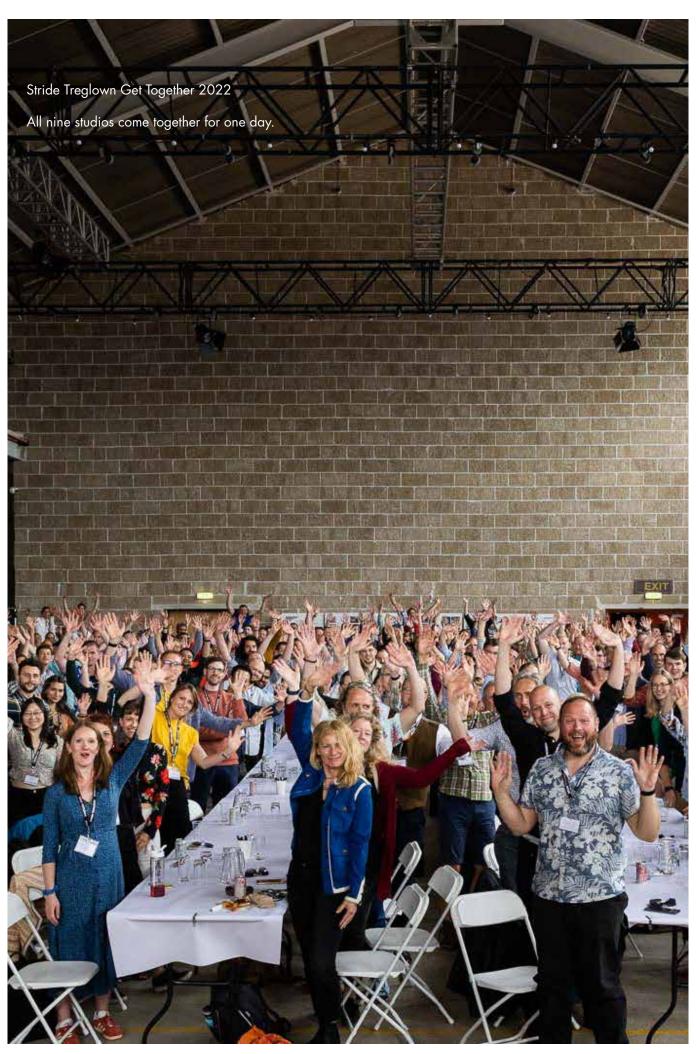
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# Stride Treglown is an employee-owned architectural practice and a Certified B Corporation®.

### Who are we?

We stand for Better Places, Empowered People and Resilient Partnerships.

Over 300 of us work in a collective of studios formed of architects, designers and specialists.

Our expertise spans the sectors of Civic, Commercial, Education, Healthcare, Infrastructure and Residential. Our network of 9 regional studios means we are embedded in the communities that we work and live in.

Together with our clients, we aim to improve the lives of future generations.

That's why we promote a form of design that isn't driven by ego, but by purpose.

Nine offices across the UK.



£24.6m turnover in 2022.



£24,600,000

Employee owned practice since 2015.



of shares owned outside the board of directors.

300+ people.



Expert Revit BIM users with over 18 years experience.



Since 2015 we have reduced our carbon footprint by 78%. 100% of our electricity usage is from renewable sources.



We are now a



Since April 2021 Stride Treglown has Carbon Neutral status.





### Stride Treglown as a B Corporation

### **B** Corp

Find out more at:

stridetreglown.com/ we-are-a-certified-b-corporation/ In February 2021, we proudly achieved B Corp® certification, becoming the first architect in the AJ100 and one of only a handful of firms in the UK built environment sector to join a growing, purposedriven community.

Certified B Corporations are businesses that meet the highest standard of verified social and environmental performance, public transparency, and legal accountability to balance profit and purpose.

### **Serving clients**

B Corp certification gives our clients confidence that we'll help them deliver their social value and sustainability goals.

### **Collaborative relationships**

Being a B Corp makes us part of a fast-growing network of likeminded companies that we can work with and learn from, helping us to collaborate more effectively for better outcomes.

### **Constant improvement**

We're a learning organisation. B Corp certification helps us to measure what we're doing well, what we could do better, and helps us plan how to improve

B Corp standards are an ideal fit with our existing culture and operations. Importantly, they provide us with a framework for improvement across all our activities. 'Environment' is one of the five B Corp Impact Areas, so tracking and improving our own performance is critical.



Stride Treglown meets high standards of social and environmental impact.



We continue to be ISO 14001 accredited and have been since 2005. In 2020 we set ourselves three targets for 2025:

### Our targets for 2025



5%

## reduction in water consumption per square metre

2019 baseline figure: 0.77m3/m2/annum

2022 figure: 0.50 m3/m2/annum = 35% reduction

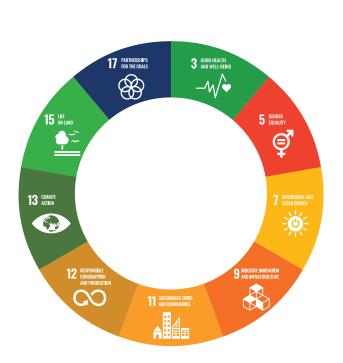


5%

### per capita reduction in overall business travel emissions

2019 baseline figure: 611kgs/CO2e/capita/annum

2022 figure: 341kgs/CO2e/capita/annum = 44% reduction





100%

### of electricity used from renewable sources

2019 baseline figure is 61%

In 2022 87% of the electricity that we directly purchased was renewable

United Nation Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Since our founding in Bristol in 1953, we have gradually grown to be one of the largest architectural practices in the UK, with a network of 9 regional studios spread across the communities we work and live in. GHG emissions from heating and lighting our studios form a large part of our carbon footprint.

### **Our studios**

### Bath

The Bath office was built c.1969 and we have been based there since 2008. We occupy the first floor's rear wing of the 'L' shaped building and were the architects and interior designers for a refurbishment to the studio in 2019. The refurbishment included low energy PIR lights, new higher performance windows, cycle storage and new changing facilities. The office has comfort cooling and natural ventilation.

### **Birmingham**

In 2021, the Birmingham studio relocated to Birmingham City Centre. The studio is within a few minutes' walk of local and national rail, bus and tram services, improving our access to public transport significantly, and reducing our reliance on car use. Being in the heart of Britain's second city gives us great access to a huge variety of cultural, retail, and social amenities.

### **Bristol**

Promenade House is our largest office. Originally constructed c.1840, the Grade II\* listed building was extended in the 1970's. We have been based here since 1989, and now occupy all 950sq.m of the office. In 2012, we upgraded the thermal envelope of the 1970's extension with additional insulation and replacement high performance windows. In 2018 we completed a major internal refurbishment of the whole building - all the lights were replaced with energy efficient fittings. The whole building is naturally ventilated.



### **Bristol (IT)**

The IT team operate from a second office in Clifton; the semi-basement of a naturally ventilated Victorian property, with other tenants on the floors above. We have been in these premises since 2011. We use higher than 'average' amounts of electricity here as the building houses IT equipment and servers.

#### Cardiff

Treglown Court, designed by Stride Treglown, was the first office building in the UK to achieve BREEAM 'Outstanding rating' at design stage. We have occupied all 495sq.m across the two-storey building since completion in 2010. Designed with sustainability at its core, the highly insulated timber framed, and low energy building incorporates many sustainable technologies including a biomass pellet boiler, roof mounted PV's, grey-water recycling and a biodiverse brown roof. The building is naturally ventilated.

#### London

3 Cosser Street was converted from an old industrial building by other designers in 2006, and we have been here since 2007, occupying the whole ground floor. The building has air conditioning.

#### **Manchester**

Commercial Wharf was built during the industrial revolution as a dockside wharf building and warehouse adjacent to the River Medlock. We have occupied the airy open plan ground floor and first floor mezzanine office since 2011. The office contains some distinctive original features including exposed brickwork and cast iron columns. The building is also naturally ventilated.

### **Plymouth**

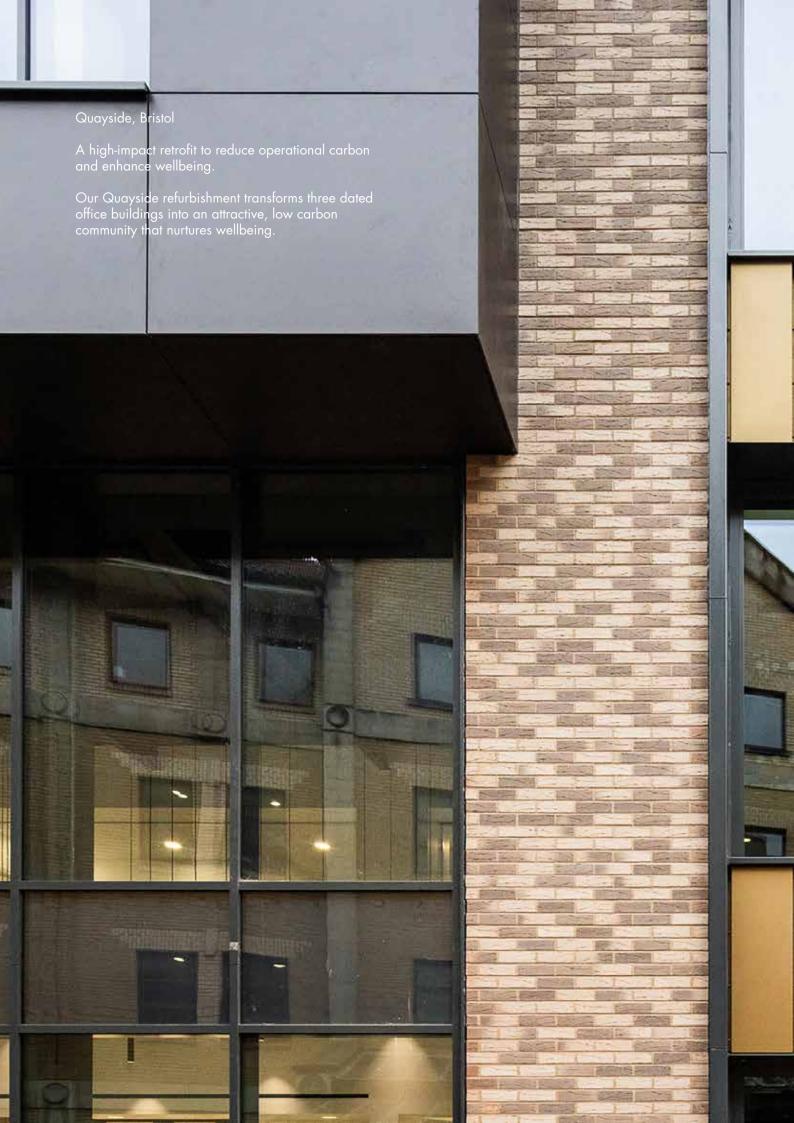
Since 2002, the Plymouth studio has occupied a listed building within the Millfields, a former Royal Naval Hospital, built circa1760. The building has an array of photovoltaic panels, and is naturally ventilated. However, the building has poor insulation and energy efficiency, and we are currently reviewing how this can be improved.

#### Winchester

We have occupied the first floor of a purpose building office since 2015. The building is naturally ventilated, with brise soleil on the south elevation reducing solar gain. With an inverted roof and no suspended ceiling, the main office area has a studio feel to it, enhanced by a height of 4.0m and 3.0m high windows. The grounds are attractively landscaped and include a BBQ area.

### **Truro**

Since 2003, we have occupied a 1807 Grade II listed former house. The building is naturally ventilated, but has inefficient direct electric heating. We are currently reviewing how to improve the sustainability and quality of space provided in the building.



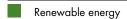


### **Energy**

We aim to meet the 2025 target of having 100% renewable electricity through a combination of green utility tariffs, on-site photovoltaic panels and a biomass boiler. We recognise that we must make further improvements by following the energy hierarchy and improving the efficiency of the building fabric of all our offices.

The Bath and Birmingham offices are omitted from these graphs as we are unable to obtain energy usage data from our landlords. There is no gas connection to the Truro office.

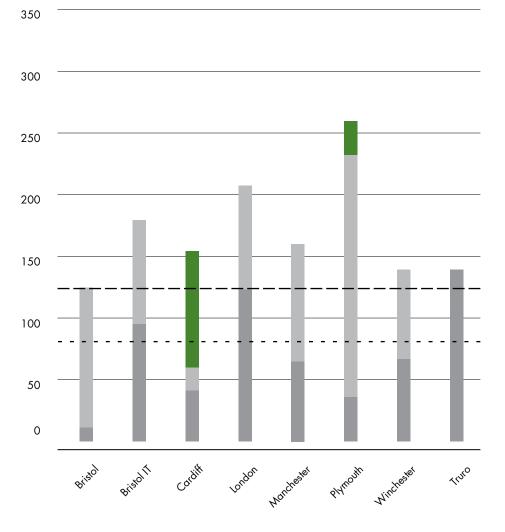
### Energy consumption (kWh/m2)



Gas consumption

Electricity consumption

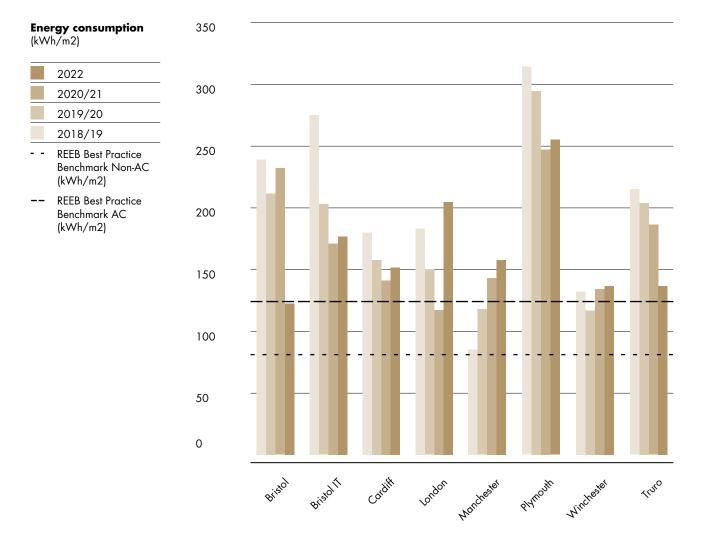
- REEB Best Practice Benchmark Non-AC (kWh/m2)
- -- REEB Best Practice Benchmark AC (kWh/m2)



This year's figures show varying levels of consumption across all our offices.

Bristol IT, Cardiff, Manchester, Plymouth, and Winchester offices have a slightly higher energy consumption compared to the 2020/21 reporting period. The London office's energy consumption has increased significantly whilst Bristol, our head office, along with the Truro office have reduced significantly.

With all of the offices now having returned to post–Covid norms the jump in energy consumption, along with the use of mechanical ventilation in our London office, explains the increases.

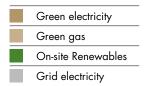


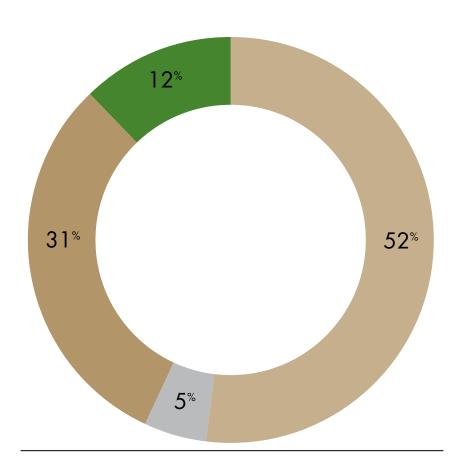
### Renewables

95% of our energy now comes from renewable supplies, green tariffs, and on-site renewables.

The source of remaining 5% will move to a renewable supply on the expiry of our current contract

### **Energy sources**





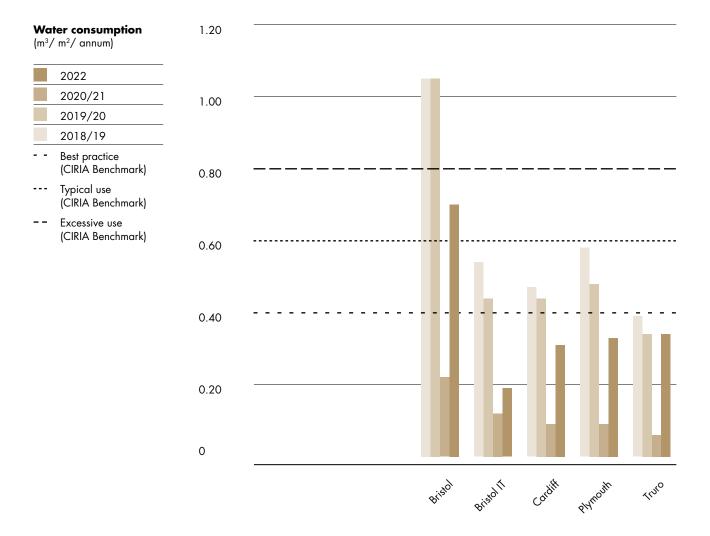
### Water

This year's reporting period saw an increase in water consumption from 0.58 m3/m2/annum to 1.87 m3/m2/annum across the business.

The previous year's reporting period, 2020/21, spanned the majority of the Covid–19 restrictions where offices were at reduced capacity. Therefore, the increase in water consumption was to be expected.

Although water consumption has increased across all offices, this has not reached the levels of consumption in previous years.

We acknowledge that the data from 2020/21 does not establish a true reflection of our consumption as a business. Therefore, comparisons of data will be derived from previous years, excluding 2020/21, to provide a true representation of the business's operations.





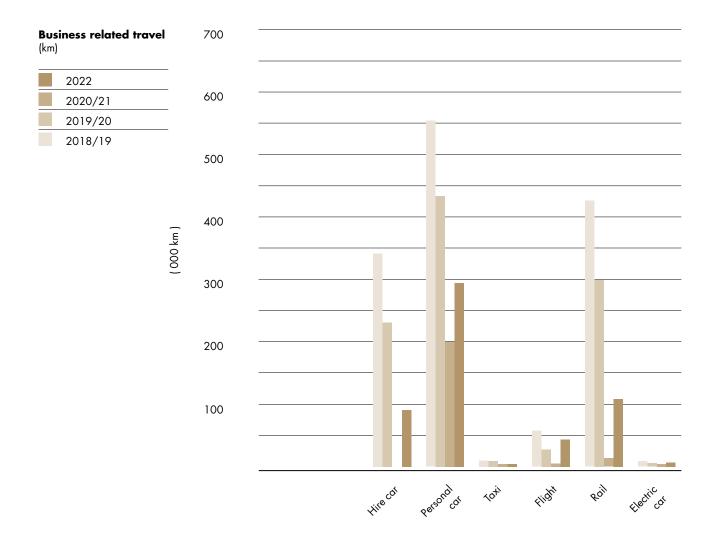


### Business travel

During and for a period post Covid restrictions business travel reduced significantly. As we move further away from this period company business travel has increased – an expected trend.

Whilst the increase is a feature across all of our offices, it remains much lower than previous years prior to 2020/21.

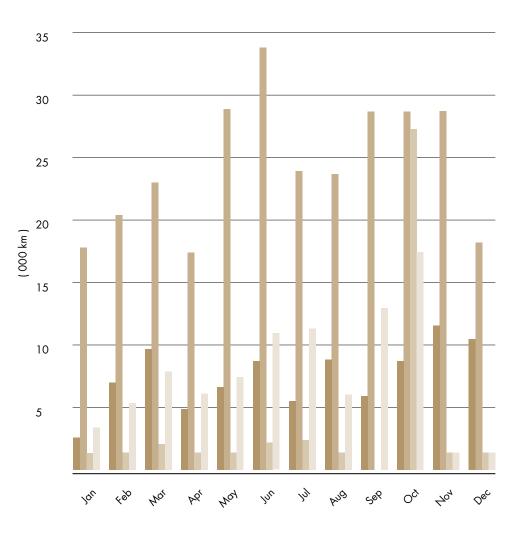
From a positive perspective, these results are promising as they present an opportunity to implement strategies that encourage the use of sustainable travel and benefit our employees. These opportunities will be explored and implemented in our next reporting year.



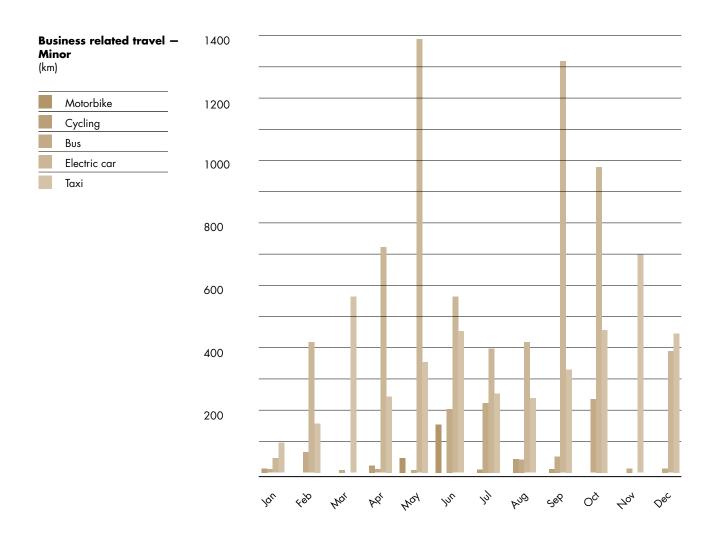
Similarly to last year's data, personal car use remains the largest form of major business travel.

As the effects of Covid no longer have any significant impact on the business, hire car, flight, and rail usage has increased, signifying the return to a new normalised working environment.





### Business travel

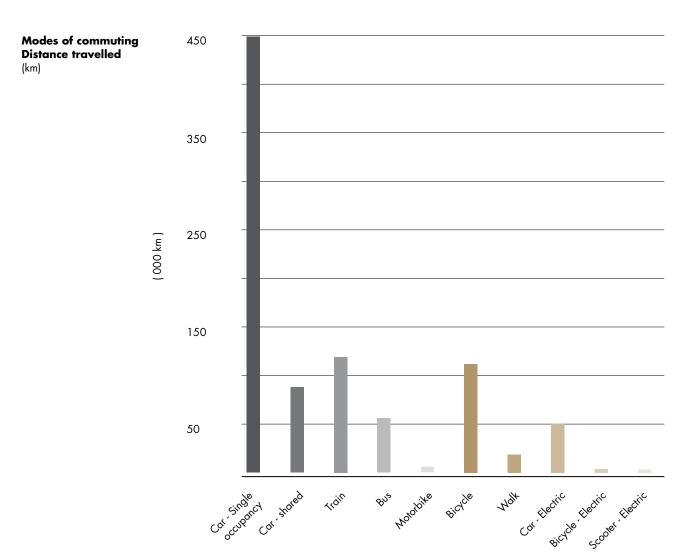


### **Commuting**

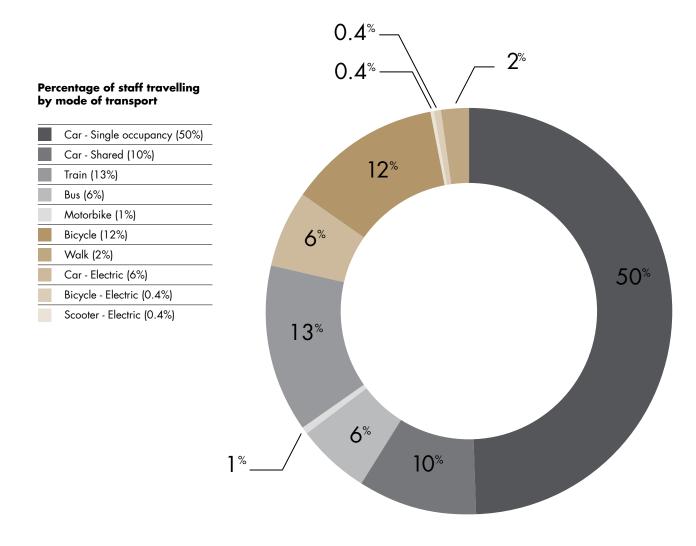
All offices have now settled into a post–Covid hybrid working pattern. Staff commuting has increased, in comparison to 2020/21, with single occupancy car usage being the largest mode of transport.

Sustainable modes of commuting have also increased including, train, bus, and cycling.

We intend to improve our employee benefits and encourage staff to use more sustainable modes of transport.



### Commuting



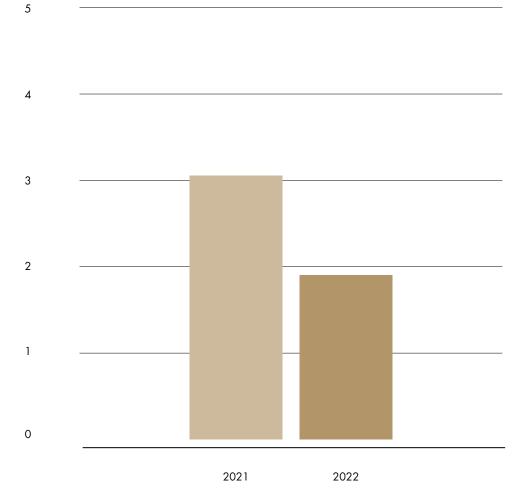
### Working patterns

Our hybrid working policy allows staff to work from home as well as the office.

This year's working pattern showed that 82% of staff worked an average of 1.5 days a week from home.

This averaged figure is lower than last year's figure, indicating a trend in employees returning to office-based working.

Average number of days spent working from home (days)







### Carbon footprint

This year we have increased the scope of emissions, that we have included within our carbon emissions, and are now including Scope 3 (excluding sub-consultants) as well as Scope 1, 2 and 2+. Definitions for these are given below.

### Scope 1

### (Direct emissions)

Activities owned or controlled by an organisation that directly release emissions straight into the atmosphere. Examples of scope 1 emissions include emissions from combustion in owned or controlled boilers and vehicles.

### Scope 2

### (Indirect energy emissions from purchased energy)

Emissions being released into the atmosphere associated with the consumption of purchased electricity, heat, steam and cooling. These are indirect emissions that are a consequence of an organisation's activities but emissions that an organisation does not have direct control over.

### Scope 3

### (Indirect value chain emissions)

Emissions that are a consequence of an organisation's which occur at sources, which an organisation does not own or control. This is an optional reporting category. We have excluded emissions from our sub-consultants from our Scope 3 reporting, as is typical practice, because they 'own' these emission.

Once again, we have calculated our carbon emissions using two methods: Location based — Formal offsetting and Market based — Carbon reporting

### Location based — Formal offsetting

This is the industry standard method for calculating and reporting carbon emissions for offsetting, and uses standard grid carbon conversion factors.

### Market based – Carbon reporting

This method uses carbon conversion that recognise the renewable electricity and green gas that we purchase.

The industry standard method for calculating carbon footprint and thus carbon offsetting is reliant on 'location-based' calculations. We have continued to use this method, and therefore we are effectively 'double offsetting' for the majority of our energy consumption.

#### Overview of our results

Our 'location based' carbon footprint for 2022 has been calculated by Future Leap to be 693 tonnes of CO2e, which includes Scope 1, 2 and 3. This is a significant increase on the comparable 12 months in 2020-21, mainly due to a return to more 'normal' business activity and partly due to a change in the way our Scope 3 emissions have been calculated.

Our 'market based' carbon emissions for 2022 were 657 tonnes of CO2e. The difference between 'location based' and 'market based' has reduced significantly as the percentage of our Scope 2 emissions reduces when compared to Scope 3, which is now 87% of our total emissions.

### **Carbon Balancing**

We have chosen to use the term 'carbon balancing' rather than 'carbon offsetting' this year because we feel it better reflects the action we take. We have been calculating our carbon footprint since 2015, gradually becoming more comprehensive, and we now measure our whole carbon footprint.

We have made good progress in reducing our operational carbon footprint over a number of years, but realising that in order to drive further improvement and help meet the global requirement to get to net zero by 2050, we have signed up to Science Based Targets and set ourselves the goal of reducing our carbon footprint by 50% in 2030 and 90% by or before 2050, in line with the Paris Agreement. We are currently developing a detailed Carbon Reduction Plan to achieve these goals.

We became Carbon Neutral in April 2021 and have balanced our emissions from 2019–20 and 2020/21.

Following on from the previous two and a half years, we have fully balanced our residual carbon emissions for 2022 to remain a Carbon Neutral business.

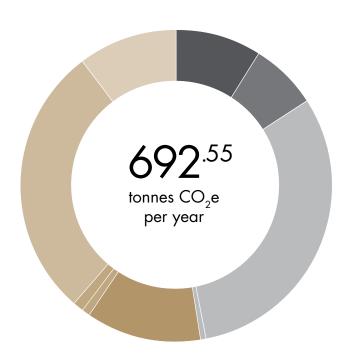
Having previously balanced our emissions through formally approved schemes which had impact far away from our offices and communities, this year we decided to support the work of 9Trees, a small Community Interest Company (CIC), winners of the 2022 Natural Environment Award, who work with altruistic landowners to plant native broadleaf trees and create a biodiverse woodland at sites across the UK. The sites are closer to our some of our offices, which means we can help plant some of the trees, and visit 'our' trees as they develop into woodland. 9Trees will be planting 693 trees to balance our 2022 emissions, and will continue to look after them for the next 50 years.

As 9Trees do not have formal certification for 'carbon balancing', and because we also want to continue supporting international schemes that reduce carbon emissions and have wider ESG benefits, we have also balanced our full carbon emissions through Gold Standard and UNFCCC Certified projects outside the UK. These projects support wider UN Sustainable Development Goals and help create better financial, social, and environmental outcomes in developing countries. The projects

- Biomass Energy Conservation in Malawi
- Providing clean drinking water from Community Boreholes in Eritrea and Zambia
- Providing improved cookstoves in Uganda and Malawi
- Investing in wind power in Mongolia and Jamaica
- Investing in hydroelectricity generation in Brazil
- Investing in PV's in Andhra Pradesh, India

### Location based — Formal offsetting

### **Carbon emissions**



### Scope breakdown

(tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per year)

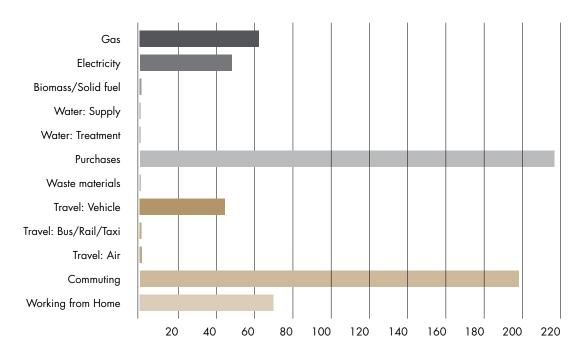
Scope 3	604.02
Scope 2	35.30
Scope 1	53.23

### **Carbon Intensity**

(Scopes 1, 2 & 3)

by turnover (Kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per £)	0.033
per full-time member of staff (Kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per year)	2,249.0

### Carbon profile

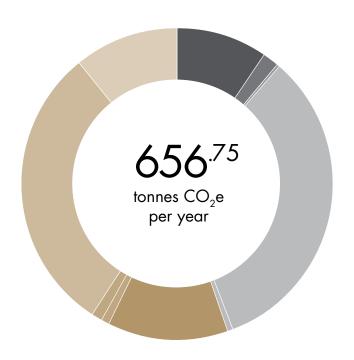


tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per year

### Market based - Carbon reporting

### **Carbon emissions**

**Carbon profile** 



Gas

Commuting

Working from Home

### Scope breakdown

(tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per year)

Scope 3	594.82
Scope 2	8.70
Scope 1	53.23

### **Carbon Intensity**

(Scopes 1, 2 & 3)

by turnover (Kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per £)	0.031
per full-time member of staff (Kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per year)	2,132.5

# Electricity Biomass/Solid fuel Water: Supply Water: Treatment Purchases Waste materials Travel: Vehicle Travel: Bus/Rail/Taxi Travel: Air

tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per year

120

140

160

180

200

220

100

60

80

20

40





### Meet the team



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### **Services**

Architecture
BIM & Digital Design
Building Surveying
Design for Manufacture
Graphic Design
Interior Design
Landscape Architecture

Masterplanning & Urban Design Principal Designer RIBA Client Adviser Project Management Sustainability Town Planning

### Sectors

Civic Commercial Education Healthcare Infrastructure Residential Technology & Innovation

### Offices

Bath Birmingham Bristol Cardiff London Manchester Plymouth Truro Winchester

### **STRIDE TREGLOWN**

### stridetreglown.com

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- instagram.com/stridetreglown