

Introduction

I & H Brown Ltd fully recognise the urgency of the climate change agenda, understands and is fully committed to the role it has to play (in moving toward) in a decarbonised economy for a greener and sustainable future.

As a significant step towards this goal we have produced this Carbon Reduction Plan which conforms to the requirements of Procurement Policy Note PPN06/21; "Taking Account of Carbon Reduction Plans in the procurement of major government contracts", published in June 2021 and the supporting "Technical standard for the Completion of Carbon Reduction Plans".

I & H Brown Ltd are actively involved in Civil Engineering with a wide variety of projects that include infrastructure works and renewable energy schemes and the purpose of this (Carbon Reduction) Plan is to drive improvement in the sustainability of the delivery of those projects and our business.

Historical Reporting

I & H Brown Ltd has recorded and reported greenhouse gas emissions since 2008. Throughout this (Carbon Reduction) Plan, "carbon emissions" refers to all greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂ equivalent / CO₂e). The I & H Brown Ltd financial year starts on 1st September and ends on 31st August. Previous Carbon Footprint reports were aligned to the same reporting period.

A Head Start on Others With Offsetting

I & Brown Ltd have a diverse business that includes a number of farms and property holdings that have enabled it to invest in a number of projects that increase the company's ability to offset carbon emissions. These projects include new woodland creation, hedgerow planting and peatland restoration.

I & H Brown Ltd see offsetting as an important step towards where it wants to be in terms of a real and tangible reduction in carbon emissions in line with this (Carbon Reduction) Plan. At present I & H Brown Ltd have no plans to trade the carbon credits available to it. Although we realise that real carbon reduction has priority, offsetting has been and continues to be beneficial in achieving our carbon reduction aims.

Reporting Standards and Scope

The calculation of the I & H Brown Ltd carbon footprint is in line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard and the ENCORD Construction CO₂e Measurement Protocol with reference to:-

-  Scope1: Emissions that the company make directly, e.g. fuel for plant and vehicles.
-  Scope2: Emissions that the company make indirectly, e.g. energy for heating/cooling buildings.
-  Scope3: Emissions not associated with the company itself but are produced indirectly e.g. supply chain, business travel.

Commitment to Achieving Net Zero

I & H Brown Ltd is fully committed to making real reductions in carbon emissions;

-  Achieving net zero for scopes 1 and 2 by **2039**. We are aiming to achieve this target without offsetting wherever possible.
-  Achieving net zero carbon emissions across scopes 1, 2 and 3, including all of the energy that we use and carbon we emit, by no later than **2045**.

Our Four Step Process

Our overall approach to achieving net zero carbon emissions follows a four step process:

1. Review - assess and improve processes, tools and systems for carbon emission data collection.
2. Reduce - implement energy and carbon reduction and efficiency measures to reduce energy demand.
3. Renew - identify and implement measures to increase generation and use of renewable energy.
4. Rebalance - offset the remaining balance of carbon following reduce and renew measures (with restrictions).

Baseline Emissions Footprint

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.

I & H Brown Ltd's baseline emissions are taken from our Carbon Management Report - 2020/2021. These, measured without taking any account of offset, provide a robust base from which to measure our improvements.

Our baseline emissions are:

Scope 1 – 14289 t CO₂e
Scope 2 – 136 t CO₂e
Scope 3 – 794 t CO₂e

Total – 15229 t CO₂e

Current Carbon Reduction Measures already in place

These include;

-  Offices in Perth and Warrington, energy efficiency measures. e.g. LED lighting and PIR sensors, heating system upgrades, improvements to insulation. Since 2012 our gas usage has reduced by 67% and our electricity usage has reduced by 36%.
-  Current management systems including a Carbon Management Policy and Fleet EV Transition Plan.
-  Our minimum standard for site offices includes double glazing, heaters fitted with timers, LED lighting with PIR sensors.
-  Trialling of solar panels on site solar pods.

-  Provision of EV charge points.
-  Battery operated mini excavator trials.
-  Purchase of modern plant that has the most efficiently available engines.
-  Own and operate a wind farm that makes green energy.
-  Management of 620ha of woodlands.
-  Agile/hybrid working (to continue post covid pandemic).
-  Video conferencing / MS Teams etc .
-  Working towards achieving ISO 50001 Energy Management accreditation. The reporting regimes in this standard is aligned with this Carbon Reduction Plan.
-  The review and revision of our supply chain and supplier key documentation to improve carbon reduction and sustainability requirements. e.g. subcontract orders, pre-order and pre-start documents. This will in turn improve our performance monitoring for the supply chain.
-  The commencement of change to an EV car fleet.
-  The trial of hydro-treated vegetable oil (HVO) fuel for heavy plant use.
-  The prioritisation of having electricity grid connections on all sites, where reasonably possible to reduce reliance on diesel powered generators.

Future Carbon Reduction Measures Planned

General

-  To track the Research and Development of new technology and participate in trials as appropriate to the business.

Offices

-  Investigate and implement the sourcing of 100% renewable electricity.
-  Further EV charge point installations.
-  Research into feasibility of solar panel installation.

Systems and Communication

-  Investigate and roll out more accurate embodied carbon reporting (Aligned with ISO 50001).
-  Roll out training sessions to upskill all I&H Brown Ltd employees raising awareness and changing behaviours.
-  Provide bulletins outlining our approach to carbon management.
-  Engage I & H Brown Ltd employees to promote sustainability and net zero discussion.
-  Carry out a root and branch review of emissions data sources, processes and methodology, emissions categories and business reporting structure.
-  Instigate regular reporting of carbon emissions to Board of Directors.

Company Vehicle Fleet and Grey Fleet (Car Allowance Scheme)

-  Further replacement of company owned cars to Hybrid or EV.
-  Replacement of company owned vans to EV.
-  Aim to have 100% HVO fuel usage by 2026. This measure will produce a major reduction in emissions currently anticipated to be circa 80-85%.
-  100% EV Fleet by 2030, 124t anticipated saving at current volumes of vehicles.
-  4 x 4 replacement to EV kept under review as technology advances.
-  Promote transition to Hybrid / EV for grey fleet.
-  Promote home charge point installation for employee's.

Projects

-  Continue to monitor and act on technological developments that will provide electric/hybrid plant procurement.
-  Measure anticipated and actual carbon emissions on a contract by contract basis. Carry out a subsequent reconciliation analysis to identify resulting learning to assist our Net Zero journey.
-  On design and build contracts designers to undertake carbon option appraisal to consider low carbon alternatives. This will include design review on layouts, materials options and potential carbon intensity benchmarking on spend versus carbon emissions.
-  Trial and use of renewable / hybrid power production where not connected to grid.
-  Review use of generators for suitability / capacity, implement remote monitoring / telematics.
-  Provision of EV charge points on sites.
-  Carry out energy efficiency audits of existing site accommodation including insulation, double glazing, PIR sensors, non-concussive taps, timers for heating & lighting. Do this with involvement of our supply chain partners.
-  Trial use of LED lighting towers.
-  Target < 5% waste to landfill.
-  Continued engagement with supply chain partners to work collaboratively to achieve our carbon reduction goals.

Estates and Farms

-  Planting of 47ha of new woodland.
-  Assessing potential for peat bog restoration.
-  Further implementation of agricultural carbon reduction practices.
-  Agricultural land sampled and tested with the aim of reducing our non-organic inputs through more tailored crop requirement analysis or by utilising variable rate applications.



Declaration and Sign Off

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 06/21 and associated guidance and reporting standards for Carbon Reduction Plans. This (Carbon Reduction) Plan will be monitored with quarterly reports going to the Board of Directors and it will be reviewed and updated annually.

Emissions have been reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Protocol corporate standard. The appropriate government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting have been used.

Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions have also been reported in accordance with Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting requirements.

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the Board of Directors.

Name: J. S. BROWN

Signed: 

Position: MANAGING DIRECTOR

Date: 8/4/22