



CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS & ASSESSMENT

# Carbon Emissions Report 2024–25

# The journey towards carbon zero

We take our responsibilities to people and planet seriously and recognise our moral obligation to act to tackle the climate crisis. We seek to take a leading role in promoting environmental, ethical and legal best practice within our industry. We are focused on:

- Educating on and advocating for a better future
- Adding social and environmental value to the world through our actions
- Minimising impact on the environment and the communities where we operate

## Science based targets

We manage our emissions in line with the world's most widely used greenhouse gas accounting standard, the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard. This has three areas, or 'scopes':

Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3
<b>Direct emissions from combustion of fuels in owned buildings and vehicles</b>	<b>Indirect emissions via the purchase of electricity and heating</b>	<b>Other indirect emissions across the entire value chain such as purchased products, travel, transport and waste</b>
We are progressing our commitment to reach absolute carbon zero for Scope 1 & 2 emissions by 2048, aligned with the University of Cambridge's goal. We also set an interim target of a 72 percent reduction by 2030.		We are building our capability on indirect emissions - clarifying where they arise, where we can act and how we'll track progress. Our focus is on the most material areas (freight, paper and print, digital and technology, business travel) with improvements to data quality, discussions on target-setting and reduction actions underway.

## Methodology

Our data collection and calculations are informed by the **Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard** and the **Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards**. In the UK, we collect activity data for Scope 1 and Scope 2 operational sources (e.g., fuel and energy bills, metered electricity and company fleet mileage). Emissions are calculated directly from activity data wherever possible; where activity data is unavailable, we use limited, documented estimates. We apply the latest UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting and report results in metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e), covering the six gases regulated by the Kyoto Protocol. This report currently includes UK Scope 1 and 2 emissions only. We are working towards enhancing our methodologies and data quality to support a clearer assessment of our operational impacts worldwide.

## Reduction actions

Several projects and actions were completed in 2024-2025 across the UK estate of Cambridge University Press & Assessment to reduce our energy use and carbon emissions. As some of these were completed partway through the year, and due to seasonal changes in energy demand, the full impact of these projects may not be seen in the current reporting period, however it is estimated that these projects will contribute to annual carbon savings of around 287 tonnes of carbon. Projects included:

- Replacements of gas-fired equipment with electric alternatives, including the replacement of LPG boilers in our Cass Centre and DC10 warehouse, and the replacement of kitchen equipment with electric alternatives in University Printing House
- Installation of new renewables, including the installation of a new ground-mounted photovoltaic array at the DC20 warehouse and the expansion of an existing photovoltaic array on the roof of The Triangle building
- Improvements to lighting, including a major upgrade of lighting in the DC10 warehouse, upgrades of lighting in the Cambridge University Press Bookshop, and ongoing replacement of faulty lighting sensors in The Triangle building
- The use of an artificial intelligence tool to identify energy saving opportunities across our largest energy-consuming sites, along with upgrades to energy metering and controls, and adjustments to lighting and heating settings
- Our strategic approach to property management allowed us to identify improvements in space usage, including seeking occupants for under-used office spaces and ensuring energy efficiency is a key consideration in all refurbishments and fit-outs
- Several other projects were underway but were not completed to deliver significant carbon savings in this reporting period. These include a major project to replace gas-fired boilers at The Triangle building with air source heat pumps.

We generated electricity from solar photovoltaics on our estate, which is estimated to have avoided emissions of 134 tonnes of carbon.

We continue to purchase renewable electricity for over 98 percent of our UK electricity use, or around 71 percent of our total UK energy use. The impact of these purchases is not reflected in our reporting, which uses a 'location-based' reporting approach, meaning we account for the average emissions intensity of electricity grids from which we purchase our electricity. In future reporting, will provide information on 'market-based' emissions to show the impact of purchasing energy from renewable sources.

## Progress against our target

Our UK Scope 1 & 2 emissions target is for a 72 percent reduction in emissions by 2030. In 2024-25, we reduced our emissions compared to 2023-24 by 17.1 percent. Our overall reduction compared to our baseline year of 2018-19 was 45 Percent. This meant that we remained below our 'target pathway' associated with our science-based target.

# Carbon and energy data for financial year 2024–25

Table: Scope 1 and 2 emissions for all our activity within the UK for the period 1 August 2024 to 31 July 2025, compared to the period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024. All emissions calculations are based on the 'location-based' approach defined by the GHG Protocol.

Scope 1 and 2 UK carbon emissions													
Country	Scope	Resource	Metric (qty)	2023–24		2024–25		Percent change from previous year		Intensity metrics 2023–24 <sup>1</sup>		Intensity metrics 2024–25	
				Qty	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	Qty	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	Qty	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e emissions per UK FTE	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e emissions per UK m <sup>2</sup> floor space	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e emissions per UK FTE	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e emissions per UK m <sup>2</sup> floor space
UK	1	Gas	kWh	4,091,237	792	3,602,561	707	-12%↓	-11%↓	175.7	8.2	154.1↓	8.0↓
UK	1	Fleet Fuel	litre	4,206	11	3,571	9	-15%↓	-17%↓	2.4	0.1	2.0↓	0.1
UK	1	Fleet and pool car distance	km	25,685	4	10,303	1.38	-31%↓	-91%↓	0.9	0.0	0.3↓	0.0
UK	2	Purchased Electricity	kWh	10,642,901	2,204	10,052,876	1,779	-6%↓	-19%↓	488.9	22.9	387.8↓	20.2↓
UK	2	Purchased Heat	kWh	147,038	26	120,193	21	-18%↓	-19%↓	5.8	0.3	4.6↓	0.2↓
Total UK Scope 1 & 2 emissions				3,037	2,518	-17%	674.6	31.6	549.0↓	28.5↓			
Scope 1 and 2 UK avoided carbon emissions (on-site solar photovoltaic generation)													
Country	Scope	Resource	Metric (qty)	Qty	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	Qty	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	Qty	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	31.6	549.0↓	28.5↓	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e emissions per UK 1,000m <sup>2</sup> floor space
UK	1	Solar PV	kWh	708,504	147	759,137	134	7%↑	-9%↑	32.6	1.47	29.3↓	1.4↓
Scope 1 and 2 UK energy use equivalent													
				2023–24	2024–25	Percent change from previous year	Intensity metrics 2023–24 <sup>1</sup>		Intensity metrics 2024–25				
							kWh per UK FTE	kWh per UK 1,000m <sup>2</sup> floor space	kWh per UK FTE	kWh per UK 1,000m <sup>2</sup> floor space			
Total UK energy, kWh equivalent				14,938,426	13,814,590	-8%↓	3,313.8	155,433.7	3,010.4↓	156,468.6↑			

<sup>1</sup> Note that some intensity metrics from 2023–24 have been recalculated in light of new, updated or corrected data, resulting in some small changes to totals in this table compared to those presented in the 2023–24 annual carbon report.