28 Campus Drive, Kingsthorpe, Northampton, Northamptonshire, United Kingdom, NN2 7FN

**CARBON REDUCTION PLAN**

**Supplier name:** Aquila Supported Living Ltd
**Publication date:** 13th December 2024
**Reference:** PPN 06/21

## 1. COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING NET ZERO

Aquila Supported Living is unequivocally committed to operating as a sustainable and environmentally responsible organisation. We pledge to achieve a 50% reduction in our absolute Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2030, from a 2024 baseline, and to reach Net Zero emissions for our direct operations (Scopes 1 & 2) by 2040. We are further committed to measuring, understanding, and reducing our significant Scope 3 emissions, aligning our entire value chain with this critical objective.

---

## 2. BASELINE EMISSIONS FOOTPRINT

Baseline emissions provide a record of greenhouse gases produced prior to the introduction of targeted reduction strategies and serve as the reference point against which progress is measured.

| |
|---|
| **Baseline Year: 2024/25 Financial Year** |
| **Additional Details relating to Baseline Emissions Calculations** |

| Baseline year emissions: | |
|---|---|
| **Emissions** | **TOTAL (tCO2e)** |
| **Scope 1-** | **28.50** |
| **Scope 2-** | **16.80** |
| **Scope 3-** | **Pending calculation** |
| **Total Baseline Emissions** | **45.30 (excluding Scope 3)** |

* Note: This is Aquila Supported Living’s first Carbon Reduction Plan, marking the formal start of our recorded journey. The baseline year 2024/25 will be our reference point. Emissions have been calculated using UK Government GHG Conversion Factors (2024). We anticipate Scope 3 emissions from our supply chain, commuting, and waste will constitute the largest portion of our footprint, and a full audit is scheduled for 2025. *

---

## 3. EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS

To fulfil our commitment to Net Zero, we have adopted the following ambitious yet achievable carbon reduction targets, aligned with North Northamptonshire Council's own climate ambitions:

Our pathway to Net Zero is underpinned by the following strategic targets:

- **By 2026:** Achieve an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of 'C' or above for 100% of our managed properties.
- **By 2028:** Reduce combined Scope 1 & 2 emissions by 30% from the 2024 baseline.

- **By 2030:** Reduce absolute Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 55% from the 2024 baseline.
- **By 2035:** Transition 100% of our company fleet to ultra-low emissions (electric or hybrid).
- **By 2040:** Achieve Net Zero status for our direct operations (Scopes 1 & 2).

---

## 4. CARBON REDUCTION PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

### a) Immediate Actions (Initiate within 12 months):

- Conduct energy audits across all properties to identify key efficiency opportunities.
- Begin the rollout of smart meters and the replacement of all lighting with motion-sensing LEDs.
- Establish a Green Travel Plan for staff, promoting public transport, carpooling, and the Cycle to Work scheme.

### b) Short-Term Projects (By 2028):

- Work with landlords to implement property retrofits, focusing on insulation and high-efficiency boilers.
- Install solar panels on at least two suitable properties as pilot projects.
- Transition the first two company vehicles to fully electric models.
- Achieve ISO 14001:2015 certification for our Environmental Management System.

### c) Long-Term Strategy (By 2035):

- Complete the transition of the entire company fleet to electric vehicles.
- Ensure all major property refurbishments meet a minimum EPC 'B' standard.
- Fully integrate Scope 3 emissions management into our procurement and operational decisions.

### 4.3 Supply Chain and Resource Management

- **Sustainable Procurement:** Integrate environmental criteria into our procurement decisions. Prioritise suppliers with their own Carbon Reduction Plans and source sustainably produced goods, including PPE and cleaning products
- **Waste Reduction & Management:** Move towards a paperless office environment and enhance our waste segregation for optimal recycling. Work with waste

contractors to ensure zero general waste goes to landfill by 2030, opting for energy-from-waste where recycling is not possible

- **Bulk Purchasing:** Consolidate deliveries of essential supplies to minimise transportation emissions within our supply chain

### 4.4 Culture and Engagement

- **Staff Training:** Educate all staff on carbon literacy and their role in achieving our environmental objectives
- **Service User Involvement:** Engage and educate our service users on simple, effective ways to reduce energy and water consumption in their homes, fostering a collective effort
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Run internal communications campaigns around key events like World Environment Day and Great British Spring Clean

---

## 5. SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS MANAGEMENT

We recognise that our greatest impact lies within our value chain. For Aquila Supported Living, key sources of Scope 3 emissions include:

- **Upstream:** Purchased goods & services (food, medical supplies, PPE), upstream transportation, capital goods (beds, specialist equipment), and employee commuting
- **Downstream:** Waste generated in operations and the end-of-life treatment of our sold products (e.g., disposal of equipment)

Our strategy for managing Scope 3 emissions includes:

1. **Supplier Engagement:** Collaborating with our top suppliers to request their emissions data and encourage their own reduction initiatives
2. **Commuting & Travel Tracking:** Implementing systems to accurately track business travel and employee commuting to identify key areas for reduction
3. **Lifecycle Thinking:** Applying a sustainability lens to major procurement decisions, considering the whole-life carbon cost of products
4. **Annual Review:** We will annually review and refine our Scope 3 data and reduction strategies as part of our management review process

**Practical Steps for Measuring and Managing Scope 3 Emissions**

**Phase 1: Foundation & Data Collection (2025)**

**Scope 3 Screening & Prioritisation:**

- Conduct a high-level screening using spend-based estimation methods to identify the most significant ("hotspot") Scope 3 categories.
- Prioritise these categories (e.g., purchased goods/services, capital goods, employee commuting) for detailed data collection in Year 1.

**Establish Data Collection Systems:**

- Supplier Engagement: Issue a mandatory request for sustainability data (including their Carbon Reduction Plans and emissions factors) to all new tenders and our top 20% of suppliers by spend.
- Employee Commuting: Launch an annual staff commuting survey to capture modes of transport, distances travelled, and frequency.
- Business Travel: Implement a centralised logging system for all business travel (mileage claims, train tickets, flights) to track distances and modes.
- Waste Management: Work with our waste contractors to obtain annual reports detailing the weight and treatment method (landfill, recycling, energy-from-waste) for all waste streams from our properties.

**Initial Baseline Calculation:**

Calculate a preliminary Scope 3 footprint for the prioritised categories using the collected data and UK Government conversion factors. This will form our initial Scope 3 baseline.

**Phase 2: Integration & Reduction (2026-2028)**

**Refine Data Quality:**

- Transition from spend-based to activity-based calculation methods for key categories where data quality allows (e.g., using kg of waste, km travelled, kWh of energy used by specific equipment).

**Embed Emissions into Procurement:**

- Formalise a Sustainable Procurement Policy. Integrate carbon emissions as a key evaluation criterion in tender processes, favouring suppliers with robust Carbon Reduction Plans and lower-carbon products.

**Implement Reduction Initiatives:**

- Supply Chain: Set a target to engage 80% of our key suppliers on carbon reduction by 2028.

- Travel & Commuting: Promote and incentivise low-carbon commuting through our Cycle to Work scheme and public transport subsidies. Implement a "virtual first" policy for meetings to reduce non-essential travel.

- Waste: Work towards a 15% reduction in general waste per service user by 2030 through enhanced recycling and waste prevention programmes.

- Circular Economy: Where possible, prioritise the purchase of refurbished medical equipment and furniture to reduce emissions from capital goods.

**Phase 3: Maturity & Continuous Improvement (2029 Onwards)**

**Annual Reporting and Review:**

- Annually report our Scope 3 footprint alongside Scopes 1 and 2.

- Review progress against reduction targets and adapt our strategy as needed, exploring new technologies and methodologies for complex categories.

**Stakeholder Collaboration:**

- Actively participate in sector-wide initiatives to develop standardised metrics for measuring Scope 3 emissions in social care and supported living.

## 7. 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 will be reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate standard and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting.

Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions will be reported in accordance with SECR requirements, and the required subset of Scope 3 emissions will be reported in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Standard.

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

**Signed on behalf of the Supplier:**

Georgina Mushure

**Date:** 13th December 2024