

Sustainability
Report
2023



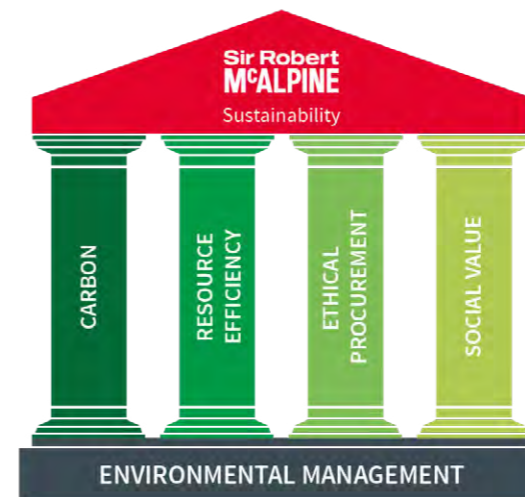


OUR SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Our sustainability strategy exists to reduce the environmental footprint of our organisation whilst delivering for our clients and contributing to a positive legacy for the UK.

Founded on robust environmental management and centred around four pillars of Carbon, Resource Efficiency, Ethical Procurement and Social Value, our strategy is designed to ensure we have the processes, tools and expertise in place to deliver on our requirements and the flexibility to accommodate the changing landscape of sustainability.

Our Pillars of Sustainability



Our Sustainability Aims



“Sustainability is a rapidly evolving area. Sometimes it feels like we’re trying to hit a moving target!”

I am, however, pleased to report encouraging progress against our strategy as we continue to focus on ensuring sustainability is built into our everyday decision making.

This year we’ve reached some important milestones, like being one of the first contractors to get our carbon reduction targets verified by the Science Based Target Initiative. We are steadily reducing carbon emissions. Our purpose beyond profit is clearly shown by our social impact performance and our wider strategy is giving us the agility we need to address our varying sustainability requirements.

As we look ahead, we need to acknowledge the challenges we face in areas like waste reduction, while continuing to use our collective

knowledge and focusing on the quality of our data. Promisingly, we made good progress this year, embedding the necessary controls, assurance, and expertise organisation-wide to drive improved performance.

Our focus is on having the right people with the right skills, sharing knowledge and insights to create and deploy solutions that not only meet our client’s needs, but also reduce our environmental footprint.

I’d like to thank the Sustainability Department, site teams and our supply chain partners for their tremendous efforts and their ongoing support. I know that together we can continue to achieve great things.”

Simon Richards, Sustainability Director,
Sir Robert MCApine



FY22/23 SUMMARY PERFORMANCE



Carbon

↓71%

Scope 1 & 2 emissions

↓54%

Scope 3 emissions

↓54%

Absolute emissions (S1,2&3)



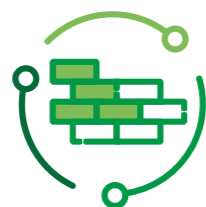
Ethical Procurement

95%

Responsible Sourcing

40

Supply chain framework agreements



Resource Efficiency

↓9.5%

Reduction in absolute construction waste

99%

Diversion from Landfill

37T/£m

Construction waste intensity



Social Value

£997m

Total Social Impact in local communities



Carbon



OUR AIM

**To be Net Zero
by 2045**

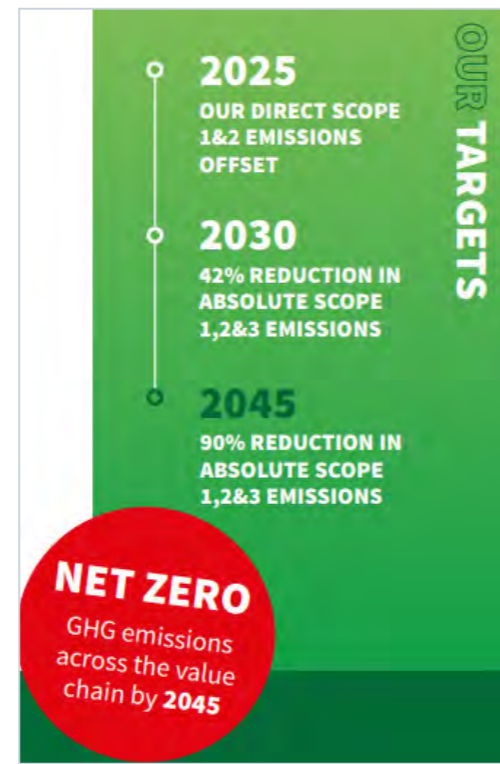


WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO US?

We recognise the impact that we, and the buildings and infrastructure that form our built environment, have on global emissions.

Reducing our impact and transitioning to a low carbon economy is one of the biggest challenges we face collectively.

It's why we are committed to decarbonising our business and proud to have become only the second major UK construction company to have had its targets approved as Net Zero by the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi). This approval has ensured our targets are ambitious, credible, and aligned with the Paris Agreement's goal of keeping planetary warming to 1.5°C, limiting the worst impacts of climate change.



OUR FOUR FOCUS AREAS OVER THE PAST YEAR HAVE BEEN:

1 Evolving our Net Zero strategy and transparency



Alongside the validation of our Net Zero Targets by the SBTi in April 2023, we undertook a review of our Net Zero action plan to ensure we take immediate and sustained action towards reaching Net Zero by 2045. We developed and published our dedicated Net Zero microsite ([NetZero.SRM.com](https://www.netzero.srm.com)) which details our strategy and pathway to Net Zero by 2045, as well as our current performance and best practice case studies.

2 Improving the efficiency and accuracy of data



Embedding reporting tools and transitioning to an online carbon calculation engine has improved data capture and is helping us transition from a spend (£) based approach for purchased goods and services to a quantity based one. With 92% of emissions related to the goods and services we purchase, continuing to efficiently manage and transition to activity-based data is a key driver in the coming years.

3 Embedding low carbon solutions into our design, procurement and construction



We undertook an external review and gap analysis of our carbon management system against PAS 2080:2023 Carbon management in buildings and infrastructure requirements, ahead of formal verification in 2024.

4 Building our capability and expertise



The rollout of our Carbon Literacy Programme has continued, as we continue to engage, upskill and empower our people to deliver low carbon solutions. More than 600 hours of carbon specific training was delivered to key disciplines during the reporting year, with further training planned for 2024.



OUR PERFORMANCE IN FY 2022/23

We have made significant progress this year on the delivery of our Net Zero action plan and this is reflected in our overall performance.



reduction in absolute carbon emissions
(Scope 1 & 2) (vs FY19/20 baseline)



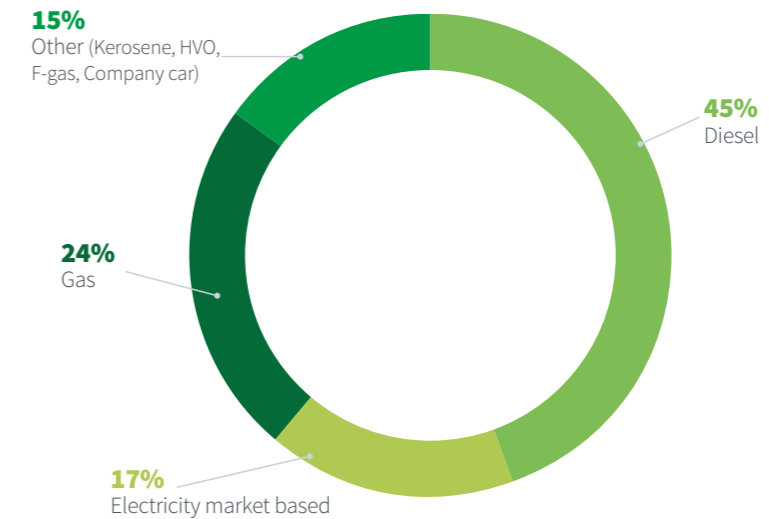
reduction in absolute carbon emissions
(Scope 1, 2 & 3) (vs FY19/20 baseline)



reduction in absolute carbon emissions
(Scope 3) (vs FY19/20 baseline)

SCOPE 1 & 2 Results

Scope 1 & 2 Breakdown - 2022/2023



We have delivered a reduction of 71% in our absolute scope 1 & 2 emissions (market based).

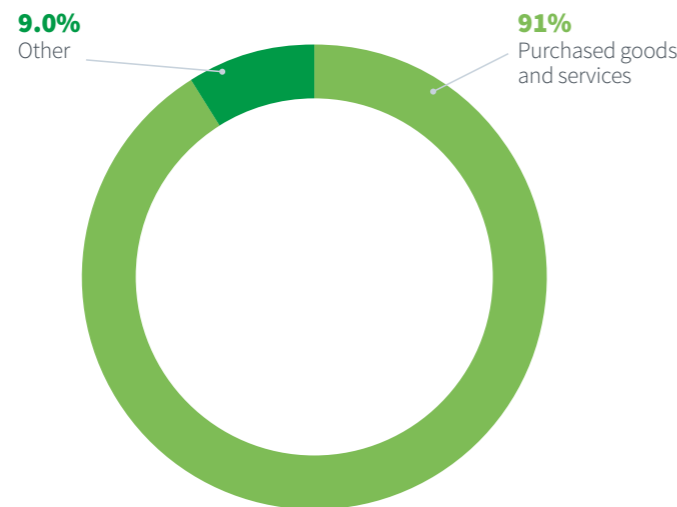
This performance was achieved through increasing the amount of electricity consumed via Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin (REGO) backed tariffs and the replacement of carbon intensive diesel with transition fuel Hydrogenated

Vegetable Oil (HVO). Further detailed analysis of our Scope 1 & 2 performance can be found in the Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) section of our Annual Report & Accounts.



SCOPE 3 Results

Scope 3 Breakdown - 2022/2023



This year we've reduced our scope 3 emissions by 54% against our baseline year (FY 2019/20), driven by a significant reduction in emissions associated with purchased goods and services which account for 91% of our overall emissions.

This reduction has been influenced by the evolution of our calculation methodology which has seen us:

1. Move to an independent online carbon calculation engine
2. Align our calculation methodology with the latest standards and most up-to-date and appropriate emission factor databases
3. Transition from a spend-based to a quantity-based approach for key material emission hotspots: concrete, structural steel, and steel reinforcement

Our Scope 3 performance can be attributed to several factors:

- **A reduction in turnover** – due to our spend-based approach to calculating purchased goods and services, this year's reduction in turnover has led to a reduction in spend, and in turn, a reduction in emissions.
- **Adopting Exiobase for increased accuracy** – this year, we adopted an alternative EEIO database for the spend-based approach, named Exiobase. As one of the most extensive systems of its type, it uses the most up-to-date emission factors, providing greater granularity and accuracy compared to the previous global approach.
- **Adjusting for inflation** – we have altered our approach to inflation, using more regularly updated data from IMF, OECD, and Eurostat sources.
- **Transitioning to activity-based data** – replacing spend-based data with material quantities for significant material hotspots; concrete, structural steel and steel reinforcement has enabled us to move away from global averages to material-specific emission factors, improving the granularity and accuracy of emissions associated with key materials.

These factors are linked to the commonly used spend-based approach, highlighting the importance of transitioning to material-specific quantities and emission factors. The rollout of a third party online carbon calculation engine this year ideally positions us to efficiently manage this transition as we expand the scope of our activity-based data and further improve the accuracy of calculated emissions.



SCOPE 1, 2 & 3 Results

Ultimately our commitment is to reduce the absolute emissions associated with our footprint by 90% and deliver Net Zero by 2045.

The figure below shows that we continue to make significant progress towards that aim.

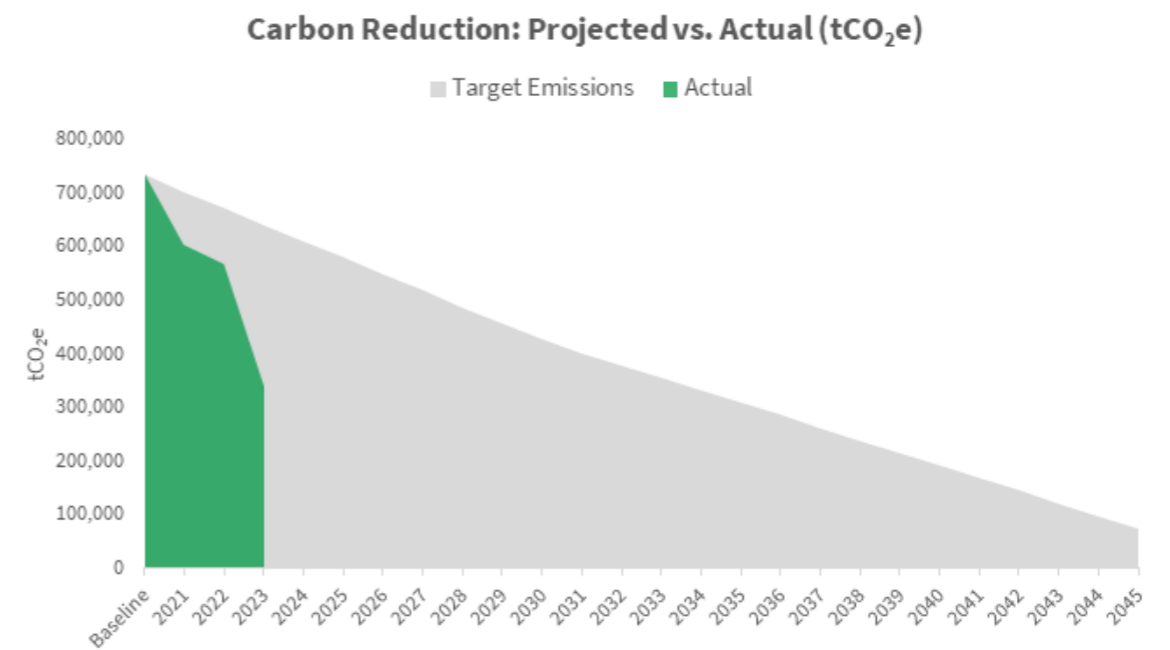


Figure X - Performance against target.

We will continue to evolve our approach to calculating our emissions, ensuring it reflects the latest industry standards, thinking and learnings. The revised methodology brought into effect this year has improved data accuracy,

and in line with our commitment for transparency, we will apply the same methodology to our baseline and historic data set. This will then be verified against the requirements of ISO14064 and resubmitted to the SBTi for validation.



Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory

In line with our commitment to have our carbon data third party verified, our GHG inventory has been prepared in accordance with ISO 14064-1:2018.

Key points relating to our inventory:

- A GHG Inventory Management Procedure, approved by the Sustainability Director, is in place to document and manage all aspects of the inventory.
- The scope boundary is all operations associated with Sir Robert M^cAlpine Limited and includes emissions where the company has operational control.
- For Scope 2 emissions, both location-based and market-based approaches are calculated.
- All value chain emission categories have been included that are applicable to company operations.
- A significance criterion of 5% is applied to the inventory, meaning emission data sources below this threshold are omitted from the footprint.
- The GHG Inventory baseline year is FY 2019/20. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the dataset was deemed to be representative of typical company operations.
- Activity-based data has been used where available and deemed to be of sufficient accuracy in line with best practice. Where activity-based data was not available or of sufficient accuracy, spend-based data has been used. In some instances, proxies have been used based on limited data availability.
- A different calculation engine has been used to calculate the FY 2022/23 inventory from previous years and the baseline. The engine takes a different approach to calculating emission factors, currency exchange, and inflation adjustment. The emission factors used for FY 2022/23 are from a variety of sources including the UK Government, individual electricity suppliers, Environmentally-Extended Input-Output (EEIO), and Exiobase.



- A qualitative uncertainty analysis has been undertaken on the inventory for FY22/23, following the principles of the IPCC and following that of ISO 14064-1. This has produced uncertainty figures of:
 - Scope 1 & 2 (market-based): +/-3.9% (high certainty), due to our accuracy of fuel and electricity consumption data and use of UK Government emission factors.
 - Scope 1, 2, & 3 (market-based): +/-25.7% (fair certainty), influenced by our use of a spend-based approach for the majority of emissions and some proxies, in addition to utilising activity data where available and deemed of sufficient quality.
- We are continually improving the GHG Inventory and have a Data Improvement Roadmap in place to drive this process.

GHG Inventory Emissions

GHG Scope	Category	FY 2019/20 Baseline Emissions (tCO2e)	FY 2022/23 Emissions (tCO2e)
Scope 1	Scope 1	4,796	1,386
Scope 2	Scope 2 - location-based	3,783	2,818
	Scope 2 - market-based	1,195	285
Scope 3	1: Purchased goods and services	712,988	307,452
	2: Capital goods	1,642	1,096
	3: Fuel- and energy-related activities	1,844	1,486
	4: Upstream transportation and distribution	4,182	10,752
	5: Waste generated in operations	2,406	1,540
	6: Business travel	1,954	2,561
	7: Employee commuting	545	1,444
	8: Upstream leased assets	Excluded – no leased sites/assets	
	9: Downstream transportation and distribution	Excluded – all transportation and distribution associated with upstream activities	
	10: Processing of sold products	Excluded – no processing of sold products undertaken	
	11: Use of sold products	Excluded – limited control of building/ material specification	
	12: End-of-life treatment of sold products	Excluded – limited influence over buildings/ materials contracted to design and/or build	
	13: Downstream leased assets	Excluded – no leased sites	
	14: Franchises	Excluded – no franchise operations	
	15: Investments	Excluded – no applicable investments	10,268
Total Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions – location-based (t CO2e)		734,142	340,847
Total Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions – market-based (t CO2e)		731,553	338,314





Ethical Procurement



OUR AIM

To responsibly source our materials and services to recognised standards



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO US?

A focus on ethical procurement ensures that we buy goods and services in a manner aligned to our strategy aims and business values.

Fostering closer ties with our supply chain, we prioritise partnerships with safe, sustainable suppliers. We ensure each procurement is made with a keen eye on environmental impact, prioritising materials sourced under third-party certified processes such as BES6001 and ISO14001, and employing streamlined digital processes and rigorous KPIs to make sure sustainability permeates every link of our supply chain.

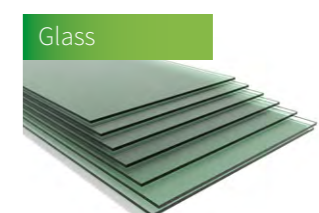
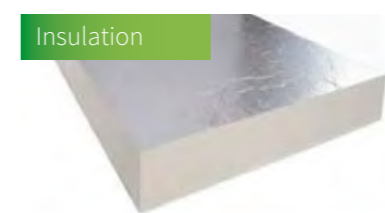
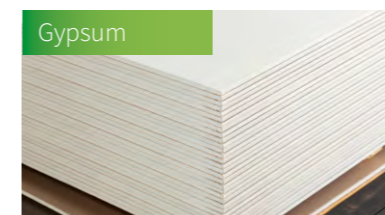
This approach not only contributes to a greener future, but also promotes consistency and reduces risks, enhancing our services through innovative solutions and ensuring our clients benefit from sustainable, high-quality goods and services.

In essence, we're utilising our purchasing power to support sustainable and ethical business practices.



OUR PERFORMANCE IN 2022/23

Our Key Building Materials



Responsible Sourcing

There is an environmental footprint associated with everything we do.

Material selection and procurement is no different. Which is why we look to source materials which are manufactured under the control of a third-party certified process, to standards like BES6001 and ISO14001.

This reporting year we have sourced 95% of our key building materials from manufacturers who operate a third-party certification process.

Together with our peers we've sent out a consistent message on this requirement, which has helped us transition to more ethically sourced materials and transparency within supply chains.

95%

Key Building Materials Responsibly Sourced

We use our historic data to help hotspot issues and then use our processes and tools to manage compliance. The governance embedded into our data collection and validation provide us with confidence in our performance and what we claim.

Labour & Supply Chain

More than **70%** of our overall subcontract spend is with our **200** preferred supply chain partners.

This is consistent with our approach to procuring more from fewer.

Understanding and cultivating partnerships with our supply chain is essential to our success. We need

to be confident that we have a robust supply chain with aligned values and that we have a deep understanding of what they are able to deliver for us. To facilitate this, this year we have implemented or revised the following:

Supply chain Source to Contract – Medius

We have implemented a Source to Contract Platform for all of our supply chain activities. This includes:



Digitally onboarding our supply chain encompassing the Build UK Common Assessment Standard and supplementary questions sets which include Sustainability and Ethical Procurement.



E-tendering for Invitation to Tenders



Supplier Performance management - stringent and robust KPIs capture the performance of our supply chain.



Digital execution of our subcontract and frameworks

This makes sure that we have the right supply chains in place to deliver on all our requirements, including those defined by our sustainability strategy and client requirements.

Subcontractor procurement

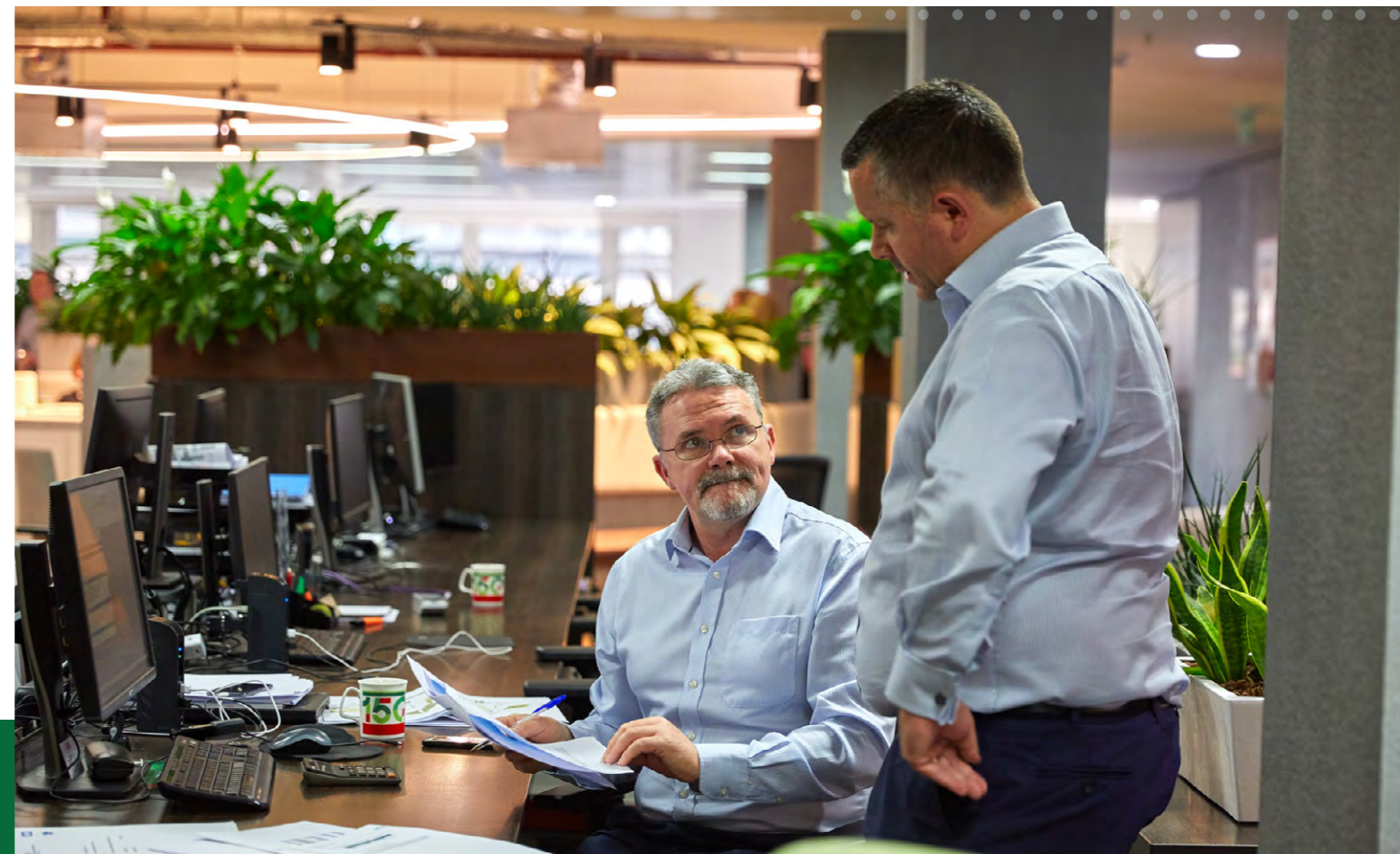
Last year we revised our subcontractor procurement processes and procedures to support our drive to further embed sustainability. With more robust controls and minimum standards now in place for sustainability, it means that our supply chain is acutely aware of what's expected and actively work with us to deliver the requirements of our projects.

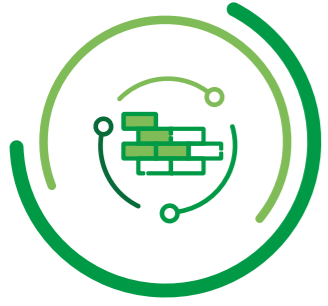
Modern Slavery

Our Ethical procurement activities also support our ongoing work to combat the modern slavery risk within our industry. For more information on what we're doing, please read our [Modern Slavery Statement](#).

Supply chain agreements

We now have **40** frameworks in place with strategic suppliers, ensuring we can control the quality and safeguard our whole value chain. These agreements help forge strong partnerships and improve mutual understanding. Gaining a deeper understanding of the solutions our framework suppliers can offer and what they are bringing to market results in significant sustainability benefits. We are able to work with them consistently and bring best solutions to projects and our clients.





Resource Efficiency



OUR AIM

To reduce waste through efficient design, procurement, and construction methods



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO US?

Our aim is to use all resources throughout our business in the most efficient way, to minimise wastage, reducing our environmental impact.

Our engineering excellence is mobilised to identify waste reduction opportunities and implement solutions which help improve resource efficiency. Ultimately, our aim is to deliver an annual reduction in waste.

To ensure transparency with our waste reduction trajectories, we also monitor and report construction waste intensity in tonnes per £million turnover to give an indication of waste production in relation to the scale of our business.

OUR PERFORMANCE IN 2022/23



9.5 %

Reduction in absolute construction waste



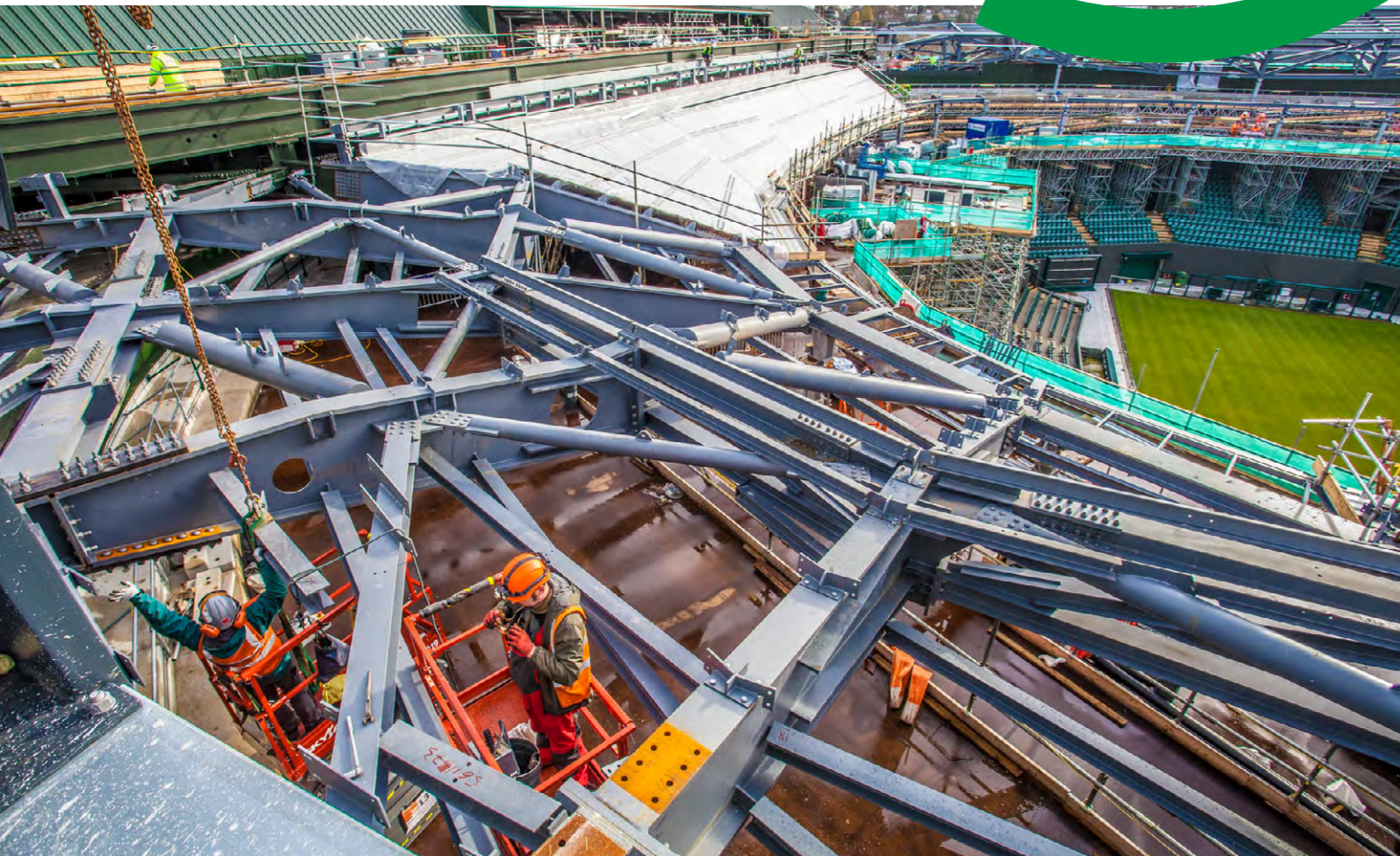
37 t/£m

Construction waste intensity



99 %

Diversion from landfill
(construction waste)



We have delivered an absolute construction waste reduction of **9.5%**. Our total tonnage of construction waste decreased from **35,642 tonnes** in **FY 2021/22** to **32,252 tonnes** for this reporting year.

Our annual waste performance varies significantly depending on both the type and construction phase of the projects we undertake in the year. The size of our business also has an impact, which is why we also monitor construction waste intensity (the amount of construction waste generated per unit of economic output), in our case, tonnes per million pounds of turnover (t/£m).



This reporting year our construction waste intensity increased from 33t/£m in FY 2021/22 to **37t/£m**. The increase is due to a significant number of projects being in construction phases where resource use is more intense, e.g. fitout and finishes. However, we know that resource efficiency is an area in which we must improve.

The variable nature of waste intensity is expected. We monitor project waste performance throughout construction on all our projects and plan to use our extensive waste data to establish resource efficiency benchmarks for our projects. This will give us a more accurate indication of waste performance in the future.

Encouragingly, our diversion from landfill rates for non-hazardous construction waste remain high at **99%**. This is a result of careful procurement and control of our waste management services across our sites.





Social Value



To deliver meaningful and lasting Social Value in the communities where we work



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO US?

We have a purpose beyond profit and the Social Value pillar of our sustainability strategy ensures that we consider this across our organisation.

It emphasises the importance of considering the wider societal impacts of our actions and decisions, striving to create positive change for all.

Our approach continues to mature and evolve, with a focus on delivering meaningful social value; listening to our client's requirements and the needs of stakeholders to develop Social Value strategies on our projects that deliver real benefit.

We conduct community needs assessments and monitor and report Total Social Impact which assesses the socio-economic benefits we bring to the local communities in which we work.

Our ability to identify and deliver meaningful Social Value on our projects is contributing to a strong, sustainable business that creates value for all stakeholders.



FY22/23

Social Impact

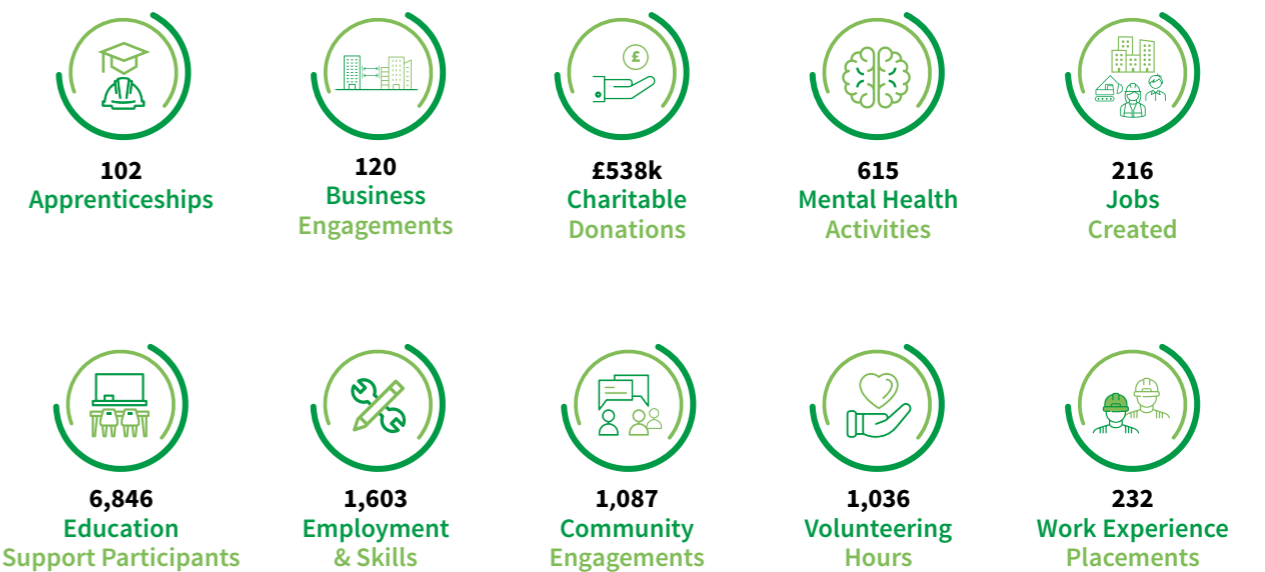


£997 million

SROI=£28million | Economic Impact=£969million

Our total Social Impact for last year, which is a combination of the Social Return On Investment (SROI) of our activities and the Economic Impact of the money we spend in local economies, was £997million.

For SROI, we continue to monitor and review the social value deliverables each month on our projects. Aggregated performance across the business for FY 2022/23 for each of our targeted areas was:



This year we've created more jobs and delivered more apprenticeships and work experience opportunities. We've continued to increase our charitable donations and our mental health provision, as well as improving on our community engagement and volunteering activities.

This has been achieved through the hard work of our project teams and we've worked closely with our clients and supply chains to meet the needs of our local communities.

Another vital aspect of our social value deliverables is through our external partnerships. Our long-term relationship with Maggie's, our partnership with the British Paralympic Association, and the work of our Charitable Giving Committee are all shining examples of this. We are actively involved in giving back to local communities at an organisational as well as a project level.



OUR STRONG FOUNDATIONS GRANTS

Our charitable giving

Made up of volunteers from across the business, our Charitable Giving Committee helps oversee the distribution of the company's charitable funds and works to maximise our social impact.

During the year, the committee made donations totalling more than £50,000 as well as delivering a substantial impact through collaborations with the cancer support charity Maggie's, the Construction Youth Trust, the British Paralympic Association and ActionFunder.





OUR 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Maggie's

Building a virtual Maggie's

Having reached our original £1m target for Maggie's four years early, we continue our fundraising efforts with a new challenge focusing on the impact that the money raised by our teams has on the lives of those Maggie's supports.

We are building a virtual Maggie's made up of bricks representing the number of hours of support our teams' fundraising activities have paid for.

The overarching ambition is to achieve a fundraising target of

100,000 hours of support for those affected by cancer and their families, which equates to another £1m of fundraising.

The year saw us collectively raise around £85,000 (includes the 2022 activities post reaching £1m).

- TOUR DE BARCELONA
- CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT
- TRY FOR MAGGIE'S
- KAREN BROOKES AND MICHAEL DIVERS WING WALK
- GRAN FONDO
- GO OUTRAGEOUSLY ORANGE
- 1 BROADGATE TEAM COMPLETED THE 3 PEAKS CHALLENGE
- SPORTING CHALLENGES
RUSSELL TODDODD - GREAT WORTH RUN
PATRICK BUSBY - SOLY ISLANDS SWIM
DANNY DECESHAM - LONDON MARATHON
- GOLF DAY SOUTHAMPTON
- SPORTING CHALLENGES
PATRICK BUSBY - LAKE DISTRICT SWIM
RUSSELL TODDODD - GREAT WORTH RUN





British Paralympic Association

With the generous support of some of our supply chain partners we raised an incredible £87,000 for ParalympicsGB through our second Best of British Lunch.

Our fundraising total got another boost thanks to the 23 teams who took part in our Construction Fives Cup which raised £6,000.



Construction Youth Trust

Our partnership with Construction Youth Trust (CYT) continues to go from strength to strength.

The year saw partnership launch of Broadgate Future Talent, a collaborative five-year project to create new apprenticeship pathways for young Londoners.

CYT has worked with SRM and British Land to forge partnerships with other Broadgate employers who have pledged financial and in-kind support.

The initiative aims to showcase how a major London development can be a powerful engine of social mobility and workforce diversity.

The vision of Broadgate Future Talent is to introduce young people from the City's neighbouring communities to all aspects of the built environment sector, to inspire them about working in an industry with a huge skills need, and to support these budding young professionals to develop their employability and connect with life-changing career opportunities.

Action Funder

We continued our relationship with ActionFunder, embarking on our fourth year of Strong Foundations Grants supporting grassroots charities and community groups across the UK.

A total of £147k was distributed across eight locations around the country.





**Sir Robert
McALPINE**

**EXAMPLES OF
SUSTAINABILITY
IN ACTION...**

Resource efficiency and carbon savings on the A533

Our A533 project was a National Highways bridge replacement scheme over the M56 in Runcorn.

Work included the construction of a new 67m two-span concrete bridge, realignment of the A533, and the demolition of the old structure. The project set a target to reduce its carbon footprint through efficient design, materials selection and sustainability best practice.

- Reducing the bridge's length by 3m and width by 1.3m, whilst achieving the same project outcomes saved 82t of concrete and 8t of steel with a combined carbon saving of 51tCO₂e
- Bored piles in place of sheet piles to minimise risk, cost and delay saved 19tCO₂e
- Specification of minimum of 40% GGBS in structure and foundations saved 509tCO₂e
- Reuse of recycled Vehicle Restraint System (VRS) in place of new, and recycling material recovered from the scheme saved 6.7tCO₂e
- Reuse of site won aggregate and soil – 8,600m³ of structural fill and 12,400m³ of landscaping material has been reused onsite, saving 95tCO₂e
- Use of HVO fuel in place of diesel (over 91,000 litres used) saved 248tCO₂e

Resource efficiency actions such as reusing existing infrastructure, lighting columns, signage, fencing as well as material re-use reduced waste by 11,500 tonnes.

Innovative remediation

We delivered a complex and challenging remediation project at the historic Dunsfold Aerodrome site in Surrey, where we removed PFOS contamination from the canal waters and soils using innovative solutions.

The project remediated 15,000 tonnes of contaminated soils and silts and 70,00m³ of water.



The result of the project is a cleaner canal and surrounding area which will provide a fantastic legacy for years to come for the future residents and visitors to safely enjoy the area.





Social Value at Tower Works, Leeds

The Tower Works project delivered two new apartment blocks with 245 new homes with commercial and amenity facilities at ground floor level.

The Section 106 planning requirements as well as our client and internal objectives set an ambitious target for delivering social value in the Leeds area.

Social Impact

 **£60 million**

SROI = £5million | Economic Impact = £55million



144
Jobs
Created



5
Business
Engagements



4
Mental Health
First Aiders



415
Students
engaged



5185
Toolbox
Talks



15
Apprenticeships



£11,415
Charitable
Donations



66
Community
Engagements



235
Remaining
labour force

Net Zero Carbon at The Forge

The Forge is the first commercial building to be both constructed and operated in line with the UK Green Business Council (UKGBC) Net Zero Buildings Framework and associated energy performance targets.

Carbon reduction initiatives included:

- Using platform approach to design for manufacture and assembly. Superstructure consisted of a prefabricated steel frame and concrete beams with slabs being poured using reusable temporary formwork. This resulted in 4% less steel tonnage and 13% less concrete volume was used in the frame against a business-as-usual baseline.
- Cement replacement – Using GGBS in the substructure (50%) and the super floor self-compacting concrete (40%).

- Curtain walling used powder coated aluminium on internal side instead of the more carbon intensive anodized aluminium.

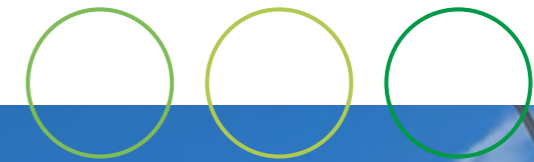
- Suspended ceilings and partitions were designed out on the office floors to reduce material use and finishes needed.

- Reclaimed raised access flooring was used in lieu of newly manufactured panels.

- Low carbon finishes e.g., timber end-grain flooring in lobbies and Irish limestone flooring.

As-built embodied carbon emissions have been third party verified and a 30% reduction in emissions from RIBA stage 3 baseline was achieved. The estimated as-built embodied carbon emissions 845kgCO₂e/m² (A1-A5) and have been offset by the client.

A fully electric building except for the back-up emergency generator, the development achieved an EPC rating of A and a 44% saving against Part L. The Forge is expected to achieve a 5-Star NABERS UK rating once assessed following 12 months' occupation.





Social Value at Battersea 3B

At Battersea Phase 3B, we have continued to deliver our programme of Social Value on the development, assisted by established local partnerships and the passion and drive of our Social Value Managers and project team. As assessment of the social value delivered at project completion:



Total SROI = £3,553,741

FSC® Project Certification at 21 Moorfields

FSC (Forest Stewardship Council®) Project Certification is a mechanism for the independent verification of certified timber used in a construction project.

In 2023, 21 Moorfields became our fourth project to be awarded full FSC Project Certification (INT-PRO-005002).

To obtain certification, we implemented a robust management system to control the procurement of timber-based materials and meticulously document what we had received on site. The accuracy and performance of this system was regularly third-party audited as

part of the certification process. The scope of the certification included all temporary and permanent timber/ timber-based products that had been purchased specifically for use in the project.

The responsible sourcing of timber (FSC-P001794) also helped the project achieve BREEAM ‘Outstanding’ (BREEAM-0090-3674) and LEED ‘Gold’ (final certification pending).



Low carbon concrete at Temple Quarter

At our Temple Quarter Academic 1 project in Bristol, we have been applying the ‘ConcreteZero’ rating methodology to help reduce the embodied carbon associated to the concrete we procure.

As an example, we used Heidelberg Material’s ‘EcoCrete’ concrete for the foundations of our temporary cabins. This mix design dramatically reduced embodied carbon by utilising exceptionally small quantities of Portland cement (CEM type CIIIC). The application scored a ConcreteZero benchmark rating of ‘A(1)’ for its strength grade, demonstrating our ability to meet ConcreteZero’s interim commitment of using at least 30% ‘low embodied carbon concrete’ (B rating or better) across our portfolio.



Working with the Construction Youth Trust (CYT)

We launched a youth engagement “Stepping-Stone” programme with the CYT on our Broadgate Framework, in London.

The scheme aims to improve social mobility and bring more young people into work, offering apprenticeships and opportunities that are the most appropriate fit for them.

Over the course of the academic year, there were 49 student interactions via workshops and assessments. A total of six students were fast-tracked to

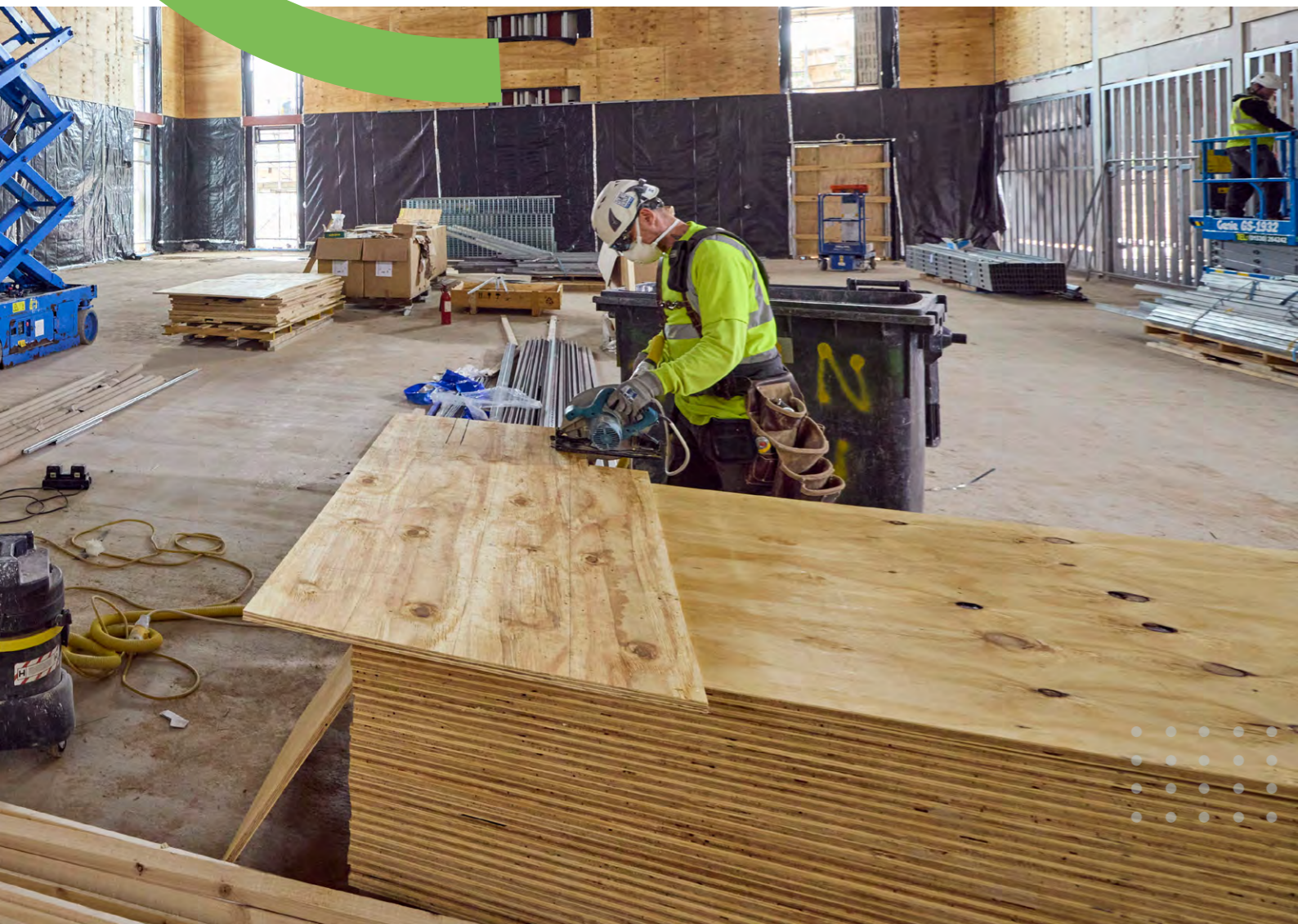
interview, one successful candidate securing a role as a Sustainability Apprentice with us. This programme is one of a number we run which help us nurture the talent we need to deliver on our objectives and targets.

Cross-Laminated Secondary Timber (CLST) research

At The Westbury Hotel project, we have been assisting project partners Ramboll and researchers at UCL in the innovative concept of Cross-Laminated Secondary Timber (CLST).

We have donated waste timber joist and studs from the hotel to a UCL research project which has tested the structural properties of the secondary timber for potential

re-use. By collaborating with industry partners, we are helping support the development of a circular and lower carbon economy.



Plant Department reduce emissions

Our Plant Department have embraced the carbon reduction challenge.

They have conducted field trials with Aggreko to ascertain the most efficient temporary power solutions for our construction sites. The trials found that up to 95% carbon savings are possible by reducing the size of generators, utilising hybrid solutions, and supplying plant with HVO fuel. These findings are now being applied to the plant on our sites.



carbon savings



Supporting Young People at Co-op Belle Vue Academy

Our Belle Vue Academy project delivered significant Social Value to the Manchester area.

Our targetted Social Value plan placed significant emphasis on providing opportunities to young people in the surrounding area. The project delivered the following:

Work Experience Placements

The project welcomed 16 students from Connell Co-op College, St Peter’s High School and Wright Robinson College.

T-Level Placements

T-Level students spend 80% of the course in the classroom, learning the essential skills that young employees need. The other 20% is a meaningful industry placement. We provided such placements for eight T-Level students from Manchester College.

Apprenticeships

The project had a total of 18 apprentices working in a variety of roles, including engineering, quantity surveying and trade roles like electricians, bricklayers, scaffolders, drylining and labourers.



NHS Net Zero Building Standard expertise

This year saw the publication of NHS England’s ‘Net Zero Building Standard’.

We have been applying this new standard to our National Rehabilitation Centre and Tolworth Hospital schemes to test its functionality and understand the requirements prior to its implementation becoming mandatory on healthcare schemes.

To do this we’ve conducted Whole Life Carbon Assessments and Energy Modelling as well as fulfilling the Net Zero carbon co-ordinator role.

The outputs have provided our clients with an understanding of how their current schemes perform against the standard, as well as allowing us to feed lessons learnt into the 2025 revision of the standard. Understanding sector specific requirements such as this standard, and making sure our systems and expertise are aligned to the requirements ensure we are able to consistently deliver for our clients.

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McALPINE**

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Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd

Eaton Court | Maylands Avenue
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire | HP2 7TR

+44 (0) 333 566 3444
information@srm.com

www.srm.com

