

CAST CONSULTANCY QUALIFYING EXPLANATORY STATEMENT (QES)

QES to demonstrate commitment and achievement of carbon neutrality for the period January - December 2022 under the PAS 2060:2014 Standard.

Validation Statement

In accordance with BSI PAS 2060:2014, this document presents a standard-compliant declaration of achievement of neutrality through a set of Qualifying Explanatory Statements and public disclosure of documentation supporting Cast Consultancy's carbon neutrality claim.

Cast Consultancy commissioned Greengage Environmental Ltd. to verify the methodology and data as part of an 'other party' validation process for the period 01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022.

The following activities were conducted:

1. Review of emissions footprint methodology and results;
2. Review of carbon management plan and verified emissions;
3. Documentation of carbon offset sourcing; and
4. Issuance of validation statement and completion of PAS 2060 validation process.

Carbon neutrality of Scope 1, Scope 2 (market-based) and Scope 3 categories (insert categories) emissions is achieved by Cast Consultancy in accordance with PAS 2060 dated 29/03/2022 for the period 01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022 as declared by Greengage Environmental Ltd.

Ayesha Farooq

PAS 2060:2014 Certified Consultant - on behalf of Greengage Environmental Ltd



1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Qualifying Explanatory Statement (QES) demonstrates Cast Consultancy's commitment to achieve carbon neutrality of its operations on the 29/03/2022 in accordance with PAS 2060. Please see Appendix D for a summarized list of the scope all activities and associated emissions.

This QES provides details on how the carbon emissions of the activities in scope were assessed, Cast Consultancy's carbon management plan inclusive of emission reduction initiatives and the carbon offset process which will be used to achieve carbon neutrality.

A checklist of requirements to demonstrate conformance to PAS 2060 and their respective location within the QES can be found in Appendix E.

Table 1.1 General Information

PAS 2060 Requirement	Cast Response
Entity making declaration	Cast Consult Ltd.
Individual responsible for the evaluation and provision of data necessary for the substantiation of the declaration including that of preparing, substantiating, communicating, and maintaining the declaration	Jeff Endean, Director
Subject of PAS 2060 declaration	Scope 2 (Market-Based); Scope 3 (Purchased Goods & Services; Water Supply and Treatment; T&D and WTT; Operational Waste; Business Travel; Employee Commuting; Employee Working from Home Emissions)
Chosen consolidation approach	Financial control
Description of subject	Cast Consult Ltd. is a specialist construction consultancy providing solutions for developers, investors, policymakers and the supply chain.
Rationale for selection of the subject and boundary	Cast Consult Ltd is not a subsidiary, nor has subsidiaries. The boundaries selected align with the GHG Protocol reporting guidelines and also aligns with our financial reporting and wider ESG strategy, including our Science-Based Targets which are under review by the SBTi.
Type of conformity assessment	I3P-1 Independent third-party verified - commitment
Baseline year for Cast Consultancy's carbon footprint	01/01/2019 - 31/12/2019
Baseline year for PAS 2060 programme	01/01/2021 - 31/12/2021
Achievement period	01/01/2022 -31/12/2022

1.1 PAS 2060 APPROACH

Cast Consultancy will demonstrate carbon neutrality as set out in PAS 2060:2014 using an independent 3rd party certification in accordance with 10.3.2. For the application period following the baseline date, declaration I3P-1 from Appendix A shall be used. For the second and all subsequent periods with an unchanged subject, declaration I3P-3 modified as per A.2 shall be used.


Cast Consultancy is following the timeline for carbon neutrality in accordance with carbon neutrality declaration periods. This is Cast Consultancy's first application for the commitment to carbon neutrality for this selected period. The baseline period is calendar year (CY) 2021, the subject has been defined (as described in Table 1.1) and its carbon footprint quantified. The QES is officially released to the public after the independent third-party assurance of Cast Consultancy's carbon neutral program and will be updated accordingly to reflect any changes and actions that could affect the validity of the declaration of commitment.

A carbon management plan has been initiated to reduce emissions across the carbon impact of Cast Consultancy's business activities, and any residual emissions within the carbon neutral portfolio will be mitigated through the purchase and retirement of offsets.

1.2 DECLARATION OF ACHIEVEMENT OF CARBON NEUTRALITY

Carbon neutrality of company-wide emissions has been achieved by Cast Consultancy in accordance with PAS 2060 at 29/03/2023 for the period commencing 01/01/2022 - 31/12/2022 assessed by Greengage Environmental Ltd who are BSI certified.

PAS 2060 Requirement	Cast Response
Period during which the entity is demonstrating carbon neutrality of the subject has been achieved.	01/01/2022 - 31/12/2022
Reported carbon footprint of the subject during the period stated above.	137.11 tCO ₂ e
Which defined PAS 2060 methodology has been followed to achieve carbon neutrality?	Method 1: Demonstrating carbon neutrality
How have the reductions in GHG emissions during the period been achieved?	Switching to more environmentally conscious suppliers and reducing emissions relating to business travel, employee commuting and working from home.
Location of information supporting claims.	Appendix A
Location of the details describing internal reductions achieved.	Appendix B
Location of the details describing the carbon mitigation credits.	Appendix C
UK economic growth rate over the application period ² (World Bank GDP data)	2022 - +4.1% 2021 - +7.5%

PAS 2060 Requirement	Cast Response
Person responsible for evaluation and provision of data	Jeff Endean, Director
Jeff Endean, Director	Signature 

APPENDIX A CAST CONSULTANCY'S CARBON FOOTPRINT

The below table summarises the emissions contributing to Cast Consultancy's carbon footprint for CY 2021 and CY 2022. It also provides the differences in carbon for each business activity, determining the overall **net carbon savings of 17.78 tCO₂e**.

Table A.1 Cast Consultancy's GHG inventories for CY 2021 and CY 2022

Scope	Description	2021 Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	2022 Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Diff. (+/- tCO ₂ e)
Scope 1	Gas	N/A	N/A	-
	Fuel Usage	N/A	N/A	-
	F-Gas	0.00	0.00	(-) 0.00
Scope 2	Electricity (M.B)	0.00	0.00	(-) 0.00
	Electricity (L.B)	8.12	7.35	(-) 0.77
Scope 3	Purchased Goods and Services	105.66	88.80	(-) 16.86
	Capital Goods	N/A	N/A	-
	Energy and Fuel (T&D and WTT)	11.84	12.20	(+) 0.36
	Delivery of Purchased Goods	N/A*	N/A*	-
	Operational Waste	3.21	0.29	(-) 2.92
	Business Travel	24.14	29.20	(+) 5.06
	Employee Commuting & WFH	9.92	6.70	(-) 3.22
	Sold product processing, use & end-of life	N/A	N/A	-
	Leased Assets (Upstream and Downstream)	N/A	N/A	-
Total Reported Emissions (MB)		154.89	137.11	(-) 17.78

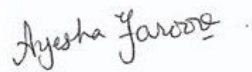
*included in Category 1 Purchased Goods and Services due to lack of required data granularity

A.1 METHODOLOGY

Cast Consultancy categorises its GHG emissions as Scope 1, 2 and 3 as described in the WBCSD/WRI [Greenhouse Gas Protocol Reporting standard](#). Emissions have been calculated as tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) for Scope 1, 2 and selected Scope 3 sources (see Appendix D) using the latest conversion factors listed in the [UK Government DEFRA Greenhouse Gas Conversion Factors for Company Reporting](#).

A.2 EXTERNAL VERIFICATION

Cast Consultancy's carbon footprint has been calculated and verified by Greengage Environmental Ltd in March 2023. Greengage Environmental Ltd employees have undergone training and are officially qualified in undertaking PAS 2060:2014 verification assessments in line with BSI requirements. Greengage Environmental Ltd. have concluded that *"Overall, based on the extent of our investigations, Cast Consultancy's systems are shown to be compliant with PAS 2060:2014"*.



Ayesha Farooq - on behalf of Greengage Environmental Ltd

APPENDIX B CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN

B.1 COMMITMENT










Cast Consultancy is committed to achieve carbon neutrality of the subject for the period of 01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022 in accordance with PAS 2060:2014. This commitment can be broken down as follows:




- Offset GHG emissions for the commitment period based on 2022 actuals sales data; to be completed at the end of 2022.
- Continue to define and implement its carbon reduction plan during the commitment period.

B.2 FEASIBILITY REVIEW

A summary of carbon reduction options evaluated to date is presented below with feasibility indicators: carbon saving, cost, implementation, risks & benefits and space management. These indicators have been reviewed with Cast Consultancy's key stakeholders. Full detail of each option and its feasibility is presented in Table B.1 below. Each identified measure can be applied on its own, or in combination with other options to achieve the required magnitude of carbon reduction.

Table B.1 Feasibility Review of Carbon Saving Measures

Measure	Carbon saving by 2030 relative to [Client] baseline (tCO ₂ e)	% total carbon reduction delivered*	Cost	Implementation	Risks & Benefits	Adopted?
Commuter Emissions - improved data capture	1.0	3.6%				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> TBC
Purchased Goods and Services; Environmentally Conscious Suppliers; Improved Data Quality (itemised hardware over spend)	16.9	60.6%				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> TBC
Reduced office waste	2.9	10.4%				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> TBC

Measure	Carbon saving by 2030 relative to [Client] baseline (tCO ₂ e)	% total carbon reduction delivered*	Cost	Implementation	Risks & Benefits	Adopted?
Working from home emissions reduced through encouraging return to office	2.2	8.0%				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> TBC

* Percentage of the 23 tonnes of carbon equivalent saved when compared against the same activities from 2021 (this is above the 17.8 tCO₂e net savings as this does not account for the increases in emissions in some categories - flights and rail)

B.3 CARBON REDUCTION PLAN

Using a baseline year of 2019, and to ensure alignment with the 1.5-degree climate scenario, Cast aim to reduce their emissions by 52% by 2030 and carry on reducing, with a 91% reduction target by 2050. Although setting a near-term target which accounts for Scope 3 emissions is not a formal requirement for SME's, Cast's ambition to include these is in line with, and exceeds, the Science-Based Target Initiative (SBTi) best practise guideline of a 46% reduction of overall emissions by 2030.

For corporations' near-term targets require the inclusion of 67% of Scope 3 emissions. Therefore, in line with this ambition, Cast aim to include their Category 1 Purchased Goods & Services, which alone accounts for 51.8% of Cast's Scope 3 emissions, and Category 7 Business Travel, which accounts for 31.3% of Cast's Scope 3 emissions. The inclusion of both of these emissions categories in Cast's near-term target, means their ambition far exceeds the minimum inclusion requirement here. Across these business activities, 83.1% of Cast's Scope 3 emissions are accounted for in their Scope 3 near-term target.

In exceedance of SBTi best practise, the near-term targets would commit to the initial 122.7 tCO₂e across Scope 1, Scope 2 and 83.1% of Scope 3, from Cast's 2019 baseline, to decrease to 52.7 tCO₂e by 2030. A breakdown of the near- and long-term targets can be seen in the tables below.

APPENDIX C CARBON MITIGATION STRATEGY

In November 2022 Cast Consultancy appointed Carbon Footprint Ltd as its partner for the selection and purchasing of a portfolio of high-quality carbon credits to mitigate the company's residual carbon emissions.

Carbon Footprint Ltd is first choice for blue-chip and mid-market companies through to SMEs and public sector organisations. They share a common responsible goal to track and reduce carbon emissions 'at source' as much as possible and to compensate for unavoidable emissions - via carbon offsetting - to render their activities to be net zero carbon/carbon neutral. With this action, they protect both environment and their own businesses. Better sustainability credentials allow them to maximise commercial opportunities (from both sales tender and operational savings), enhance their brands, engage stakeholders and make theirs better businesses to work at.

Carbon credits purchases are retired by Carbon Footprint Ltd on behalf of Cast Consultancy. Details of carbon credits required to mitigate emissions for the period of carbon neutrality is shown on Table C.1 below.

Cast Consultancy purchases carbon credits in advance, and either purchase additional credits if needed to match its reported emissions or carry forward any unused credits to the following year.

Table C.1 Details of Carbon Credit Purchases

Certification Scheme	Project Name	Country	Purchase Date	Registry Retirement Date and Link	Carbon Credits Purchased
Verra VCS	Pacjai REDD+ Project	Brazil	07/11/2022	https://carbon.knack.com/offset-tracker/#offsetsales/view-offset-sale-details3/6368cc9881a0c90022994339/	145.0

- *Certification scheme: External certification held by the project.*
- *Project name: Name the project is commonly referred to.*
- *Country: Country where the project is taking place.*
- *Purchase date: Date when the credits were purchased By Compensate for Cast Consultancy.*
- *Registry retirement: Date and link to the public registry where Compensate retired the credits on Cast Consultancy's behalf.*
- *Project type: Nature of the carbon reduction or removal project.*
- *Carbon credits purchased: Volumes of carbon credits purchased by Compensate on Cast Consultancy's behalf.*

APPENDIX D EMISSIONS INVENTORY

Scope 1 and 2 emissions		
GHG Protocol emissions category	Cast reporting	Cast comments
Scope 1 Gas	Excluded	No gas supply
Scope 1 Fuels	Excluded	No fleet vehicles
Scope 1 F-Gas	Included	No leakage so doesn't contribute to emissions inventory for 2022. <i>Data source: maintenance logs, F-Gas register</i>
Scope 2 Electricity	Included	Electricity supplied to London office by British Gas. REGOs purchased by ENGIE. <i>Data source: meter readings; invoices</i> <i>Conversion Factors: BEIS 2022</i>

Scope 3 emissions			
<p>The Scope 3 emissions included are those that Cast Consultancy has the greatest level of control over and can report with confidence in their accuracy. All Scope 3 emissions relevant to Cast Consultancy are identified below against the Greenhouse Gases Protocol categories, with reasoning for those emissions which are not included.</p>			
GHG Protocol emissions category	GHG protocol category description	Cast Consultancy reporting	Cast Consultancy comments
1. Purchased goods and services	<i>Extraction, production, and transportation of goods and services purchased or acquired by the reporting company in the reporting year, not otherwise included in Categories 2 – 8.</i>	Included	Products and services procured by the reporting company across operations. <i>Data source: Annual expenditure data; itemised breakdown of hardware</i> <i>Conversion Factors: BEIS 2022; SECR £ Based Conversion Factors</i>
2. Capital goods	<i>Extraction, production, and transportation of capital goods purchased or acquired by the reporting company in the reporting year.</i>	Excluded	No capital goods procured.
3. Fuel and energy related activities	<i>Extraction, production, and transportation of fuels and energy purchased or acquired</i>	Included	Electricity T&D; Electricity T&D WTT;

Scope 3 emissions			
(not included in Scopes 1 or 2)	<i>by the reporting company in the reporting year, not already accounted for in scope 1 or scope 2.</i>		Electricity WTT; Business Travel WTT. <i>Data source: See Scope 2 & Scope 3 Cat 6 Data Sources</i> <i>Conversion Factors: BEIS 2022</i>
4. Upstream transportation and distribution	<p><i>Transportation and distribution of products purchased by the reporting company in the reporting year between a company's tier 1 suppliers and its own operations (in vehicles and facilities not owned or controlled by the reporting company).</i></p> <p><i>Transportation and distribution services purchased by the reporting company in the reporting year, including inbound logistics, outbound logistics (e.g., of sold products), and transportation and distribution between a company's own facilities (in vehicles and facilities not owned or controlled by the reporting company).</i></p>	Excluded	All transport relating to this has been captured in Scope 3 Cat 1.
5. Waste generated in operations	<i>Disposal and treatment of waste generated in the reporting company's operations in the reporting year (in facilities not owned or controlled by the reporting company).</i>	Included	Office waste in London office. <i>Data source: UK average disposal rates; office waste benchmarks (kg/worker/year) based on FTE number</i> - Benchmark Source <i>Conversion Factors: BEIS 2022</i>
6. Business travel	<i>Transportation of employees for business-related activities during the reporting year (in</i>	Included	Flights; Rail Travel; Taxi, Mileage of

Scope 3 emissions			
	<i>vehicles not owned or operated by the reporting company).</i>		employees for business purposes <i>Data source: Expense claims; travel logs (trainline)</i> <i>Conversion Factors: BEIS 2022; SECR £ Based Conversion Factors</i>
7. Employee commuting & working from home	<i>Transportation of employees between their homes and their worksites during the reporting year (in vehicles not owned or operated by the reporting company).</i>	Included	Employee commuting to London office; energy used while working from home. <i>Data source: Company commuter survey; office occupancy rates; full time employee numbers</i> <i>Conversion Factors: BEIS 2022</i>
8. Upstream leased assets	<i>Operation of assets leased by the reporting company (lessee) in the reporting year and not included in scope 1 and scope 2 – reported by lessee.</i>	Excluded	No upstream leased assets to report.
9. Downstream transportation and distribution	<i>Transportation and distribution of products sold by the reporting company in the reporting year between the reporting company's operations and the end consumer (if not paid for by the reporting company), including retail and storage (in vehicles and facilities not owned or controlled by the reporting company).</i>	Excluded	Cast does not sell products, and therefore there is no transport and distribution relating to this.
10. Processing of sold products	<i>Processing of intermediate products sold in the reporting year by downstream companies (e.g., manufacturers).</i>	Excluded	Cast does not sell products, therefore there is no processing relating to this.

Scope 3 emissions			
11. Use of sold products	<i>End use of goods and services sold by the reporting company in the reporting year.</i>	Excluded	Cast does not sell products; therefore, this is not relevant.
12. End-of-life treatment of sold products	<i>Waste disposal and treatment of products sold by the reporting company (in the reporting year) at the end of their life.</i>	Excluded	Cast does not sell products; therefore, this is not relevant.
13. Downstream leased assets	<i>Operation of assets owned by the reporting company (lessor) and leased to other entities in the reporting year, not included in scope 1 and scope 2 – reported by lessor.</i>	Excluded	No downstream leased assets to report
14. Franchises	<i>Operation of franchises in the reporting year, not included in scope 1 and scope 2 – reported by franchisor.</i>	Excluded	No franchises to report.
15. Investments	<i>Operation of investments (including equity and debt investments and project finance) in the reporting year, not included in scope 1 or scope 2.</i>	Excluded	No investments to report.