



PAS 2060 certification, the internationally recognised specification for carbon neutrality, published by the BSI.



## Background

After the UN Climate Change Conference 2021 (COP 26), the call for change in the construction industry, society and the general economy has never been more urgent.

With 40% of all carbon emissions being related to the built environment, our sector has an unparalleled responsibility to take ownership of its future and help make the changes that are vital if we are to prevent climate change.

Cast has developed an environmental, social and governance (ESG) strategy that reflects this societal imperative. We will be an authentic and credible force for change, setting and delivering real promises that are stretching and ambitious but are not lost in a wave of 'greenwash' which appears to be sweeping across large parts of the construction industry at the moment.

Our strategy is made up of three inter-related elements:

Cast will be a carbon neutral business

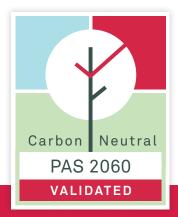
We will begin our journey to becoming fully Net Zero Carbon by 2050 by signing up to the Science Based Target initiative (SBTi) and aligning to the 1.5°C Business Playbook.

We will be a trusted advisor across the residential construction sector

We will be constantly improving our capability to support our clients to make meaningful and measureable reductions to the climate impact of the projects we support.

3 We will balance profit with purpose

We will be aligning our offsetting investments, Cast Contribution corporate social responsibility (CSR) programme and our wider efforts to improve outcomes in construction and also via our role as a conscientious employer with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



In September 2023 we secured PAS 2060 certification, the internationally recognised specification for carbon neutrality, published by BSI. To achieve this, supported by Greengage Environmental, we have:

- Measured and verified our carbon footprint across
   Scopes 1-3 of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol
- Achieved a year on year reduction between 2021 and 2022
- Developed a qualifying explanatory statement making clear our commitment and trajectory
- Purchased high quality carbon offsets and set up a transition fund in line with guidance from the UK Green Building Council
- Developed a carbon management plan including targets for reductions that reduce our reliance on offsets over time

Cast is committed to playing our role in tackling and addressing the impacts of climate change. As a certified carbon neutral business we will continue to reduce our own impact as a business, while supporting our clients to decarbonise the construction projects we work on.

# Our commitments

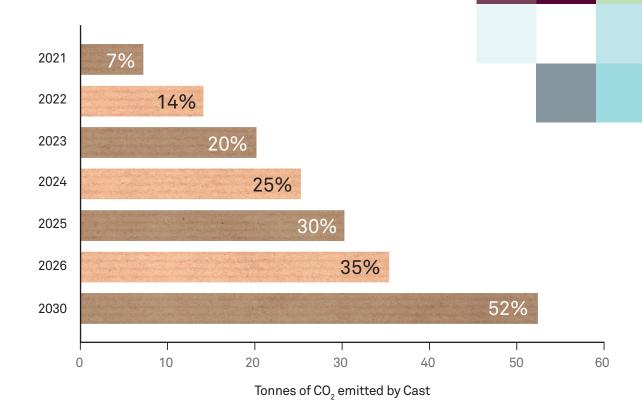
As a business, we are committed to reducing our own carbon footprint...

Over the course of 2021, Cast partnered with sustainability consultant Greengage to understand our carbon footprint, setting a baseline from which to target reductions in our carbon emissions and establish a Net Zero pathway.

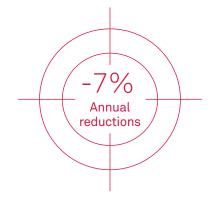
#### **Our commitment to Net Zero**

As a business, we are aligning ourselves with best practice guidelines such as the 1.5°C Business Playbook and the SBTi to Target Net Zero in the following ways:

- We are committed to a 52% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 (from 2019 baseline year)
- We are committed to a 89% reduction in carbon emissions by 2050 or sooner
- We will simultaneously invest in offsetting the balance year on year to make us a carbon neutral business
- We are committed to open and transparent reporting



We will achieve 7% annual reductions across Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3 emissions, aligned with our annual targets.



# Reducing our impact

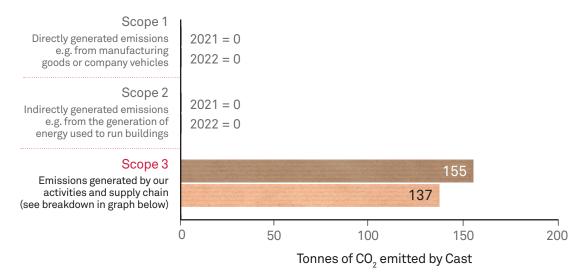
Due to the nature of our business, and as we source our energy using a 100% renewable tariff, Cast generates no emissions under either Scope 1 or Scope 2 of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol. We are working to reduce the only remaining source of carbon from our operations, which is our Scope 3 emissions.

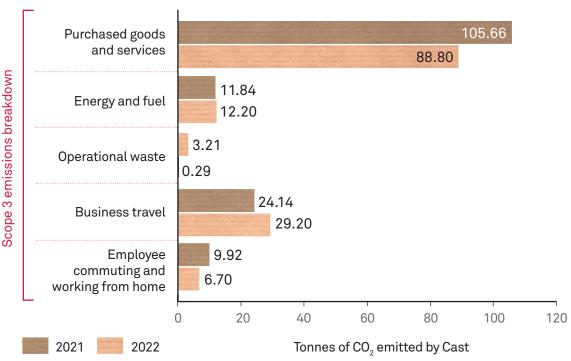
Scope 3 emissions are the impact of our day to day working, our purchases, and the emissions generated by our suppliers. In 2021 and 2022 these emissions were generated as shown opposite.

\* Date: September 2023 Application period: 01/01/2022-31/12/2022

Cast

We have measured our emissions annually since setting our baseline in 2019, and our latest data for 2022\* shows significant progress against our target. We report our emissions in line with the three "scopes" defined by the GHG Protocol:



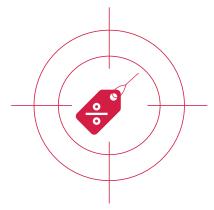


# Reducing our impact

Our carbon reduction plan focuses on areas where we feel we can have the greatest impact in further reducing these emissions levels.

We are also working to improve the granularity of our data, so that our estimated emission levels are as accurate as possible, providing a robust baseline for future decision making. Our current priority focusses are:







#### Priority focus 1

#### **Reducing office waste**

Working with our landlord, facility manager and waste removal supplier, we will capture better data on our recycling performance and drive down our non-recyclable waste. We will introduce new signage and clear guidance to all employees. This will cover what can be recycled and the appropriate bin to use. We are exploring the introduction of additional recycling facilities in the office.

### Priority focus 2

### Working with our suppliers, understanding our purchases

We have undertaken an initial audit of the strategies being undertaken by our suppliers to reduce their Scope 1 and 2 emissions, as those emissions feature in our Scope 3 footprint. We will target our efforts on key suppliers where the impact is highest – office supplies, courier, cleaning products. We are also reviewing the IT equipment we purchase and minimising the amount of new purchases where repairs are a more economical and sustainable option.

### Priority focus 3

### Encouraging our staff to work in our office

Cast operates a flexible working policy to enable our people to work in the most appropriate location subject to the requirements of our clients, teams and the need to be together as a group to learn and collaborate. As we generate zero emissions from the heating of our office, there are also sustainability benefits compared to working from home. These outweigh the impact of commuting, especially as nearly all of our staff use sustainable modes of public transport.

## Decarbonising our industry

We have established ourselves as one of the leading voices and advocates for modernisation and positive change in the construction industry.

We are connected at the highest levels of central and regional government in supporting policymaking and participate across a host of industry bodies spanning leadership, innovation and decarbonisation agendas. We believe in being a positive part of the solution to the housing crisis rather than part of the problem. Cast is committed to considering the broader implications of how we conduct our business, including the impacts from the projects we help to deliver.

## Cast CEO, Mark Farmer is UK Government Champion for MMC in homebuilding

Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) in homebuilding encourages the use of modern techniques to increase productivity and remove carbon from our industry. We also use our membership of the Construction Leadership Council's Senior Advisors Group and of the Construction Innovation Hub's Advisory Board to encourage our industry to change.



## CO<sub>2</sub>nstructZero is the construction sector's response to the Government's 10 point plan for a Green Industrial Revolution and achieving Net Zero by 2050

As one of the initial business champions to the scheme, Cast is committed to helping deliver the performance framework targets, particularly in relation to optimising the use of MMC in reducing carbon emissions.

## Cast leads the Future Homes Taskforce for the West Midlands Combined Authority

Our CEO Mark Farmer chairs the Taskforce and our advisory team provides retained strategy support to the WMCA as it develops an exemplar approach to delivering higher quality, lower carbon homes across the region.







## Decarbonising our industry

Most importantly, we support our clients to deliver exemplar performance on their developments, and moving our industry forward by showing as well as telling.



### Urbanest, Battersea

London's first major purpose built student accommodation development to achieve Passivhaus standards.



### Camp Hill Gardens, Birmingham

A ground breaking development in many ways, Camp Hill Gardens will be the largest build to rent project to use Category 1 MMC in Europe, reducing waste by 35% compared to traditional methods.



#### Contact us

Cast is a specialist construction consultancy providing solutions for developers, investors, policymakers and the supply chain. We are focused on helping deliver great homes and places viably whilst also addressing bigger economic, societal and environmental challenges.





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