



# Carbon Policy

## Purpose

This Carbon policy sets out Programme's ambition to enable the Parliamentary Estate to be Net Zero Carbon. This policy is part of a suite of Sustainability policies that support the Programme's Vision and Goals.

The UK Parliament was the world's first national parliament to declare a climate emergency in May 2019; advocating for systemic change in all aspects of society to create a net zero carbon future. It is vital that greenhouse gas emissions are significantly reduced, mitigating their impact and improving our resilience to a changing climate.

The UK government has committed to "net zero" greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. In support of this commitment, the Programme will implement measures that deliver the Net Zero Carbon ambition and minimise harmful emissions from the operation of the estate.

## Principles

Carbon commitments on the Programme will be realised by:

- Applying the carbon reduction hierarchy to design by avoiding unnecessary construction, improving material use where possible, and using innovation and procurement to manage and reduce embodied carbon
- Championing the net zero carbon ambition of the Programme through leadership, innovative design, sustainable procurement and promoting a low/zero carbon culture
- Reducing the Programme's whole life carbon impacts by accounting for embodied, construction and operational carbon emissions over the whole life of assets and building components
- Promoting the use of low carbon goods, services and technologies through design and our supply chain
- Measuring and reporting on carbon in line with the appropriate standards and track emissions throughout the supply chain
- Setting stretch carbon targets for the Programme and the supply chain to enable the Parliamentary Estate's Scope 1 (direct emissions) and Scope 2 (indirect emissions from energy) carbon emissions to be net zero by 2035
- Developing a plan for achieving net zero Scope 3 (other indirect) emissions by 2050
- Managing energy and water consumption responsibly, identifying opportunities to use renewable energy and reuse water to reduce our impacts
- Applying circular economy principles to reduce the carbon impact of resource consumption by re-using or specifying low and zero carbon materials and fittings
- Minimising air pollution from travel and transportation contributing to local air quality improvements

This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure it remains effective and will be communicated and made available to interested parties and the supply chain.

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R&R Programme  
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