

Blinx Solutions Carbon Reduction Plan

1. Introduction to Blinx Solutions Limited General

Blinx Solutions Limited provides health technology to the NHS for primary care. In 2023, the company had 16 employees, at its head office in Daresbury, UK.

2. Commitment to achieving Net Zero

At Blinx Solutions Limited, we are committed to achieving Net Zero by 2035.

3. Baseline Emissions Footprint

Baseline emissions are a record of the greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and were produced prior to the introduction of any strategies to reduce emissions. Baseline emissions are the reference point against which emissions reduction can be measured.

Baseline Year: 01/01/2023-31/12/2023

Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions Calculations At Blinx Solutions Limited, we are committed to becoming a Net Zero operating business by 2035, ahead of the 2050 NHS requirements. We are aware of the climate crisis and our requirement as a business to take action both now and in the future. This requires us to measure, manage, and start reducing our emissions; this plan outlines how we will do that.

Our total baseline emissions for 2023 are calculated at 19.01 tCO₂e. As it is our first attempt at calculating our carbon emissions and developing a Carbon Reduction Plan, we have chosen to use 2023 as both our baseline year and current emissions reporting year. This baseline year has been chosen as 2023 because Carbon Footprint UK Limited ("Carbon Footprint") recommends avoiding using a time period that is not representative of regular operations. As we made the strategic decision to focus on the NHS PACO product alone in 2022, which subsequently impacted the workforce and figures in the following years, we made the decision to begin our carbon reporting journey from 2023 onwards.



This plan covers our baseline year information for 2023 and sets out clear targets for reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions over an agreed timeframe.

Our plan is approved by our board and communicated across our business. Our plan is also publicly available via the our policies page of our website (<u>https://www.blinxhealthcare.com/resources/our-</u> <u>policies/</u>). All of our employees are aware of our plan and commitments to achieve our targets and as such will embrace any emissions based behavioral and process changes that we implement in order to achieve our goals.

Emissions can be divided into three scopes, further details and guidance on these can be found in the GHG Protocol. <u>Guidance</u> <u>GHG Protocol</u>

Blinx Solutions Limited has partnered with Value Match Services Limited ("Value Match") who has provided specialist guidance through the requirements to measure and calculate our baseline for Scopes 1, 2 and elements of Scope 3 GHG emissions.

Blinx Solutions Limited used Value Match's free online carbon calculator, assured by Carbon Footprint to calculate our carbon emissions for the period of 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023. The calculation uses the 2023 emission factors developed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Department for Business, Environment & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for reporting emissions.

Due to Value Match's partnership with Carbon Footprint, our baseline year emissions have been verified and assured by Carbon Footprint and we have achieved the Carbon Assurance standard.

The carbon footprint assessment includes the following data sources:



Dataset	Source of data and comments	
Homeworking	60% of total working hours was used based on	
	average occupancy of the office.	
Computers and IT	Calculated from spend on tablet computers for	
equipment	a conference.	
Hotels,	Spend estimated based on number of trips	
restaurants, pubs	away in London.	
Employee-owned	Data provided for four vehicles. One had	
car travel (grey	mileage calculated from expense claims, while	
fleet)	the rest were estimated based on typical	
	business activity. Either the specific vehicle type,	
	or the engine size and fuel type were provided	
	for all vehicles.	
Food and drink	Calculated based on estimated spend on	
products	snacks and food for the office per month.	
Clothes, textiles,	Calculated based on spend on t-shirts for	
and shoes	conferences.	
Television, radio,	Calculated based on spend on a new TV and	
and phone	stand bought for a conference.	
equipment		
Telephone/mobile	Spend calculated from monthly phone	
phone call costs	contracts for four staff members.	
Flights	Number of trips, ticket class, departure and	
	destination, and return details were provided	
	from travel records.	
Electricity	Meter readings were obtained from the building	
consumption	manager, providing total kWh consumption for	
	the 12-month period.	
Waste	Estimated based on one 10-litre sack per week	
	of general waste being collected, which is	
	recycled by the office.	
Rail travel	Total mileage was worked out from travel	
	records for the full period.	
Water	Estimated, based on 175-litres of water being	
	used in the office per week.	



A 5% materiality threshold has been used. This means that errors or estimations that are likely to be less than 5% of the total carbon footprint are not considered a material discrepancy. Any errors above the 5% threshold will require re-calculation.



Scope	Element of	Tonnes of	% of Total
	Footprint	CO ₂ e	Emissions
Scope 1	N/A ¹	0.00	0.00%
Scope 1 Sub total		0.00	0.00%
Scope 2	Electricity	0.92	4.84%
	consumption		
	(Scope 2 and 3)		
Scope 2 Sub total		0.92	4.84%
Scope 3 (included	Purchased goods	2.71	14.26%
sources)	and services ²		
	Upstream	0.00	0.00%
	transportation		
	and distribution ³		
	Waste generated	0.01	0.05%
	in operations ⁴		

¹ Blinx Solutions Limited does not have any scope 1 emissions as the company does not own any vehicles, machinery, or infrastructure that would use fuel.

² This category includes "Computers & IT equipment" (1.87 tCO₂e, 9.84%), "Food and drink products" (0.38 tCO₂e, 2.00%), "Clothes, textiles, and shoes" (0.23 tCO₂e, 1.21%), "Television, radio, and phone equipment" (0.11 tCO₂e, 0.58%),

[&]quot;Telephone/mobile phone call costs" $(0.11 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e}, 0.58\%)$, and "Water" $(0.01 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e}, 0.05\%)$

³ Blinx Solutions Limited does not have any upstream transportation and distribution related to products sold. Any potential upstream emissions from other sources of purchased goods are factored in other scope 3 emissions subcategories.

⁴ This is estimated based on one 10-litre sack per week of general waste being collected, which is recycled by the office.



	Business travel⁵	10.57	55.60%	
	Employee	4.80	25.25%	
	commuting ⁶			
	Downstream	0.00	0.00%	
	transportation			
	and distribution ⁷			
Scope 3 Sub Total		18.09	95.16%	
Total Emissions		19.01	100%	
Tonnes of CO2e per employee		1.19	16	
			employees	
Our total carbon footprint for the period 1 st January 2023 to 31 st				

December 2023 is 19.01 tCO₂e. The most material emission sources were grey fleet (26%), homeworking (25%), and flights (20%). Our emissions per employee was 1.19 tCO_2e .

 $^{^{5}}$ This category includes "Grey fleet" (4.99 tCO₂e, 26.25%), "Flights" (3.77 tCO₂e, 19.83%), "Hotels, restaurants, and pubs" (1.51 tCO₂e, 7.94%), and "Rail travel" (0.30 tCO₂e, 1.58%).

⁶ This consists of homeworking alone.

⁷ Blinx Solutions Limited does not have any downstream emissions as its product does not require any transportation or shipping.



4. Emissions Reduction targets

In order to begin our progress towards achieving Net Zero, we have adopted the following carbon reduction targets:

- Keep our emissions at an absolute minimum relative to the growing scale of our organisation (at or below 1.19 tCO₂e per employee).
- Begin offsetting our emissions produced on an annual basis to become a Net Zero organisation (19.01 tonnes this year).

5. Carbon Reduction Projects

Completed Carbon Reduction initiatives

As 2023 is our first year of measuring and documenting our carbon emissions, and carbon reduction journey, we do not have any formal carbon reduction initiatives. Despite this, we have a focus on waste management and are beginning to look at travel and green vehicles for key roles.

Our Carbon Reduction commitments for the future

Carbon Footprint provided the following recommendations in order to reduce our carbon emissions and we commit to following these recommendations:

- Carbon offset emissions created within this data period (19.01 tCO₂e).
- Offset an additional 25% on top of your emissions to be certified as a Carbon Neutral Plus Organisation (24 tCO₂e).
- Evaluate the effectiveness of using remote meetings and re-define what our business classifies as "essential" travel going forwards.
- Encourage all homeworkers to transition to 100% renewable tariffs.
- Publish our carbon footprint results on The Carbon Database Initiative (CaDI) – Carbon Footprint's new global, free to use and view public disclosure platform. This will demonstrate our commitment to carbon management and to responsible transparency.

As an organisation, we have also developed our own commitments, such as:

• As a growing business we will reassess our carbon footprint every year and have the data verified by Carbon Footprint, for continued accuracy and external validation.



• We are committed to maintaining our ratio of emissions per employee (at or below 1.19 tCO₂e for 2023), keeping the emissions generated at an absolute minimum, proportionate to the growth and maturity of the business.

Here is our timeline and key initiatives for the next 5 years:

Year	Initiative implemented and outcome achieved
2025	Begin offsetting all of / as much of our emissions as possible which are produced by our organisation on an annual basis.
2027	Ensure that all company vehicles are green, electric vehicles with the aim of reducing emissions per employee to ltCO2e or an absolute minimum.



Declaration

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 06/21 and associated guidance and reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans.

Emissions have been reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate standard⁸ and uses the appropriate <u>Government emission conversion</u> factors for greenhouse gas company reporting⁹.

Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have been reported in accordance with SECR requirements, and the required subset of Scope 3 emissions have been reported in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Standard¹⁰.

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

2nd September 2024

Gareth Bartlett

CEO Blinx Solutions Limited

⁸<u>https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard</u>

⁹https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting

¹⁰<u>https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard</u>