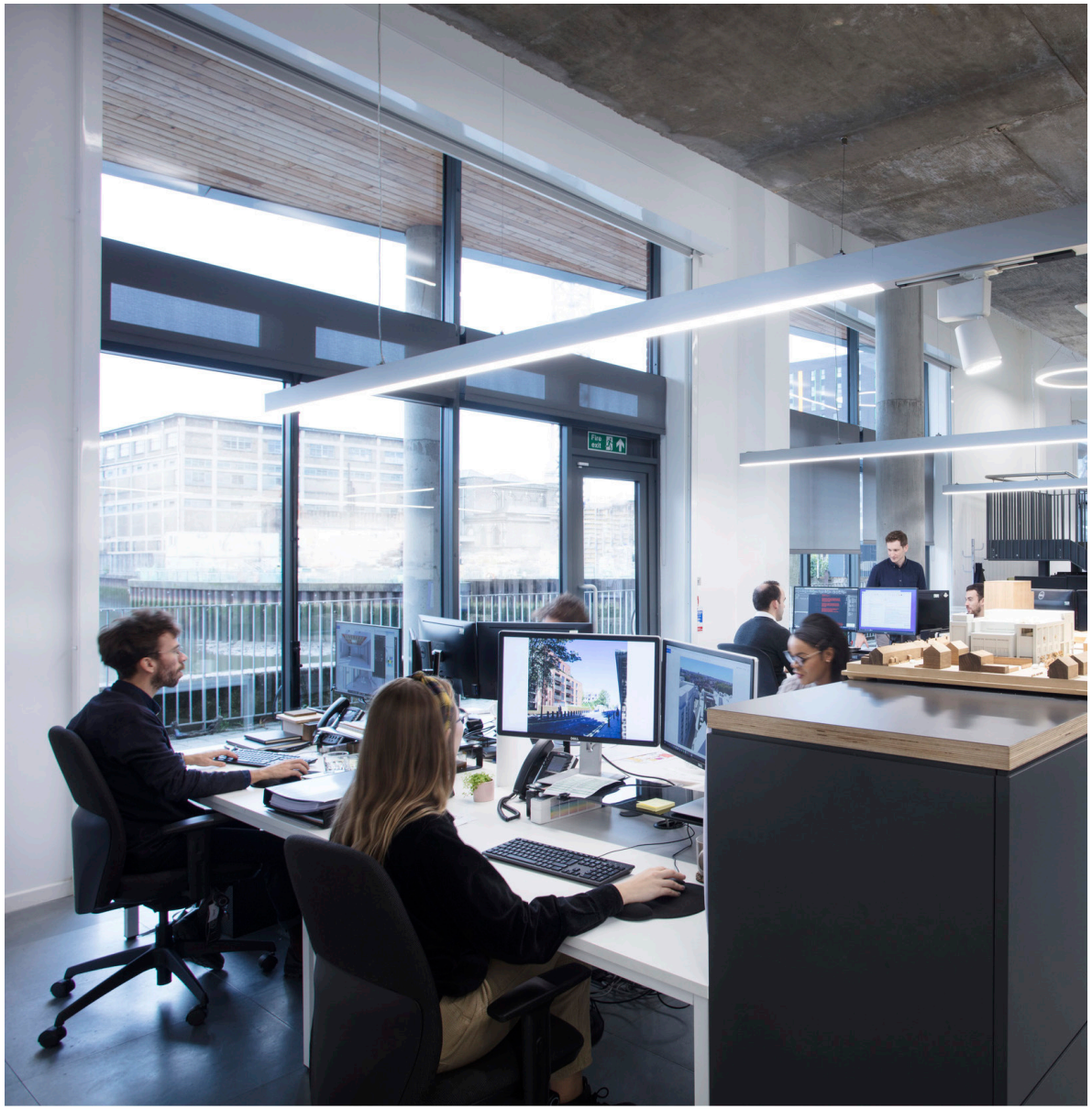
rivingtonstreetstudio

Carbon Reduction Report 2025



About Rivington Street Studio

Rivington Street Studio is an award-winning architectural practice established in 1989, specialising in the education and housing sectors. The practice has deep roots in sustainability, including delivering the first Passivhaus accredited school in London in 2015. Since then, RSS has produced numerous projects that provide industry sustainability exemplars.

We have an inhouse sustainability forum, the Green Team, who seek to analyse and develop the strategic approach our employees take on our projects. The Team focuses on project and office processes and feed into the practice's inhouse management of carbon data and reduction. Since 2022 we have taken on board RIBA 2030 and LETI approaches to design and developed a project framework which embeds environmental performance analysis and data collection from inception to completion.

Our office is based in East London with projects throughout the UK.

Introduction

As a practice, we recognise that the most significant impact we can have on carbon emissions is through the design of our projects. We have been Architects Declare signatories since 2022 and are committed to the RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge.

We're working towards RIBA, LETI and Net Zero Carbon Building Standards performance targets for the reduction of embodied carbon, operational energy, and potable water on our projects.

We believe it is vitally important to measure and analyse our business carbon footprint each year. This demonstrates our commitment towards achieving net zero and increases carbon literacy within our team. We do this through the standardised global framework: The Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol, and categorise business related emissions under three Scopes as outlined on the following pages.

In 2023 we added detail to the final category of Scope 3 measurements: purchased goods and services (such as groceries, office stationery, etc.). We are now fully reporting against all scope measurements. Last year we also introduced WEEE certified IT equipment recycling programme to repurpose our technology, and contribute to a sustainable Circular Economy for Ewaste.

This report is based on the calendar year January - December 2025.

The carbon footprint data is based on our internal information together with that provided by staff who completed individual carbon footprint surveys in November 2025.

The JFK Special School is part of the Learning in Harmony Multi-Academy Trust, providing specialist education for pupils with additional needs across four sites in Newham. The new extension delivers five purpose-designed classrooms alongside staff accommodation, with a community café creating opportunities for engagement with the local neighbourhood. The project incorporates air source heat pumps and photovoltaic panels to the new extension, delivering a lowenergy-in-use building completed in December 2025.

In 2025, we measured our Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions, and the applicable upstream and downstream factors including office goods within Scope 3. We also measured everyone's personal footprints.

Why are we measuring carbon emissions in this way?

- Standardised measurement tools – useful for benchmarking
- Accurate – uses carbon conversion factors to calculate emissions
- Facilitates the management and reduction of emissions
- Understanding and planning for how we will aim for Net Zero emissions as we head towards the 2030 and 2050 targets.

Summary

In 2025 we sought to review and reduce the offices general carbon footprint with a sustainable approach to reducing purchased goods and services as well as capital goods. We continued our inhouse campaign which sought to encourage cycling and walking, provide support to employees through the cycle to work scheme and with provision of facilities at work to secure and maintain bikes. Employees can make use of an office folding bike and in 2026 we will survey this, together with appointing a "Travel Champion" to support cycling and sustainable modes of transport generally.

We measure and report carbon emissions based on a comprehensive global standardised framework known as the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol. The report categorises the direct and indirect emissions into three broad scopes:

Scope 1: Direct Emissions

Direct emissions are any GHG emissions from a company's owned or controlled sources. For example, emissions from company owned vehicles.

Scope 2: Indirect Emissions from purchased energy

This includes emissions from energy generated off-site and purchased by the business, i.e. electricity or gas used to power an office.

Scope 3: Indirect Emissions

Indirect emissions are GHG emissions from sources that are not owned or controlled by the business, but are part of its operation. This includes purchased consumables and capital goods (such as emissions due to the manufacturing of IT equipment and mobile phones), business related travel (such as tube journeys, buses and trains to project sites, as well as staff commutes), and courier transport, etc.

According to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Scope 3 emissions can be defined as "the result of activities from assets not owned or controlled by the reporting organisation, but that the organisation indirectly impacts in its value chain."

In this report we've measured categories within Scopes 1 – 3 with additional WEEE and waste recycling updates.

Our Results

Scope	Category		Total	Carbon Factor (kg Co_2e)	Total kg Co_2e	Carbon Factor Reference	Carbon Footprint (tonnes Co_2e)	Carbon Footprint per person (tonnes CO_2e)
1	Fuel (Combustion)	Gas	0	N/A	0.00	N/A	0	0
2	Utilities	Electricity	26708.0 kWh	0.1770	4727.32	UK electricity E24	4.7273200	0.152494060
3	Water	Supply	500 m3	0.19130	90.87	Water supply D17	0.0908675	0.002931210
		Waste	500 m3	0.17080	85.40	Water treatment D17	0.0854000	0.002754840
	Purchased goods & services	Paper	Varies	1068.77470	178.66	Material use G86	0.0178662	0.005763290
		Supplies	Varies	Varies	2353.64	Varies	2.3536400	0.075923871
	Capital Goods	iPhones, IT	Varies	Varies	1915.77	Varies	1.9157700	0.061774190
	Fuel and energy-related activities: WFH (per FTE wrkg hr)		12045.0 hrs	0.33378	2010.19	Homworking C24	2.0101901	0.064844840
	Business Travel	Car / Taxi	2787.5 km	0.17304	482.35	business travel - land D53	0.4823490	0.015559650
		Tube	7302.5 km	0.02860	203.01	business travel - land D90	0.2030095	0.006548960
		Bus	47.1 km	0.06875	3.24	business travel - land D80	0.0032381	0.000104460
		Train	4503.1 km	0.03546	159.6799	business travel - land E87	0.0159680	0.005150970
		Plane	0.0 km	0.22928	0.00	business travel- air E23	0.0000000	0.000000000
		Carshare	0.0 km	0.17304	0.00	business travel - land D53	0.0000000	0.000000000
		Walk	409.0 km	0	0.00	N/A	0.0000000	0.000000000
		Bike	580.0 km	0	0.00	N/A	0.0000000	0.000000000
	Employee Commuting	Tube	427988.0 km	0.02860	11898.07	business travel - land D90	11.8980664	0.383808590
		Bus	7022.4 km	0.06875	482.76	business travel - land D80	0.4827625	0.015572980
		Train	207176.0 km	0.03546	7346.46	business travel - land E87	7.3464610	0.236982610
	Downstream transport and distribution	Motorbike	12.64 km	0.11367	0.40	business travel l- land E61	0.00039614	0.000001238
		Small van	7.04 km	0.25561	0.37	freight goods - land D36	0.00037073	0.000001585
CO_2					Total CO_2e 31.93 tonnes (1.02 tCO2e / FTE)			

Key Details and Clarifications

RSS started collecting and reporting on Carbon in 2019, and we are now collecting data on all scope items 1-3. The background information and historic data-sets we now have for the office allows us to start focusing on ways we can utilise this information to assist in finding realistic ways to set our own achievable Carbon Reduction targets. In order to do this we also need to analyse and understand the context within which we are operating, the assumptions that are being made and the details of data collected, as well as elements affecting carbon factors provided by the government for calculation purposes. The following provides information used and assumptions made in calculating our carbon footprint.

Carbon Factors:

These are provided by the UK Government and updated yearly to assist companies to calculate their Carbon Footprints. For GHG Conversion Factors 2025 see -

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2025

Scope 1:

Fuel (Combustion)

- The office uses no combustion or gas fired appliances.
- Fossil fuels may be burnt "upstream" to create the electricity that the office uses, however this is discounted here, and "factored-in" to Scope 2 - Utilities.

Scope 2:

Utilities - Electricity

Until the end of 2023 RSS offices had a fixed tariff on energy supply. In 2024, we switched to a more sustainable energy tariff and are receiving Zero Carbon Electricity as backed by Guarantees of Origin (REGO)

Scope 3:

3.1 Water

Supply / waste were included in 2023 to improve accuracy.

3.2 Purchased good and services

In 2022 we collected data for a sample month and multiplied by 12 to gain a yearly average. In 2023 we collected data over all 12 months. We found that there was less than a 5% difference in results so, now collect data for 2no. sample months and multiply by 6, to reduce office admin. / data collection time and efficiency.

3.3 Capital goods

RSS have implemented sustainable options for both :

- upstream acquisition of recycled / refurbished IT equipment including a recycled server, together with
- downstream recycling of office IT hardware

3.4 Fuel related activities / Work From Home (WFH)

WFH assessments are undertaken through analysis of work-patterns for staff as well as accounting for additional office resources required to support this. Further data on home working environments and house-sharing are being reviewed where house share employees heating can potentially be reduced where WFH in a shared property. More detail here can assist in the accuracy of such assessments.

3.5 Business travel

Previously assessed with combined timesheets Rapport. In 2025 this information was independently collected via Microsoft Forms with the aim to improve accuracy.

3.6 Employee commuting

Assessed using home address to office distances, together with employee declared travel methods, against Work From Home days. WWF Carbon Footprint calculations, also include a "commuting" assessment.

3.7 Downstream transport and distribution

These include courier journeys and printing deliveries. Some courier companies assess their own carbon emissions and so while currently included in our figures, these may in the future be discounted.

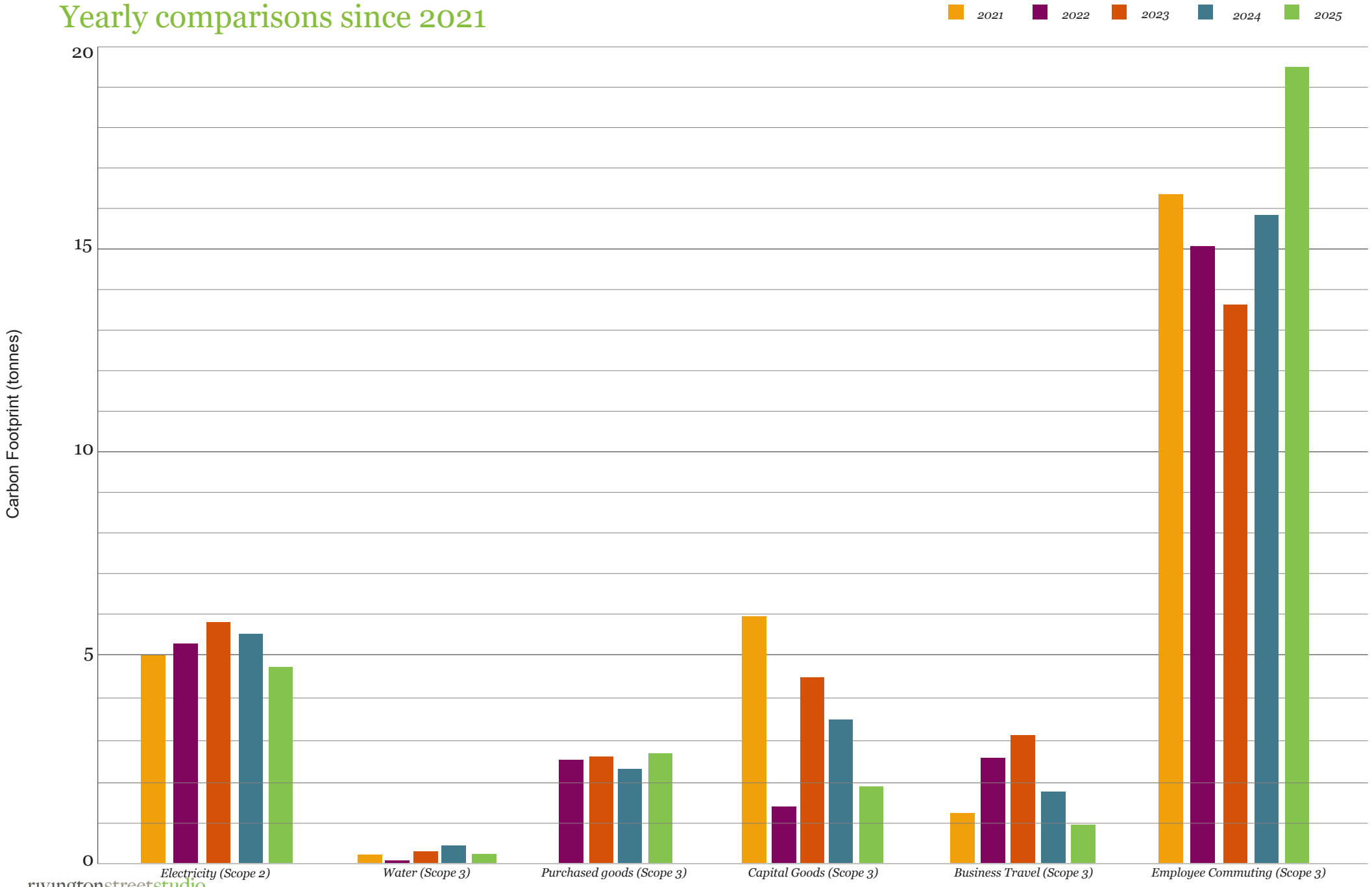
Employee Carbon Footprint Data

Towards the end of each calendar year, we ask employees to use the WWF Carbonfootprint.com calculator to provide their own footprint calculations. We anonymize this information to provide the Employee Footprints table / averages. Going forward we will aim to respond to employees privately, to provide them with their scope compared to both office and national/world average Carbon Footprints. The aim of this will be to assist awareness and comparison for staff members.

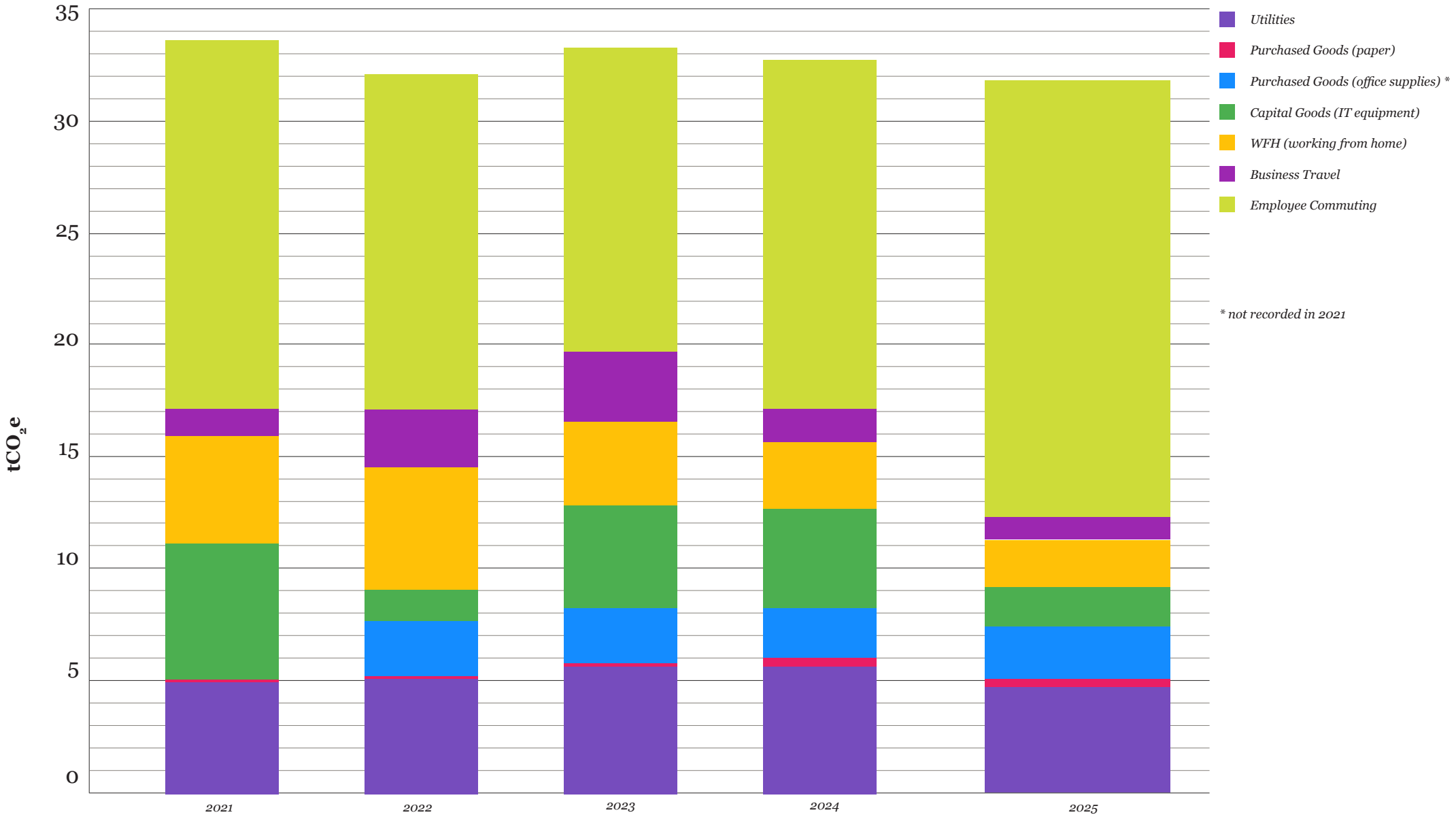
General Commentary

Previously, 2019 and 2021 were used as baseline years. As 2023 figures were post pandemic and include all scope items this will become the baseline from 2026.

Yearly comparisons since 2021



Total Carbon Footprint Breakdown

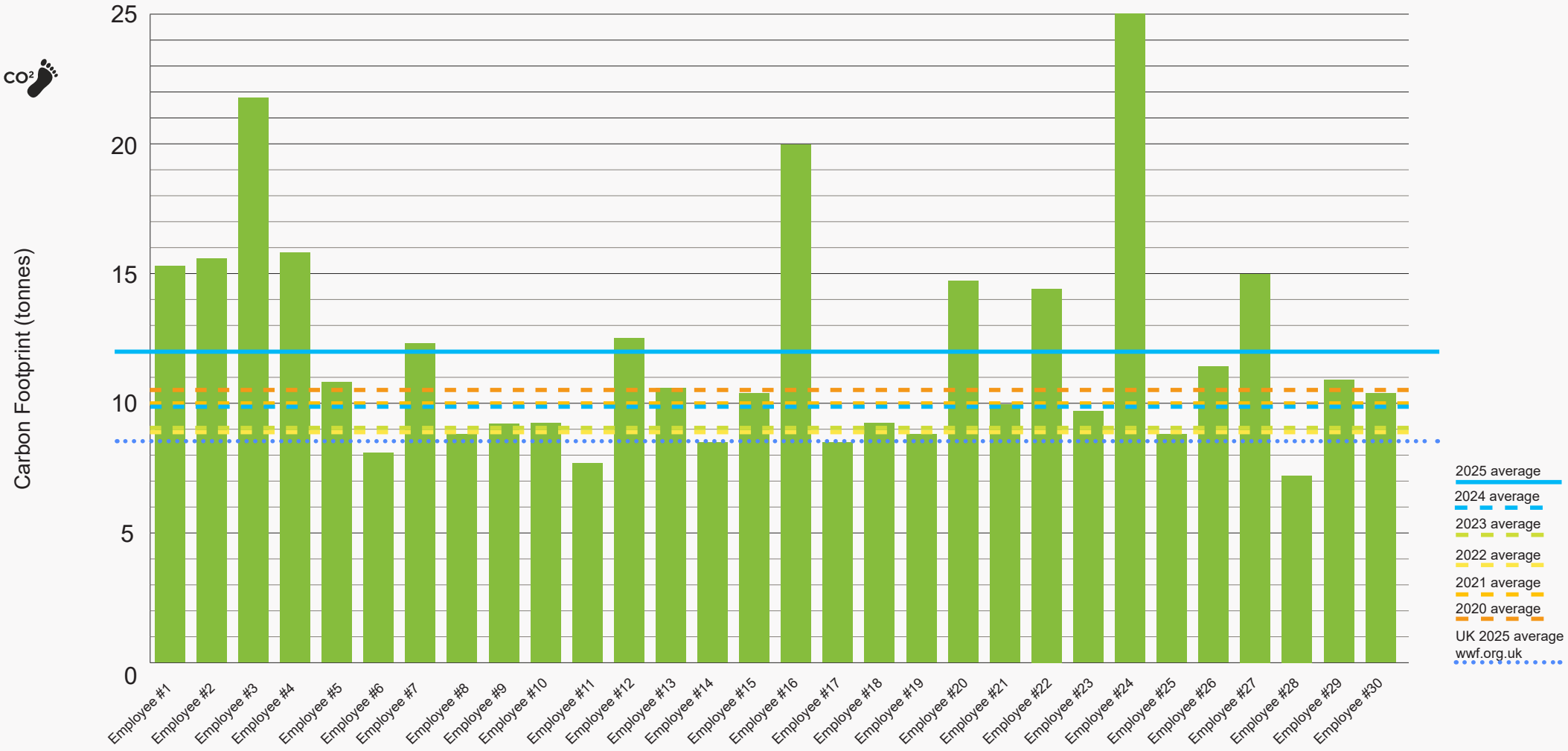


Employee footprints 2025

At the end of 2025 we repeated the annual survey of employee footprints using the WWF Footprint Calculator tool. The results showed that our average carbon footprint increased to 12.1 tCO_2e, above the UK average (8.4 tCO_2e - WWF.org) and well above the global average (6.3 tCO_2e - WWF.org). We see this typically is due to an increase in travel since covid, where this year's figure is slightly up on 2020 (11.3 tCO_2e). We ask all staff to complete this at the end of each year and feed back to the team in order to :

- Encourage awareness of our environmental impacts and reduce / limit carbon footprint where possible.
- Get a more accurate picture of our collective environmental impact.
- Understand the impacts of our daily choices.

We discuss these results openly within the office, analyse the results and see where we can improve year on year.



Conclusions and Key Findings

This year our carbon footprint sits at 31.9 tonnes of CO_2e , which represents a steady decrease since the 2021 total.

Overall reasons for fluctuations in our carbon footprint vary, due to both changes in purchased goods (which we are in control of), as well as alterations to the GHG Conversion Factors (outside of our influence,often due to global factors):

- As per the scope exercise tables on pages 5-8, data for all Scope 3 category items shows firm reductions in acquisition of capital goods (IT equipment) and purchased goods (tea, coffee, cleaning products etc).
- Meetings and site visits are now regularly in-person, however we have fewer project sites located a long distance from the office (eg Scotland) which has reduced emissions related to business travel overall.
- Employee commutes have increased (calculated using the distance-based method), now accounting for more than 1/2 of the offices CO2, with almost all employees travelling to and from the office 3-5 times a week.
- Our office electricity use increased slightly in while the GHG conversion factor dropped by 15%, due to increased imported energy. Most of our staff work in the office (WITO) 3 or more days per week, with working from home (WFH) lessening on the whole. The office is occupied continuously 8.30am to 6.30pm, Monday-to Friday, and so a Carbon Reduction can be seen due to the office being used more efficiently, while the carbon cost of WFH has also decreased.

Overall our carbon footprint has decreased since last year, so it is important to acknowledge additional influences on which the practice's carbon footprint calculation can be affected by and how data collected and analysed may have an impact on the end result, also we should seek ways to provide further reduction for future years:

- Inclusion of purchased goods does make a large difference to the carbon footprint. In 2022 this was averaged based on a typical month. While a month by month analysis has was included in 2023, the "typical month" strategy been re-implemented in 2025 where have taken 2no months averages and multiplied these out to provide a 1 year total. We used this methodology to decrease admin time / and therefore resourcing.
- Capital goods purchases decreased again in 2025 (IT equipment and mobile phones). In 2020 and 2021 we bought unusual amounts of IT equipment to facilitate home working. During 2023 we purchased additional PCs, laptops and a reconditioned server, however in 2024 and 2025 less equipment was required in part due to the acquisition of equipment in earlier years. Looking forward to 2026 we envisage similar IT requirements.
- Having implemented a WEEE / Ewaste recycling strategy in 2024 and continued this in 2025 we may consider this as an offset figure for 2026, or simply report this amount. At present (2024-5) this totals in a carbon saving of up to 7.5tCO2e (calculated at 36% products are deemed to have 1/3 life cycle remaining).

Fluctuations in 2025 carbon factors for calculating total tCO2e have an influence on our calculations as previously mentioned. In summary major changes outside of our control are noted as follows (GHG Conversion Factors 2025):

- Electricity - Decreased by 15% primarily due to less natural gas use in power stations and increase in net imports of electricity
- Water - Supply increased by 25%. 2025 figures reflect the latest data reported by the water companies, and this shows considerable interannual variation. Note - Small impact to RSS due to low office use of water (assessed) eg-generally office use is low compared to industrial use.
- Waste Disposal - Decreased by 27%. Changes are due to updated assumptions about GHG emissions from waste being sent to Material Recovery Facilities (MRF). MRF operations have improved in efficiency an ability to separate out recyclable waste, for reshipment to market.

Other items to consider are that WITO has increased and WFH has decreased as a whole, across the office, where new and younger staff are choosing to work in the office more. This has had two effects on the overall carbon footprint as follows:

• The Scope 3: Work from home or "Homeworking" carbon footprint has decreased since 2024.

• Staff commuting has as a result increased, and pushed up carbon associated with use of buses, trains and tube.

The three main areas of focus for 2026 reductions should be utilities, goods, and commuting, as we aim to work together to find ways to keep reducing our Carbon Footprint.

Targets & Next Steps

In December 2024 we moved to a 100% renewable energy supply for our office electricity for a fixed term of 2 years. We are still trying to get metered water supply information to better understand our consumption, and target reductions where possible.

We have become more detailed and analytical during 2025 data collection; we anticipate introducing further and more strategic carbon reduction measures in 2026.

What is the target?

"Net Zero" seeks to ensure the UK reduces its greenhouse gas emissions by 100% from 1990 levels by 2050. How will we help to achieve this through yearly reductions?

Scope 1

- No direct reliance on fossil fuels for office heating (gas).

Scope 2

- Monitor and reduce office electricity consumption.
- Maintain and monitor our green energy tariffs with reduction in use where possible.
- Encourage further WITO where possible, so that office efficiencies can be maximised, and additional WFH carbon can be reduced.

Scope 3

- Monitor goods and services - use low carbon suppliers and aim to reduce our scope 3.1 carbon footprint (office supplies) by 10-15 % where possible.
- We started collecting recycling data in 2024; we will aim to include this data in our 2026 reporting figures. From this baseline we will report future reduction in overall waste (increasing overall proportion of recycling / recycled goods where possible).
- Monitor, reduce and improve travel / transport methods to and from project sites.
- Encourage / assist staff in making low carbon, energy and transport choices in commuting and working from home.
- Commuting - train and tube travel to and from work will be targeted and we will seek a 10% reduction here where possible.
- We continue to support active travel by creating additional support for sustainable modes of transport including cycling and walking.
- WEEE / IT Recycling expand on our existing programme of recycling and reuse of office IT equipment to reduce the impact of this intensive GHG impact.

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine - Remodelling of a five-storey building within the Bloomsbury Conservation Area to provide a high-quality facility for the School's post-graduate students. A key design ethos was to work with the quirks and character of the existing 1904 fabric both pragmatically and aesthetically. Original steels, brickwork and soffits have been exposed to reflect its history and careful layout development has avoided significant new structural interventions. The design has been assessed using the SKA environmental methodology with 'gold' targeted.

Gordonstoun Elizabeth II Rooms Classroom Hub project is highly sustainable, with ground source heat pumps, PV panels, natural ventilation and high levels of insulation with a fabric first approach. The embodied carbon consumption has been minimised, achieving the RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge targets, and used regenerative materials to achieve this outcome.

In simple terms, "net zero means cutting carbon emissions to a small amount of residual emissions that can be absorbed and durably stored by nature and other carbon dioxide removal measures, leaving zero in the atmosphere". As a company and as individuals, to achieve the Net Zero goal, "emissions need to be reduced by 45% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050." - https://www.un.org/en/climatechange

In 2026 we aim to move office. While the move itself may have an impact, the new office will have a smaller and more efficient in plan, volume and energy performance. Our more centralised location will help to reduce commuting and business travel. We hope through this change we will be able to further encourage more staff members to cycle to work, or from work to meetings and project site locations as an additional strategy to reduce our carbon footprint.

We are a carbon neutral company. Our main goal is to reduce our emissions; where this cannot be done, we offset via an accredited offsetting solution.

In addition to considering our own environmental impact, social sustainability is a key part of our business. We provide an active Social Value programme, with project-specific initiatives. This is multi-faceted and includes apprenticeships, work experience, charities, education partnerships, our supply chain and professional support – and in all instances encourages others to consider their environmental impact.

As architects, we encourage all clients to seek the highest standards of sustainability for their projects and work closely with them to meet targets, including embodied carbon as well as energy use, travel and transport, water consumption etc. Throughout any project we regularly meet our clients to report against carbon reduction, maintain our involvement , post completion and aim to obtain information about building energy in-use. This is essential for targeting Net Zero in all we do.

Scope of Carbon footprinting exercise

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Scope 1							
Fuel Combustion	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Scope 2							
Purchased electricity/ heat							
Location based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Market based				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Scope 3 (upstream)							
3.1 Purchased goods and services (coffee, hotels, food and drink, milk, sandwiches, printing paper, alcohol, water, tea, laundry)				Yes (partial)	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.2 Capital goods (IT equip, phones, fitout and refurb)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.3 Fuel and energy-related activities Work from home energy	n/a	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.4 Upstream transportation and distribution	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
3.5 Waste generated in operations (amount of recycling and landfill waste)				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.6 Business travel (flights, train, bus etc)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.7 Employee commuting (Based on a typical week)			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.8 Upstream leased assets	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Scope 3 (downstream)							
Downstream transport and distribution (couriers)			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Processing of sold products	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
End-of-life treatment of sold products	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Waste disposal and treatment of products	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Downstream Leased assets	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Operation of franchises	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Operation of Investments	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Employee footprints							
All staff WWF footprints		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

28 Navigation Road
London
E3 3TG

Telephone: 020 7739 8945
Email: rss@rssa.co.uk

www.rivingtonstreetstudio.co.uk

rivingtonstreetstudio