# Carbon Reduction Plan

## Commitment to achieving Net Zero

LTE Group is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2038.

## 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: 2018** | |
| **Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations.** | |
| 2018 is the reporting baseline for Baseline Emissions based on a steady point in Business Activity, prior to the significant investment in the Estate Masterplan. | |
| **Baseline year emissions:** | |
| **EMISSIONS** | **TOTAL ($tCO_2e$)** |
| **Scope 1** | **1,533t** |
| **Scope 2** | **1,674t** |
| **Scope 3** **(Included Sources)** | **Not Recorded** |
| **Total Emissions** | **3,206t** |

# Carbon Reduction Plan

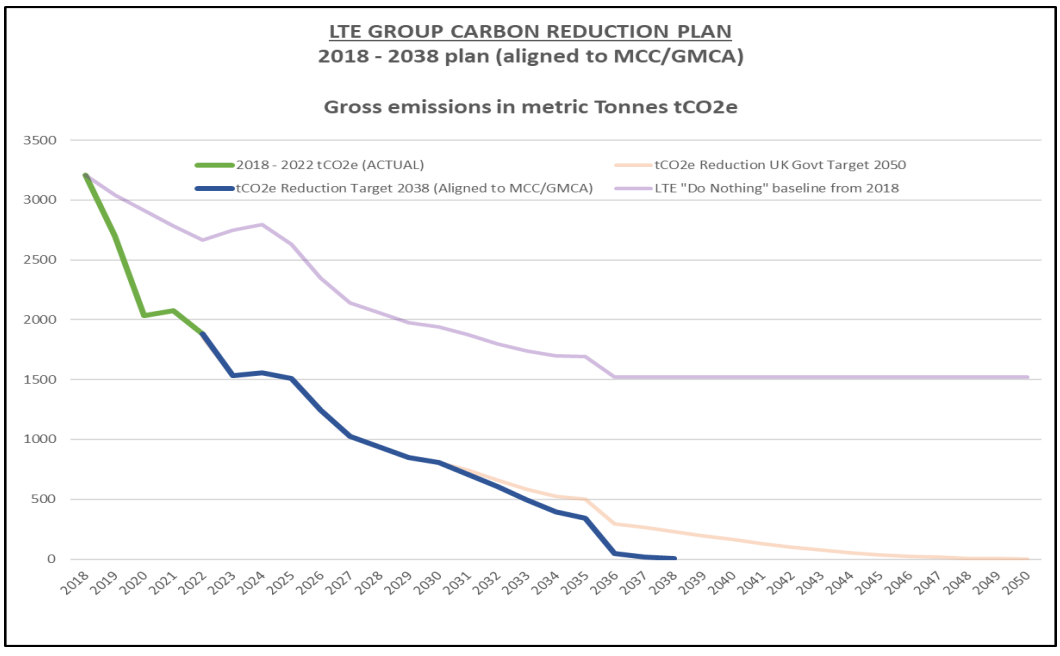
## Current Emissions Reporting

| **Reporting Year: 2022** | |
|---|---|
| **EMISSIONS** | **TOTAL ($tCO_2e$)** |
| **Scope 1** | **896t** |
| **Scope 2** | **1,031t** |
| **Scope 3** **(Included Sources)** | **Not Recorded** |
| **Total Emissions** | **1,927t** |

## Emissions reduction targets

LTE Group have adopted a carbon reduction target that aligns with Manchester City Councils and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority target to achieve a net zero position by 2038. Progress against this target can be seen in the graph below, mapped alongside an alternative reduction plan aligned to UK Government national commitments, in line with the 2020 Paris Agreement, which is to achieve net zero by 2050.

We project that carbon emissions will continue to decrease over the next five years to **1,016 tCO2e** by 2027. This is a further reduction of **47%**.



## Carbon Reduction Projects

### Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives

The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented since the 2018 baseline up to the end of the last full reporting period of December 2022. The carbon emission reduction achieved by these schemes equates to **1,279** tCO2e, a c.**40%** reduction against the 2018 baseline.

In 2018, LTE Group commenced a 5-year Estate Masterplan for The Manchester College, which has the most significant estate within the LTE Group and provides accommodation for LTE Group Services. The Masterplan set out a strategic campus wide £139m investment plan to develop a new flagship energy efficient City Centre campus and new sports and construction facilities at the Openshaw campus, along with the improvement / refurbishment of the remainder of the retained estate. The strategy provided for the disposal of older energy inefficient campuses and to rationalise the overall GIFA by approximately 30% (main campus locations reduced from 12 to 6), with the consequential efficiencies in energy and carbon reduction.

Phase 1 of the Masterplan completed in July 2022 with the opening of the new City Centre campus, together with a major new sports and construction facility at Openshaw campus. A programme of refurbishment work has largely been completed, with minor residual work to be undertaken.

Alongside the Phase 1 Masterplan investment, in 2021 we were successful in securing c.£3M of additional funding from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. This funding enabled a series of targeted programmes of work to be completed that has helped reduce CO2e by over 340tCO2e. Works completed include:

- the replacement of lights with LED across all retained campuses
- introduction of air source heat pump technology at Openshaw, Harpurhey and Wythenshawe
- installation of a major photo voltaic array at Openshaw
- Internal building fabric insulation works at Openshaw and Shena Simon

In addition, the DfE allocated c.£2.3M condition improvement funding in 2020 which enabled number of building fabric improvement works, including roof insulation and window refurbishment work at Openshaw and Shena Simon.

Further measures undertaken include the introduction of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points at our key campus locations to encourage the use of EV's for staff commuting to work.

# Carbon Reduction Plan

## Ongoing/Future Carbon Reduction Initiatives

LTE are now progressing the implementation of Phase 2 of our Estate Masterplan, with a further £38M of capital investment approved. This investment is focused on providing a major extension to the new City Centre campus. The new extension building will be carbon net zero in operation. Once this development is complete in Spring 2025, we will then dispose of our Shena Simon campus, which is a 19th Century Grade 2 listed building and from an energy perspective is an extremely poor performing element of our estate.

In parallel with the ongoing Phase 2 development capital investment, during 2024 we also intend to:

- Carry out further studies on our buildings to understand in greater detail the actions needed to improve energy efficiency, with a view to creating a pipeline of activity and submitting further bids for external funding.
- Establish an LTE working group to lead on development of detailed plans to deliver energy/carbon efficiencies, including where possible involvement of students.
- Raise awareness of sustainability and environmental issues with staff and students to encourage “ownership” of carbon management and wider environmental plans with the aim of change behaviours to reduce waste and unnecessary energy/natural resources consumption.
- Continue promotion of the use of public transport for the commute to campus.
- Using available capital funding, develop an energy reduction programme of work to include further replacement of lighting with LEDs, “baseload optimisation” (reducing the amount of energy used by buildings when they are unoccupied) and upgrading Building Management Systems so they run more efficiently. Current funding runs to 2025, so between now and 2025 we will continue to seek additional funds to supplement funding already allocated to extend beyond 2025.
- Explore ways of working with our waste management contractor to identify further opportunities for recovery, reuse and recycling within our waste streams.
- Improve monitoring, measuring, and reporting environmental performance against objectives and KPIs.
- Review use of owned/leased vehicles to include in future Scope 1 reporting.
- Develop a costed Planned Maintenance Plan (PMP) to establish requirement for capital funding to invest in the retained estate over the next 5 -10 years in order to improve building fabric and energy performance.

As we develop our environment and sustainability plans we also plan to implement further measures beyond 2024, including:

- Invest in dedicated resource to drive our approach to carbon reduction and sustainability practices.
- Develop a plan for calculating and reporting on our Scope 3 target (estimated as 80-90% of overall carbon footprint).
- Development of a sustainable procurement policy that invests in products, materials and resources that are eco-friendly, sustainable and produced ethically.
- Reducing delivery mileage with local suppliers.
- Aligning our environmental management systems with ISO14001:2015
- Review options for increased on site renewable energy sources.

- Review of staff commuting activities to explore opportunities to support more energy efficient methods to commute, for example salary sacrifice schemes to encourage them to utilise public transport / purchase of electric vehicles.
- Continually improving the suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of our environmental management systems to enhance environmental performance.
- Seek opportunities for energy reduction funding and technology improvements to further decarbonise our heating through a gas boiler replacement programme.
- Seek opportunities for capital funding, invest in new glazing and internal insulation works for existing buildings.

## Current Risks

Whilst the LTE Group has made significant progress in reducing its direct carbon emissions, the overall rate of CO2 reduction is projected to slow down over the next period and delivering further reductions in line with the zero-carbon science-based pathway will become more challenging, particularly whilst there is no simple solution for entirely replacing gas. The impact of this is demonstrated in the graph above, which highlights an increase in carbon emissions in 2024, despite a reduction in our overall energy consumption. This is due to the carbon emissions factor (provided by BEIS) increasing in 2024 due to the national grid not decarbonising at a sufficient rate, with renewable energy sources not available to meet expected demand.

Future significant reductions including building fabric improvements and switching from gas for older estate will be heavily reliant on capital funding programmes released by the UK Government, many of which have become more competitive with more challenging eligibility criteria.

Notwithstanding these risks, achieving the 2038 zero carbon target is a strategic priority for the LTE Group and considerable effort is being put into this key strategic goal.

# Carbon Reduction Plan

## Declaration and Sign Off

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 standard[1] and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting[2].

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) Standard[3].

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the Board of Directors.

**Signed on behalf of the LTE Group:**

……

Date: 19 October 2023

Publication date: October 2023

Next Review: March 2025

[1] https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard
[2] https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting
[3] https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard