



PensionBee PAS2060 Carbon Neutrality Qualifying Explanatory Statement

18th July 2022

Disclaimer

This document has been prepared for the above named client for the purpose agreed in Verco's terms of engagement. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and suitability of the information contained in this report, the results and recommendations presented should not be used as the basis of design, management or implementation of decisions unless the client has first discussed with Verco their suitability for these purposes and Verco has confirmed their suitability in writing to the client. Verco does not warrant, in any way whatsoever, the use of information contained in this report by parties other than the above named client.

Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	4
	1.1 General information	4
	1.2 Declaration of achievement of carbon neutrality	4
2.	Carbon footprint	5
3.	Carbon management plan	6
4.	Carbon offsets	8
5.	Annex A: PAS2060:2014 check list	9
6.	Annex B: Additional information: Renewable Energy tariff	11
7.	Verco verification statement	12

1. Introduction

In accordance with BSI PAS 2060, this document presents the declaration of achievement of carbon neutrality through a Qualifying Explanatory Statement and public disclosure of documentation supporting PensionBee’s carbon neutrality claim.

1.1 General information

Information required under PAS2060 guidance	
Subject of PAS 2060 declaration	PensionBee’s Scope 1 (emissions are reported as zero) and Scope 2 (location-based method)
Type of conformity assessment	Other party verification – Verco Advisory Services Ltd
Application period	Same as the Group’s financial year, 1 st January 2021 to 31 st December 2021
Prepared by	Osama A.Shawky
Date	18 th July 2022
Check	Tim Crozier-Cole, Verco

1.2 Declaration of achievement of carbon neutrality

“Carbon neutrality of Scope 1 and Scope 2 (market-based) emissions achieved by PensionBee Plc in accordance with PAS 2060 as of 24th June 2021 for the period commencing 1st January to 31st December 2021, Verco Advisory Services Ltd declared.”

This QES contains all the required information on the carbon neutrality of the given subject, and will be made publicly available on our website: <https://www.pensionbee.com/>

Name:	Clare Reilly
Position:	Chief Engagement Officer
Signature:	Clare Reilly
Date:	18 July 2022

2. Carbon footprint

2.1 Methodology

PensionBee employed the services of a specialist adviser, Verco, to quantify and calculate the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and energy use associated with the Group's operations.

The following methodology was applied by Verco in the preparation and presentation of this data:

- the Greenhouse Gas Protocol published by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the World Resources Institute (the "WBCSD/WRI GHG Protocol");
- application of appropriate emission factors to the Group's activities to calculate GHG emissions;
- scope 2 reporting methods – application of location-based and market-based emission factors for electricity supplies;
- inclusion of all the applicable Kyoto gases, expressed in carbon dioxide equivalents, or CO₂e;
- presentation of gross emissions as the Group does not purchase carbon credits (or equivalents); and
- where data was missing or over the period required, values were estimated using an extrapolation of available data.

2.2 Emissions Summary

PensionBee's Streamline Energy and Carbon Report (SECR) return for FY2021 has been used as a basis for this claim and thus the scope covers all of the emission sources required under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Reports) Regulations 2018. An operational control approach has been used in order to define our organisational boundary. This is the basis for determining the Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions for which the Group is responsible. The reporting period is the same as the Group's financial year, 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021.

The total Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions from the Group's operations in the year ending 31st December 2021 were:

- **8.4** tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e) using a 'location-based' emission factor methodology for Scope 2 emissions; and
- **0.0** tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e) using a 'market-based' emission factor methodology for Scope 2 emissions.

The sources for the emissions were from the PensionBee’s office space (City Place House, 55 Basinghall Street, London). The emission sources were as follows:

- **Scope 1** – the Group does not use any onsite combustion of natural gas, fuels, fuels used in fleet/company-owned vehicles and refrigerant gas losses. Therefore, emissions are reported as zero.
- **Scope 2** - emissions from purchased electricity. The group bought electricity via a 100% renewable (REGO backed) tariff from Brook Green Supply.

The following tables summarized the emissions calculated and their respective sources:

Source of emissions	Tonnes CO ₂ e	Tonnes CO ₂ e / £m revenue ⁴
Scope 1 ¹	-	-
Scope 2 ²	8.40	0.64
Scope 3 ³	-	-
Total GHG emissions (Location-based)	8.40	0.64
Total GHG emissions (Market-based)	-	-

1 Scope 1 being emissions from the Group’s combustion of fuel and operation of facilities.

2 Scope 2 being electricity (from location-based calculations), heat, steam and cooling purchased for the Group’s own use.

3 Scope 2 being electricity (from market-based calculations), heat, steam and cooling purchased for the Group’s own use.

4 Intensity Ratio: Revenue £13m (FY2021)

3. Carbon management plan

The Group’s objective is to maintain or reduce its GHG emissions per £m revenue each year and will report each year whether it has been successful in this regard.

Absolute electricity consumption reduced by 6% in 2021 compared to the previous year. This was while the business was located at City Place House.

Energy use	2020	2021
Electricity (kWh/yr)	41,747	39,361
% change		-6%

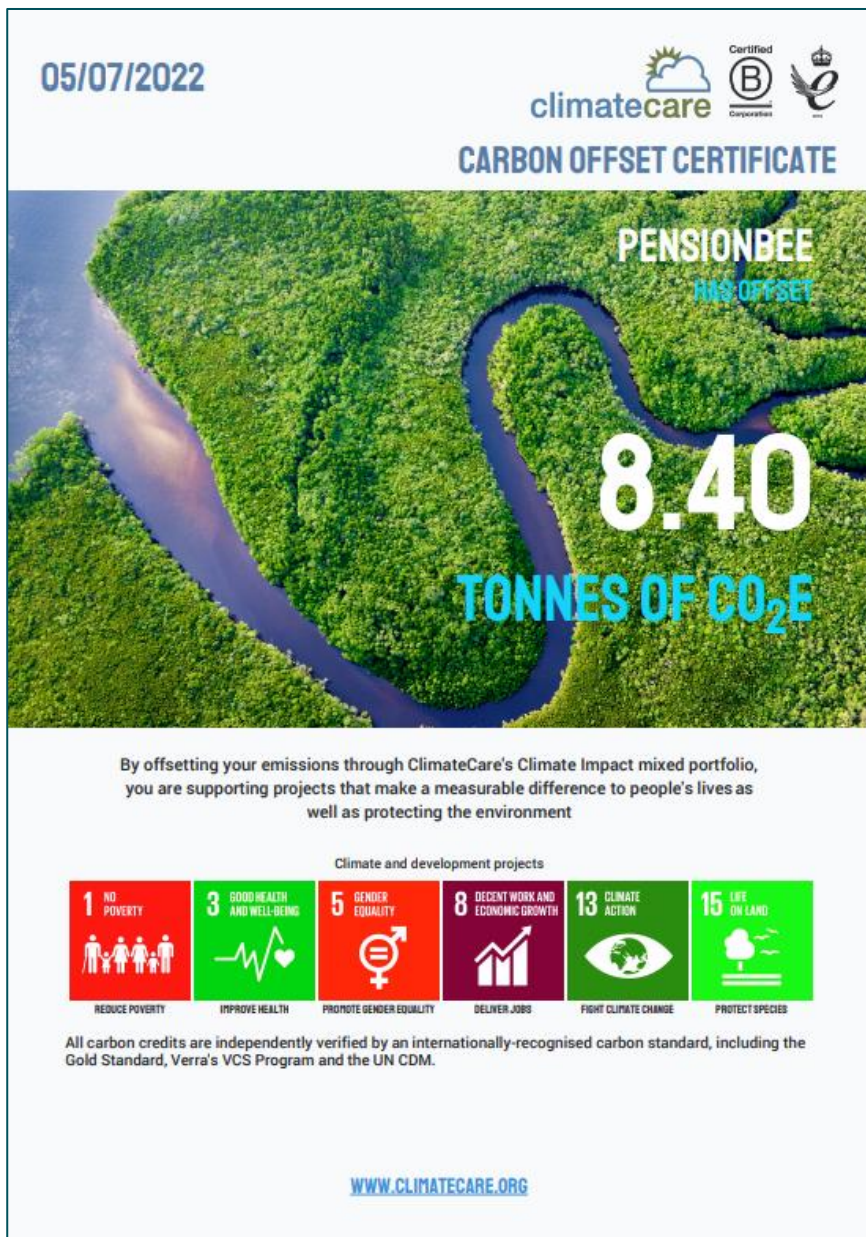
The Group moved out of City Place House on 7th January 2022, as the site is be being redeveloped. Due to this, there was no business case for energy efficiency measures in 2021.

The Group selected new premises in Blackfriars on 14th February 2022. The new premises has the following in place:

- The building uses 100% REGO sustainable green electricity and its energy intensity is much lower than relevant industry benchmarks such as the Better Building Partnership's Real Estate Environment Benchmarks (REEB);
- the property management team is Planet Mark certified, meaning they commit to reducing their carbon emissions every year; and
- the building has a number of private rooms to be used for virtual meetings allowing the Group to continue its hybrid working policy and limit the need for business travel.

4. Carbon offsets

PensionBee purchased 8.4 tCO₂e of carbon credits from a mixed portfolio as provided by Climate Impact Partners (formerly Climate Care). Due to the small volume of credits purchased specific details of the project are not available, but all credits are independently verified by an internationally recognised carbon standard as stated in the certificate below.



5. Annex A: PAS2060:2014 check list

No.		Section
1	Define standard and methodology use to determine its GHG emissions reduction.	1. Introduction
2	Confirm that the methodology used was applied in accordance with its provisions and the principles set out in PAS 2060 were met.	1. Introduction
3	Provide justification for the selection of the methodologies chosen to quantify reductions in the carbon footprint, including all assumptions and calculations made and any assessments of uncertainty. <i>(The methodology employed to quantify reductions shall be the same as that used to quantify the original carbon footprint. Should an alternative methodology be available that would reduce uncertainty and yield more accurate, consistent, and reproducible results, then this may be used provided the original carbon footprint is re-quantified to the same methodology, for comparison purposes. Recalculated carbon footprints shall use the most recently available emission factors, ensuring that for purposes of comparison with the original calculation, any change in the factors used is taken into account).</i>	2. Carbon footprint
4	Describe the means by which reductions have been achieved and any applicable assumptions or justifications.	3. Carbon management plan
5	Ensure that there has been no change to the definition of the subject. <i>(The entity shall ensure that the definition of the subject remains unchanged through each and every stage of the methodology. In the event that material change to the subject occurs, the sequence shall be re-started on the basis of a newly defined subject.)</i>	1. Introduction
6	Describe the actual reductions achieved in absolute and intensity terms and as a percentage of the original carbon footprint. <i>(Quantified GHG emissions reductions shall be expressed in absolute terms and shall relate to the application period selected and/or shall be expressed in emission intensity terms (e.g. per specified unit of product or instance of service)).</i>	2. Carbon footprint
7	State the baseline/qualification date.	1. Introduction
8	Record the percentage economic growth rate for the given application period used as a threshold for recognising reductions in intensity terms.	N/A

9	Provide an explanation for circumstances where a GHG reduction in intensity terms is accompanied by an increase in absolute terms for the determined subject.	N/A
10	Select and document the standard and methodology used to achieve carbon offset.	4. Carbon offsets
11	<p>Confirm that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offsets generated or allowance credits surrendered represent genuine, additional GHG emission reductions elsewhere. • Projects involved in delivering offsets meet the criteria of additionality, permanence, leakage and double counting. (See the WRI Greenhouse Gas Protocol for definitions of additionality, permanence, leakage and double counting). • Carbon offsets are verified by an independent third-party verifier. • Credits from Carbon offset projects are only issued after the emission reduction has taken place. • Credits from Carbon offset projects are retired within 12 months from the date of the declaration of achievement. • Provision for event related option of 36 months to be added here. • Credits from Carbon offset projects are supported by publicly available project documentation on a registry which shall provide information about the offset project, quantification methodology and validation and verification procedures. • Credits from Carbon offset projects are stored and retired in an independent and credible registry. 	4. Carbon offsets
12	<p>Document the quantity of GHG emissions credits and the type and nature of credits actually purchased including the number and type of credits used and the time period over which credits were generated including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which GHG emissions have been offset. • The actual amount of carbon offset. • The type of credits and projects involved. • The number and type of carbon credits used and the time period over which the credits have been generated. • For events, a rationale to support any retirement of credits in excess of 12 months including details of any legacy emission savings, taken into account. 	4. Carbon offsets

- Information regarding the retirement/cancellation of carbon credits to prevent their use by others including a link to the registry or equivalent publicly available record, where the credit has been retired.

13	Specify the type of conformity assessment:	1. Introduction
14	Include statements of validation where declarations of achievement of carbon neutrality are validated by a third-party certifier or second party organizations.	7. Verco verification statement
15	Date the QES and have it signed by the senior representative of the entity concerned (e.g., CEO of a corporation; Divisional Director, where the subject is a division of a larger entity; the Chairman of a town council or the head of the household for a family group).	1. Introduction
16	Make QES publicly available and provide a reference to any freely accessible information upon which substantiation depends (e.g., via websites).	QES will be made available company website.

6. Annex B: Additional information: Renewable Energy tariff

The electricity supplier for City Place House was Brook Green Supply, the contract was 100% renewable sourced (REGO backed).



All Brook Green Supply customers receive electricity certified from renewable generation.

We certify that 100% of the electricity supplied to the below customer is backed by Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin.

Knighon Estates Limited.

Company Registration Number		Registered Company Address	
00379493		33 Cavendish Square, London, Greater London, W1G 0PW	
MPAN	CSD	CED	Site Address
1200060380223	01/09/2019	31/08/2022	45 MORTIMER STREET (SUPPLY 1) LANDLORDS SUPPLY 2, CAVENDISH HOUSE;51, MORTIMER STREET, LONDON, W1W 8HR
1200060380232	01/09/2019	31/08/2022	45 MORTIMER STREET (SUPPLY 2) LANDLORDS SUPPLY 3, CAVENDISH HOUSE;51, MORTIMER STREET, LONDON, W1W 8HR
1200010104998	01/09/2019	31/08/2022	CITY PLACE HOUSE(SUPPLY 1) 55, BASINGHALL STREET, EC2V 7HR
1200010056554	01/09/2019	31/08/2022	KENT HOUSE, BASEMENT ELECTRICAL INTAKE ROOM, KENT HOUSE 14-17, MARKET PLACE, W1W 8AJ
1200062470687	01/09/2021	31/08/2022	THE HICKMAN, WHITE CHAPEL, LONDON, E1 1EE

Approved by: Richard Nicholls – Commercial Director

Richard Nicholls

Date: 21/04/2022

brookgreensupply.com

7. Verco verification statement

Pensions Bee Plc commissioned Verco to calculate the Group's emissions for SERC reporting and to verify its carbon neutrality claim as part of an "other party" validation process for the period 1st January to 31st December 2021 covering the Group's Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions.

The following activities were conducted:

1. Calculation of the Groups Group's Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions (SECR reporting).
2. Review of Carbon Management Plan
3. Review of carbon offsetting evidence
4. Issuance of verification statement and completion of PAS 2060 validation process and preparation of Qualifying Explanatory Statement (QES)



Solutions for a zero carbon world

Verco helps companies reduce their environmental impact and save money through data driven analysis, grounded advice and real-world solutions.

www.vercoglobal.com

verco