

The logo for Woodhead Construction is contained within a white rectangular border. The word "WOODHEAD" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font on the top line. Below it, a thin white line with a small upward-pointing triangle in the center separates the two lines. The word "CONSTRUCTION" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font on the bottom line.

WOODHEAD
CONSTRUCTION

Climate Action Framework

A Roadmap to Transform Our Business
for a Low Carbon Future

A decorative pattern of small, light-colored dots is arranged in a grid that tapers off towards the right side of the page, creating a sense of depth and movement.

GOING BEYOND

GREEN

In line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, we're taking more than just climate action to tackle the climate emergency. Look for our colour codes throughout this document to see how our actions address the following key goals of the Sustainable Development report.



Climate Action



Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure



Responsible Consumption



Sustainable Cities and Communities



Partnerships for the Goals



It is beyond doubt that together we are facing a **climate emergency**. There are four main reasons why we need to act now:

1.

The government has set out a Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution and has committed Britain to being Net Zero Carbon by 2050. This is an ambitious goal and we need to play our part.

2.

Climate action and carbon reduction is at the centre of our public sector client's ten year plans. It will be at the heart of local authority and other public sector procurement requirements. Indeed right now it is hard to think of a current opportunity where sustainability and carbon reduction does not feature very strongly. In the not too distant future if we are not taking action, we simply won't win new business in the public sector. We need to help them to achieve their goals.

3.

It has financial and commercial implications. It is likely that a carbon tax will be introduced in the next decade, banks and other lenders will be taking into account our decarbonisation action plans when assessing viability and lending, many of the initiatives will make us more efficient and/or save money. There will be commercial opportunity for us if we act now

4.

Perhaps most importantly, it is simply the right thing to do for future generations and the planet we live on.

We need to start our decarbonisation journey now. This high level climate action framework is the first step of many and aims to set out **what** we need to achieve by **when** to deliver on our 10 year vision.

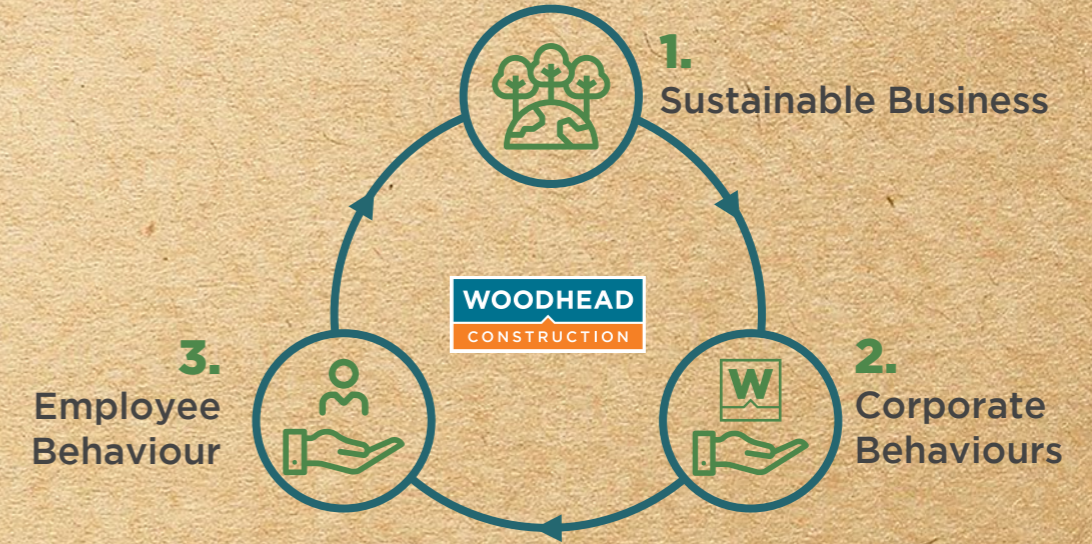


Tom Woodhead
Business Services Director



Glenn Slater
Chief Visionary Officer

The project is one of business transformation focusing on 3 main aspects:



It is built around the guiding principles of the NFB's Carbon Report 2020 and is well aligned with the 9 priorities of the CLC's CO₂nstruct Zero Initiative:



Developing teams to lead change



Reducing the carbon footprint of staff and corporate



Recording, accounting and reducing emissions associated with construction projects



Reducing embodied carbon



Reducing carbon emissions through building performance



Reducing carbon through procurement

10 YEAR VISION



Goal: Be a **Climate Positive Contractor** with zero single use plastics on our sites.

By December 2029:

We will be Net Zero Carbon business with at least a 60% reduction in our own carbon footprint achieved, when compared to pre-Covid Levels, and the remainder achieved through carbon offsetting.

8 YEAR TARGET



Goal: Become carbon neutral

By December 2027:

We will aim for 70% of the buildings we deliver for our customers to be Net zero carbon, both in terms of construction and operational energy in line with the principles set out in the UK Green Building Council's, Net Zero Carbon Buildings: A Framework Definition

Achieve a 45% reduction in our own carbon footprint when compared to pre-Covid levels

At least 75% reduction in single use plastics on site

Achieve the PAS 2060 Carbon Neutrality Standard

5 YEAR TARGET



Goal: Be Net Zero ready with a deliverable plan to achieve our 8 and 10 year targets

By December 2025:

All new homes that we deliver will achieve an 80% betterment on building regulation requirements as at April 2021

Achieve a 30% reduction in our own carbon footprint when compared to pre-Covid levels

We will aim for 40% of the buildings we deliver for our customers to be Net Zero Carbon

At least 50% reduction in single use plastics on site

Two exemplar Net Zero projects delivered (one domestic, one non-domestic)



3 YEAR TARGET



Goal: Be a carbon reduction activist

By December 2023:

100% Electric Fleet

200 Future Homes Delivered

25% reduction in single use plastics on site

Zero avoidable waste on any site

Renewable energy supply to all sites

To have planted at least 2,000 trees since 2021 through our annual tree planting commitment

Achieve a 15% reduction in our own carbon footprint when compared to pre-Covid levels

ONE YEAR PLAN



Goal: Become a carbon aware business

By December 2021:

Develop a company-wide carbon reduction plan to deliver on our climate positive goals and ambitions with measurable targets and KPIs

Establish accountability for the delivery of this plan at board, senior management and all levels of the business through a climate action taskforce.

Undertake further research in to Net Zero and embodied carbon to make sure that we set the right carbon reduction targets for our business

Measure our current carbon footprint, establish a benchmark for embodied carbon and set achievable targets for the next 3 years – start the measure, report, improve process

Have an agreed climate action plan for 2022 and beyond which focuses on the keys areas of the UK Green Building Council's Net Zero Carbon Framework

1. Establish Net Zero Scope
2. Reduce Construction Impacts
3. Reduce Operational Energy Use
4. Increase Renewable Energy Supply
5. Offset Any Remaining Carbon

Design and launch training/education programme aimed at all relevant levels – strategic, management, project management and supply chain

Set up a pool of resources and guidelines on our Intranet based Knowledge Centre

Sustainable Sourcing Policy and Goals set and published

Adopt the Environmental performance indicators set out in the Social Value Performance Calculator for Waste, Energy Use, Water Use and Species Protection

Plant 375 trees as per our annual tree planting commitments



CLIMATE ACTION COMMITMENTS

We have signed up to the UK Builders declare commitments as a member of the NFB Major Contractors Group and are making a clear statement of intent to transform our own business and support our clients in their transformation to a low carbon future.

The twin crises of climate breakdown and biodiversity loss are the most serious issue of our time. Buildings and construction play a major part, accounting for nearly 40% of energy-related carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions whilst also having a significant impact on our natural habitats.

For everyone working in the construction industry, meeting the needs of our society without breaching the earth's ecological boundaries will demand a paradigm shift in our behaviour. Together with our clients, we will need to commission and design buildings, cities and infrastructure as indivisible components of a larger, constantly regenerating and self-sustaining system.

The research and technology exist for us to begin that transformation now, but what has been lacking is collective will. Recognising this, we are committing to strengthening our working practices to create buildings and infrastructure assets that have a more positive impact on the world around us.

We will seek to:

- Raise awareness of the climate and biodiversity emergencies and the urgent need for mitigation and adaptation action amongst our employees, clients, peers, collaborators and supply chains.
- Advocate for faster change in our industry towards regenerative practices and higher Governmental investment to support a just transition, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Establish climate mitigation and adaptation principles, as well as maximise biodiversity and air quality enhancement. This will be demonstrated through commitments, actions and achievements.
- Seek for us and our key supply chains to set targets for our own emissions and for the assets we design and build using recognised standards aligned to the 1.5-degree scenario.
- Share knowledge and research on an open source basis, to address the climate and biodiversity emergencies.

- Evaluate all new projects against the aim to contribute positively to mitigating climate and biodiversity breakdown, to adapt to climate change using nature-based solutions and encourage our clients to adopt this approach.
- Support the upgrade of existing assets for extended use as a more carbon efficient alternative to demolition and new build whenever there is a viable choice.
- Support and promote the use of life cycle costing, whole life carbon modelling and post occupancy evaluation/performance measurement. We will do that as part of our standard scope of work to reduce both embodied and operational resource use for the assets we design and build.
- Adopt and support more regenerative principles, with the aim of achieving net zero in line with recognised standards. For buildings this should be in line with the UKGBC's industry created definition of net zero carbon.
- Work together with engineers, designers, clients, collaborators and supply chain to further reduce construction waste and transition to a circular economy.
- Accelerate the shift to low embodied carbon materials in all our work and promote meaningful actions that will lead to reducing embodied carbon by at least 40% by 2030, based on the World Green Building Council call to action.
- Work with clients, designers and supply chains to design out waste in the assets we design and build, and further reduce waste during their construction, operation and deconstruction by transitioning to a circular economy.



Links To Useful Guidance/Reference Documents:

UK Green Building Council's Net Zero Carbon – A Framework of Definitions:

<https://www.ukgbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Net-Zero-Carbon-Buildings-A-framework-definition.pdf>

Global Sustainable Development Goals:

<https://www.concordiavolunteers.org.uk/News/the-united-nations-sustainable-development-goals>

UK Contractors Declare Commitments:

<https://uk.buildersdeclare.com/>

The Government's 10 Point Plan:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-outlines-his-ten-point-plan-for-a-green-industrial-revolution-for-250000-jobs>

CLC CO₂nstruct Zero Overview:

<https://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/COConstruct-Zero-Summary-Document.pdf>

NFB Carbon Report 2020:

<https://www.builders.org.uk/policy/carbon-report/carbon-report-2020/>

Glossary of Terms/Definitions:

Climate positive means that our business activities and projects we deliver will go beyond achieving net zero carbon emissions to actually create an environmental benefit by removing additional carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Embodied carbon in a building is the total carbon that has been emitted in creating the building materials, added to the carbon that has been emitted by all those involved in its delivery.

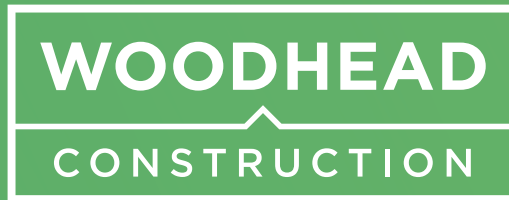
Net zero carbon - construction: When the amount of carbon emissions associated with a building's product and construction stages up to practical completion is zero or negative, through the use of offsets or the net export of on-site renewable energy.

Net zero carbon - operational energy: When the amount of carbon emissions associated with the building's operational energy on an annual basis is zero or negative. A net zero carbon building is highly energy efficient and powered from on-site and/or off-site renewable energy sources, with any remaining carbon balance offset.



Part of the





Better Experiences for All

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