



BRITISH SOCIETY OF
GASTROENTEROLOGY

Carbon Footprinting Report 2023

The British Society of
Gastroenterology

Glossary of Terms

- **Carbon Footprint:** Total greenhouse gas emissions from an individual or organisation's activities.
- **CO₂e (Carbon Dioxide Equivalent):** A unit for comparing emissions from different greenhouse gases based on their global warming potential.
- **Scope 1:** Direct emissions from owned or controlled sources (e.g., vehicles, boilers).
- **Scope 2:** Indirect emissions from purchased electricity, heat, or steam.
- **Scope 3:** Indirect emissions from activities not controlled by the organisation such as purchased goods and services and business travel.
- **Business Travel:** Emissions from work-related travel, like flights and car journeys.
- **Capital Goods:** Emissions from manufacturing equipment and buildings used by the organisation.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Using less energy to perform the same task.
- **Hybrid Vehicles:** Vehicles using both fuel and electricity to reduce emissions.
- **Carbon Offsets:** Reductions in emissions, like reforestation, used to balance out an organisation's own emissions.
- **Sustainability Measures:** Actions to reduce environmental impact, such as energy-saving or waste reduction.
- **Procurement:** The process of buying goods and services, which can impact the environment.
- **Renewable Energy:** Energy from natural, replenishing sources like solar or wind.

Introduction

Key priorities for the British Society of Gastroenterology since 2021 have been to:

- ✓ **Engage** membership to undertake and embed sustainability at all levels in their workplace and personal space.
- ✓ **Partner** with organisations like JAG, BASL, UKHACC and regional BSG groups to help implement and measure changes at unit level. A sustainability commitment should be made a primary rule of engagement.
- ✓ **Educate and empower** our patients to make decisions about their care focusing not only on high-quality of clinical care but also caring for the health of the environment.
- ✓ **Embed** sustainable practice across all aspects and activities of the organisation including operational management of both day-to-day activities as well as events and meetings run by the BSG.

This report provides a comprehensive overview of the carbon emissions generated by our organisation in 2023. By analysing our carbon footprint, we can identify areas for improvement and establish practical steps to reduce our environmental impact, thereby contributing to broader sustainability objectives. For this, our first measurement of the BSG's carbon footprint, we have not included the carbon emissions attributable to our Annual Meeting, BSG LIVE, as we did not collect this data in 2023. However, for future measurements, we will endeavour to include all activities related to our Annual Meeting.

Our Total Carbon Footprint for our Usual Business Activities

We interrogated our business accounts to establish our carbon footprint for scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions.

- **Scope 1 (Direct Emissions):** 0 tonnes CO₂e
 - This scope includes direct emissions from assets owned or controlled by the organisation, such as vehicles or boilers. As we do not operate such assets, no emissions fall under this category.
- **Scope 2 (Indirect Emissions from Energy Use):** 8.99 tonnes CO₂e
 - These emissions stem from the energy consumed in our office spaces, primarily electricity usage for lighting, heating and equipment.
- **Scope 3 (Other Indirect Emissions):** 145 tonnes CO₂e
 - Scope 3 encompasses emissions resulting from activities not directly controlled by the organisation, such as purchased goods and services and reimbursed business travel.

Total Emissions: 154 tonnes CO₂e

Breakdown of Scope 2 and 3 Emissions

Scope 2 - Electricity: 4.63 tonnes

Scope 2 - Heat: 4.37 tonnes

Scope 3 - Business Travel: 93.3 tonnes

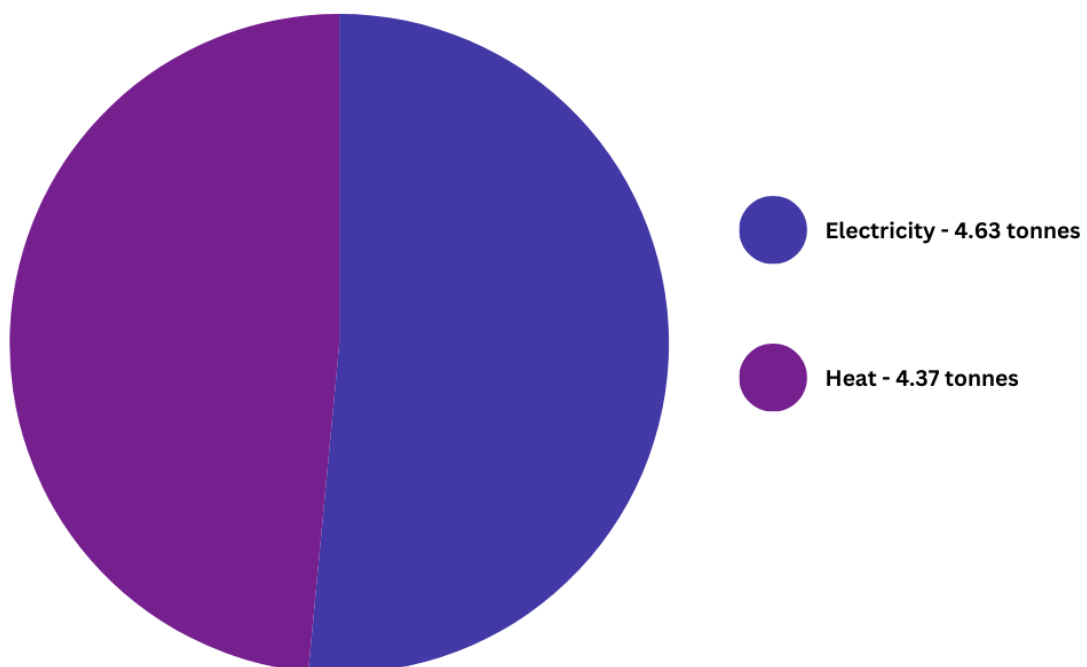
Scope 3 - Upstream Transportation & Distribution: 0.223 tonnes

Scope 3 - Purchased Goods & Services: 48.5 tonnes

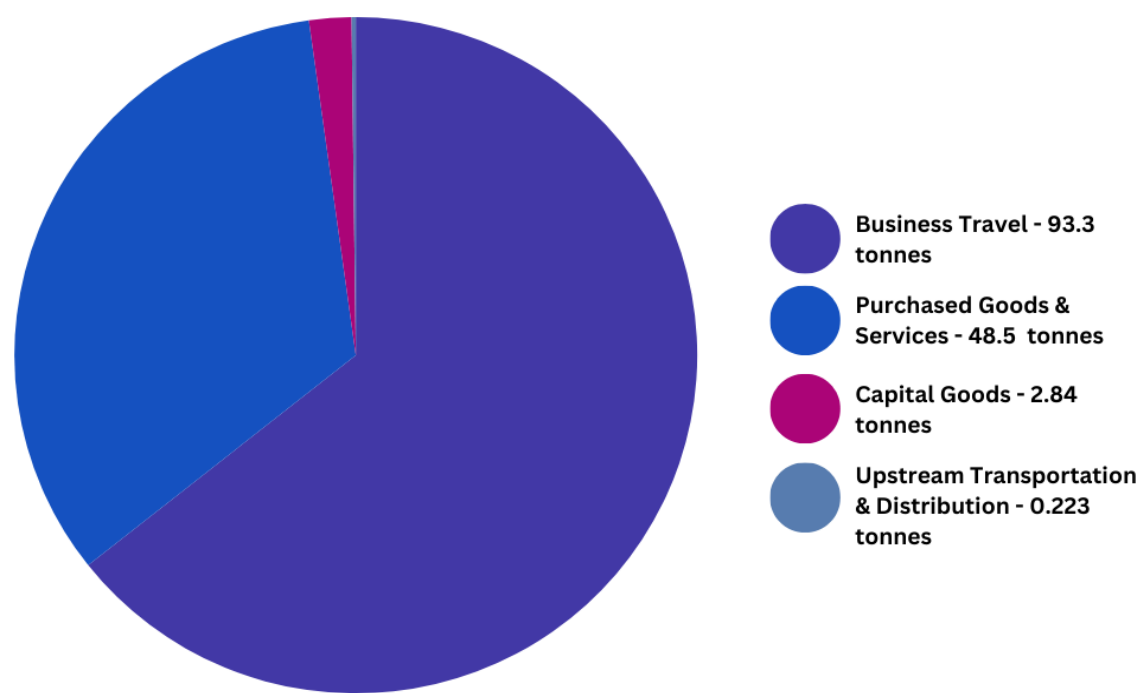
Scope 3 - Capital Goods: 2.84 tonnes

This total reflects emissions from all operational activities, including purchased goods and services.

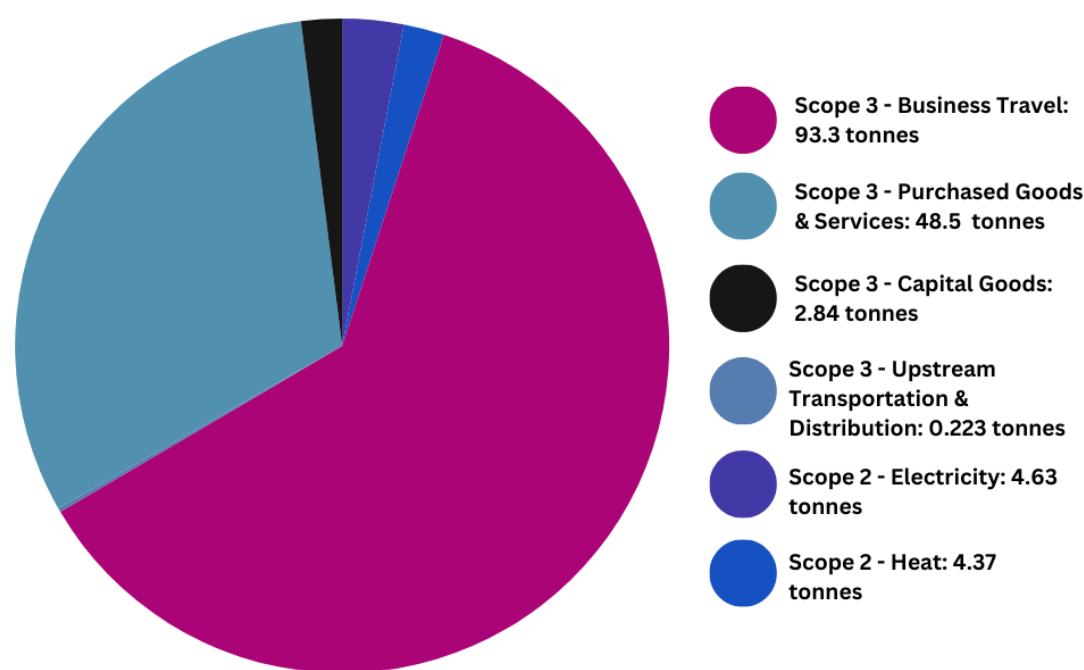
Scope 2 Emissions



Scope 3 Emissions



Combined Emissions



Staff Commuting

	Travel Method 1	Travel Method 2	Travel Method 3	Distance in KM	Total Emissions
Team Member One	Underground			31	155.1
Team Member Two	Car	Underground		8	60.7
Team Member Three	Bus	Underground	Train	23.4	175
Team Member Four	Train	Car		69.7	814.6
Team Member Six	Car			3.4	86.2
Team Member Seven	Underground			15.7	78.6
Team Member Eight (10 months)				7.2	30
Team Member Eight (2 months)	Train	Underground		44.89	58
Team Member Nine	Train	Underground		21.3	131.1
Team Member Ten	Car			10.5	52.5
Team Member Eleven	Car			17.7	261.1
Team Member Twelve	Train	Underground		18.7	105
Team Member Thirteen	Train			38	242.5

Emissions measured in KgCO₂e

Total Carbon Footprint from Staffing

Breakdown of Emissions

1. Staff Commuting

- **Total Annual Emissions:** 2250 kg CO₂e
- **Key Factors:**
 - Staff employed a range of commuting methods, including public transport, private vehicles, cycling, and walking.
 - The calculation was based on distances travelled, the type of transport used, and an average of 2 days of commuting per week over a 45-week work year.
- **Insights:**
 - Public transport accounted for a significant portion of commuting emissions, particularly from train and underground travel.
 - Private vehicle use, while less common, contributed disproportionately to emissions due to higher per-kilometre CO₂ output.
- **Strategies for Reduction:**
 - Encourage the use of sustainable commuting options, such as cycling, walking, or public transport where feasible.
 - Explore carpooling schemes and incentivise the adoption of electric or hybrid vehicles among staff.
 - Provide resources such as secure bike storage and travel subsidies to promote greener commuting choices.

2. Working from Home

- **Total Annual Emissions:** 3960 kg CO₂e
- **Key Factors:**
 - Emissions were calculated based on 945 hours of home office usage per employee annually, reflecting an average of 3 days per week of remote work.
 - Government-approved conversion factors for electricity consumption and heating were applied to ensure accuracy.

▪ **Insights:**

- Heating during colder months was a major contributor to working-from-home emissions, particularly in homes using older or less energy-efficient systems.
- Electricity usage for computers, lighting, and other equipment also added to the total footprint.

▪ **Strategies for Reduction:**

- Educate employees on energy-saving practices, such as optimising heating schedules, using energy-efficient bulbs, and unplugging devices when not in use.
- Offer staff subsidies for energy-efficient home office equipment, including LED lighting, smart thermostats, and low-power devices.
- Provide guidance on renewable energy suppliers to encourage greener household energy consumption.

Total Emissions relating to Staffing = 6210 kg CO₂e

This represents the combined emissions from the daily activities of our workforce.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The total Carbon Footprint of the BSG in 2023 is calculated as 160.21 tonnes CO₂e.

This is the first ever analysis of the BSG's carbon footprint and allows us to identify a baseline for future measurement. We are committed to calculating, reporting and reducing our carbon footprint and have identified areas where we can do so, based on the carbon "hotspots" identified in this report.

1. **Increase Awareness:** Share detailed, personalised carbon footprint data with staff to highlight their individual contributions and areas for improvement. Regularly update the team on progress towards organisational sustainability targets.
 2. **Refine Hybrid Working Policies:** Review existing policies to strike a balance between commuting and remote work emissions. Consider the potential benefits of adjusting mandatory office days based on emissions data.
 3. **Invest in Carbon Offsets:** Explore partnerships with verified carbon offset schemes to mitigate unavoidable emissions. These could include reforestation projects or investments in renewable energy initiatives.
 4. **Enhance Sustainability Measures:** Promote a culture of environmental responsibility by embedding sustainability into all organisational policies, from procurement to travel and energy use.
 5. **Promote Sustainable Travel Practices:** Encourage both staff and the Membership alike to prioritise sustainable modes of transport for commuting and business trips, such as trains or electric vehicles, over flights or cars. Where possible, advocate for digital alternatives like hybrid meetings or virtual conferences to reduce the need for travel. Additionally, consider providing incentives for low carbon travel.
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