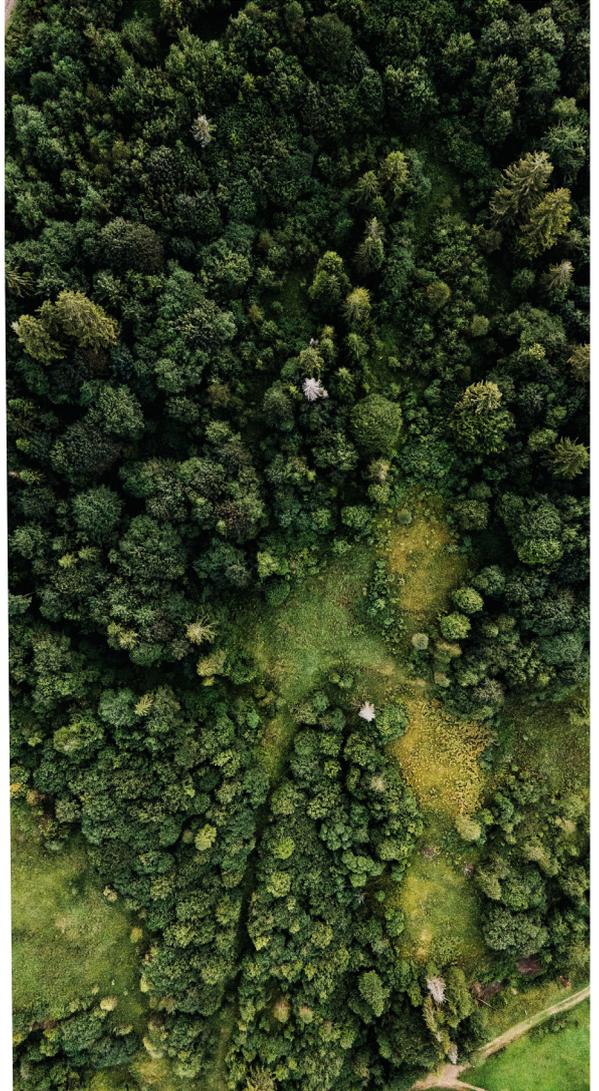




**AURA  
POWER**

CARBON AUDIT & CLIMATE STRATEGY | 2021



# FOREWARD

A message from the CEO

Date / Version	July 2022 FINAL
Assessment period	1st January 2021 - 31st December 2021
Audit completed by	Esi Balaban, Aura Power
Document produced by	Chloe Hood, Aura Power



Simon Coulson, Co-founder and CEO at Aura Power:

“As part of a sector that strives for the highest standards of sustainability, it is in our nature to

consider how we run our business as sustainably as possible. Undertaking our first carbon audit has been an incredibly insightful exercise and we are fortunate to have a talented and conscientious team who share our values in powering the transition to net zero.

As we build back greener from the pandemic and witness the hike in energy prices exacerbated by the Russian invasion, clean renewable energy is the only way forward. We are proud to play such a part in the decarbonisation of our energy systems to reduce carbon emissions and tackle the climate crisis and want that to be reflected in how we operate our business. This report outlines our commitment to become net zero by 2030 and we look forward to sharing our journey with you along the way”.



**RACE TO ZERO**

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Appendix 1 – 2021 Carbon Audit and Assumptions

# 1 Introduction

**1.1** This document has been produced to report on company emissions as part of Aura Power's commitment under the UNFCCC 'Race to Zero' campaign.

**1.2** Race to Net Zero is a UN backed global campaign to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth.

**1.3** It mobilizes a coalition of leading net zero initiatives, representing 1,049 cities, 67 regions, 5,235 businesses, 441 of the biggest investors, and 1,039 Higher Education Institutions. These 'real economy' actors join 120 countries in the largest ever alliance committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050 at the latest. Collectively these actors now cover nearly 25% global CO2 emissions and over 50% GDP.

**1.4** Aura power joined the Race to Net Zero through the SME Climate Hub, signing a commitment to become net zero by 2030.

**1.5** We have produced our baseline assessment for the year 2021 and will be publishing our progress on reducing our emissions annually. This report also sets

out our strategy as a business to address our emissions using the 1.5 degrees Business Playbook as a tool to benchmark our approach and raise ambitions to align value propositions with a 1.5°C and net zero ambition.

**1.6** As a company that focuses on decarbonizing energy generation, Aura Power's ethos lies in the heart of tackling climate change and the transition to net zero. Headquartered in Bristol in the United Kingdom we develop large-scale solar and battery storage projects in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Lithuania, Canada and the United States of America.

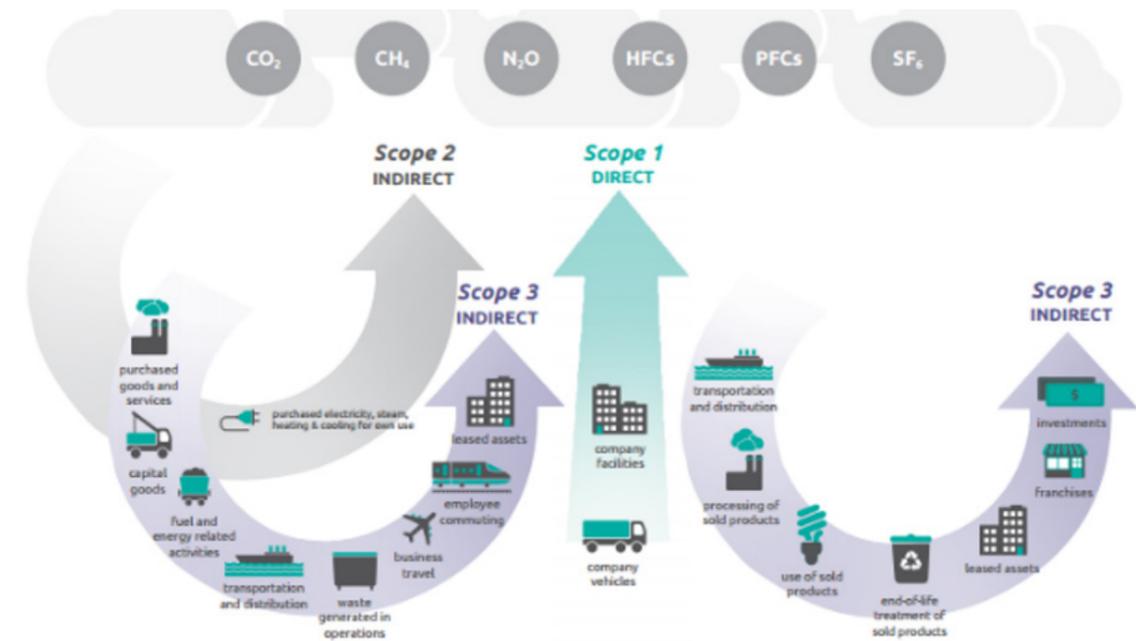
Solar is now the cheapest form of electricity in history. Along with suitable methods of energy storage such as batteries, we can help power the transition to net zero and reduce reliance on imported energy sources.

We follow three key mission goals when developing our sites: tackle climate change, enhance the natural environment and engage with local communities along the way.

We are joint venture partners with ib vogt, a global engineering firm with over a gigawatt of operational solar farms worldwide.

# 2 Methodology

2.1 Estimate emissions for the 2021 calendar year have been calculated using the Greenhouse House Reporting Protocol breaking down emissions into Scope's 1,2 and 3.



2.2 Our breakdown of emissions and means of assessment can be seen in the table below:

Source of emissions	Means of assessment + Emission Factor Source
Gas Office Heating	Carbon Footprint Calculator Utility bills - amount in kwh
Air conditioning top ups	Carbon Footprint Calculator
Office Electricity use	Carbon footprint Calculator Utility bills - amount in kwh
Business Accommodation	GHG Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard Zoho - expenses CHSB Spreadsheet
Business Travel	Zoho - expenses UK Gov Vehicle Certification Agency UK GHG Conversion Factors

IT and electrical equipment	GHG Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard UK GHG Conversion Factors
Legal, consultancy and other business related activities	GHG Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard
Office food and drink	GHG Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard UK GHG Conversion Factors
Office furniture	GHG Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard UK GHG Conversion Factors
Post and telecommunications	GHG Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard UK GHG Conversion Factors
Staff commute	Staff survey UK GHG Conversion Factors <a href="#">UK Gov Vehicle Certification Agency</a>
Waste	Estimate UK GHG Conversion Factors
Water	<a href="#">Water Use in Your Business</a>
Working from home	Homeworking Emissions Whitepaper

Table 1 Breakdown of emissions

**2.3** Pensions were not included in our baseline assessment, however we did explore the impacts of our pension through the Make My Money Matter Report. The report found that 70% of leading pension schemes have failed to set robust net zero commitments. It found that these pension schemes fund an estimated 330 million tonnes of carbon emissions every year,

with £112 billion (6%) invested in fossil fuels. This results in estimated of 176.79 kg carbon emissions per pound invested in pension funds on average.

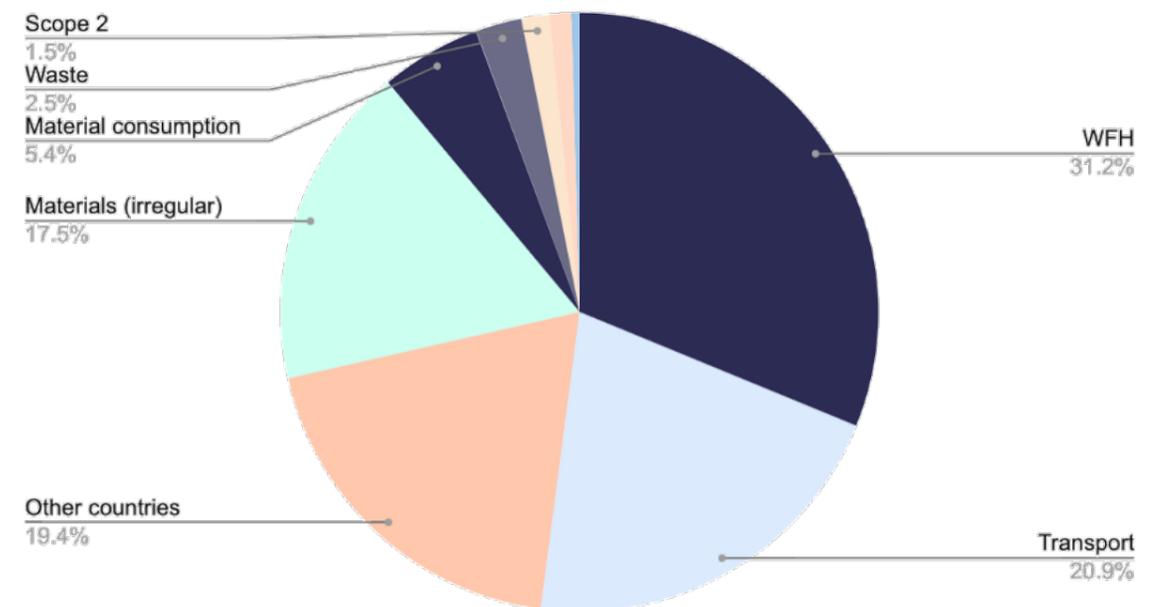
**2.4** The full audit and assumptions of our company emissions can be found in Appendix 1 and the results can be seen in Section 3.

# 3 Assessment Results

**3.1** This assessment formalises Aura Power's first greenhouse gas assessment. Whilst the company has been operating since 2013, 2021 saw it's biggest growth and sold 192MW of projects at NTP.

GHG Emissions for 2021 calendar year	
Emission category	Amount (kgCO2e)
Scope 1	0
Scope 2	939
Scope 3	48750.64953
Other offices	11925.51589
<b>Total Gross Emissions</b>	<b>61615.16542</b>
Green electricity tariff	0
Carbon offset	0
<b>Total Removals</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net emissions</b>	<b>61615.16542</b>
Intensity ratio (kg-CO2e/£m revenue)	0.15

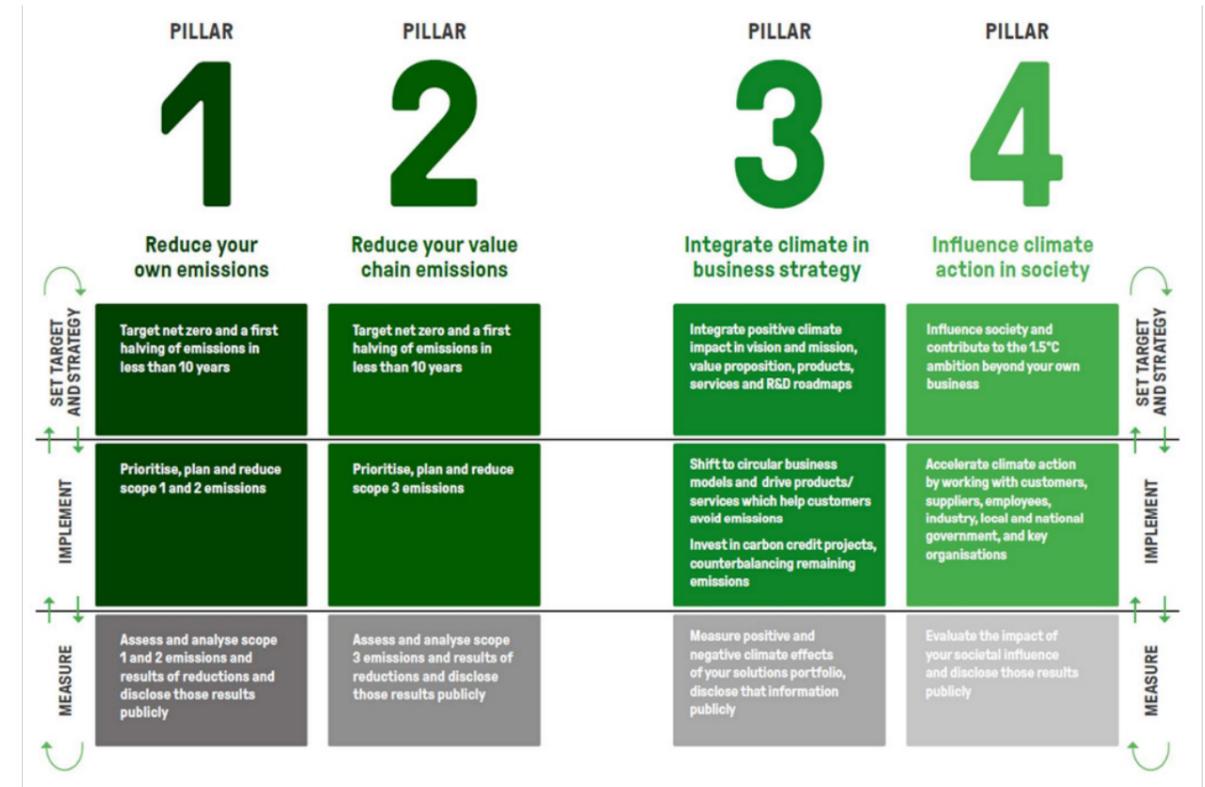
Table 3 Pie chart showing assessment results



# 4 Business Climate Strategy

## 4.1 1.5°C Business Playbook

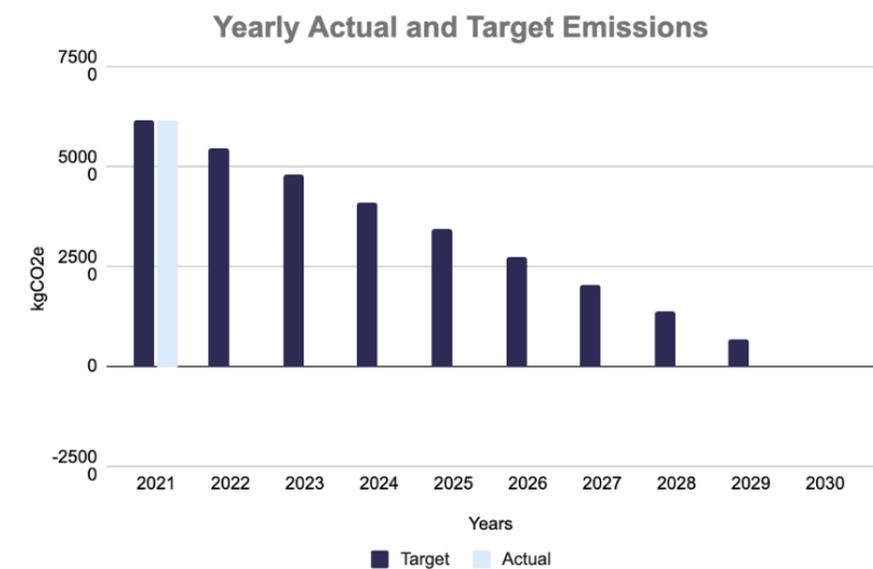
The SME Climate Hub has provided a number of tools to implement a strategy on reducing emissions. We have used the 1.5°C Business Playbook that provides a strategic framework broken down into four pillars as shown below.



Following this framework, we have compiled an action plan for each pillar.

## 4.2 Emission Reduction Targets

We will aim for carbon emissions to decrease linearly by 8.997 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e each year, over the next eight years to reach net zero by 2030 as shown in the graph below.



Any residual emissions that we are unable to reduce to its entirety will be offset using credible offset schemes.

In order to continue our progress to achieving Net Zero, we will adopt the following carbon reduction targets:

#### 4.3 Pillar 1 | Scope 1 & 2 Emissions Reduction Targets

To reduce scope 1 and 2 emissions, we will look to:

- o Continue to use best practice energy use in office and working from home such as:
    - o Turning lights off when not in use
    - o Turning computers off when not in use
    - o Only heating the room you are working in and not the whole house (if alone)
    - o Explore changing web server to a greener one
    - o Investigate options for a lower carbon office
- #### 4.4 Pillar 2 | Scope 3 Emissions Reduction Targets
- To reduce scope 3 emissions, we will look to:
- o Create resources to promote low carbon initiatives for employees
  - o Implement Cycle to Work scheme for staff
  - o Implement EV salary sacrifice scheme for staff
  - o Encourage low travel methods to site visits, use of EV's with Cowheels
  - o Purchase products from

suppliers with green credentials and locally where possible

#### 4.5 Pillar 3 | Integrate Climate in Business Strategy

The third pillar addresses the alignment of the company's vision, strategy, value proposition, products and services with the 1.5°C ambition. It means prioritising products and services that enable reduction and removal of customer and societal emissions, enabling resource- efficient lifestyles and consumption patterns, and suppressing solutions with an adverse climate impact.

- o Integrate position on reducing carbon emissions into companywide business practices
- o Produce an environmental policy which outlines Aura Power's aims and principles in relation to managing the environmental effects and aspects of operations within the business
- o Encourage staff to use 'true' green tariffs at home
- o Identify suitable carbon credit projects and offset schemes to address residual emissions
- o Procure products and services, where feasible, from transparent companies with reliable green credentials

#### 4.6 Pillar 4 | Influence Climate Action in Society

The fourth pillar describes how to contribute to the 1.5°C ambition beyond your own business. This means, for example, influencing government policy, supporting industry initiatives to align with 1.5°C and making sure that organisations that the company belongs to do not counteract the then setting targets and priorities, and then moving to implementation. To measure the outcome, take corrective actions and re-evaluate the strategy completes a first loop.

The very nature of our business addresses this pillar through influencing local government and community members to support renewable energy and accept these developments into their communities. In addition to our standard business practices, we will look to:

- o Write blogs on topic and publish on company website
- o Educate stakeholders / community members etc to influence climate action in society

#### 4.7 Pensions

Using the estimated carbon emission factor provided by Make My Money Matter meant that our total pension contribution for 2021 was 276 times more than our total scope 2 and 3 emissions combined. According to

Make My Money Matter.co.uk, by encouraging pension providers to clean up their investments, you can cut your carbon footprint 21x more than giving up flying, going veggie and switching energy provider.

We have therefore taken action to:

- o Encourage staff to investigate into their own pension funds and find out where their money is being invested
- o Encourage staff to switch to ethical investment funds with their providers
- o Encouraging staff to demand more sustainable investments from their pension providers

