



ADVANTAGE UTILITIES
YOUR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

ADVANTAGE UTILITIES NET ZERO JOURNEY



CASE STUDY 2021



OUR COMMITMENT



As a business energy consultancy, we strongly believe that we have a responsibility to not only manage and reduce our own carbon footprint, but to help our staff, customers, and partners achieve Net-Zero and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to help meet the UK government 2050 Net-Zero target.

We have made our own commitment to reaching Net Zero by 2035, having submitted a pledge to the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Race to Zero** campaign.



OUR BACKGROUND



With 20 years experience, Advantage Utilities is a commercial energy consultancy based in Southwest London. We employ a team of just over 50 staff and work with a network of partners and suppliers.

Pre-lockdown our team were all based working at our head office in Coda Studios, a rented office space in Fulham. Since moving to a remote working business model during the Covid19 Pandemic, most of our team have continued to work from home in some capacity.

We are a UK based business with no need for international travel, however regularly travel across mainland UK for business purposes.

FUTURE NET ZERO STANDARD SOLUTION™



As a Future Net Zero Standard Solution (FNZ) partner, it was an easy decision for us to use the FNZ software to report and monitor our carbon emissions. The portal offers a simple solution to recording necessary information for Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions.

We have started with recording our Scope 1 (direct emissions) and Scope 2 emissions (indirect emissions from the purchase of electricity, steam, heat, or cooling) to set a benchmark year from October 2019 – September 2020 which is to be used as a year-on-year comparison period.





STEPS TAKEN SO FAR

ENERGY REDUCTION



- Reviewed our energy contracts and will be moving to a green energy contract.
- Moved all our infrastructure to being cloud based, rather than using servers.
- We practice energy efficiency measures including having motion sensors on our lighting.

STEPS TAKEN SO FAR

WASTE



- Our cleaning products are always eco-friendly and never involve bleach.
- We practice recycling within our office environment and encourage recycling at all times
- Our sales collateral are always created from recycled material.
- We operate a zero plastic cup policy and avoid the use of single use plastic where possible.





STEPS TAKEN SO FAR

TRAVEL



- Introduced the bike to work scheme to encourage our team to avoid public transport when travelling to the office.
- Staff work from home on a regular basis - avoiding travelling to the office.
- Reduced face to face meetings where possible by using video calls at the first instance.
- Purchased an Electric Vehicle to use for business travel.
- Encourage carpooling when road travel is required.
- Measure our business travel on a monthly basis

STEPS TAKEN SO FAR

POLICY & TRAINING



- We review our environmental policy regularly and strive to continuously analyse our performance with the aim of maintaining a continuous cycle of improvement.
- It is company policy for Environmental sustainability to be a primary consideration during company procurement processes
- We are committed to continually educating our staff around energy efficiency and we have conducted formal, external training resulting in us receiving independent accreditation as a Low Energy Company.



RESULTS SO FAR



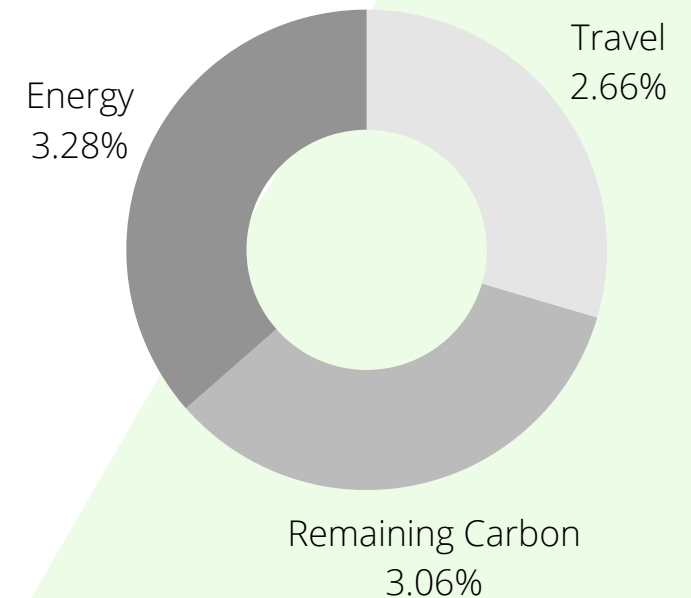
We have now completed our first full year to compare against the benchmark period to create a year on year comparison **(Oct-19 to Sep-20 vs. Oct-20 to Sep-21).**

We have **reduced the amount of carbon emitted during the last year by 10.54%** from our benchmark year. This has meant we have achieved a **Bronze FNZ certificate** to certify the reduction made so far.



BREAKDOWN OF REDUCTION IN CARBON AGAINST BENCHMARK PERIOD

OCT 2020 - SEP 2021 VS. BENCHMARK



↓ 10.54%

OVERALL CHANGE IN TOTAL CARBON AGAINST BENCHMARK PERIOD

OCT 2020 - SEP 2021 VS. BENCHMARK

CARBON OFFSETTING

Carbon credits are measurable, verifiable emission reductions from certified climate action projects. These projects reduce, remove or avoid greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Advantage Utilities buy in bulk Gold Standard, Verra VCS and UNFCCC verified carbon credits, widely renowned as being World leaders in the field and sell them at competitive prices to clients wishing to offset emissions as part of their commitment to reduce the environmental impact of their respective business activities.

We have now offset our remaining Scope 1 and 2 emissions from 2020 - 2021 using our carbon credit scheme.



NEXT STEP IN OUR JOURNEY



In addition to continuing to monitor and further reduce our scope 1 and 2 emissions, we have started the journey of reporting on our **Scope 3 emissions** (greenhouse gases emitted all along our supply chains and in the use of our products and services).

This involves understanding more about our partners and suppliers and what they are doing to report on their carbon footprint. We are implementing a process to start collecting all the necessary data from third parties on a monthly basis to set our benchmark period.

Once we have recorded the data, we will be in a position to re-evaluate who our suppliers are, making sure we work with greener third party businesses to improve to our scope 3 emissions. We will be continuously working to reduce our scope 1,2 and 3 emissions year on year, recording and monitoring the data, whilst offsetting when necessary, working towards reaching our 2035 Net Zero target.



OUR SERVICES



- Net Zero Road Map.
- Carbon Reporting and Monitoring.
- Offsetting with carbon credits.
- Business Energy Consultancy and Auditing.
- Renewable Energy Solutions and Funding.
- Compliance and Legislation.
- Energy Management and Analytics.
- Procurement and Purchasing Strategies.
- Multi-site Property Management.

ADVANTAGE UTILITIES



Businesses are increasingly committing to net-zero to improve their corporate social responsibility but face a bewildering array of initiatives to achieve progress. Advantage Utilities is the consultative partner that considers every technology and finance option to help its clients achieve their goals.

With nearly 20 years in the business, we are experts in our field, backed by a highly skilled team and a network of specialist consultants we rise to every occasion.

Advantage Utilities champions a consultative, customer-centric approach. We get to know our clients inside out – their needs, priorities and goals – so that we can develop, implement and manage a tailored solution to match.

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