

# UK Carbon Reduction Plan

July 2025



# Carbon Reduction Plan

Supplier name: Stericycle – UK Operations<sup>1</sup>

Publication date: 30<sup>th</sup> of July, 2025

## Commitment to achieving Net Zero

Stericycle is committed to working towards achieving Net Zero emissions in our UK operations by 2045. For purposes of this report, Stericycle UK refers to our regulated waste and compliance services and the Shred-it® secure information destruction businesses operating within the UK.

This Carbon Reduction Plan ("Plan") reflects the verified emissions of Stericycle UK, as required under the UK Government's Procurement Policy Notes (PPN) 006 (formerly PPN 06/21). But more than a regulatory obligation, this Plan serves as a public reaffirmation of our commitment to decarbonisation and our readiness to play a proactive role in supporting the Net Zero ambitions of the National Health Service (NHS), Crown Commercial Service (CCS), and the UK's broader climate goals.

As a company with three decades of experience serving healthcare facilities in the UK, Stericycle understands the complexity of the medical waste business. Our work requires not only strict regulatory compliance but deep technical understanding of healthcare waste.

In November 2024, Stericycle became part of WM, North America's largest environmental services provider. The acquired operations of Stericycle now constitute the WM Healthcare Solutions segment, which is focused on helping health systems manage waste safely, responsibly, and sustainably. As part of that integration, Stericycle's UK operations now contribute to an even broader sustainability programme rooted in data transparency, operational innovation, and climate leadership.

Our leadership recognises that climate action is a dynamic and evolving process, that should be regularly reassessed in response to emerging data, advancing technologies, and growing stakeholder expectations. Supported by WM's comprehensive sustainability programme, we are well-positioned to advance and strengthen our efforts to our decarbonisation strategies over time.

<sup>1</sup> For purposes of this report "Stericycle" refers to our Regulated Waste and Compliance Services and Shred-it® businesses within the UK only.

## Baseline Emissions Footprint

Baseline Year: January 2021 – December 2021	
Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations	
In November 2024, Stericycle became part of WM, North America's largest environmental services provider. We have shifted our baseline year (formerly 2020) to 2021 to match WM's Sustainability reporting and align with the parent company's Science Based Target base year.	
Baseline year emissions: January 2021 – December 2021	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1	<b>Scope 1 Total – 78,003</b> <b>Emission Sources Contributing to Scope 1:</b> Incineration – 59,603 Fleet – 14,703 Other Energy Use – 3,697
Scope 2 (Market-based)	3,110
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	<b>Scope 3 Total – 15,176</b> <b>Emission Sources Contributing to Scope 3:</b> Category 1: Purchased Goods & Services – 3,956 Category 2: Capital Goods – 586 Category 3: Fuel & Energy Related Activities – 5,468 Category 4: Upstream transportation and distribution – 728 Category 5: Waste generated in operations – 1,899 Category 6: Business travel – 76 Category 7: Employee commuting – 1,856 Category 9: Downstream transportation and distribution – 606
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b>96,289</b>

## Current Emissions Reporting

Reporting Year: January 2024 – December 2024	
Additional Details relating to current year progress	
<p>Stericycle UK achieved a 15% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 emissions from our 2021 base year. The primary driver is a reduction in incineration emissions. In that same period, we have seen a slight increase in our Scope 3 emissions due to an increase in spending. Overall, we have achieved an 8% reduction in Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions since our base year.</p>	
Baseline year emissions: January 2024 – December 2024	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1	<p><b>Scope 1 Total – 66,230</b></p> <p><b>Emission Sources Contributing to Scope 1:</b></p> <p>Incineration – 45,284</p> <p>Fleet – 14,487</p> <p>Other Energy Use – 6,460</p>
Scope 2 (Market-based)	2,742
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	<p><b>Scope 3 Total – 19,551</b></p> <p><b>Emission Sources Contributing to Scope 3:</b></p> <p>Category 1: Purchased Goods &amp; Services – 6,755</p> <p>Category 2: Capital Goods – 4,010</p> <p>Category 3: Fuel &amp; Energy Related Activities – 5,271</p> <p>Category 4: Upstream transportation and distribution – 469</p> <p>Category 5: Waste generated in operations – 651</p> <p>Category 6: Business travel – 149</p> <p>Category 7: Employee commuting – 2,170</p> <p>Category 9: Downstream transportation and distribution – 76</p>
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b>88,523</b>

## Emissions Reduction Targets

Stericycle is committed to working towards achieving Net Zero emissions in our UK operations by 2045. This target, which supports the NHS Scope 3 target, reflects both a push for continuous improvement and a recognition of our complex industry. We recognise and deeply appreciate the importance of this work to our customers and our communities. The NHS Net Zero goals set a strong framework for suppliers to follow, and we take these mandates seriously.

Stericycle operates high-temperature incinerators, which are required by law to treat specific medical waste streams. These facilities operate at mandated temperatures that ensure safety and efficacy but also may lead to carbon emissions. Because we operate in sensitive environments with highly specific waste types, generalised approaches to decarbonisation may be insufficient or inappropriate. Despite this structural limitation, our incinerators offer unique opportunities to deliver environmental benefits both internally and to co-located NHS hospitals. We are constantly innovating, and succeeding, at lowering emissions.

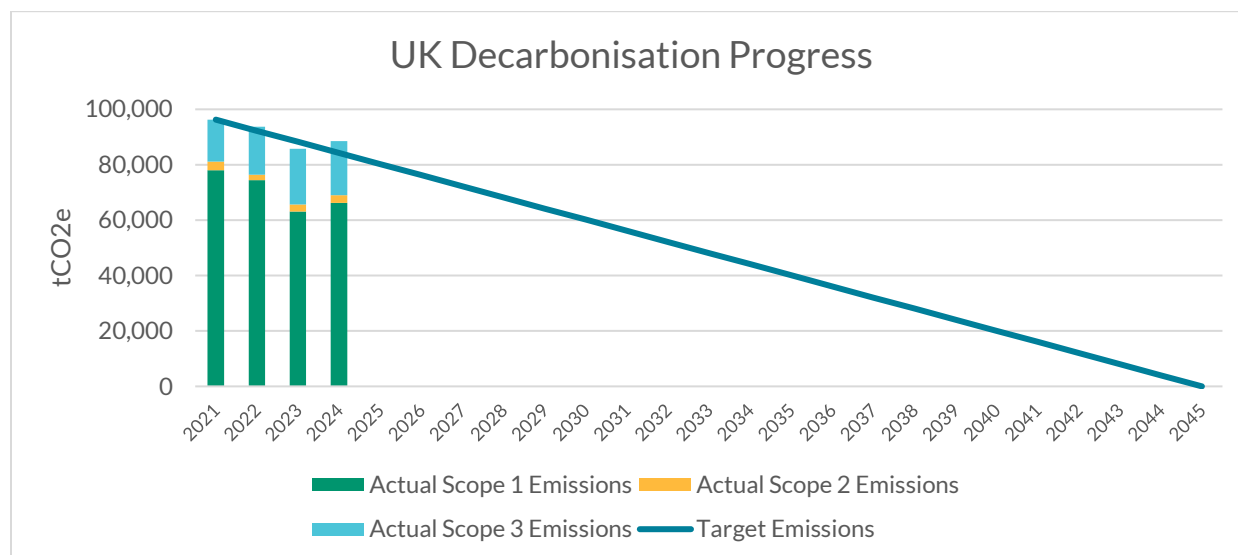
To meet our 2045 goal, we are focusing on targeted initiatives that make a measurable difference without compromising our regulatory obligations or service quality. In doing so, we seek to demonstrate that climate responsibility and operational excellence can go hand in hand. We also recognise that being a healthcare partner comes with an elevated level of responsibility. Our commitment to Net Zero in the UK must therefore be customised, clinically responsible, and operationally sound.

In this spirit, we view the transition to WM Healthcare Solutions not as an end point but as a launch pad for a stronger, more coordinated decarbonisation programme, in line with WM's ambitious validated and approved Science Based Targets initiative ([SBTi](#)) near-term targets and notable accomplishments to-date. While emissions from Stericycle's UK operations represent less than 1% of WM's total emissions, we are committed to contributing meaningfully to WM's broader climate goals. Since 2021, WM has achieved a 22% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 emissions as of 2024 and is continuing to pursue further reductions to meet its SBTi-validated goal of a 42% emission reduction target by 2031.

Enterprise-wide sustainability data for both the WM legacy Business and WM Healthcare Solutions can be found in [WM's 2025 Sustainability Data Center](#), and more details on WM's Sustainability ambitions and efforts can be found [here](#).

## Progress

Progress for our UK Net Zero target can be seen in the graph below and includes Scope 1, 2 and 3 with relevant categories:



## Stericycle UK Carbon Reduction Projects

### Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives

The Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emission reduction achieved by Stericycle UK equate to 12,142 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, a 15% reduction against the 2021 base year. The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented since the 2021 base year.

#### Prioritising Less Carbon-Intensive Waste Treatment

In support of the NHS Clinical Waste Strategy, we are actively shifting towards less carbon-intensive waste treatment methods. One key initiative to support this effort is the expanded use of “alternative treatment” for sharps waste, significantly reducing the volume of material requiring incineration while maintaining high standards of public health protection. Complementing this, our Bio Systems solution enables the use of reusable sharps containers that can be safely reused up to 600 times, dramatically decreasing the number of single-use containers sent for incineration.

#### Increasing Efficiency

We are continuously focusing on operational improvements across our sites through targeted energy efficiency upgrades and innovative heat recovery strategies. At the facility level, we’ve enhanced thermal efficiency in our boilers, installed modulating gas burners at incinerators to optimise fuel usage, and upgraded to more efficient air compressors. Since 2021, we’ve also steadily transitioned to LED lighting at various locations across our network. In 2024, our Brentford site consumed over 6 megawatt-hours of solar electricity, sourced via a power purchase agreement.

Additionally, the heat generated from our incineration process presents a unique opportunity to displace fossil fuel consumption external to our operations. We currently supply thermal energy to NHS facilities via our incinerators, supporting critical services such as water heating, steam sterilisation, and laundry operations.

## **Modernising our Fleet**

We are taking a phased and strategic approach to modernising our fleet, with a focus on improving fuel efficiency and laying the groundwork for long-term decarbonisation. Route optimisation and reduced idling have already contributed to better fuel performance, and we are now closely monitoring load utilisation to further enhance route efficiency. Since 2021, we have committed to investing over £40 million in replacing older diesel vehicles with newer, more fuel-efficient models. These efforts in aggregate have resulted in an approximate 15% improvement in average fuel economy. While the pace of technological advancement for heavy-duty electric vehicles remains slow, we are making early investments to prepare for the future. In 2024, we introduced three electric vehicles into our UK fleet and have committed to adding three more in 2025, bringing the total to six. We will continue to evaluate additional opportunities for fleet electrification. These steps represent foundational progress toward our 2045 climate goals.

## **Future Initiatives**

Looking ahead, we are evaluating opportunities to further reduce our environmental impact through a variety of measures. We continue to explore technologies while building on WM's leadership and strong sustainability ambitions in North America. We will look to explore renewable natural gas procurements in the UK with the long-term aim of limiting the use of fossil fuels in waste treatment. In parallel, we continue to assess the potential of other technology including carbon, capture, usage and storage (CCUS), recognising both our focus on Net Zero and the complexity of this emerging area.

In parallel, we are advancing several sustainability-related projects aimed at enhancing our service offerings. Our engineering teams are collaborating with leading technology companies and external consultants to identify, trial, and implement innovative equipment capable of recovering metals and suitable plastics from clinical waste streams. These efforts are focused on enabling material recycling and delivering circular solutions for our customers. We are looking at projects to utilise thermal energy for both internal energy efficiency and power generation to enhance overall operational performance. We are also evaluating the feasibility of supplying surplus thermal energy to district heating networks and actively supporting government initiatives to co-locate these systems with our facilities.

Beyond operational initiatives, Stericycle UK serves as the chair of the Environmental Services Association (ESA) clinical waste group. This opportunity provides leadership and industry engagement with regulators and government stakeholders to drive changes in healthcare waste policy that support the advancement towards Net Zero and other sustainability efforts.

The business remains committed to working towards a Net Zero target by 2045 and plans to develop pathways towards execution in the coming years and prepare for NHS upcoming requirements.

## Declaration and Sign Off

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 006 (formerly PPN 6/21) and associated guidance and reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans.

Emissions have been reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate standard and uses the appropriate emission factors.

Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have been reported in accordance with SECR requirements, and the Scope 3 emissions have been reported in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Standard.

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the Senior Vice President of UK and Ireland.

**Signed on behalf of the Supplier:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Black'.

Toby Black, SVP UK & Ireland Operations

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> of July, 2025