

Neil Balfour

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Report for 2021

OVERVIEW

Recognising that climate change poses a threat to the economy, nature and society-at-large, Neil Balfour commits to take action immediately in order to:

1. Instantly and dramatically reduce carbon emissions
2. Achieve net zero emissions before 2025
3. Disclose his progress on a yearly basis

In doing so, he is proud to be recognised by the United Nations Race to Zero campaign, and join governments, businesses, cities, regions, and universities around the world that share the same mission.

A FOUR-PILLAR CLIMATE STRATEGY

(taken from the SME Climate HUB)

Pillar 1

Reduce Own emissions

Pillar 2

Reduce your value chain emissions

Pillar 3

Integrate climate in business strategy

Pillar 4

Influence climate action in society

THE 1.5°C BUSINESS PLAYBOOK

Using the 1.5°C Business Playbook Neil Balfour agrees to implement emissions reduction pathways, following the Carbon Law, using the 4 pillars as a structure. Recognising that Neil Balfour is a small business he will prioritise **simplicity** and **speed** over complex carbon calculations in the short-term if he can cause a dramatic change right now.

With this in mind, a simple table will be used to display carbon emission problem areas, actions needed to be taken and whether or not they have been taken. Future detailed study will be implemented on areas that can't be addressed instantly.

Pillar 1 - Reduce Own emissions - KEY REDUCTION MEASURES

PROBLEM	ACTION	IMPLEMENTED
Non-renewable energy for gas and electricity	Transfer to renewable energy	Yes
Household/Office energy inefficiencies	Assess household/office energy inefficiencies and change.	Yes. Nest Digital Automation system purchased. LED light bulbs fitted. Thermal blinds purchased for escaping heat.
Business space not optimised for energy reductions.	Assess space optimisation, research solutions and change.	Yes Furniture moved to make heating more optimal.
Two vehicles for one household / office	Move towards a very low emission vehicle fleet	Yes Electric bikes purchased for the majority of transport needs.
Too many waste materials	Create a recycling culture and avoid purchasing items with excess waste.	Yes 3 large compost bins built Glass, Plastic and recyclable bins created.
Business travel emissions	Shift to a low-carbon travel 'Bike first' model	Yes Green-road-plus created
Unnecessary Travel	Use digital meeting technologies	Yes. Virtual studio was created able to hold high-quality A/V meetings.

Pillar 2 - Reduce Value Chain Emissions - KEY REDUCTION MEASURES

PROBLEM	ACTION	IMPLEMENTED
Some suppliers haven't committed to an emissions reduction framework	Request suppliers to commit and if rejected change suppliers	Yes Now all current suppliers of paper, music, office supplies etc. have pledged to emissions reductions
Some products are energy inefficient by nature	Invest time and research into more recyclable, energy efficient products.	Yes Now all current suppliers of paper, music, office supplies etc. have pledged to emissions reductions
Planned obsolescence in products	Purposefully pick products with longevity and longer product-use. Budget accordingly.	Yes
Paper for musical scores, in particular, is carbon intensive	Change paper supplier	Yes Moved to a green paper supplier with a carbon off-set
Problematic foods (e.g. proteins) are carbon intensive	Promote and use plant-rich, healthy food whenever possible.	Yes Meat and fish bought sparingly from considerate and transparent suppliers.

Pillar 3 - Integrate Climate into Business Strategy

ACTIONS

I pledge to keep my climate commitment at the forefront of all future business decisions.

I have educated myself on climate change using the SME Climate HUB and will continue to do so.

I will travel by bike wherever possible.

I will use, purchase and be associated with emission-free value chains exclusively.

Pillar 4 - Influence Climate Action in Society

ACTIONS

Neil Balfour has publicly declared my Climate Pledge on my Website, CV, email footer and in an open letter to his subscription list.

On assessing the particular carbon emissions problem in the music industry, *lifestyle* and *travel* are the biggest contributors. In an effort to respond to this and simultaneously change his behaviour Neil is publicly declaring the creation and implementation of the Green Road Community.

1. Shift towards using green energy in all areas of life.
2. Use cycling as a primary mode of transport on the road.
3. Engage and inspire others by publicly declaring your green actions to inspire and influence your community.

In March 2022 Neil Balfour offset 12.7 tonnes of carbon dioxide by supporting a Global portfolio of Verified Carbon Reduction Projects.

In May 2022 Neil Balfour will cycle 100-miles continuously proving that cycling is a viable option for short, medium and even long-distance journeys!

Residual Carbon Emissions

Neil pledges to determine the residual carbon emissions (e.g. unavoidable car, train and air travel) and purchase carbon credits at least equivalent to those emissions, financing high-quality, certified, third-party projects which remove carbon from the atmosphere.

He will follow up on those projects to ensure that they are delivering in accordance with their promises.

Reporting

Neil pledges to disclose my yearly travel emissions and provide proof of carbon removal of that amount as stated in the above paragraph.

In an effort to keep things simple and effective, he will consolidate my reporting style each year to make it clear and concise the new policies he is implementing.

COVID-19 made it an unusual couple of years and most people's carbon footprint was considerably lower than it would normally have been given that the world was on lock-down for significant periods.

Rather than calculate his emissions for these unprecedented years, Neil is taking the predicted national average carbon footprint for the upcoming year and offsetting that for 2021 as means of goodwill towards the future and small recompense for the past. The predicted national UK average is: **12.7 tonnes**

On 29 March 2022 Neil Balfour offset 12.7 tonnes of carbon dioxide by supporting a Global portfolio of Verified Carbon Reduction Projects.

Carbon footprint certificate on next page.

“I understand that I may have missed things but I will do my utmost to stay up to date and move with new practices, technologies, theories and policies to create a better world for myself, the environment and future generations.”





**carbon
footprint**™

This certificate acknowledges that

Neil Balfour

offset

12.7 tonnes of carbon dioxide

by supporting

a Global Portfolio of
Verified Carbon Reduction Projects

29 March 2022

Helping to combat climate change
and sustain our environment for future generations



John Buckley

Managing Director, Carbon Footprint Ltd

www.carbonfootprint.com

