

Environmental Sustainability Report 2023





Contents

Executive summary

[Page 1](#)

Governance and stakeholder
engagement

[Page 2](#)

Our environmental
sustainability program

[Page 3](#)

Environmental pro bono projects

[Page 11](#)

ESG advice to clients

[Page 12](#)

Appendix A
2023 environmental management
survey results

[Page 13](#)

Appendix B
London office 2022
environmental review

[Page 17](#)

Executive summary

There is an increasing expectation that businesses play a constructive role in addressing the issues of our time and anticipate future challenges. At White & Case, we are committed to global citizenship. We unify our people to achieve our sustainability goals through a shared sense of responsibility for our local, regional and global communities.

This report provides insight into our specific efforts. It includes: disclosures regarding our commitment to sustainability; a description of our extensive environmental sustainability program, including data on our scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions, and our 2023 Environmental Survey results; and information about our ESG & Sustainability Practice.

We hope you find the report informative and look forward to continuing the conversation on sustainability.

Governance and stakeholder engagement



We are committed to driving sustainability with a focus on continuous improvement, and we support the principles of the UN Global Compact in this endeavor.

Gavin McLean, General Counsel and member of the Responsible Business Committee

Disclosures

We are signatories to the UN Global Compact, which signifies our commitment to upholding the principles of corporate sustainability and responsible business practices. The UN Global Compact provides a framework for companies to align their operations with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labor, the environment and anti-corruption. Read our latest Communication on Progress [here](#).

Since 2015, we have participated in annual assessments with EcoVadis, the world's largest provider of business sustainability ratings, which uses a methodology aligned to international standards. We annually submit evidence of our progress on labor and human rights, ethics, the environment and sustainable procurement. This evidence includes relevant internal policies and results of a scorecard outlining strengths and areas that need improvement. We have steadily improved our scoring every year since 2015. An increasing number of our clients are EcoVadis members and receive our annual scorecard.

In 2022, we began to disclose our greenhouse gas (GHG) data to CDP (formerly the Carbon Disclosure Project), a not-for-profit organization that runs the global disclosure system. The platform is used by investors, companies, cities, states and regions, as well as several Firm clients, and represents the gold standard of environmental reporting.

External engagement

We are actively engaged in several influential networks, including the Law Firm Sustainability Network and the New York Climate Action Network, which enables us to collaborate and exchange best practices with industry peers. We are also members of the Legal Sustainability Alliance in London, reinforcing our dedication to sustainability within the legal sector.

We are signatories to the Campaign for Greener Arbitrations' (CGA) Green Pledge, a global initiative to raise awareness of the carbon footprint of international arbitration and to minimize its environmental impact by promoting sustainable best practices and procedures. The CGA focuses on innovative technology and procedures to deliver more sustainable outcomes. In addition, the Firm is an active participant in the City of London Law Society ESG Working Group.

Our environmental sustainability program



White & Case is concerned for the sustainability of our shared environment. We work together every day to improve our sustainable management practices, leveraging knowledge from across the Firm. We continually implement practices that improve our impact and reduce the environmental footprint of our operations, our employees and our suppliers.

Melissa Butler – Partner and Chair of the Global Citizenship Committee

We integrate environmental sustainability into our global operations through our Environmental Sustainability Policy and our Green Initiative, and by actions that include measuring our environmental footprint, sharing best practices, committing to sustainable operations, and engaging our supply chain and technology services teams.

Environmental Sustainability Policy

Our Environmental Sustainability Policy sets out the Firm's high-level goals for implementing sustainable operations. The following principles guide our operations to ensure we reduce our environmental impacts:

- Comply with all regulatory requirements and voluntary codes of practice applicable to each office

- Reduce pollution from our activities and implement sustainable waste management practices to minimize the quantity of waste we produce and maximize the amount of waste we recycle
- Identify key resources such as water, paper and energy used by each office, and implement measures to ensure that we use those resources efficiently
- Manage our carbon emissions by continuing to improve the energy efficiency of our premises and effectively measuring the environmental impacts of our business travel

We work with our suppliers and employees to improve performance by promoting awareness of sustainability issues and environmental management best practices

Our environmental sustainability program (continued)

Annual Global Green Campaign

Each year we organize an internal Global Green Campaign as a way to engage and educate our people about important environmental issues, and share environmental pro bono and commercial work as well as sustainability efforts the Firm is making to reduce its carbon footprint.

This year's campaign focused on the "E" in ESG and highlighted:

- How ESG provides a framework for measuring the sustainability and ethical impact of a company's operations
- The meaning of "net-zero" and how we can all work to achieve it
- The rapid decline of biodiversity in ecosystems, some of the causes, and the latest developments following the UN Biodiversity Conference
- Issues driving interest in the circular economy, including changing consumer expectations, supply chain disruptions and environmental awareness
- The Firm's greenhouse gas assessment results
- Steps each of us can take to reduce our environmental footprint



47% of our electricity comes from renewable sources



83% of our offices have an environmental certification for the office or building



Provided training to all office managers on greenhouse gas emissions

Greenhouse gas emissions

We use the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol, a widely recognized framework, to accurately measure our carbon emissions. This protocol classifies emissions into three scopes:

Scope 1: Direct emissions from sources we own or control, such as emissions from the on-site combustion of fossil fuels or company-owned vehicles.

Scope 2: Indirect emissions associated with purchased electricity, heating or cooling.

Scope 3: Indirect emissions associated with our business operations, but resulting from activities outside our direct control.

Scope 3 emissions, particularly those related to the supply chain, constitute the largest portion of our overall carbon footprint. In 2021, we began to measure these emissions in detail using the GHG Protocol.



Our latest greenhouse gas assessment provided a critical opportunity to evaluate our emissions as we emerge from the pandemic and adjust to new ways of working.

Sarah Hickey – Global Environmental Sustainability Manager

Calculating our emissions

We calculate our emissions in line with the GHG Protocol methodology. This is a widely accepted framework developed by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) for measuring and reporting GHG emissions.

We consider the most material categories for our operations, which are currently: scope 1, scope 2 and scope 3 (Category 1 – Purchased Goods and Services; Category 2 – Capital Goods; Category 5 – Waste Generated in Operations; and Category 6 – Business Travel).

We make every effort to ensure our data is as accurate as possible, but recognize that we are on a journey to improve data collection and accuracy. To help with this, we retain [Greenstone](#), which provides award-winning sustainability reporting software. We work closely with each of our office representatives to collect data across a range of operational functions and with our Finance team to calculate spend-based supply chain emissions.

We have made the following improvements in our data processes:

- Included supply chain emissions for the second year. Better tracking of emissions within our supply chain will focus our efforts on reducing them.
- Ninety-three percent of our utilities data was calculated using actual data. Where actual data was unavailable, we used estimates. We tend to use estimated data in cases where we have a small office in a large building and are one of many tenants.
- Used country-specific emissions factors where available. If a country-specific emissions factor is unavailable, an international average is provided by the GHG Protocol, and electricity factors are provided by the International Energy Agency (IEA).

Our environmental sustainability program (continued)

Our emissions data

The following table shows scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions from 2019 to 2022 and indicates a downward trend.

Scope	2019	2020	2021	2022
Scope 1	1,572	1,658	1,777	1,214
Scope 2 (location-based)	6,373	4,945	5,013	5,809
Scope 2 (market-based)	4,884	3,550	3,392	3,465
Scope 3*	17,852	4,228	36,877	57,535
Total (location-based)	25,797	10,832	43,667	64,559
Total (market-based)	24,308	9,436	42,046	62,214

*2021 and 2022 scope 3 includes categories 1 & 2

Chart 1

Our scope 1 emissions have decreased by 23 percent since 2019. We have reduced the use of natural gas and promoted energy efficiency in our offices.

Scope 1

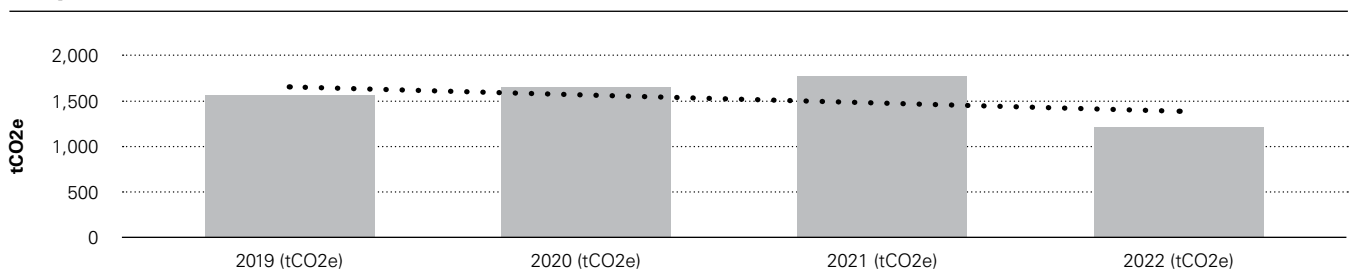
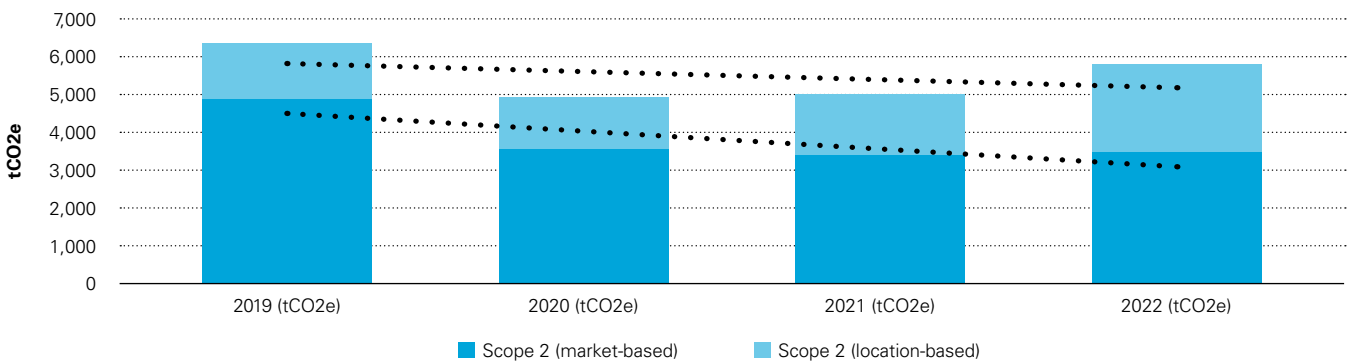


Chart 1 (continued)

Our scope 2 emissions (market-based) have decreased by 29 percent since 2019. In 2022, we reduced energy consumption by more than 360,000 kilowatt hours and increased our use of renewable energy.

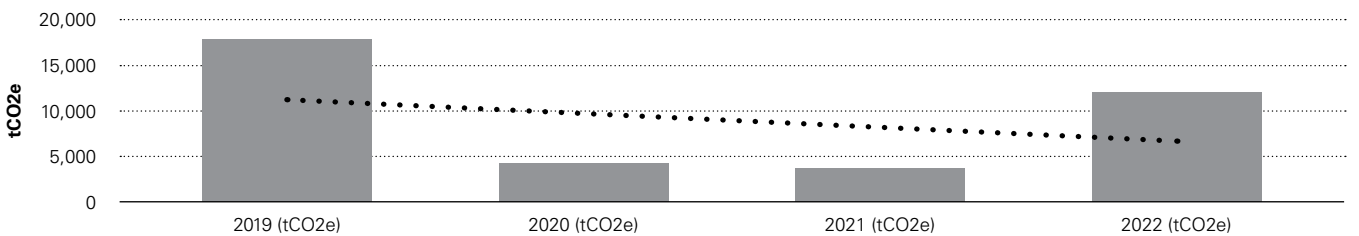
Our scope 2 emissions (location-based) have decreased by 9 percent since 2019. This reflects our reduced energy consumption and the greening of national energy grids.

Scope 2 (market-based and location-based)



Our scope 3 emissions, relating to waste and business travel, have decreased by 63 percent and 24 percent respectively.

Scope 3 excluding supply chain spend



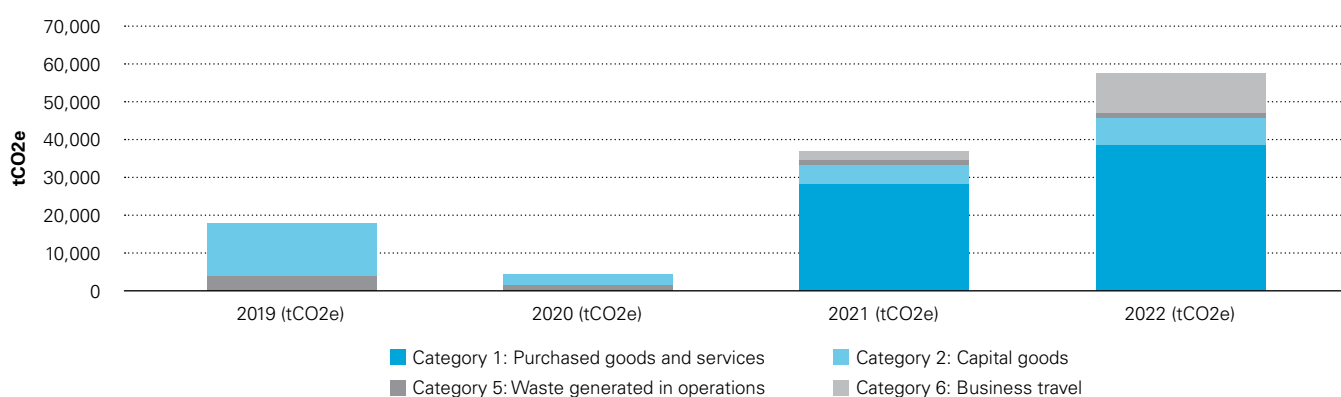
Our environmental sustainability program (continued)

The following table provides a detailed breakdown of our scope 3 emissions. In 2022, we captured emissions data from purchased goods and services, and capital goods within the annual carbon assessment. This creates a more accurate measurement of the emissions associated with our

operations. Including the additional categories has increased our overall footprint. Purchased goods and services now account for 71 percent of the entire carbon footprint. Engaging with our supply chain will be critical to addressing this significant proportion of our emissions inventory.

Chart 2

Scope 3 emissions 2022



Scope 3 category	2019 (tCO2e)	2020 (tCO2e)	2021 (tCO2e)	2022 (tCO2e)
Category 1: Purchased goods and services			28,124	38,590
Category 2: Capital goods			5,101	6,920
Category 5: Waste generated in operations	3,958	1,486	1,329	1,466
Waste	3,402	1,239	1,180	1,223
Paper	271	119	108	172
Water	285	128	41	71
Category 6: Business travel	13,902	2,752	2,323	10,561
Air travel	11,983	2,214	1,789	9,508
Rail travel	495	100	93	202
Road travel	541	212	183	286
Hotel	883	226	258	565
Total (Scope 3)	17,860	4,238	36,876	57,537

Sharing best practices

In 2019, we implemented a global environmental management system (EMS) to help each of our offices develop their own sustainable operations and track their progress. The EMS established a set of core practices and formalized plans in each office to continue to reduce our environmental footprint. Our EMS is based on the Law Firm Sustainability Network's American Legal Industry Sustainability Standard (ALISS). Each office receives a score based on the percentage of practices implemented, providing comprehensive statistics for the degree of implementation of each practice (see 2023 Environmental Management Survey results, Appendix A).

We also ensure that we occupy buildings that demonstrate a commitment to sustainable operations through our Global Office Design Guidelines (GODG). Our office locations across the Americas, APAC and EMEA are supported by a range of certification schemes including BREEAM, LEED and NABERS. Eighty-three percent of our offices are situated in buildings that have a formal environmental accreditation.

Our New York office administrators partnered with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to enhance the design and build-out of nine floors of leased space at 1221 Avenue of the Americas in preparation for our move in the first quarter

of 2017. We worked with consultants Robert Director Associates, who modeled the cost of installation, potential electricity savings and potential NYSERDA incentives for each of three design options. The results were annual cost savings of US\$390,000 and a 39 percent reduction in energy consumption. White & Case was recognized by NYSERDA with its Commercial Tenant Program award.

With more than 800 people, our London office is the Firm's second-largest and most environmentally advanced office. It obtained ISO 14001 certification in 2014 and has maintained it each year since. We won the "Air Quality and Climate Action Award" at the *City of London Clean City Awards 2022*, where we were recognized for our initiatives in this area. These included sourcing 100 percent renewable energy for our Old Broad Street office, replacing gas appliances in our canteen with electric alternatives, investing in energy-efficient building infrastructure, and opening end-of-trip facilities to support those who cycle or run to and from the office. (see London Office 2022 Environmental Review, Appendix B).

Our environmental sustainability program (continued)

Sustainable procurement

Our procurement policy provides that all suppliers of goods and services receive and sign our [Supplier Code of Conduct](#), which gives suppliers an opportunity to understand our values, principles and minimum expectations across the Firm's principles, including sustainability.

All our suppliers are required to comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations (including those related to pollution, waste disposal, air emissions and discharges) and obtain and maintain all necessary environmental permits and licenses. We also expect our suppliers to commit to implementing best practices and initiatives aimed at reducing the impact of their business on the environment. This commitment includes:

- Avoiding the use of hazardous materials, where possible
- Recycling
- Handling, storing and managing waste safely to minimize the impact on human health and the environment
- Having systems in place to prevent and mitigate accidental spills
- Continually striving to improve their sustainability performance, focusing on reduction (as appropriate) of waste, carbon emissions, water and the consumption of natural resources

Global technology services environmental practices

Our regional computer data centers feature state-of-the-art technology that conserves energy while improving the efficiency and reliability of our technology.

- Our Americas data center uses 100 percent wind power for electricity generation
- Our Asia-Pacific data center also uses 100 percent renewable energy
- In Europe, our data center uses carbon-neutral power from hydropower sources

Our technology device recycling vendor follows a strict zero landfill and non-export policy for all e-waste. To ensure compliance with this policy, our vendor provides us with certificates of recycling for all of our shredded devices.

Environmental pro bono projects

Our [Global Pro Bono Practice](#) contributes to significant environmental sustainability work. We assist pro bono clients with matters that range from small, regional interventions to those that can influence global policy at the highest level. Recent highlights of our work include:

- Identified legal frameworks to help developing countries address climate change, reviewing legislation on carbon rights, forest preservation and climate change in 27 countries for the UN Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme)
- Facilitated green and blue bonds in Africa, advising the Liquidity and Sustainability Facility, which works to support the liquidity of African sovereign eurobonds and incentivize SDG-related investments such as SDG and green bonds on the continent
- Analyzed the link between the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, and the human right to a healthy environment in 16 countries, helping our client Human Right 2 Water work to strengthen these rights globally
- Helped social enterprise SafetyNet Technologies, which creates technology that supports sustainable fishing, navigate a new funding round
- Joined with several global law firms to advise social enterprise Smart Air, which makes affordable air purifiers, on corporate and contractual matters

Read our [2022 Global Citizenship Review](#) to learn more about these and other White & Case pro bono projects.

ESG advice to clients



Clients are increasingly coming to us for strategic ESG advice—board governance, operational policies and external reporting—to embed sustainability into their business. We are also helping our clients navigate a rapidly evolving ESG reporting and regulatory landscape, that differs significantly across jurisdictions and industries.

Taylor Pullins, Partner and Head of the Firm's ESG Specialty & Sustainability Practice

To help our clients navigate ESG and sustainability issues, our ESG & Sustainability Practice draws on the experience of lawyers across the Firm in practices that include Environment & Climate Change, Business & Human Rights, US Public Company Advisory, Energy Transition and Debt Finance.

In addition to advising clients, we regularly provide insight into global ESG issues. Some recent insights include a deep dive into [global compliance](#), a discussion of developments in the [voluntary carbon market](#), a look at the impact of the EU's proposed Green Claim Directive to combat [greenwashing](#), and a spotlight on the "new normal" as stakeholders [raise the bar on ESG](#).

Appendix A

2023 environmental management survey results

Our global environmental management system (EMS) helps each of our offices develop their own sustainable operations and track their progress across a range of activities, actions and procedures. The survey results below reflect the importance we place on sustainability initiatives Firmwide.

Percentage of offices responding “yes” and “in process”

Travel	2023
High-definition videoconference facilities available	100%
Secure bike parking provided onsite	79%
Showers provided onsite for people who ride/run to work	79%
Telepresence capability in place	74%
Vendors used for reservations	70%
Method in place for applying our Global Travel Policy	69%
Guest Services team uses bike couriers versus car whenever circumstances allow	47%
Travel hierarchy in place with vendors and communicated internally	33%
Mass transit programs/incentives available	30%
Green taxi preferred vendor program in place	12%
Participate in eco-travel external programs	9%

Electricity, fuel and refrigerants	
HVAC adjusted outside of office hours and seasonally	95%
HVAC and refrigeration systems serviced according to schedule, including filters, and ducts inspected for proper seal	95%
All appliances meet current efficiency standards	95%
Lighting fixtures, diffusers and lamps cleaned according to schedule	91%
LED lights installed	84%
Building automation and control system in place to optimize comfort and energy efficiency	81%

Appendix A (continued)

Electricity, fuel and refrigerants (cont'd)	2023
Light sensors used in common areas	77%
Oversight method in place where manual controls are used	77%
Outdoor lighting is off during the day	56%
Light sensors used in private and shared offices	49%
Light sensors used office-wide	42%
Renewable energy purchased via landlord or utility	35%
Sustainable operations	
80g paper or lighter in printers etc., unless requirement for heavier paper	100%
Ceramic plates, cutlery and glasses in client spaces	95%
Ceramic plates, cutlery and glasses in pantries	93%
No single-use plastics in pantries	91%
Purchases best available sustainable versions of most heavily used stationery items	88%
No single use-plastics in client spaces	88%
Reuses office supplies	81%
Double-sided printing default	81%
Reuses packing materials	79%
Still and sparkling water taps in pantries and cafes	79%
Bulk snacks in pantries	79%
Participates in municipal recycling system	77%
Ceramic plates, cutlery and glasses in cafes	74%
Sustainable coffee practices	72%
No single-use plastics in cafes	70%
Private recycling vendor	63%
Emphasis on plant-based catering and local food/materials	63%

Sustainable operations (cont'd)	2023
Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) paper is standard	60%
Worked with suppliers/landlord to institute green cleaning products	58%
If use recycling bins at workstations, no liners used	56%
Biodegradeable bags in trash bins	56%
FollowMe Printing implemented	44%
Eliminated desk bins in lieu of central bin stations	40%
Compost waste stream	30%
Water	
Leak detection alarms installed	49%
All possible techniques to reduce water consumption implemented	44%
Usage reviewed quarterly	42%
Supply chain	
Complies with the procurement policy and involves procurement team per policy, e.g., seeks suppliers who hold environmental credentials and support our sustainability goals	79%
Meetings & events	
No single-use plastics	91%
Emphasis on plant-based foods and local suppliers	72%
Donate leftover food from events	49%
Employee engagement	
Promoted annual global Green Campaign in office	77%
Instituted an office campaign or contest to promote individual action, e.g., green commuting/bike program, provide mugs, other creative actions	63%
Organized at least one environment-related volunteer event in past 12 months	42%

Appendix A (continued)

Internal communications	2023
Informs employees about office practices via, e.g., signage, Town Halls, other communications	98%
Includes in new employee induction process a description of the Firm's programs and what each person can do, e.g., turning off lights, using the correct bin	72%
Reporting and certifications	
Entered data into online portal for most recent White & Case annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions Assessment	65%
Achieved external certifications	21%
Had energy company do a free audit and incorporated findings into EMS practices	16%
Created a waste stream document that captures every waste stream for the office	14%
Achieved ISO 14001	5%

Appendix B

London Office 2022 Environmental Review

WHITE & CASE

London Office 2022 Environmental Review


In 2021, the London office set itself targets for 2022, focusing on reducing our emissions from energy consumption, reducing and recycling more of our waste and ensuring that we retain our ISO 14001 certification. The following highlights some of our achievements.

Waste

Zero
waste to landfill.



Removed plastic water bottles from BSK and carried out a successful trial of reusable takeaway (Junee) boxes.



We donated 15 bags worth of clothes to the Whitechapel Mission, which is a local charity that serves homeless and marginalised people in the community.



In July, we opened new end of trip facilities with space for over 200 bicycles and charging stations for electric bikes.




Winners of the Air Quality and Climate Action Award at the City of London Clean City Awards 2022.



Recycling

81% of our waste in 2022 was recycled. 19% was sent to energy from waste plants.



Certifications

Since 2014, the London Office has held an ISO 14001 certification.



Follow-Me Printing continued to help reduce paper consumption by 223,823 sheets of paper. = The equivalent of 22 trees.



Business Travel

Both our preferred taxi providers Addison Lee and Gett Taxi offset all journeys booked through them. In 2022, over 30 tonnes of CO2 were offset.




Water

Water usage was down by 45%.*




Energy

All of our electricity consumption now comes from 100% certified renewable energy.



Gas usage fell by 56%.*

Overall carbon emissions were down 38%.*



Replaced gas appliances in the BSK kitchen with electrical alternatives. Surplus gas appliances were donated to local charity Food For All.



* Figures compared to 2013 per person aver

001 1100000001

whitecase.com

In this publication, White & Case means the international legal practice comprising White & Case LLP, a New York State registered limited liability partnership, White & Case LLP, a limited liability partnership incorporated under English law, and all other affiliated partnerships, companies and entities.

This publication is prepared for the general information of our clients and other interested persons. It is not, and does not attempt to be, comprehensive in nature. Due to the general nature of its content, it should not be regarded as legal advice.

Attorney Advertising.
Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.