KNIGHTS BROWN

# GOAL 13

## Climate action.

# LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT

**THE LEADERSHIP TEAM IS COMMITTED TO TAKING CLIMATE ACTION. WE WILL USE OUR INFLUENCE TO BRING EVERY EMPLOYEE WITH US AS WE TRANSITION TO A NET ZERO BUSINESS. WE ARE DEDICATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOAL 13 AND HAVE EMBEDDED ITS FULFILMENT WITHIN THE ACCOUNTABILITIES OF EACH LEADERSHIP ROLE.**

*Integrate meaningful climate action with corporate strategy, influencing employees to actively participate as we transition to net zero by removing barriers to action.*

## DECLARATION

In setting out our first strategy to tackle the effects of climate change, we:

- Acknowledge the urgent threat to the future survival of life on Earth.
- Realise the scale of the challenge to meet the Paris Agreement commitment, to limit global warming to well below 2°C (preferably to 1.5°C) compared to pre-industrial levels.
- Understand that to meet this goal, greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced by around 50% between now and 2030, with net zero reached globally by 2050.
- Recognise the costs and operational issues that will jeopardise an unprepared business that fails to take action and see the opportunities that arise from making a clear commitment to solving these challenges.
- Accept the necessity to adapt and modernise so that Knights Brown survives and succeeds as a relevant and more efficient business that better balances purpose and profit.
- Commit to setting a science-based target pathway to net zero, urgently accelerating progress between now and 2030.
- Pledge to further mitigate our broader environmental impacts including water, waste, and plastic.

We will take and advocate for, climate action and collaborate with our peers to advance lasting climate progress as part of a net zero economy.

**Kevin Valentine**
**Managing Director**
on behalf of the leadership team

**WE ARE DEDICATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOAL 13 AND HAVE EMBEDDED ITS FULFILMENT WITHIN THE ACCOUNTABILITIES OF EACH LEADERSHIP ROLE.**

# TOP 10 CLIMATE FACTS

We are on track to reach a global temperature rise of 3°C by the end of the century.[1]

1

Global emissions of carbon dioxide ($CO_2$) have increased by almost 50% since 1990. Emissions grew more quickly between 2000 and 2010 than in each of the three previous decades.[2]

2

Wildlife populations have declined by an average of 60% since 1970.[3]

3

Only 7% of reefs in The Great Barrier Reef have escaped bleaching entirely.[4]

4

We're on course to lose over half of all insects by the end of the century.[5]

5

Oceans have warmed, snow and ice have diminished and sea level has risen. From 1901 to 2010, the global average sea level rose by 19cm. The Arctic's sea ice extent has shrunk in every successive decade since 1979, with 1.07 million km² of ice loss every decade.[6]

6

2019 was the second warmest year on record and the end of the warmest decade (2010- 2019) ever recorded.[7]

7

Climate change continues to exacerbate the frequency and severity of natural disasters, which affected more than 39 million people in 2018, resulting in deaths, disrupted livelihoods and economic losses.[8]

8

Climate change will drive the migration of 200 million people worldwide by 2050.[9]

9

It is still possible, using a wide array of technological measures and changes in behaviour to limit the increase in global mean temperature to 2°C above pre-industrial levels.[10]

10

[1] Nature.com 2018 | [2] IPCC | [3] WWF | [4] Coralcoe.org.au | [5] Sciencemag.org
[6] IPCC | [7] United Nations | [8] United Nations | [9] National Geographic | [10] IPCC

## OUR OBJECTIVE

**TO TRANSITION TO NET ZERO, ACCELERATING PROGRESS TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2030 IN LINE WITH A SCIENCE-BASED TARGET PATHWAY, COMPENSATING FOR RESIDUAL EMISSIONS THROUGH POTENTIAL HIGH-IMPACT CLIMATE AND NATURE ACTIONS THAT DELIVER LONG-LASTING, QUALITY RESULTS ALONGSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL BENEFITS.**

## HOW WE'LL GET TO NET ZERO



### MEASURE

Get our team together, measure emissions and set science based targets



### REDUCE

Get our own house in order (Scope 1 & 2) and focus on the big impact areas (Scope 3)



### OFFSET

Support good quality carbon offset projects to compensate for residual emissions

## WHY WE'RE DOING IT

- To fulfil our moral responsibility to mitigate climate change.
- To generate resilience for our business to the threats posed by it.
- To respond to the changing expectations and aspirations of our customers and employees.
- To survive and succeed as a relevant and more efficient business.
- To build competitive advantage by using our agility to move at pace.
- To advance goals for climate action and become part of the solution.

# WHAT WE'LL DO

**WE WILL IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR CLIMATE ACTION THAT LOOKS TO THE FUTURE AND OUR TRANSITION TO BECOMING A NET-ZERO BUSINESS, EMBRACING SCIENCE-BASED SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION, DRAWING FROM EXISTING PRACTICES AND INCORPORATING NEW THINKING.**

## OUR APPROACH WILL:

- Account and disclose carbon emissions across all activities and operations.
- Reduce emissions in line with a science-based target pathway.
- Quantify a cost for residual emissions.
- Invest in potential high-impact actions favouring climate, nature, and society.

## TO ACHIEVE THIS WE WILL:

- Document the risks and opportunities associated with climate change in our business.
- Map sources of carbon identifying Scope 1 (direct), Scope 2 (indirect) and Scope 3 (other indirect) emissions.
- Assess emissions for significance by way of scale, relevance and reduction potential and base our priority actions on the outcome of that assessment.
- Identify areas for improvement and adopt a tiered approach to establish, progress, and embed carbon reduction in our systems and processes.
- Engage with the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) to set a date by which we will be able to credibly achieve net zero.

Goal 13 would be incomplete without also considering a broader range of environmental impacts. Excessive consumption of precious resources contributes to effects such as pollution and the loss of wildlife and wild places, as well as climate change. To address this we will implement a sustainable workplaces plan that will help us make positive changes in other important areas including water, waste, and plastic, building on existing good practice.

**GOAL 13 WOULD BE INCOMPLETE WITHOUT ALSO CONSIDERING A BROADER RANGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.**

# OUR INDUSTRY

## THERE IS NO ESCAPING THAT CONSTRUCTION AS AN INDUSTRY, EMITS A LOT OF CARBON.

Constructing buildings, roads, bridges, and everything else we build involves emitting carbon, primarily from electricity, fuel in vehicles and plant, and from the materials we use, such as steel and cement. Cement is the source of about 8% of the world's $CO_2$ emissions[1].

Emissions also arise from the operation and maintenance of the assets we construct, from electricity and fuel usage. And then there are emissions from customers using the asset, such as fuel emissions from vehicles on a road.

As an independent contractor, we can move at an accelerated pace to play our part in reducing carbon emissions on our projects.

We can do this by using fewer or different materials, using alternative production techniques and lower emission methods of transport, planning to reduce journeys, and minimising our use of energy derived from fossil fuels, like oil, gas, and coal.

We also have a role to play in influencing others in our value chain. This means supporting our customers to reduce carbon emissions over the whole life of their assets by offering low carbon alternatives; this is especially true where we have design responsibility. It also means working with our suppliers to source and encourage provision of those lower carbon alternatives.

**CEMENT IS THE SOURCE OF ABOUT 8% OF THE WORLD'S $CO_2$ EMISSIONS**

**EMISSIONS ALSO ARISE FROM THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ASSETS WE CONSTRUCT, FROM ELECTRICITY AND FUEL USAGE.**

**AS AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, WE CAN MOVE AT AN ACCELERATED PACE TO PLAY OUR PART IN REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS ON OUR PROJECTS.**

**WE ALSO HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY IN INFLUENCING OTHERS IN OUR VALUE CHAIN.**

[1] Chatham House

# OUR TOOLS

## THE TWO TABLES THAT FOLLOW SET OUT THE FOCUS AREAS FOR OUR BUSINESS. THESE WILL HELP US 'GET OUR HOUSE IN ORDER' AND 'FOCUS ON THE BIG IMPACT AREAS'. THEY PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO REDUCE OUR, AND OUR VALUE CHAIN'S, CARBON EMISSIONS AND PROVIDE INSIGHT ON TRANSITIONING OUR DIVISIONAL OFFICES AND SITES TO SUSTAINABLE WORKPLACES.

The tables provide guidance for annual carbon reductions at a corporate, divisional, and site level. They identify the focus areas of activity where improvements will have the largest impact on our ability to reduce carbon emissions as a business, on our projects and for our customers.

They provide a means to measure progress to net zero, ensuring carbon emissions identification and reduction is embedded in our approach to business.

## THE COLUMNS RANGE FROM 'ESTABLISHING' THROUGH 'PROGRESSING' TO 'EMBEDDING'.

### ESTABLISHING:

The first objective is to establish carbon reduction and sustainable thinking in each focus area.

### PROGRESSING:

These are actionable items that demonstrate increased capability and enhanced standards.

### EMBEDDING:

This includes low carbon leadership at every level of our activities.

The contents of each column are not exhaustive and there is no mandatory order in which to address them.