Carbon Reduction Plan

1. Commitment to achieving net zero

Digital Catapult is committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050 or sooner. This is consistent with the UK Government's commitment under the Climate Change Act which will play a significant role in the decarbonisation of the United Kingdom as a whole.

We have intentionally developed a programme to achieve ISO 9001 certification, which is providing a structured framework and clear roadmap to support our progression toward ISO 14001 environmental management certification.

To achieve net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, we will adopt a multi-faceted approach that includes reducing emissions, enhancing energy efficiency, and leveraging innovative technologies. Examples include:

- Reduce our Scope 3 emissions by working together with our suppliers and wider ecosystem to identify and implement emission reduction initiatives as part of our overall Environmental, Social Governance Plan (further publication of this plan is due in December 2025).
- Encourage our employees to reduce emissions from business travel and commuting by providing access to virtual tools and technology and implementing sustainable travel policies.
- Work with our landlords to upgrade our office infrastructure and implement energy-efficient systems and retrofit buildings to reduce energy consumption.
- Leveraging cutting edge technologies including digital twins, advanced digital infrastructure such as 5G and emerging 6G platforms and robust data analytics capabilities to track emissions, energy use, and costs before and after decarbonisation interventions.

Digital Catapult recognises the importance of transparency in our environmental reporting and remains dedicated to reducing our carbon footprint. We will continue to monitor and report our emissions and embed sustainability in all our projects and programmes.

2. Baseline Emissions Footprint

Baseline emissions are a record of the greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and were produced prior to the introduction of any new strategies to reduce emissions. Baseline emissions are the reference point against which emissions reduction can be measured.

The seven greenhouse gases (GHGs) recognised under the Paris Agreement are:

- Carbon Dioxide (CO2)
- Hydrofluorocarbons (HCFC's)
- Methane (CH4)
- Nitrous Oxide (N2O)
- Nitrogen Trifluoride (NF3)
- Perfluorocarbons (PFC's)
- Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF6)

These gases vary in their sources, atmospheric lifetimes, and their ability to trap heat, but all contribute to global warming and climate change.

Our emissions are calculated in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e). We are using guidance from the *Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) 2022 – GOV.UK (www.gov.uk/).

3. Baseline Year: FY24: (April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024)

3.1 Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations

Digital Catapult report accounts based on a financial year. The following disclosure includes information related to Digital Catapult's operations for the year to 31 March 2024 (FY24), as reported on our annual report. UK Energy Use and associated greenhouse gas (GHG) energy use data is stated for the year and reported on an absolute and intensity basis. This is the first year Digital Catapult has reported emissions under Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR).

Baseline and Current Year Emissions FY24 (April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024)

- Scope 1 – 0mt
- Scope 2 – 71mt
- Scope 3 (included sources) – 173mt
- Total Emissions = 244 mt

Note regarding Scope 1 emissions: Based on the GHG Protocol definition, no Scope 1 emissions were recorded in the period.

Note regarding Scope 3 emissions: Currently, we report limited Scope 3 emissions, primarily covering Category 6: Business Travel, in line with PPN 06/21 guidance. As our organisation grows, and we include additional Scope 3 categories, such as supplier energy use from computing and data centres, our reported carbon footprint is expected to rise. This projected rise does not necessarily reflect a regression in our sustainability efforts, but rather a more comprehensive and transparent accounting of our indirect emissions.

3.2 Emissions reduction targets

As part of our commitment to achieving net zero, we continuously review and refine our carbon reduction targets to align with our organisational growth. This includes set-ting emissions targets on a per-headcount basis, ensuring that our sustainability goals scale appropriately as we expand.

Our current carbon reduction targets are:

- 25% reduction on the FY 24 baseline in the next five years
- 50% reduction on the FY 24 baseline by 2035
- Net zero (100% reduction) by 2050

Going forward, these targets will be reviewed and monitored by our Digital Catapult ESG Plan and Governance working group and used to guide the development and implementation of our ESG plan which is expected to be published by end of December 2025.

4. Carbon Reduction Projects

4.1 Ongoing and Future Carbon Reduction Initiatives

Energy Efficiency for Utilities:

Where Digital Catapult is a tenant, we aim to work with landlords to switch to greener tariffs, reduce energy and water use, manage waste, increase renewable energy uptake, and monitor operational energy.

Employee Commuting & Working from Home:

Understanding and reducing the environmental impact of employee commuting and remote work. We aim to conduct regular surveys to assess commuting patterns, travel modes, and the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with both in-office and home-based work. We will use these insights help us identify opportunities to encourage low-carbon commuting options such as cycling, walking, public transport, and carpooling.

Remote Collaboration Tools:

Digital Catapult promotes the use of advanced remote collaboration technologies to reduce the environmental impact of travel. Employees are given access to a suite of remote collaboration tools to allow them to work across multiple sites and minimise travel.

Embed Sustainability into our Business Strategy:

We understand that our journey to net zero needs to be underpinned by our business strategy. We are working to set clear net zero targets with timelines and accountability. We want to develop a methodology to assess the environmental impact of future innovation projects and programmes and tools to better help us track our scope 2 and scope 3 emissions. We aim to work with our employees and our wider ecosystem to embed sustainable practices and reduce our carbon emissions.

Circular Economy and Responsible Technology:

Digital Catapult is committed to responsible innovation by embedding circular economy principles into digital technology development. This includes reducing electronic waste by designing products to last longer, be easier to repair, and be recyclable. We promote

sustainable product lifecycles by supporting modular design and enabling reuse and remanufacturing. Furthermore, we advocate for responsible sourcing, traceable supply chains, and the integration of sustainability metrics into product development and innovation processes.

For example, we delivered a circular textiles testbed as part of our Digital Supply Chain Hub programme, a UK first textiles re-manufacturing facility with the associated digital technologies to enable traceability of waste and reuse streams. We are also members of the DICE (Digital Innovation for Circular Economy) initiative funded by UKRI.

Green Innovation Support:

Digital Catapult actively fosters green innovation by supporting startups and scaleups developing technologies that address environmental challenges. This includes our work in programmes such as:

Digital Supply Chain Hub where we have worked with 37 startups and scaleups running programmes that so far have delivered an 8% reduction in CO2. These include innovative approaches to Scope 3 measurement in supply chains, reducing CO2 from transport through logistics collaboration and waste reduction in food supply chains

Hydrogen Innovation Initiative where we have collaborated with the Catapult Network to create a connected innovation ecosystem to convene industry, Government and the broader stakeholders to agree and deliver against the strategic hydrogen priorities for the UK.

Digitalising Energy Flexibility programme in collaboration with Energy Systems Catapult. The programme tackled innovation blockers and system leverage points to accelerate the adoption of deep tech in the energy flexibility sector. By tackling these challenges, the programme aimed to unlock the productivity and creative potential of UK innovators, thereby supporting a faster and more effective transition to a net zero energy system.

Through funding, mentorship, and access to advanced testbeds, Digital Catapult helps these innovators scale solutions that contribute to emissions reduction and a more sustainable digital economy.

5. Declaration and Sign Off

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 006 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[1] and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting[2].

Scope 2 emissions have been reported in accordance with SECR requirements, and the required subset of 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[3]. Based on the GHG Protocol definition, no Scope 1 emissions were recorded in the period.

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the board of directors (or equivalent management body).

Signed on behalf of Digital Catapult

Susan Bowen

CEO, Digital Catapult

[1] https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard

[2] https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting

[3] https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard