

Sodexo UK & Ireland reports it is ahead of schedule on Net Zero 2040 roadmap

3 years ago



[Sodexo UK & Ireland](#) today announced that it has achieved a 37% reduction in absolute greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across scopes 1, 2 and 3, compared to its baseline year of 2017. This reduction represents the removal of approximately 400,000 tonnes of carbon (tCO₂e) from its footprint at 31 May 2023.

Publishing its annual [net zero progress report](#) today, Sodexo UK & Ireland has announced it is now ahead of schedule on its journey to Net Zero 2040.

The facilities management and food services business – which was one of the first organisations to have a Science Based Targets initiative approved net zero target – had shown in its net zero transition plan that, to remain on track, it would have needed to achieve at least a 25.5% reduction in absolute GHG emissions by the end of FY23, arriving at 810,886 tCO₂e. Instead, the business achieved a 37% reduction and recorded a footprint of 689,172 tCO₂e.

The comprehensive report which covers the period 1 June 2022 to 31 May 2023, highlights key achievements including:

- Scope 1 & 2 emissions: In the UK and Ireland, Sodexo reduced emissions in its direct control by 50%, through initiatives such as membership in the Climate Group's RE100; commitment to 100% renewable energy purchases; and a progressive transition to hybrid and electric vehicles. In the last financial year, Sodexo purchased 96% renewable energy.
- Scope 3 emissions: The business also achieved a 36% reduction in scope 3 GHG emissions – those

outside its direct control. Initiatives such as Sodexo's net zero supply chain engagement strategy; a commitment to sustainable food options; and a robust food waste prevention programme have contributed significantly to this reduction.

- Flag Targets: Sodexo has now set forest, land and agriculture (FLAG) science-based targets – 40% absolute GHG emissions reduction by 2030 and a 72% reduction by 2040.

Sean Haley, CEO of Sodexo UK & Ireland, says: *“While there is still a long way to go, it is important to take a moment to reflect on quite how much has been achieved since 2010, when we first started working with WWF on our scope 1 and 2 calculations. Today’s announcement is encouraging and will, I am sure, build confidence in our ability to achieve our near and long-term targets to achieve net zero 2040.”*

Claire Atkins Morris, Sustainability Director, Sodexo UK & Ireland, says: *“Working towards net zero is complex and can be an overwhelming challenge. With multiple data sets and action levers across business activities, it isn’t easy. There are many opportunities for learning, refining and improving as we go. This, naturally, means that we need to be agile to the fast pace of change informed by external factors. This year, for example, we chose to move away from our 2025 carbon neutral target and reallocate funds to decarbonisation projects. We should all expect to see and be comfortable with changes in our journey, rebaselining and the influences of the external landscape.”*

For more information on Sodexo's net zero journey in the UK and Ireland, and to read the annual net zero progress report visit: <https://sodexouki.info/3RuiFDR>