

Australian Government

# Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement

November 2020



#### Australian Government

## Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement





NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: Corrs Chambers Westgarth

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019

#### Declaration

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this Public Disclosure Statement is true and correct and meets the requirements of the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard.

Signature Date 19/11/2020

Name of Signatory GAVIN MACLAREN

Position of Signatory Senior Partner and Chief Executive Officer



Public Disclosure Statement documents are prepared by the submitting organisation. The material in Public Disclosure Statement documents represents the views of the organisation and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth does not guarantee the accuracy of the contents of the Public Disclosure Statement documents and disclaims liability for any loss arising from the use of the document for any purpose.



### Carbon neutral information

#### Description of Organisation

Corrs Chambers Westgarth is Australia's leading independent law firm. We provide exceptional legal services across the full spectrum of matters, including major transactions, projects and significant disputes, offering strategic advice on our clients' most challenging issues. With more than 175 years of history and a talented and diverse team of over 1000 people, we pride ourselves on our client-focused approach and commitment to excellence. Our fundamental ambition is the success of our clients, and this is reflected in everything we do. We advise on the most significant global matters and connect with the best lawyers internationally to provide our clients with the right team for every engagement. We are also at the forefront of some of the most high-profile public international law matters in our region, assisting governments and corporations with the resolution of highly complex cross-border disputes. We are the firm of choice for many of the world's leading organisations, with our people consistently recognised for providing outstanding client service and delivering exceptional results.

#### Description of certification

This inventory has been prepared for the financial year from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019.

The certification covers all the legal services provided by Corrs Chambers Westgarth in Australia in the following locations and facilities:

- Sydney Office, Level 17, 8 Chifley Square, Sydney 2000 NSW
- Melbourne Office, Level 25, 567 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000 VIC
- Brisbane Office, Level 42, 111 Eagle Street, Brisbane 4000 QLD
- Perth Office, Level 6, 123 St Georges Terrace, Perth 6000 WA

The methods used for collating data, performing calculations and presenting the carbon account are in accordance with the following standards:

- Climate Active Standards
- The Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (Revised Edition)
- National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008

Where possible, the calculation methodologies and emission factors used in this inventory are derived from the National Greenhouse Accounts (NGA) Factors in accordance with "Method 1" from the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008.

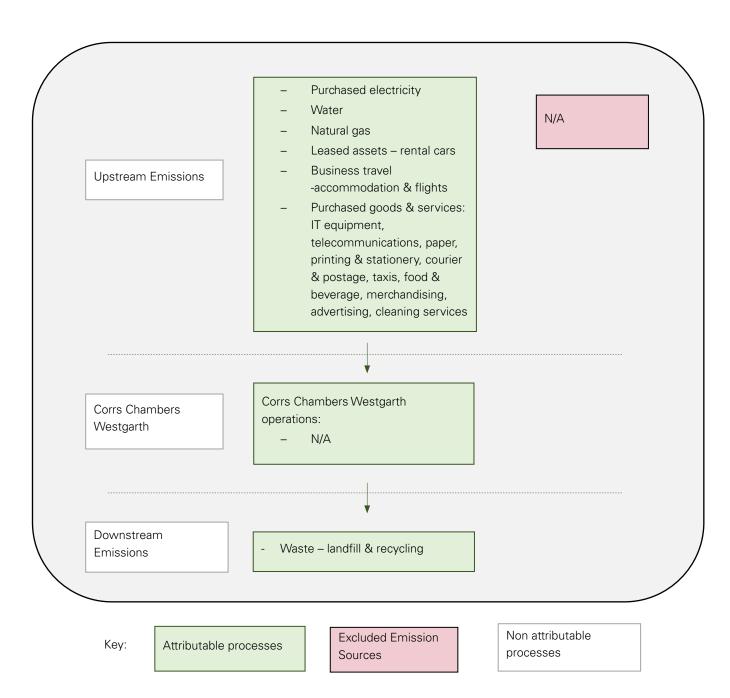
The greenhouse gases considered within the inventory are those that are commonly reported under the Kyoto Protocol; carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (N2O) and synthetic gases - hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF3). These have been expressed as carbon dioxide equivalents (CO2-e) using relative global warming potentials (GWPs).

#### Description of functional unit

The functional unit is billable hours, with emissions expressed in terms of tCO2-e per billable hour. Note for commercial reasons, the total hours will not be disclosed.

### Product/service process diagram

The following diagram is: cradle to gate.



#### Emissions reduction strategy

An emission reduction strategy will be developed based upon the base year GHG inventory. This will include a full analysis of the data to identify key areas for reduction, research and consultation to identify ways to reduce carbon emissions and investigation to look for carbon neutral or more sustainable options for the emissions that cannot be reduced.



# **Emission Boundary**

### Diagram of the certification boundary

#### Attributable sources

#### Quantified

Electricity

Base Building Electricity

Natural Gas

Telecommunications

Water

IT Equipment

Paper

Merchandising

Office Furniture

**Employee Commute** 

**Business Flights** 

Transport Fuels – Hire Cars

Cleaning Services

Postage

Couriers

Printing & Stationery

Accommodation - Domestic &

International

Advertising

Taxis

Food & Beverage

Waste - Landfill & Recycling

Non-Quantified

Refrigerants

Non attributable

N/A

All activity sources are shared for both certifications however the total emissions have been split into organisation and service based on the total number of hours (Billable hours for service and the remaining hours for organisation).

#### Attributable Non-quantified sources

Refrigerants – non-quantified as it is immaterial and will account to less than 1% of total emissions.

#### Data management Plan

N/A

Excluded sources (within certification boundary)

N/A

Non Attributable sources (outside certification boundary)

N/A

# 03

# **Emissions summary**

Accommodation and facilities		
Ducinesa Flinkta	136.61	
Business Flights	3,350.50	
Cleaning and Chemicals	101.22	
Electricity	3,183.47	
Employee Commute	348.18	
Food	431.02	
ICT services and equipment	325.45	
Transport Fuel – Hire Cars	0.37	
Merchandising	22.59	
Natural Gas	124.97	
Office equipment & supplies	1,184.85	
Postage, courier and freight	463.80	
Professional Services	23.77	
Taxis	41.12	
Waste	56.64	
Water	9.53	
1. Total inventory Emissions	9,804.10	
2. Net emissions per reference unit	0.014	
3. A) Number of reference units sold this period	Not to be disclosed	
4. Carbon Footprint	9,804.10	

## Uplift factors

Table 4: Uplift factors	
Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO2-e
N/A	
Total uplift factors	
Total to Offset (Carbon footprint (table 3) + total uplift factors)	9,805*
Note: all emissions are shared with the parent (organisation) certification and offsets are detailed in that document	

## **Electricity Summary**

Electricity was calculated using a Location based approach.

The Climate Active team are consulting on the use of a market vs location-based approach for electricity accounting. Given a decision is still pending on the accounting way forward, a summary of emissions using both measures has been provided for full disclosure and to ensure year on year comparisons can be made..

Table 5: Market-based approach Electricity summary				
Electricity Inventory items	kWh	Emissions tonnes CO2e)		
Electricity Renewables	666,698	0.00		
Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	0	0.00		
Electricity Remaining	2,759,935	2,983.77		
Renewable electricity percentage	19%			
Net emissions (Market based approach)		2,984		

Table 6: Loc	cation-based summary			
State/ Territory	Electricity Inventory items	kWh	Full Emission factor (Scope 2 +3)	Emissions (tonnes CO2e
ACT/NSW	Electricity Renewables	-	-0.90	0.00
ACT/NSW	Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	-	-0.90	0.00
ACT/NSW	Netted off (exported on-site generation)	-	-0.81	0.00
ACT/NSW	Electricity Total	1,382,115	0.90	1,243.90
Vic	Electricity Renewables	-	-1.12	0.00
Vic	Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	-	-1.12	0.00
Vic	Netted off (exported on-site generation)	-	-1.02	0.00
Vic	Electricity Total	868,023	1.12	972.19
Qld	Electricity Renewables	29,344	-0.93	-27.29
Qld	Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	-	-0.93	0.00
Qld	Netted off (exported on-site generation)	-	-0.81	0.00
Qld	Electricity Total	652,990	0.93	607.28
WA	Electricity Renewables	-	-0.74	0.00
WA	Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	-	-0.74	0.00
WA	Netted off (exported on-site generation)	-	-0.69	0.00
WA	Electricity Total	523,505	0.74	387.39
	Total net electricity emissions (Location based)		0.00	3,183.47



# Carbon offsets

Details of offsets retired are provided in the parent (organisation) certification.

# 

# Use of trade mark

Table 8	
Description where trademark used	Logo type
Website	Certified service
Corporate Intranet	Certified service
Tender Documents	Certified service
Brochures	Certified service

# 06

# Additional information







#### corrs.com.au

This publication is introductory in nature. Its content is current at the date of publication. It does not constitute legal advice and should not be relied upon as such. You should always obtain legal advice based on your specific circumstances before taking any action relating to matters covered by this publication. Some information may have been obtained from external sources, and we cannot guarantee the accuracy or currency of any such information.