



## SFT Outcomes 2021/22

### Demonstrating progress with impact

#### PRIMARY OUTCOME

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**INFRASTRUCTURE-RELATED CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS ARE REDUCED**

#### SECONDARY OUTCOMES

07



## New archive facility to benefit from Net Zero Public Sector Buildings Standard



Historic Environment Scotland (HES) is both a charity and a public body that protects the nation's historic environment. Part of that work involves looking after an extensive archive of over five million historic photographs, manuscripts and drawings that provides an unparalleled insight into Scotland's past.

Currently these archives are located across four sites, some of which are leased.

To help improve conservation, management and public access, HES has set out to create Archive House; a purpose-built, centralised storage facility providing archive and other functional space with enhanced environmental controls in-line with recognised Archival Standards for temperature, humidity and the professional care of historic collections. Archive House will involve the refurbishment of an existing storage facility and construction of a new building.

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## INFRASTRUCTURE-RELATED CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS ARE REDUCED

NET  
ZEROSUSTAINABLE  
PLACESINCLUSIVE  
GROWTH

In planning the project, and in-line with its Climate Action Plan, HES wanted to apply Scottish Government's Net Zero Public Sector Buildings Standard that was developed and produced by the Net Zero Buildings Team at the Scottish Futures Trust in November 2021, in partnership with Zero Waste Scotland and Health Facilities Scotland. The Standard supports public bodies in meeting their net zero commitments for their new build and major refurbishment infrastructure projects.

The Net Zero Buildings Team engaged with HES at the early stages of the project to provide mentoring on the requirements of the Standard. This extended to specific support in the development of an operational energy performance target and on the early-stage targets for construction embodied carbon for the new build and refurbished elements of Archive House.

From the outset, the project has had high operational energy performance aspirations, and is considering the application of other recognised methodologies, such as Passivhaus to achieve this goal.

The Standard works well in tandem with these other methods but also brings a broader conception of environmental performance to complement these approaches, so aspects such as the impact of construction embodied carbon will now be captured in the process.

In addition to carbon, the Standard also ensures that investments are optimised in a much wider sense via application of the Place Principle. In actively engaging with this aspect, HES worked with Architecture and Design Scotland, to consider the options for the project now, and its potential as a future public sector asset.

The Standard also has a strong emphasis on verification through measurement of in-use performance. This will provide a powerful incentive to manage risk, carefully refine the design, and ensure quality management is built into the construction stage.

By applying the Standard, Historic Environment Scotland has shown an ambitious approach to achieving net zero outcomes and optimising a significant investment into the public sector.