



GILBERT  
+ TOBIN



Carbon  
Neutral  
SERVICE

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

# CLIMATE ACTIVE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SERVICE CERTIFICATION  
FY 2020-2021





# PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

## NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY

Gilbert + Tobin

## REPORTING PERIOD

1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

## 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

9 February 2022

Name of Signatory

Eloise Schnierer

Position of Signatory

Head of Corporate Social Responsibility

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.

# 1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

“OUR CLIMATE ACTIVE ‘SERVICE’ CARBON NEUTRAL CERTIFICATION HELPS OUR CLIENTS TO ACHIEVE THEIR NET ZERO GOALS.”

## DESCRIPTION OF CERTIFICATION

This inventory has been prepared for the financial year from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

The certification covers all the legal services provided by Gilbert + Tobin (ABN: 77 458 970 098) in Australia in the following locations and facilities:

- + Levels 32-35, Tower Two, International Towers Sydney, 200 Barangaroo Avenue, Sydney, NSW 2000
- + Level 22, 101 Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (1 July 2020 to 13 March 2021)
- + Levels 24 and 25, 101 Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (15 March 2021 to 30 June 2021)
- + Suites 12.01 and 12.02, Level 12, 90 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC, 3000 (1 July 2020 to 13 March 2021)
- + Level 16, Brookfield Place Tower 2, 123 St Georges Terrace, Perth, WA 6000
- + Suite 1B, 165-167 Phillip Street, Lawson Place, Sydney, NSW

This inventory does not include emissions related to the investment portfolio of Gilbert + Tobin as the associated emissions are outside the operational control of Gilbert + Tobin.

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 (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) and synthetic gases - hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF<sub>3</sub>). These have been expressed as carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>-e) using relative global warming potentials (GWPs).

The functional unit is billable hours, with emissions expressed in terms of tCO<sub>2</sub>-e per billable hour. Note for commercial reasons, the billable hours will not be disclosed.

## ORGANISATION DESCRIPTION

Gilbert + Tobin is a leading Australian law firm, advising clients on their most significant corporate transactions, regulatory matters and disputes. We provide commercial and innovative legal solutions for ASX 100 leading companies, major infrastructure and services providers as well as government and public authorities across Australia and around the world.

An international leader in M&A, private equity, capital markets, competition and regulation and technology and digital, we work on complex issues that define and direct the market.

Gilbert + Tobin is committed to being an outstanding corporate citizen and has a long and proud track record of taking action on environmental issues as well as monitoring, improving and reporting on its own environmental performance.

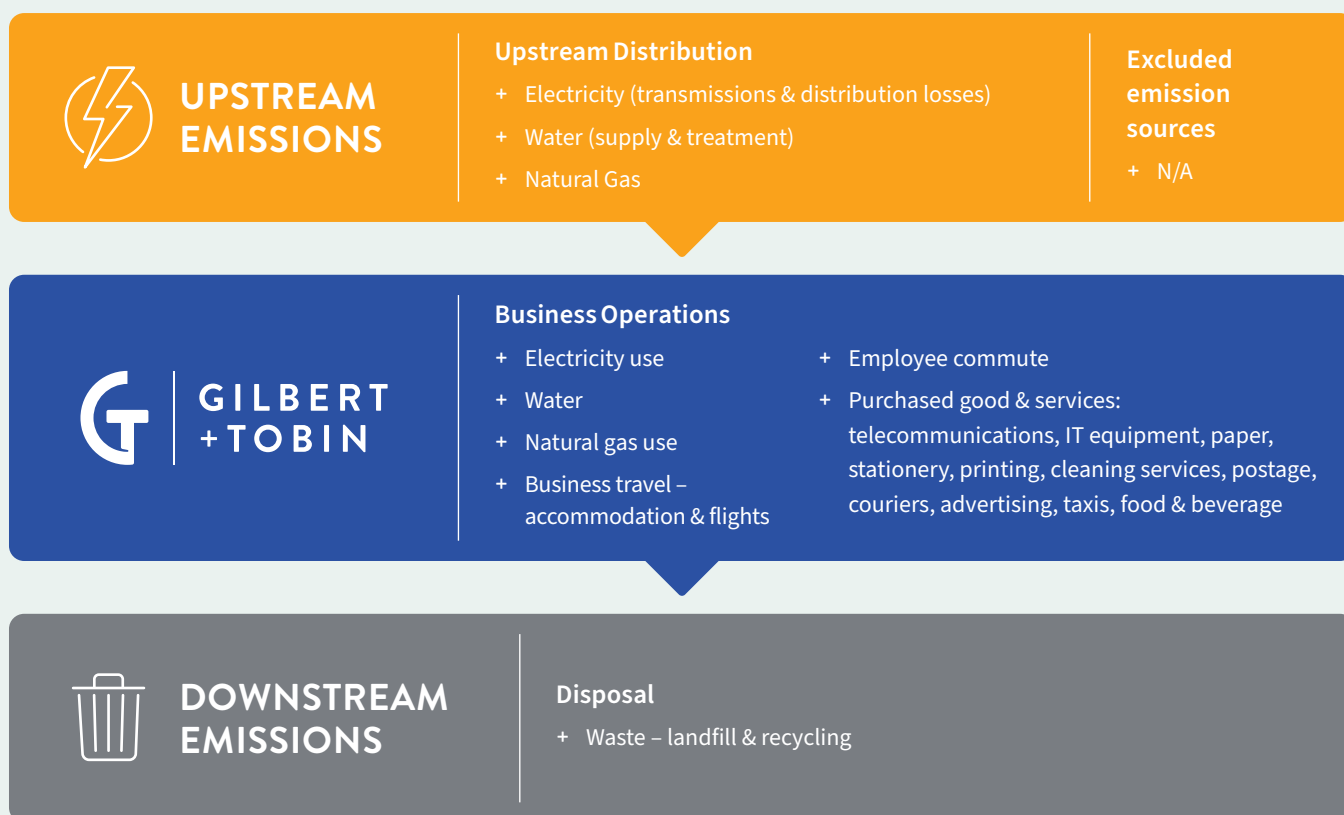
As a member of the Australian Legal Sector Alliance, the firm has been publicly reporting its environmental impacts since 2013 and implemented its first Environmental Management System (EMS) in 2015. Our second EMS 2018 – 2020 was audited and recertified by the Australian Legal Sector Alliance in 2019 and we are currently developing our third EMS for 2020-2022.

For more information about Gilbert + Tobin, its lawyers and publications please visit [www.gtlaw.com.au](http://www.gtlaw.com.au)

The certification includes all operations within Australia over which Gilbert + Tobin has operational control. Activities within all our offices (located in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth) fall within the organisational boundary, however investments are not included.

## PRODUCT/SERVICE PROCESS DIAGRAM

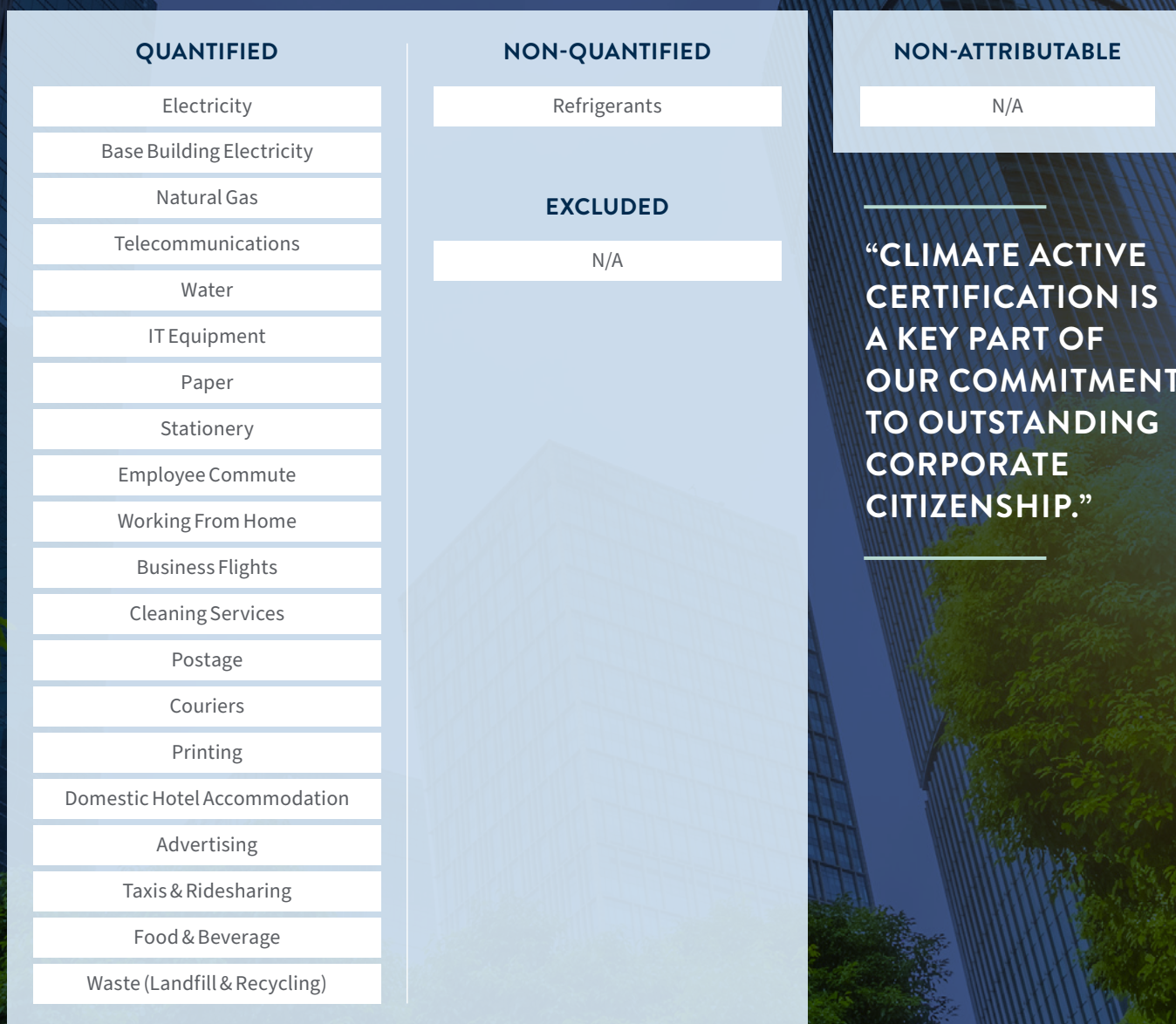
The following diagram is cradle to grave





## 2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

### DIAGRAM OF THE CERTIFICATION BOUNDARY



#### Attributable non-quantified sources

Refrigerants have been non-quantified due to being immaterial.

#### Data management plan

Not applicable.

#### Excluded sources (within certification boundary)

Not applicable.

#### Non attributable sources (outside certification boundary)

Not applicable.



## 3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

### EMISSIONS REDUCTION STRATEGY

Gilbert + Tobin participates in the AusLSA Environmental Management System (AEMS), which provides AusLSA Members with an EMS framework that is customised for the legal industry. The EMS is comprised of a Sustainability Policy, Environmental Impact Register, Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and our ongoing process of internal review.

Our Sustainability Policy is available to the public [here](#).

As part of the EMS process Gilbert + Tobin developed an environmental impact register by:

- + consulting with staff,
- + identifying ways that we impact the environment, and
- + rating and prioritising impacts.

From this register we develop our Environmental Management Plan, which includes measures to reduce GHG emissions. Gilbert + Tobin is also a City Switch signatory in Sydney and Perth. We undertake NABERS Energy (Tenancy) assessments for both our Sydney and Perth offices and have achieved 5-stars in both offices in FY2021. In FY2020 we committed to source our ongoing tenancy electricity needs using 100% Greenpower accredited renewable energy.

### EMISSIONS OVER TIME

Emissions over time have decreased by 75% when comparing to the base year (FY2016/17) and 55% compared to the previous year (FY2020/21). The changes are mainly due to the following:

1. **Barangaroo South carbon neutral certification** – The Barangaroo South precinct became Australia's first carbon neutral precinct in 2019. G+T's headquarters are in Tower Two of International Towers Sydney (ITS) within the Barangaroo South precinct. Since day one of this tenancy we have been required to pay to offset emissions. The precinct certification FY2016-FY2019 became effective from 7 December 2019. The precinct certification covers the tenancy and base building electricity, natural gas, waste, water and employee commute for the Sydney office.
2. **Renewable energy** – In FY2020 we began sourcing 100% of our tenancy electricity consumption from renewable Greenpower for all our offices. The over offsetting of the Sydney office tenancy electricity has meant all the base building electricity is also covered by the renewable electricity.
3. **COVID-19** – Our operations during FY2021 were significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Business travel was significantly reduced throughout the year and many of our staff have been working from home.

TABLE 1: EMISSIONS SINCE BASE YEAR

	Base year: 2018-19	Year 1: 2019-20	Current year Year 2: 2020-21
Total tCO <sub>2</sub> -e if commercially sensitive	7,412.8	3,627.5	1,615.8



## EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACTIONS

The emissions reductions actions undertaken in FY2021 include:



Continuing to purchase 100% of our tenancy electricity from renewable sources (GreenPower)



Relaunching our firm travel policy aimed at keeping business travel down post COVID-19



Sustainable fit out of our new tenancy at 101 Collins Street Melbourne



Launching the firm's first Procurement Policy that emphasizes purchasing carbon neutral products and services

The main reason for the significant reduction in emissions in FY2021 is the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on business travel and the closure of our offices during successive lockdowns.

## FUNCTIONAL UNITS

TABLE 2: FUNCTIONAL UNITS SOLD

Number of functional units	
a) Number of functional units sold this period	Not to be disclosed



## EMISSIONS SUMMARY (INVENTORY)

All emissions are shared with the parent (organisation) certification. See [here](#) for more details.

**TABLE 3: EMISSIONS SUMMARY**

Emission source category	tonnes CO2-e
Accommodation and facilities	7.7
Air Transport (km)	163.1
Cleaning and Chemicals	52.0
Electricity	0.0
Food	337.7
ICT services and equipment	235.4
Land and Sea Transport (\$)	24.3
Land and Sea Transport (km)	13.4
Office equipment & supplies	453.2
Postage, courier and freight	35.8
Professional Services	10.3
Stationary Energy	14.5
Waste	3.4
Water	1.9
Working from home	262.9
<b>1. Total inventory emissions</b>	<b>1,615.8</b>
<i>a. Number of functional units represented by the inventory emissions</i>	<i>Not to be disclosed</i>
<b>2. Emissions per functional unit (based on the number of functional units represented by the inventory)</b> <i>Total tCO2-e divided by the number of functional units in 1a.</i>	<i>Not to be disclosed</i>
<b>3. Carbon footprint: (Emissions per functional unit (2)* number of functional units (a or b from table 2))</b>	<b>1,615.8</b>

## UPLIFT FACTORS

Not applicable.

## CARBON NEUTRAL PRODUCTS

The Sydney office is located in the Barangaroo Precinct which is carbon neutral and covers the tenancy and base building electricity, waste, water and employee commute.

Gilbert + Tobin use Bibbulmun and Reflex carbon neutral office paper.

This assessment and Climate Active submission was prepared with the assistance of Pangolin Associates and these services are also carbon neutral.



## ELECTRICITY SUMMARY

Electricity was calculated using a market-based approach.

**TABLE 4: MARKET-BASED APPROACH SUMMARY**

Market-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Renewable %
Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated	0	0	0%
<b>Total non-grid electricity</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs)	1,076,565	0	69%
GreenPower	801,618	0	51%
Jurisdictional renewables	0	0	0%
Residual Electricity	-604,528	-648,707	-38%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	297,304	0	19%
<b>Total grid electricity</b>	<b>1,570,960</b>	<b>-648,707</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)</b>	<b>1,570,960</b>	<b>-648,707</b>	<b>138%</b>
Electricity renewables	2,175,488	0	
Residual Electricity	-604,528	-648,707	
<b>Exported on-site generated electricity</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
Emission Footprint (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)		0	
<b>Emission Footprint (tCO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>LRET renewables</b>			<b>18.93%</b>
<b>Voluntary Renewable Electricity</b>			<b>119.56%</b>
<b>Total renewables</b>			<b>138.48%</b>

**TABLE 5: LOCATION-BASED APPROACH SUMMARY**

Location-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)
NSW	1,095,984	986,386
Vic	338,428	368,886
WA	136,548	95,583
<b>Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)</b>	<b>1,570,960</b>	<b>1,450,856</b>
<b>Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Electricity Consumed</b>	<b>1,570,960</b>	<b>1,450,856</b>
<b>Emission Footprint (tCO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b>	<b>1,451</b>	<b>0</b>

## 4. CARBON OFFSETS

---

### OFFSETS STRATEGY

The details of offsets relating to this certification are the same as those in the [Gilbert + Tobin Organisation PDS](#).

## 5. USE OF TRADE MARK

---

TABLE 8: USE OF TRADEMARK

Description where trademark used	Logo type
Website <a href="http://gtlaw.com.au">gtlaw.com.au</a>	Certified service
Sustainability Reports	Certified service

## 6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

---

Not applicable.





---

# APPENDICES

# APPENDIX 1

## NON-ATTRIBUTABLE EMISSIONS FOR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

To be deemed attributable an emission must meet two of the five relevance criteria. Non-attributable emissions are detailed below against each of the five criteria.

TABLE 9: NON-ATTRIBUTABLE EMISSIONS

Non-quantification test					
Non-attributable emission	<i>The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions</i>	<i>The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.</i>	<i>Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.</i>	<i>The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.</i>	<i>The emissions are from outsourced activities previously undertaken within the organisation's boundary, or from outsourced activities typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable organisations.</i>

N/A



# APPENDIX 2

## NON-QUANTIFIED EMISSIONS FOR PRODUCTS/SERVICES

Please advise which of the reasons applies to each of your non-quantified emissions. You may add rows if required.

TABLE 10: NON-QUANTIFIED EMISSIONS

Non-quantification test				
Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	<i>Immaterial &lt;1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively</i>	<i>Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.</i>	<i>Data unavailable but uplift applied.  A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.</i>	<i>Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified</i>
Refrigerants	Yes	No	No	No

