

Clean Growth Action Plan - Plan on a page

This Action Plan sets out how we will achieve our fourth corporate priority – supporting clean growth – by growing our regional economy in an inclusive and sustainable way whilst also cutting greenhouse emissions, including carbon dioxide, and how we will lead the way as an organisation. It also outlines how we are responding to the climate emergency and how we will play a leading role in helping the region become net zero carbon by 2038 at the latest.

In 2018-2019, our corporate activities were responsible for emitting just over 600 tonnes of carbon dioxide. Over the past five years we have reduced our energy consumption by 34% - now we need to go further and faster to play our role in addressing the climate emergency.

Our clean growth principles:



1. **Reduce our energy and carbon emissions** – we will install efficiency measures, renewable energy sources and change the ways we work in our offices and bus stations.



2. **Minimise waste and water consumption** – we will phase out single use plastic, divert all redundant office equipment from landfill and encourage staff and customers to recycle even more.



3. **Tackle air quality and improve health** – we will replace our operational vans with electric alternatives, adopt a new sustainable travel policy and increase the number of pool bikes for staff.



4. **Use sustainable resources** – we will source all our energy from 100% renewable sources, use only eco-friendly cleaning products and ensure all paper is from sustainable sources.



5. **Enhance our natural environment** – we will integrate climate resilience into our work where possible and map out where new trees can be planted on our land by staff volunteers.



6. **Integrate clean growth decision making** – we will strengthen our Assurance Framework and other decision making processes in regards to climate impacts and develop a robust methodology for assessing future carbon emissions.



7. **Measure and report our performance** – we will create a Combined Authority Carbon Footprint, publish our performance annually and set year-on-year carbon reduction targets.

The difference we will make

Delivering on our clean growth principles will enable us to:

- Lead by example and reduce our environmental impacts, tackle the climate emergency and create clean growth.
- Ensure staff and members are fully aware of what clean growth means and what we plan to deliver.
- Help to save money by understanding the energy and natural resources we use and how to use them more efficiently.
- Establish short term actions for the next two years.