

The background image for the cover is a low-angle shot looking up at several tall trees with vibrant green leaves against a clear blue sky. The text "Carbon Reduction Plan 2026" is overlaid in a large, bold, blue, italicized font.

Carbon Reduction Plan 2026

Commitment

Business West has ***committed to achieving Net Zero carbon by 2030***. This report details our journey so far and how we plan to measure, manage, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, towards achieving the target.

Baseline and Current Emissions Footprint

2019-20 was set as our baseline reporting year. This was prior to the introduction of any strategies to reduce emissions. Baseline emissions are the reference point against which emissions reduction can be measured.

Baseline Year: 2019-20			2025-26	
Emissions	Total (tCO ₂ e)		Total (tCO ₂ e)	
Scope 1 LPG Natural gas Company owned vehicles	79.0		31.1	
Scope 2 Electricity EVs	location based market based	52.3 52.3	location based market based	31.2 0.1
Scope 3 Business travel Staff commuting Staff homeworking Waste Upstream transportation Water	location based market based	273.6 273.6	location based market based	146.6 143.4
Total:	*Location based **Market based	404.9 404.9	* Location based ** Market based	208.9 174.6

* Location-based electricity calculates emissions based on the emissions intensity of the local grid area where the electricity usage occurs

** Market-based electricity calculates emissions based on the electricity that organisations have chosen to purchase e.g. renewable energy

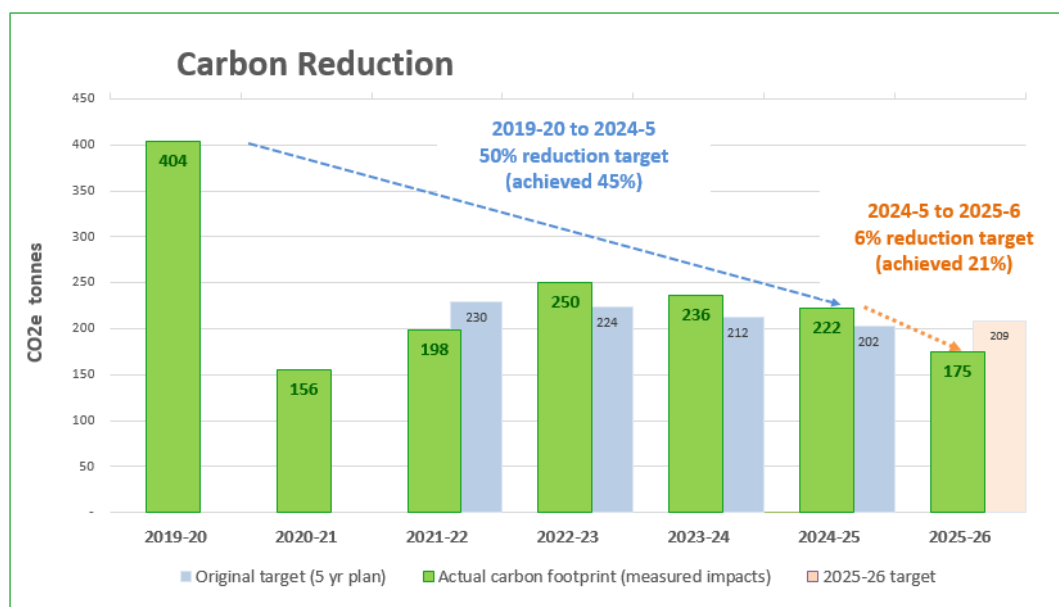
Downstream transportation - not applicable to our activities/services

We recognise that our carbon footprint calculation does not cover all our indirect scope 3 emissions. However, the emissions included are operational impacts and are where we have systems in place to measure. We estimate there will be significant additional emissions from all our other scope 3 categories. We will monitor this and consider carbon reduction initiatives where possible.

Emissions reduction targets

We set a 5 year plan from the baseline year, with a target of a 50% reduction from scope 1, 2, and our limited measured scope 3 emissions by the end of 2024-25. The actual reduction in our footprint measurement for 2025-2026 was 21%. This was due to a change to a more accurate method to measure waste disposal and changing our gas supply at Park House to carbon neutral Green Gas. Cumulatively, this represents a 66% reduction in emissions since 2019/20.

Due to the possible relocation of our head office, we have set a temporary annual reduction target of 6% going forward until our circumstances are known. During 2026/27, we will also review our carbon reduction objectives with the aim of finalising a new 5 year strategy.



Carbon reduction initiatives

Completed initiatives - The following environmental measures/projects have been completed since the baseline and will be in effect when delivering future contracts and services.

Energy

- Implemented zonal heating controls at the Leigh Court site
- Reductions in electricity consumption through LED bulb replacement
- Light sensors installed in communal areas
- We have switched to 100% renewable electricity, backed by the REGO scheme
- Switched to a Green gas supply at our Swindon site for heating

Travel

- Supported staff with the equipment and skills required to work from home/remotely
- Cycle to work scheme offered to staff
- Electric car charging points installed at both sites
- Provided a sustainable Hybrid Working session to all staff with information on reducing commuting emissions and reducing energy consumption

Waste

- Recycling stations established at both sites. These align with the “Simpler Recycling” guidelines to standardise and streamline waste collections
- Changed our waste contractor so we can now receive reports on volumes of waste and recalculate emissions from waste based on type and volume, instead of using spend data. This will realise carbon savings through our recycling initiatives

Staff

engagement

- Created a Climate & Environment group on our intranet
- Environmental Awareness course included in annual staff CPD programme
- Set up a Sustainability Champions Group with members from across the organisation, to enhance engagement and awareness
- We encourage staff to take time off to volunteer for activities that make a positive contribution to local communities. Tasks have included tree planting, litter picking and a beach clean

Supplier &

partner

engagement

- Introduced a Green Procurement Policy to reduce our supply chain’s environmental impact
- Reviewed our new supplier process to encourage carbon reduction and raise awareness
- Added carbon reduction and environmental performance to all new contracts with suppliers/partners

<i>Supporting the wider community</i>	• Launched a Trading to Net Zero Climate Hub on our website in January 2021, to share best practice and help to inspire businesses to take the journey to net zero • Signed up to the International Chambers of Commerce Chamber Climate Coalition • We are engaged with the Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership • Provided a series of carbon reduction related skills workshops to support local businesses • Provided office clients with a carbon report based on an estimated energy usage at Leigh Court • Developed and delivered carbon/energy audits for community organisations
<i>Ecological conservation</i>	• Developed an Ecological & Biodiversity management plan for Leigh Court • Involved in managing bee hives at Leigh court in conjunction with our beekeeper • Planted pollinator friendly plants around our sites • Provided seed planting sachets at both sites for staff to plant in their gardens
<i>Certification</i>	• Certified to ISO 14001:2015, B Corp certified

Current/future initiatives

- Commencing the digitalisation of our Export Documentation processes to minimise the use of paper
- Continue to develop engagement with suppliers to encourage carbon reduction throughout the supply chain
- Our government funded Local Skills Improvement Plan provides sustainability themed webinars/events and focus groups for businesses in the Southwest covering sustainability skills and needs
- Conduct a review of our carbon reduction strategy and publish new targets that reflect our change in status.

Declaration and Sign Off

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 006 and associated guidance and reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans.

Emissions have been reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate standard¹³ and uses the appropriate government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting.¹⁴

Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have been reported in accordance with SECR requirements (where required), and the required subset of Scope 3 emissions have been reported in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Standard.¹⁵

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the Executive Management Team.

Signed: 
Douglas Ure, Chief Executive

Date: 16th July 2026

¹³ <https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard>

¹⁴ www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting

¹⁵ <https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard>