

Fast Facts on Our net zero journey to 2030

Our current position

Our net zero 2030 goal is for our operational emissions within our regulatory boundary – essentially the electricity and fuels we use to move and treat water and waste water, the emissions from our transport fleet and the nitrous oxide and methane emissions from the treatment of (mainly) wastewater. These emissions are predominately scope 1 and 2 with some scope 3 elements. For these elements of our emissions, we have committed to reaching net zero carbon – not absolute zero carbon. There will be some elements of these emissions which we will be unlikely to be able to reduce to zero and will

need to offset by **'locking up' carbon in biomass (e.g., trees and wetlands)** to remove the carbon from the atmosphere that can't be reduced.

As part of our net zero strategy, we also committed to **reducing capital carbon by 70% by 2030** against our 2010 baseline. Capital carbon is the carbon 'locked up' in the materials we use to construct our assets – e.g., the concrete we are pouring. Therefore, we are not committing to achieving net zero for our construction programme.

It is the case that if we build more assets, we will consume more energy and there will be an increase in

the emissions associated with our operations. However, **we can reduce the carbon liability of this increase in consumption through the procurement of green electricity and low carbon fuels.** Therefore, we do not believe this would have a major impact on our ability to meet net zero.

70%
reduction in capital
carbon by 2030



Biomass
Locking up carbon in
trees and wetlands



Downgrading of our score by the Carbon Disclosure Project (2022)

One of the main reasons was because the ISO14064 full report was not downloaded onto the CDP website. We followed the same process as previous years in providing the ISO certificate, but this was not sufficient this time round. This was not picked up by the certified CDP reviewer and only identified post our challenge.

This has been rectified for the 2022/23 submission. Therefore, we understand the downgrade was a technical reason rather than performance related.

As part of our net zero strategy for the future we will:

Continue drive to reduce carbon and use it to foster innovation with all of our partners (cost and carbon)

Maximise the opportunities from our carbon resources as new markets open up (for example sustainable fuels and energy)

Reclaim valuable resources which are carbon intensive and valuable (like Phosphorus) as we are committed to a circular economy

Be active in realising opportunities from stacking nature and carbon-based benefits in new markets (like bio diversity and carbon)