



Environment and Energy Policy

2023/24

We're here to make a difference today to look after tomorrow. We'll do that whilst creating a railway which generates nationwide pride and prosperity, reconnecting the United Kingdom in the wake of COVID-19.

Despite the pandemic, we're committed to delivering what we set out to achieve as Avanti West Coast. Now more than ever, we believe our services will help with the post-pandemic recovery to create strong, vibrant and sustainable local economies in a way that is safe, accessible, efficient and resilient for all.

Staying on top of our footprint

In 2020, we published our strategy for sustainable development which is called Our Responsible Plan. One of the four pillars this strategy is built upon is a commitment to protect our planet. We'll tackle climate change head on. No more buy, use, throw; more reduce, reuse, recycle. Our goal is that by 2031, our business will be net zero carbon.

The urgency of environmental challenges continues to present a threat, and in some cases has been stressed even further by the pandemic. That's why we're working to improve the energy efficiency of our train services and buildings, in order to reduce the environmental impact in every area of our operation.

Every single one of us has a responsibility to deliver our Environment and Energy Policy. That's why we'll ensure we all have the necessary information to remain supported with relevant resources and equipped to achieve our environmental and energy performance targets. Our Green Champions up and down the West Coast Main Line play a vital role in spearheading this commitment.

Our 2026 environmental targets are:



To increase the carbon efficiency of our trains by 61% per vehicle km.



To reduce our estate energy consumption, including our stations and offices, by 23%.



To reduce our water consumption from our Avanti operated locations by 20%.



To maintain our Zero Waste to Landfill promise and improve our recycling rate to meet 80% including re-use and reduction strategies.

All targets are from a 2018/2019 baseline figure.

In the delivery of our services, we are committed to:

- **Sustainable travel:** Providing reliable, convenient and safe end-to-end travel solutions whilst working with our partners to drive modal shift towards low carbon transport.
- **Protecting and enhancing the environment:** We will work towards eliminating or preventing the pollution of water, air and land, nuisance and loss of biodiversity that could result from our business operations.
- **Transparency and collaboration:** We will work with our people, stakeholders and their specific interests and requirements to measure our environmental and energy performance. We will publish our objectives and targets and seek feedback on our progress from interested parties to help us improve and ensure we are focusing our efforts on our most material issues.
- **Compliance and best practice:** We will seek out best practice from all industries and adhere to our compliance obligations and relevant legislation in addition to maintaining our ISO 14001 and ISO 50001 standards.
- **Building climate resilience:** We will work with stakeholders to better understand and minimise the impact of extreme weather and climate change on both our business and our customers' journeys.
- **Maximising energy efficiency:** We will continually improve our energy performance by working with partners to ensure our new infrastructure projects and vehicle specifications are designed to maximise energy efficiency and improve our overall environmental performance.
- **Circular economy thinking:** We will seek to use environmentally sustainable and energy efficient goods, products and services by considering the environmental impacts across their whole lifecycle.
- **Continual improvement and review:** We will consider the environmental impact of what we do at the earliest stage of planning and continually improve our Environment and Energy Management System. We will review this policy annually to make sure it's consistent and appropriate with the nature and scale of our organisation, the activities and the environmental and energy impacts from our products and services.
- **Widespread communications:** We will communicate this policy within Avanti West Coast and make it available to interested parties.
- **Innovate and showcase:** We will be at the forefront of sustainable practices and we will look to showcase best practice and continue to push boundaries for sustainable travel.

Every one of our people, contractors and suppliers have their part to play by responsibly carrying out their duties to deliver Our Responsible Plan.

This environment and energy policy statement covers the whole of Avanti West Coast, and I am personally committed to this, as is every single one of my Executive team.



Andy Mellors,
Managing Director

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