

Visit Belfast Climate Action Plan 2024–2027

Our Commitment

Visit Belfast is committed to playing a leading role in supporting Belfast's ambition to become an inclusive, zero-emissions economy within a generation. Building on our *New Horizons 2024–27* strategy and our Sustainability Policy, we aim to reduce our organisational carbon footprint BY 10% by 31st March 2027.

Our Carbon Baseline

In 2024/25 financial year, Visit Belfast established our baseline organisational carbon footprint. Visit Belfast's total carbon emissions amounted to **176.83 tCO₂e**, broken down as follows:

- **Scope 1:** 28.89 tCO₂e (fuels from controlled sources) – 16%
- **Scope 2:** 18.87 tCO₂e (purchased electricity) – 11%
- **Scope 3:** 129.08 tCO₂e (business travel, commuting, homeworking, material use, and energy-related activities) – 73%

The 10% reduction target equates to a reduction of 17.68 tCO₂e by 31st March 2027.

Key Actions 2024–2027

1. Scope 1 – Reduce Direct Emissions

- Review higher efficiency options and improvements

2. Scope 2 – Decarbonise Electricity

- Increase energy efficiency through LED lighting upgrades on an ongoing basis as lights are replaced.
- Scoping the viability of renewable electricity for the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre and offices by 2027.
- Develop a staff campaign and briefing sessions on the importance of reducing electricity usage and increasing energy efficiency.

3. Scope 3 – Address Indirect Emissions

- **Business Travel:** Business travel is a significant element of scope 3 emissions (56 tCO₂e) but is an essential part of Visit Belfast's activities as the city's destination marketing and management organisation. Visit Belfast will closely monitor carbon emissions and work with travel management company on a plan to minimise carbon emissions on trips where possible and prioritise low carbon modes and airlines.
- **Commuting & Homeworking:** Visit Belfast has in place a flexible working policy and encourages staff to use sustainable commuting options.
- **Purchased Goods:** Visit Belfast will collaborate with suppliers to integrate sustainability criteria into procurement processes.

- **Waste:** Strengthen waste reduction, recycling, and circular economy initiatives across all offices and events aiming for a reduction of 10% by 2027.

Monitoring & Reporting

- Establish annual carbon reporting to track progress against targets.
- Publicly disclose performance and lessons learned through Visit Belfast's annual Sustainability performance and Impact Report.