

Environment Agency Sustainability Commitment Statement

eMission2030 is the Environment Agency's sustainability plan. This explains the priority actions we will take so we can deliver our EA2030 corporate strategy goals; healthy water, land and air supporting nature's recovery, sustainable growth and a nation resilient to climate change, in the most sustainable way possible. We will achieve this by focusing on 4 main sustainability commitments.

It builds on the commitment within our ISO14001 accredited Environmental Management System (EMS). The scope of our accreditation includes provision of guidance, advice, regulation and development of policies and strategies to protect and improve the environment and contribute towards the delivery of sustainable development through integrated management of air, land and water in England. We need to understand the risks and opportunities we face, and the impact we have on the environment and communities through others, such as our suppliers and customers. We will put the environment and communities at the heart of our decision making.

We will achieve this by:

Decarbonising our operations and increase organisational resilience to the changing climate

How we respond to the changing climate for our own operational activities means striving to achieve net zero carbon in our operations and supply chains. We also need to ensure we are resilient to the changing climate. We will reduce the amount of carbon we emit in line with the Paris Agreement to limit warming to 1.5°C. We will:

- build resilience to a 2°C warmer future and be prepared for a 4°C warmer future by adapting our work for the impacts of a changing climate
- reduce organisational emissions by 45% by 2030
- become a net zero organisation by 2045-50, in line with the Science Based Target Initiative (SBTi), aiming for a 90% reduction with no more than 10% offset

Our operational activities deliver social value

Our internal practices will support our work to deliver positive social outcomes and contribute to the wellbeing of the communities we interact with. We will:

- enhance our communities by optimising the use of our offices, land, projects and people and leaving no one behind
- protect people who work with us and for us by ensuring that the people we employ and those in our supply chain are paid a real living wage and are protected from modern slavery
- deliver and report on the wider social impact and benefits of our work

Our operational activities will deliver a contribution to nature recovery

Our operational delivery will contribute to halting the decline in nature and support recovery and improvement across our activities and supply chain. We will ensure our staff and contractors understand how to protect the environment and optimise improvements, and we will measure our contribution. We will:

- ensure our people understand what nature recovery means and how to deliver it through their work
- deliver improvements in the natural environment through our work, with priority given to nature-based solutions
- understand our nature footprint and ensure our supply chain contributes to nature improvement and recovery

Sustainably managing our resource use in line with circular economy principles

We will be sustainably managing our use of resources in line with planetary limits across our activities and supply chains. We will do this by understanding the whole-life sustainability impacts of our decisions, and using less, to contribute and promote a circular approach. We will:

- reduce our consumption and maximise the value of resources
- purchase products and materials that are the most socially and environmentally responsible throughout their lifecycle
- work with our people and suppliers to create a closed loop system by designing and prioritising products that can be re-used, repaired, disassembled and re-purposed

We will do this by:

- growing our skills, knowledge, capability and confidence in leadership, organisational understanding, behaviours and technical topics through delivery of the eMission Learning Programme
- sharing our learning and reporting transparently on our progress
- empowering people to take their own actions and try out innovative ideas to make both big and small changes and challenge unsustainable decisions and action
- driving innovation through our collaborations and partnerships
- continually improving our sustainability performance and ensuring compliance with legislation, ISO14001 and others
- monitoring, reviewing and learning, measuring our efficiency to build on positive behaviour, preventing pollution and creating a better place for people and wildlife

Philip Duffy – Chief Executive

Chief Alan Lovell – Chair