

# Safe and Happy Sustainable Future Strategy



This is an easy read version of the <u>Safe and Happy Sustainable Future</u> <u>Strategy.</u>

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# Introduction



This strategy explains how Valleys to Coast wants to reduce our effect on climate change.



**Climate** is the weather we expect to have every year. The planet is getting warmer. This is causing weather events like **floods** and **forest fires** to happen more often.



**Carbon dioxide**, or CO2, is a greenhouse gas that traps heat close to Earth. This is what makes the planet warmer.



# What does Valleys to Coast have to do with it?

We provide **houses** for people to live in. Things like

- heating your home,
- using electricity,

produce **carbon dioxide**.



We also have a big team of people working at Valleys to Coast. Things like

- driving to work,
- building houses,

also produce carbon dioxide.



Valleys to Coast wants to make sure that we are doing everything we can to help the planet. This means making sure that the houses we build and the way we work is as **sustainable** as possible.

**Sustainability** is making sure that we don't use too much of our resources such as petrol, sand, or water. This makes sure there is enough left for people in the future.

### **Our Vision**



Valleys to Coast wants to become **carbon neutral** by 2030.

Carbon neutral means that you remove the same amount of carbon dioxide as you release.

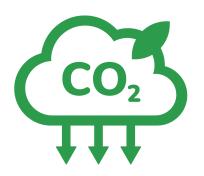


Things like **planting trees** can remove carbon dioxide, as trees take in carbon from the air and store it in the wood.

We will also **limit** how much carbon dioxide we release in the first place.

## **Our Plan**

Our plan to reduce our impact has four main points



1. Decarbonisation

Stopping or reducing the release of carbon dioxide.

This can be achieved by phasing out **fossil fuels** 

Fossil fuels include things like:

- petrol and diesel,
- coal



We will do this by:

Building homes that are **warm** to reduce the need to have the heating on all the time, which uses lots of energy.



#### 2. Biodiversity

We will increase biodiversity. Biodiversity is the variety of life in a place, including plants and animals.

We will do this by:

Planting trees and creating spaces where wildlife can thrive.

#### 3. Resource Efficiency

Resource efficiency means not creating any waste, everything is either **reused** or **recycled**.



Recycling is when you take something that would normally go in the bin, and turn it into something new.

We will do this by:

Making sure we reuse, recycle, repair and donate whatever we can.

#### 4. Climate Change Adaptation



This means **changing the way we act** and **how we live** to prepare for the effects of climate change. The effects of climate change could include more extreme weather such as floods.

#### We will do this by:

Working with customers to help them understand how they can reduce their impact at home.