

Sustainability Policy Statement

UK Power Networks is the UK's largest electricity distributor, building and maintaining critical infrastructure to deliver power to 8.4 million homes and businesses across London, the east and southeast of England. We are committed to keeping the lights on for our customers by delivering a safe and secure energy network whilst continuing to realise innovation and deliver an environmentally sustainable network.

The scope of our environmental management system covers the design, construction, operation, maintenance and repair of electricity distribution networks, embracing all of the support services for the operation as a distribution network operator.

Our Environmental Impact

We are committed to minimising the environmental impact of our operations, reducing our carbon emissions, and enhancing the local natural environment where practical. In maintaining our environmental management system (ISO14001), we are committed to ensuring legal compliance, preventing pollution, setting targets and objectives for RIIO-ED2, reporting on our progress and continuously improving our environmental and sustainability performance.

We will achieve our sustainability ambitions by delivering the four pillars of our Environmental Action Plan:

- Decarbonise in line with our verified Science Based Target (SBT)
 - Working with our supply chain on their emissions and embodied carbon
 - Tackling losses and SF6 leaks on the network, ensuring we play our part in decarbonising the grid
 - Modernising our transport vehicles and temporary generator fleet
 - Improving the energy efficiency in our sub stations, offices, and depots
- Reduce our impact on the world's limited resources
 - Applying the waste hierarchy to all our hazardous and non-hazardous waste streams
 - Developing a circular economy approach to identify opportunities to design out waste, non-renewable and hazardous materials and improve products in partnership with our supply chain
 - Manage our water consumption and reduce leaks
- Increase natural biodiversity
 - Increase biodiversity potential of new major substation developments
 - Improve the biodiversity opportunities at our existing sites
 - Embed the 'Biodiversity Net Gain' requirements into our operations
- Reduce pollution produced by our business operations and network activity
 - Improve poor air quality by reducing NOx emissions from our fleet and generators
 - Improve visual amenity through undergrounding cables in areas of outstanding natural beauty
 - Reduce fluid filled cable and transformer leaks

To support the delivery of our Environmental Action Plan we will focus on:

- A partnership approach: Work with our suppliers and contractors to improve our environmental and sustainability performance and ensure that best practice between all stakeholders is shared.
- Competency & Training: Ensure that all our staff are competent and receive training that is appropriate to their role.
- Communication & Awareness: Communicate this policy and our environmental aims to all relevant stakeholders, promoting environmental awareness throughout UK Power Networks.
- Measuring: Set objectives and targets to meet these policy aims, conduct audits, inspections, and investigations on a cyclical basis.
- Reporting: Regularly review the aims of this policy and on progress to date in meeting our targets and objectives outlined within our Environmental Action Plan.