

Decarbonisation Policy & Action Plan

Polisi a Chynllun Gweithredu Datgarboneiddio

Policy effective: October 2026 Review: October 2027

Business location: Ruthin, Denbighshire, North Wales

1. Our Commitment to Decarbonisation

Vale Groundworks & Construction Ltd is committed to reducing its environmental impact and supporting Wales's transition towards a low-carbon economy. As a family-run groundworks and construction business, we recognise that construction plant, vehicles, fuel, materials and waste contribute to greenhouse gas emissions.

We will pursue practical improvements through efficient equipment, better journey planning, responsible material use and monitoring. Decarbonisation is an ongoing process, and we will review our approach as the business develops.

2. Investment in Efficient Machinery

Planned Kubota U10-5 micro excavator

- Use an appropriately sized machine for restricted-access groundworks, trial pits, drainage investigations and percolation testing.
- Reduce reliance on hired plant and separate plant delivery journeys where feasible.
- Maintain the machine and monitor fuel use to evaluate actual benefits.

Planned Isuzu Gafter 3.5-tonne tipper with tool storage

- Use a modern Euro 6 vehicle to transport suitable materials, tools and equipment.
- Combine site visits, deliveries and collections where practical to avoid unnecessary trips.
- Plan loads and any towing in accordance with vehicle, licence and legal weight limits.

Both machines use diesel; lower emissions are an intended operational benefit, not a quantified saving already achieved. The investments remain subject to purchase and relevant approvals.

3. Transport and Fuel Efficiency

- Coordinate jobs geographically and combine journeys where practical.
- Source materials locally where suitable, available and commercially viable.
- Reduce unnecessary idling and maintain tyres, engines and machinery.
- Track fuel use and mileage to identify opportunities for improvement.

4. Sustainable Drainage and Groundworks

Our planned expansion into drainage investigations, percolation testing and ground investigations will help clients understand site conditions and consider appropriate drainage options. Where suitable and permitted, we will support assessment of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and natural infiltration methods. Recommendations will depend on testing, ground conditions and regulatory requirements.

5. Waste, Materials and Recycling

- Order quantities carefully to minimise unused materials.
- Reuse suitable excavated material where practical and legally permitted.
- Separate recyclable materials and use appropriately authorised waste carriers.
- Retain relevant waste transfer documentation and seek to minimise packaging.

6. Measuring Our Carbon Footprint

During 2027 we intend to establish an initial emissions baseline using available records. We will begin with direct fuel use and purchased electricity, and develop broader supply-chain reporting where practical.

Emission source	Evidence / monitoring
Plant and excavator diesel	Fuel receipts and usage records
Commercial vehicle fuel	Fuel purchases and mileage
Electricity	Utility invoices
Purchased materials	Supplier invoices
Waste and subcontract haulage	Waste notes, delivery and haulage records

7. Decarbonisation Action Plan 2026–2028

Action	Timing	Intended outcome
Invest in appropriately sized modern excavator	2026–2027	Reduce reliance on hired plant
Invest in Euro 6 tipper with tool storage	2026–2027	Improve transport planning
Record plant fuel and vehicle mileage	2027	Establish fuel use evidence
Establish an initial emissions baseline	2027	Identify significant emission sources
Review journey planning and local sourcing	Ongoing	Reduce avoidable transport
Improve reuse, recycling and waste records	Ongoing	Reduce waste and improve tracking
Set evidence-based reduction targets	End of 2027	Agree measurable future objectives
Review lower-emission equipment options	Annually	Identify practical alternatives
Review this policy and action plan	Annually	Track progress and update actions

8. Employee Awareness and Responsibilities

Management will oversee this policy and encourage employees and subcontractors to operate machinery efficiently, avoid unnecessary idling, plan journeys and segregate waste appropriately. Environmental awareness will be incorporated into working practices and future staff induction.

9. Long-Term Objectives

We aim to progressively reduce emissions per project by improving fuel efficiency, reducing unnecessary transport, increasing reuse and recycling, and considering lower-emission technology when practical. We support the wider ambition for a net-zero Wales, while recognising that credible targets require measured baseline data.

10. Review and Continuous Improvement

This policy will be reviewed annually, or earlier if our operations or environmental responsibilities change. Targets and reported achievements will be updated as evidence becomes available.

Vale Groundworks & Construction Ltd

Ruthin, Denbighshire, North Wales

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