

Case Study Climate change

United
Supply
Chain



 **United
Utilities**
Water for the North West



Overview

Climate change has been growing exponentially and there is an emerging consensus that we are on the brink of a climate emergency. As such, United Utilities has adopted the principles of Systems Thinking and developed a maturity matrix to assess our capabilities, priorities and define the company's ambition for the future.

Approach

We have articulated our ambition through a set of statements in four themes:

- Vision and visibility
- Ambition and commitment
- Demonstrating action
- Beyond here and now

Within each pillar we have specified what must be done to achieve our maturity ambition profile. The policy pillars demonstrate the breadth of our approach to carbon management and from the basis of our new climate change mitigation strategy

These activities include:

- Enhancing our climate related disclosure and incorporating carbon in our investment appraisal and decision-making
- Land management practices to increase natural capital
- Innovating in respect to processes, culture and technology, both within our operations and with our partners and suppliers

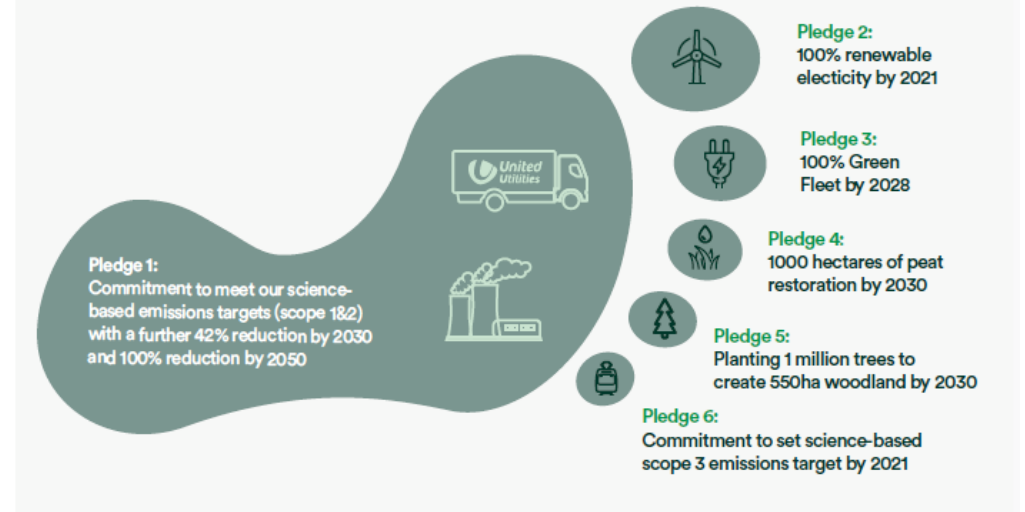
Results

We recently published six carbon pledges which we'll deliver through our new climate change mitigation strategy. These pledges include four specific commitments which will reduce scope 1 and 2 emissions within our control. However, we aim to go further than the reporting boundary and want to influence our scope 3 emissions – **the emissions in our supply chain**.

We do report three categories of scope 3 emissions but have not changed which categories since defining them over 10 years ago so it is unlikely that these meet the GHG protocol principles of relevance, completeness, consistency, transparency, and accuracy.

We have therefore made a commitment to review our scope 3 emissions and set a science based target for a revised boundary.

Our pledges to reduce our carbon footprint



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Outcome

To meet our emission targets, particularly our scope 3 emissions, we will require collaboration with our suppliers to measure, manage, and reduce the greenhouse gases emitted in their provision of goods or services. By signing up to become a signatory of the United Utilities Responsible Sourcing, we can work together to reduce these emissions, share best practice amongst the supply chain and working in partnership with our suppliers, we can accomplish more together to deliver positive outcomes.

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