



Net Zero & Biodiversity Strategy

2020-2030



Taking **Waste, Energy and Environment** Further

As one of Wales's largest total waste management companies, we strive to become an industry leader in achieving net zero in Wales.

STRATEGY 2020-30



As Wales faces a wide array of economic, social, environmental, and cultural challenges public bodies and businesses must work together to achieve the aims set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act. Before the act passed into law in 2015, GD was already implementing initiatives in line with the 7 well-being goals.

GD

Emission Reduction Target



Emission Reduction

We are in a data-gathering and trial phase to help us set emission-based reduction targets in alignment with limiting global temperatures below 2 degrees. Last year we recorded that GD produced 2,853,019.10 kgCO₂e. We aim to reduce our energy consumption for our largest emitting plants and invest in new vehicles to help aid this reduction.

As of 2022, GD switched to a complete green energy contract with British Gas. This is a commitment in which we will continue with to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels for our sites.

In 2023 alone we purchased 15 new EURO 6 HGVs across our fleet. This massive capital investment stresses the importance that we place on reducing our fuel consumption to aid us in reducing the amount of carbon intensity our operations have.

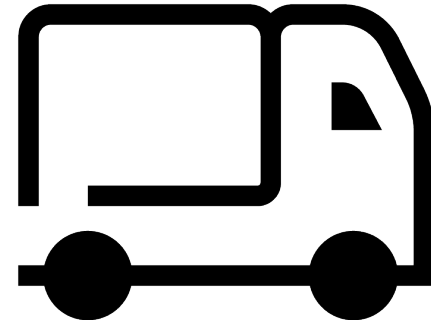
In 2024 we invested in over £800,000 to upgrade our fleet of tankers which service our drainage and liquid waste disposal services across South Wales and the South West. We can now boast that our entire fleet is EURO 6 spec.

We have explored electric and HVO options for our fleet but have found unreliability for service and integrity of fuel source respectively. We continue to research and trial new technology to improve efficiency and sustainability.

Targets

Reduce total carbon emissions by

- 15% by 2025
- 30% by 2028
- 50% by 2030



GD

Transition to Renewable Energy



Renewable Energy

GD is prioritising the transition to renewable energy sources such as solar and biomass for all our operations.

In 2012, we invested £70,000 for our first 20 KWP system at the operational head office in Nash.

Since 2018 we have invested £1M in the installation and operation of 5 x 500 KWP biomass boilers to heat our industrial units across Newport. We burn grade A clean wood chips at our sites to ensure a more carbon-positive heating method.

As of July 2022, we embarked on a massive solar PV installation project across three of our sites, installing over 200 KWP PV system. 60 KWP went on the roof of our liquid and hazardous waste treatment plant, supporting our drive to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels whilst delivery a responsible waste management service.

In 2026, we plan to spend circa £50,000-£100,000 on installing a 100 KWP system at our waste transfer station. Our material recycling facility is currently run off mains electric currently consuming around 7,000-10,000 kWh p/m. We aim to bring this figure right down.

Targets

Spend

- 0.5% of company turnover on solar projects in 2025-26
- 0.75% in 2028-29
- 1% in 2031-32





Taking Waste Further

Sustainability is integrated into our day-to-day operations, meaning we offer customers a truly holistic service package. It is part of the GD culture because we want to contribute to a better future.



GD

Biodiversity



Offsetting & Biodiversity

We've been offsetting our footprint over the last 25 years with the planting of over 150 acres of trees in South Wales. In the next 10 years we plan to double this.

In 2023/24, we invested £60,000 for a woodland creation scheme in Newport. The investment went to the planting and maintenance of over 40 acres of new woodland.

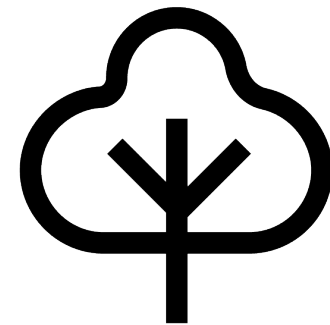
Heading into autumn 2023 we planted and managed a 3,000-square-meter wildflower/grass meadow to help improve biodiversity in the Newport area. We engaged with the Monmouthshire Meadows Society for proper advice and management. This was our first trial of a hands-on approach to promoting habitat restoration and meadow creation. We have now left this area of ground to flourish on its own with the occasional survey.

In 2025, we've engaged with HW Forestry, Carmarthen to scope the potential for the planting of another 40 acres in the same area. Planning for this project is due to go in by middle of 2025 ready for 2026 winter planting.

Targets

Area of woodland and meadow creation

- 40 acres by 2026
- 40 acres by 2028
- 40 acres by 2030



GD

Waste



Waste & Recycling

Our strategy focuses on minimizing waste generation and maximizing recycling efforts. We have implemented a long-term waste reduction and recycling plan, which involves working towards a 100% landfill diversion. As of 2023, we successfully recovered and recycled 96% of all waste that comes to our site, with only approximately 4% of waste going to landfill. This impressive achievement underscores our dedication to reducing the environmental impact of our operations.

To further enhance our waste management practices, we have invested in advanced technologies and infrastructure to support efficient waste sorting and processing. The company actively promotes sustainable waste management practices among its employees and customers, fostering a culture of environmental responsibility.

Our commitment to continuous improvement is evident in the ongoing efforts to innovate and adapt waste management strategies. By leveraging advancements in technology and knowledge, GD aims to enhance its sustainability initiatives and contribute to the global effort to combat climate change.

Targets

Achieve

- 98% landfill diversion by 2025
- 99% landfill diversion by 2027
- 100% landfill diversion by 2030



GD

Water Usage



Water Usage

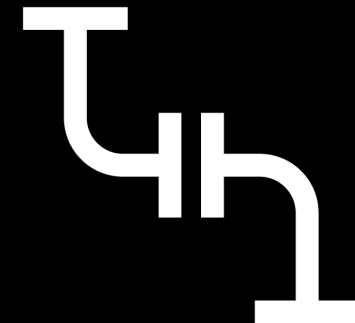
At our liquid waste treatment facility in Newport, we employ state-of-the-art equipment to process contaminated water, whether collected from our services or generated as a byproduct of our soil reclamation process.

In addition to processing and recycling contaminated water, we have integrated a rainwater harvesting system into our wash plant. This system efficiently captures and repurposes rainwater for use in our Flex Line Tankers during cleaning and jetting operations. This innovative approach significantly reduces our reliance on mains water, thereby alleviating the demand on Welsh Water and minimizing our overall water consumption.

Targets

Reduction in consumption

- 25% by 2026
- 45% by 2028
- 70% by 2030





Commitment

Leading the Way to a Sustainable Future: Net Zero and Biodiversity at the Heart of GD Environmental Services

At GD Environmental Services Limited, we are deeply committed to achieving net zero emissions and promoting biodiversity. As one of Wales's largest total waste management companies, we strive to lead the industry in environmental stewardship. By fostering a culture of environmental responsibility among employees and the community, we are actively contributing to the global effort to combat climate change and protect natural ecosystems for future generations.



Sustainable Transportation

Driving Change: Healthier Commutes, Greener Future

We actively promote and encourage the use of sustainable travel options for our staff. We have been enrolled in the cycle-to-work scheme for several years, which supports our employees in choosing healthier and more environmentally friendly commuting options.

Recently, we enrolled in the EV salary sacrifice scheme, encouraging our employees to opt for electric vehicles (EVs). To support this transition, we have installed an EV charging port at our head offices, powered by solar PV, ensuring that our sustainable travel initiatives are backed by clean energy.

Our commitment to sustainable transportation is exemplified by our leadership team, including the Managing Director, Operations & Sustainability Manager, and Transport Coordinator, all of whom drive hybrid or EV cars. By integrating these practices, we aim to reduce our carbon footprint and promote a greener future for all.





Sustainable Schools Initiative

Empowering Youth for a Greener Tomorrow

The Sustainable Schools Initiative (SSI) in Newport is a program designed to educate and engage students in environmental sustainability practices. GD provides education and training programs for local school children to raise awareness of climate change and encourage sustainable practices.

By participating in SSI, schools aim to instill sustainable habits in students, encouraging them to take active roles in protecting the environment and promoting a more sustainable future.



**Waste is only
Waste if you
Waste it**

Part of

MDW

GD
ENVIRONMENTAL