the green print

Sustainability Strategy



WHYTE & MACKAY



The Green Print

our plan for a sustainable future

the green print

Sustainability Strategy

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our changing world

Climate change is the long-term shift in global or regional climate patterns. It is now accepted that significant climate change is occurring and is due to human activities.

Modelling has shown that the emission of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, is responsible for climate change and is indicating temperatures could rise by 1.5˚C – 3˚C by the end of this century. These changes will cause a significant disruption to life, resulting in the extinction of many species, the displacement of populations and challenges to food production.

As a result, Governments have worked together and have set goals for net zero emissions. The UK and Scottish Governments have set ambitious targets of Net Zero emissions by 2050 and by 2045 respectively.

The Executive of Whyte and Mackay have been early adopters of setting goals, with the core focus being to become Carbon Neutral by the end of 2030. This has been extended to include targets for responsible packaging and water conservation. This document builds on these goals and establishes a pathway to achieve them.







brief history of action on climate change

1960 Curve developed by Charles David Keeling begins to track atmospheric CO2 concentrations. in 1960 they stood at 315ppm

1990 1st Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report

1997 Kyoto Protocol is created with the intent to reduce greenhouse gas emissions globally

2008 UK Climate Act is passed, setting a reduction of 80% of emissions by 2050

2015 Paris Climate Agreement is signed by 107 countries - 1st global pact to call for emission pledges from both developed and developing countries

2016 UK first country to declare climate emergency

2019 Scottish Government announces Net Zero emissions target by 2045

2019 UK government announces Net Zero emissions target by 2050

2020 Paris Agreement takes effects

2022 UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) held in Glasgow, Scotland

2023 6th IPCC issued declaring 2023 warmest year on record

2024 Atmospheric CO2 stands at 420ppm

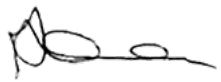
a message from our CEO

As whisky makers, we are proud custodians of a great Scottish tradition that dates back hundreds of years...

Scotch whisky is made from only three raw materials: water, cereals, and yeast, and is very much a product of our natural environment. For this reason, as whisky makers, the environmental impact of what we make, and what we do, has been - and will always be - fundamental.

Our 5 distilleries across Scotland each occupy beautiful and unique natural environments that give our whiskies their distinctive identities. Protecting these environments is not only the right thing to do but also protects our future as whisky makers delivering award-winning spirits to consumers across the globe.

Putting sustainability at the centre of our strategic priorities, we created the Green Print, the living embodiment of our commitment to a sustainable future for whisky making. Through this commitment we protect the future of this proud Scottish Tradition, and the future of the local communities that make it.



Michael Sloan
CEO

“The environmental impact of what we make, and what we do, has been - and will always be - fundamental.”



our commitments

Our vision at Whyte and Mackay is to be a driving force in whisky, renowned for building brands that stand out. With that in mind, we developed our company values, which detail how we will deliver our vision.

Our vision and values have driven the thinking behind our sustainability strategy, which is aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Through The Green Print, we have set out our strategic priorities and commitments for a sustainable future for whisky-making, and the steps we will take as a business to ensure that future becomes reality.

RESPECT

GROW

BE OUR BEST

PRIDE

THINKING AHEAD

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



our strategic priorities

01 – Energy
We will be carbon neutral by 2030 within our own operations.

02 – Water
We will protect our water sources and ensure responsible consumption.

03 – Agriculture and Biodiversity
We will make a positive impact on our environment.

04 – Packaging
We will adopt a sustainable packaging framework.

05 – Waste
We will work to minimise our waste.

06 – Community
We will work to engage our community with sustainability.



our strategy

energy

our promise

We are committed to being Carbon Neutral within our own operations by 2030 (scopes 1 and 2), leading to a Net Zero future across our operations and supply chain by 2040.



our strategy

energy

how will we do it?

Energy consumption in distilling is our largest source of emissions, accounting for 96% of our direct CO2 emissions. Our journey to a greener future will include new and progressive technologies. We are beginning this journey by switching from conventional fossil fuels to green alternatives.

We are exploring the development and use of greener technologies. We will continue to embed green thinking into our everyday business practices and, into our financial and project planning. We aim to be a leader in our sector. We will work with our upstream and downstream partners and collaborate with other forward-thinking partners to ensure a brighter future for our planet.

objectives	target date
We will be carbon neutral in our own operations (scope 1&2)	**2030**
Our on-site operational transport will emit zero carbon. (Where technology/infrastructure doesn't allow, we will adopt high-grade carbon offsets)	**2030**
We will work with suppliers to reduce indirect emissions (scope 3) by 40% against 2019 base year.	**2035**
We will be verified net zero in our own operations (scope 1 & 2) and our supply chain (scope 3)	**2040**

our strategy

water

our promise

We are committed to protecting our water sources and only consuming what is necessary, without adversely affecting our communities and ecosystems.



our strategy

water

how will we do it?

We are committed to responsibly managing our water basins to ensure water availability and water purity. Our role in water stewardship will reach beyond our boundaries.

We will work to better understand where our water is used, so we can reduce consumption and follow best practice in our industry.

objectives	target date
We will protect our water sources, to ensure water availability for our neighbours and ourselves	2028
We will reduce our water usage to be in line with industry goals	2030
We will return our discharge water as good as found	2035

our strategy

agriculture and biodiversity

our promise

We are committed to providing positive improvements to our environment that support flourishing ecosystems.



our strategy

agriculture and biodiversity

how will we do it?

Cereal production is at the heart of the whisky industry. We will support Scottish farming and continue expanding our Grow Scotland initiative – championing Scottish farming.

We will maintain, and where necessary restore environments to a thriving level, with increased biodiversity and provision of habitats for native flora and fauna species.

We recognise the crucial role peatlands play in our ecosystems and will support peatland restoration by collaborating with key partners.

objectives	target date
We will build partnerships to restore, protect and manage Scottish peatland	2030
We will work with partners in our agricultural supply chain to improve environmental performance	2030
We will continue to invest in and support local biodiversity projects	2030
We will continue the expansion of our Grow Scotland initiative	2030
We will work with key partners to build a Sustainable Cask Traceability program	2030

our strategy

packaging

our promise

We are committed to sustainable packaging for our products.



our strategy

packaging

how will we do it?

We will ensure sustainability is embedded into our packaging design. We are transitioning to sustainable materials and reducing weight and complexity in our packaging. Our key focus is on the recyclability of materials.

We will continue working with suppliers to find new materials and innovative designs.

objectives	target date
We will design our new packaging to be recyclable or reusable within our mainstream expressions	2030
We will ensure packaging will include a minimum of 35% recycled content by weight within our mainstream expressions	2030

our strategy

waste

our promise

We are committed to maintaining our zero waste to landfill status in our own operations and will continue to follow the principles of remove, reduce, reuse, repurpose and recycle.



our strategy

waste

how will we do it?

Waste is not just the rubbish that goes into bins, it's also the steam emitted from our buildings, the water and spent grain from our processes.

We will find novel ways to reduce and remove waste from our operations, and reuse what is created. We are committed to building a more circular model of business.

objectives	target date
We are committed to working towards zero waste to landfill in all our own operations	2025
We are committed to moving away from traditional by-product (waste) model to a co-product (reusable) model for all our processes.	2030

our strategy

community

We have operated in the heart of our communities for centuries, they are the foundation of our business, and we committed to ensuring they thrive. Our community is our workforce, our suppliers and our local communities.

We are committed to building partnerships across our communities to generate long-term collective action.

We are working with our internal Whyte and Mackay community to increase training on green matters.

We are strengthening established relationships and fostering new partnerships across our supply chain to champion green ways of working and implement new thinking.

We are working on community projects near to our sites to improve the local environment.



governance

We will deliver our Green Print strategy using a structured approach, monitoring and reporting on our progress. We will update it as new technologies and challenges develop.

This version was published in 2025 and was correct at time of print.





want to learn more?

You can follow our sustainability journey and keep up to date through the news section on our company website, or by following us on social media:

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linkedin.com/company/whyte-&-mackay

contact us

If you have any questions about this document, please contact our sustainability team at:

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