



# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

## YEAR 1 PROGRESS UPDATE

ACT NOW FOR THE  
**TEAM OF  
TOMORROW**



# YEAR 1 PROGRESS UPDATE

**High-performance sport has a unique platform from which to power positive, meaningful and lasting change for people and the planet.**

In March 2023 we published our first Environmental Sustainability Strategy with a vision to accelerate the progress of high-performance sport in addressing our collective environmental impact.

We have a long term goal for British Olympic and Paralympic sport, and Major Events, to have a **net positive impact on the environment by 2040.**

There are many unknowns as we work towards achieving this goal and this two-year strategy was designed to lay strong foundations. We will be refocusing some of the actions as we now have a clearer understanding of what is required, what has worked well so far and what could be approached differently.

**Here are some highlights of progress we have made in the last year.**



2036

2034

# 01 RESHAPE OUR OPERATIONS

We will reduce the negative impact of our own activities and operations, targeting net zero for Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions (within our organisational footprint boundary) by 2030.

## PROCUREMENT

We are implementing an **EDI and Sustainability Procurement Guide**, to leverage our buying power to drive improved practices within the supply chain.

All of our suppliers are required to complete an EDI and Sustainability questionnaire and all tenders above £30k include criteria weighted at 10% for sustainability and 10% for EDI.

EDI and Sustainability Procurement Guide



## MEASUREMENT, MONITORING & REDUCTION

We have calculated and published our **organisational footprint** including Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions for the last two years, and are working on improving data quality.

A **13% reduction in emissions** has taken place from 2021/22 to 2022/23, from 1,626 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e to 1,420 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e.

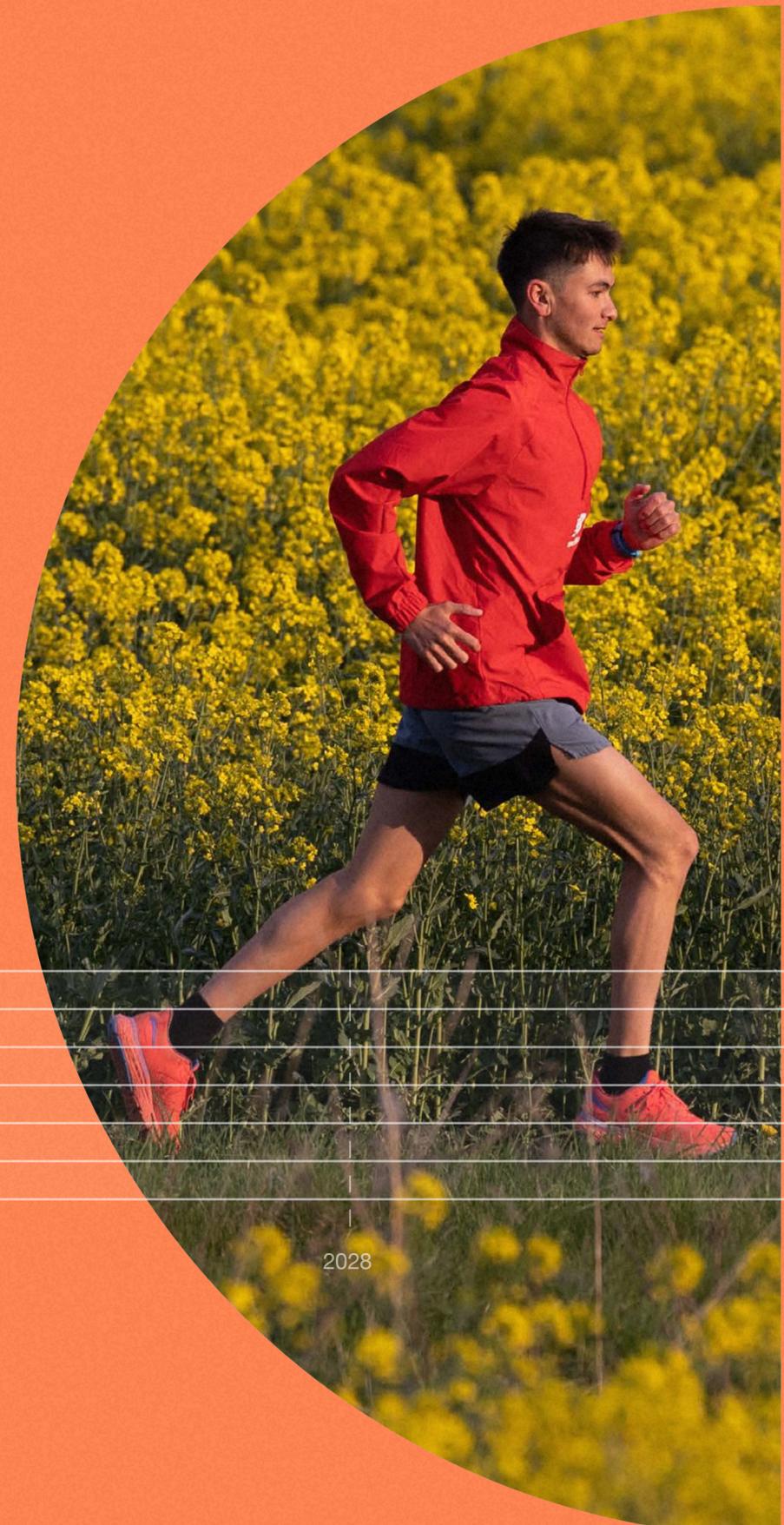
View Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions reports



## POLICIES

Our travel and subsistence policy has been updated to include a **sustainable travel hierarchy** and restrict domestic flights.

We now need to make sure this is enforced, as well as assess and update other relevant policies.



2028

# 02 SUPPORT THE CHANGE

We will support our people, partners and sector to embed sustainable decision making and practices, and to share knowledge and skills, exemplifying all that we ask of others.

## GOVERNANCE

We have established a cross-organisational **Environmental Sustainability Steering Group** and included environmental sustainability in the corporate risk register.

Our next steps are to really focus on considering contemporary and emergent risks, opportunities and challenges, making sure that our Board and Directors are stretching thinking and checking that we are moving at the right pace.

## PARTNERSHIPS

We have worked to provide leadership, coordination and strategic direction to support the sector's efforts by actively participating in the **Sport Environment Climate Coalition** and supporting other high performance sporting organisations.

Through sharing of ideas and expertise, we are complementing and amplifying each other's activity.

## LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

In the last 12 months we have provided learning opportunities in various aspects of sustainability for our own staff, partners and NGBs. Subject specific webinars have included:

- Performance, Partnerships and Planet: How Environmental Issues are Impacting Sport's Core Business
- Building Climate Resilience in Sport
- Show and Tell – Sport Climbing
- Communicating an Environmental Sustainability Strategy
- Optimising Sustainable Nutrition Practices
- Sponsorship with Purpose – A Brand Perspective

We have supported the roll-out of sports-specific **Carbon Literacy training** leading to 65 UK Sport staff (37%) and 44 colleagues across the wider sector becoming certified as Carbon Literate.



# 02

# SUPPORT THE CHANGE CONTINUED

## MAJOR EVENTS

We have mandated in our investment application process that Pinnacle events must include environmental sustainability plans, and are working on engaging with host cities and venues.

Two major events, Para Swimming World Championships and Canoe Slalom World Championships have trialed an **online platform to measure their full environmental impact** and make appropriate interventions.

Other major events have worked towards sustainability certifications provided by their international federations e.g. the World Athletics Indoor Championships that took place in Glasgow in March 2023 achieving Platinum accreditation.

[View environmental impact reports](#)

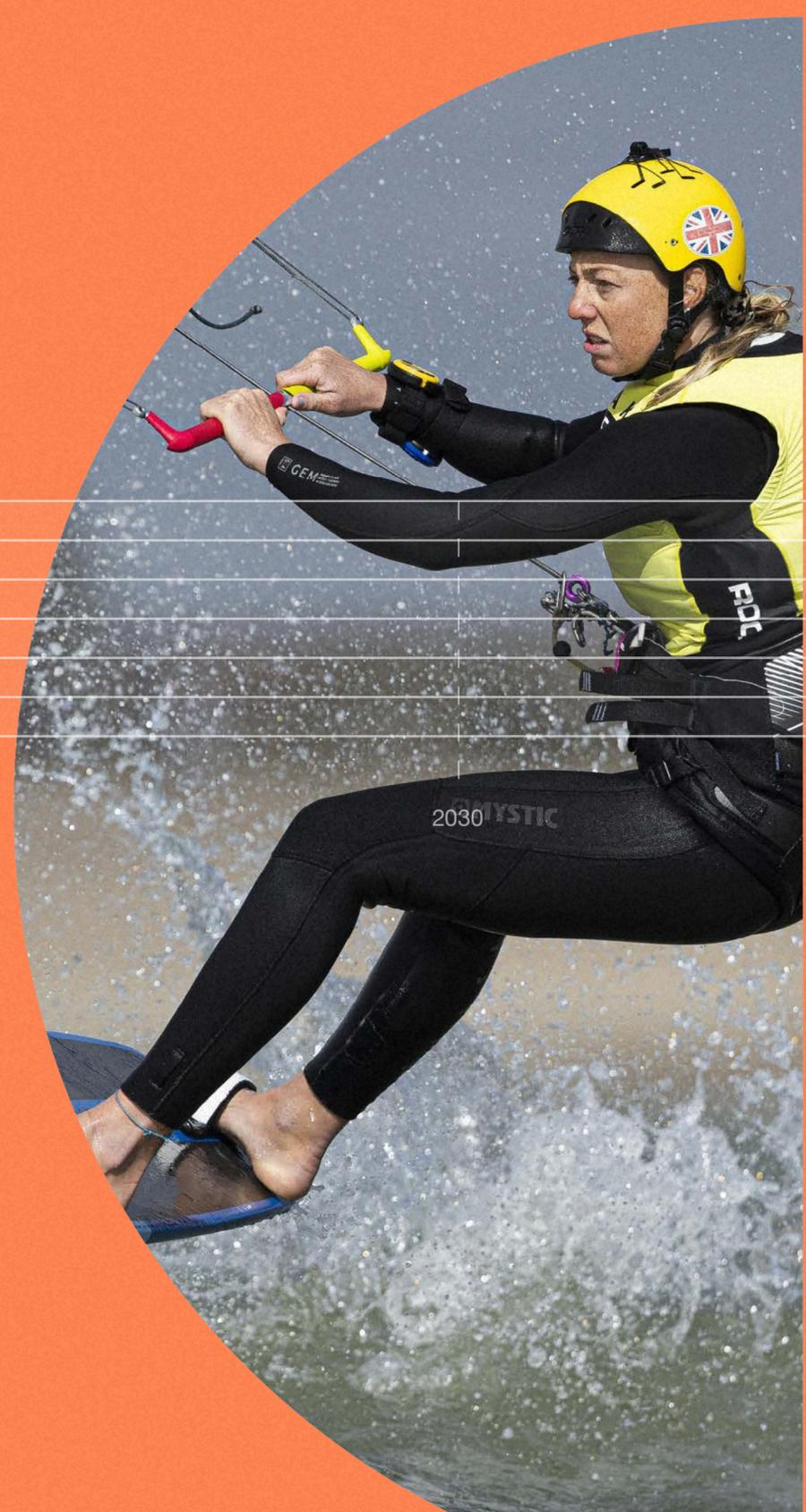


## NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES

Six NGBs we invest in (15%) have published environmental sustainability plans.

We have launched the **Accelerator sustainability programme** to support all NGBs in measuring their emissions, producing environmental sustainability action plans, building capacity, working collectively to take action and to try innovative approaches. 31 NGBs are currently participating in 6 clusters, with 2 further clusters planned.

We have worked with the British Olympic Association and the British Paralympic Association to provide Climate 101 masterclasses for athletes, with 80 attendees across the five sessions delivered.



# 03 POWER PROGRESS

We will use our voice, influence and platform to advocate for a thriving sporting system that takes action on environmental sustainability.

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

UK Sport is core member of the **Sport Sustainability Working Group**, set up as a result of environmental sustainability actions being included for the first time in DCMS's Get Active strategy.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Sustainability is **one of the four priority areas** for International Relations Investment Strategies (IRIS).

We will be supporting NGBs who want to take action in this space at an international level to have the maximum impact they can.

## COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

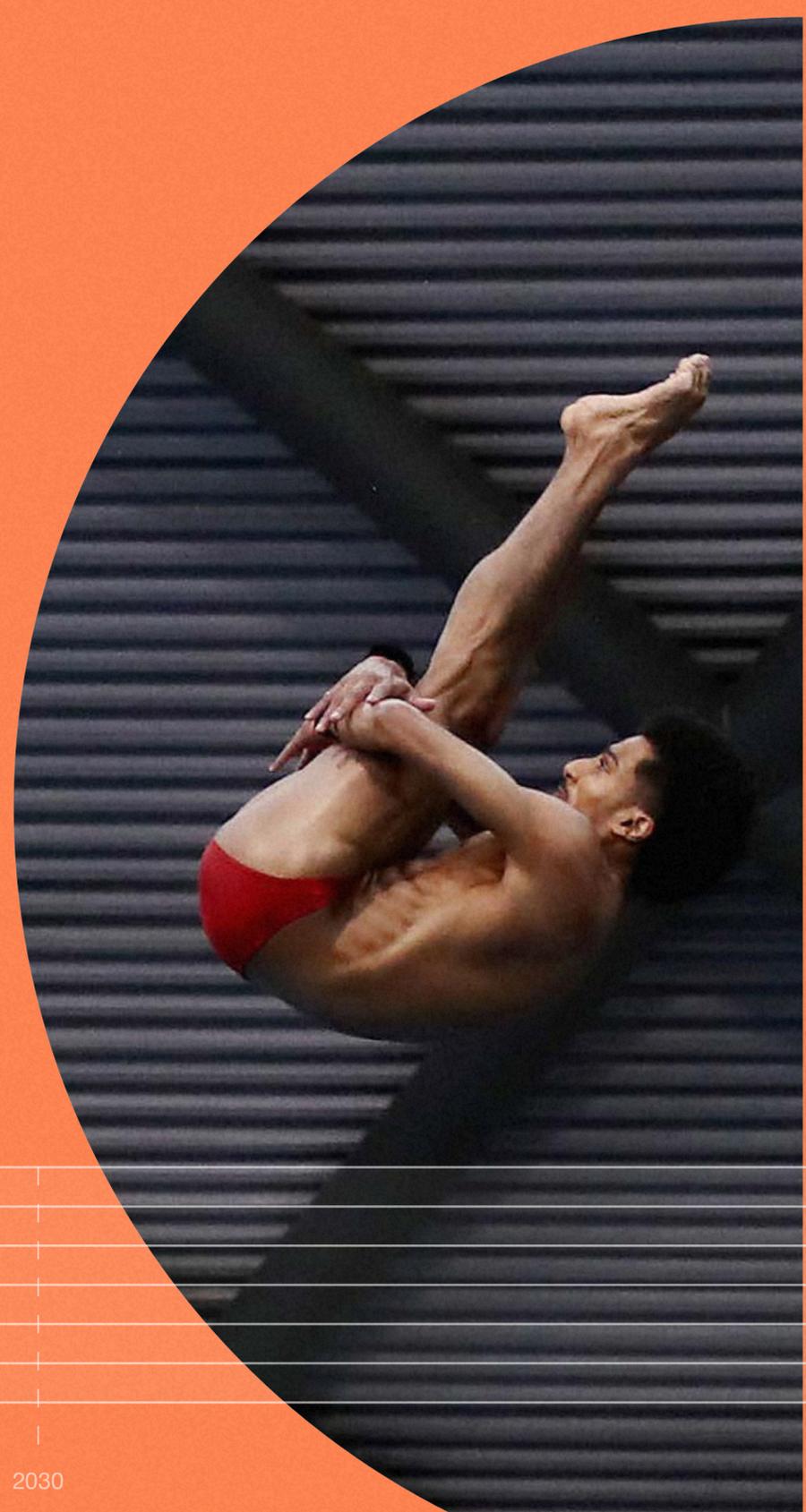
Our webinar to support the launch of the Environmental Sustainability strategy was well attended by NGBs and partners.

Our most recent NGB survey data shows that 100% of respondents understand why UK Sport has a role to play in corralling the high performance sport community to take action and 60% understand their role and how they can take action.

We will add a specific question to our next Stakeholder Perception Survey to further gauge understanding.

The **'ChangeMaker' initiative**, a partnership between The National Lottery's operator, Allwyn, Team GB, ParalympicsGB and UK Sport, aims to help athletes maximise their impact upon their return from the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games and give back to the communities that have supported them.

The initiative will matchmake athletes to causes that reflect their passions – which may include environmental programmes – and provide them with support to ensure that they can use their voice to make a difference.



2026

2028

2030

Get in touch with any questions, comments or progress updates:  
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