



GREEN GEORDIES

HANWELL TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB'S SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY



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FOOTBALL FOR FUTURE

INTRODUCTION

WE ARE HANWELL TOWN FC.

Founded in 1920 by a group of Geordies working in the local area.

We still play in the original black and white stripes, currently in the 8th tier of English football, at the Powerday Stadium in Ealing, London.

While we chase success on the pitch, we are always looking for ways to improve off of it.

We're a proud community club with a family-friendly atmosphere, and the largest youth football set up in the London Borough of Ealing. We're not a business, we're a club, run by volunteers out of love and dedication.

Today is **EARTH DAY 2021**, and we're launching this strategy to show what we are doing to become a sustainable football club. Never has it been a more urgent time to take action for our planet.

Our strategy involves some of the most ambitious environmental goals in football, including a commitment to **net zero carbon by 2030**.

It's an unmatched opportunity for us to grow, innovate and inspire others.

While the actions that we take are important, it's football as a whole that has the power to inspire real change.

We're calling on football to do more to make the world more sustainable.

This represents just the start of our sustainability journey. There is much more to do and we won't get everything right. But we need to start the journey now.

Join us!

BOB FISHER; CHAIRMAN

NIGEL HUNT; CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DAVID IDDIOLS; CLUB PRESIDENT

ELSA JONES; HEAD OF MARKETING

STEVE POUND; CLUB PATRON

THOM RAWSON; CHIEF SUSTAINABILITY OFFICER



Nigel Hunt, CEO with Bob Fisher, Chairman.



Elsa Jones, Head of Marketing.



Thom Rawson, Chief Sustainability Officer.



01 WE ARE NET ZERO FC

GOAL 01: WE'LL BECOME A NET ZERO CARBON FOOTBALL CLUB BY 2030

The science is clear: the world must reach net zero carbon emissions well before 2050, in order to avoid a climate change disaster.

As a football club, climate change is one of the most important issues we face, because extreme weather conditions can disrupt our ability to play.

However, a football club's activities, including operations and travel, cause carbon emissions and therefore contribute to the problem.

We want to understand our carbon footprint, reduce it as much as possible and offset what we can't reduce, in order to become a net zero football club.

We also want to play a leading role in the decarbonisation of football as a whole.

THAT'S WHY WE'RE NET ZERO FC.



Alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals

01 WE ARE NET ZERO FC

SPORTS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

We're a signatory of the UN Sports for Climate Action framework and were the second club in London, after only Arsenal, to sign up.

We want to use our platform to promote environmental responsibility, educate for climate action and show that clubs of all sizes can take climate action and believe that football can do much more to act on climate change.



LOW-CARBON OPERATIONS

Our operations, including our buildings, facilities and floodlights, all use energy.

We've already replaced our lighting with LEDs and installed automatic sensors, and we'll be upgrading our floodlights to LED too.

We're also looking at options for a clean energy supply and low-carbon heating.

LOW-CARBON PRODUCTS

Everything we buy and sell creates carbon emissions. We will work to understand the carbon impact of our products and make improvements wherever we can.

For example, we know that reducing meat consumption is good for the environment. Therefore, we will ensure vegetarian and plant-based options are available on our matchday menu.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Public transport is part of the history of Hanwell Town: we were founded in 1920 by a group of infrastructure workers from Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

We're well served by tube, bus and rail, and we've just installed a bicycle rack to make it easier to cycle to the ground.

We'll be doing even more to encourage our teams and supporters to make sustainable travel choices.

CLIMATE RESILIENT PITCH

Climate change makes extreme weather conditions worse, increasing the likelihood of cancelled games.

In 2018, we upgraded our pitch drainage and irrigation systems to make it more resilient to weather extremes.



02 WE ARE CIRCULAR FC

GOAL 02: WE'LL ELIMINATE SINGLE-USE PLASTICS AND SEND ZERO WASTE TO LANDFILL BY 2023

We're using up our planet's resources and filling the oceans with plastic. If this is to change, we must reimagine how we buy, use and throw away.

Sharing our resources and making things last are inherent to how we operate as a grassroots football club.

But we still create too much waste, especially on match days, and don't think enough about what will happen to things once we've finished with them.

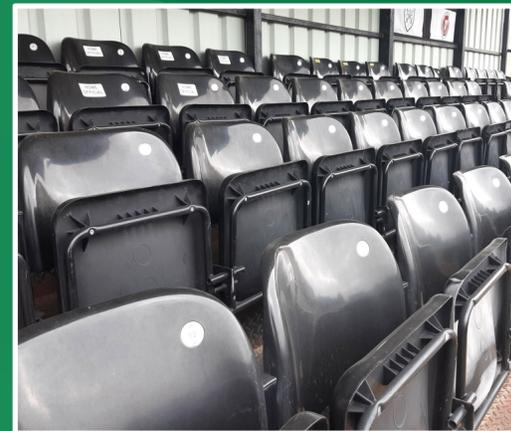
We want to become a more 'circular' football club, by reducing waste, phasing out single-use plastics, buying responsibly, reusing as much as possible and sending zero waste to landfill.

THAT'S WHY WE'RE CIRCULAR FC.



Alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals

02 WE ARE CIRCULAR FC



RE-USED EQUIPMENT

When Brentford FC moved out of Griffin Park, we inherited seats, tables and chairs to use at our stadium.

Our pitchside scoreboard came from Man City and our football kits are passed down through the youth teams.

We also recover waste timber from local projects for building and repairs.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

Throwaway plastics are bad for the environment and in many cases, alternatives are readily available.

We don't stock plastic straws or carrier bags, and we'll be replacing other unnecessary plastics, such as forks and stirrers.

REUSABLE CUPS

No more bin bags full of plastic pint glasses!

From next season, we'll serve drinks in reusable cups. These can then be returned, washed up and used again.

We also sell reusable bamboo cups in the club shop, for hot drinks.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

For any waste that can't be avoided, we want to recycle as much as possible.

We'll be introducing recycling bins, together with clear messaging about what can be recycled.

We'll also work alongside our waste contractors to ensure that none of our waste ends up in landfill.





03 WE ARE NATURE FC

GOAL 03: WE'LL ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY AROUND OUR CLUB

Biodiversity, the variety of life on earth, is being destroyed at an unprecedented rate, and extinction now threatens one million species. We must protect nature, our most precious asset.

Football is embedded within nature and we rely on it for everything; the grass we play on, the water we drink, the air we breathe.

But we don't give back anywhere near as much as we take, and some of our activities as a football club are harmful to nature.

By taking care of the environment around us, looking out for wildlife and avoiding nasty chemicals, we want to become a nature-friendly football club.

THAT'S WHY WE'RE NATURE FC.



Alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals

03 WE ARE NATURE FC

ON THE PITCH

Pesticides, fertilisers and large quantities of water are used to keep football pitches in top condition.

We want to maintain our pitch in a way that is more organic and less harmful to the environment.

We'll also ensure eco-friendly paint is used for line markings.



AROUND THE PITCH

The grass, hedges and trees around our ground can be a haven for all sorts of wildlife.

We're planting wildflowers to attract insects including bees and butterflies, and will manage our site in a way that takes care of nature and enhances habitats.



OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

We sit alongside Brent River Park, one of the largest green spaces in London. The River Brent runs next to our stadium and into the River Thames.

It's home to numerous species including kingfishers, herons and moorhens.

We want to work in partnership with local conservation groups to look after the environment around us.

FOOTBALL FOR NATURE

Football is a powerful force and can play an important role in raising awareness of global biodiversity loss.

We'll lead in supporting football as a force for good for the natural world.