

# Birmingham 2022 Sustainability Commitment



**BIRMINGHAM**  
**2022**  
commonwealth  
games

**December 2019**

# Document Control

## Document Information

<b>Document title:</b>	Sustainability Commitments
<b>Document author:</b>	Sustainability and Legacy Manager
<b>Document reference number:</b>	SUS.001
<b>Date approved by Executive Management Team:</b>	December 2019
<b>Date and outcome of Equality Impact Assessment:</b>	
<b>Date document Issued:</b>	June 2020
<b>Review date, if applicable:</b>	December 2020
<b>Target audience: (e.g. all staff)</b>	All staff and suppliers
<b>Subject area: (e.g. Finance, HR, Legal)</b>	Sustainability

## Version History

<b>Version No</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Date change implemented</b>	<b>Reason for change</b>
0.1	Sustainability Consultant	01/09/2019	First draft
0.2	Sustainability Consultant	08/09/2019	Sustainability hierarchy added
0.3	Sustainability and Legacy Manager	17/09/2019	Sustainability definition inserted
0.4	Sustainability and Legacy Manager	11/11/2019	Changed from policy to commitment

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# 1. Purpose

Sustainability is described in terms of the three inter connected domains of environmental, economic and social. These are core considerations in delivering a Commonwealth Games. This policy outlines the objectives and priorities that will become the enabling framework to deliver a sustainable Games for Birmingham 2022.

# 2. Scope

This policy applies to the whole lifecycle of Birmingham 2022 and the activities of the Organising Committee, from identifying principles, through planning, within event delivery and post Games dissolution activities. Birmingham 2022 encourages all delivery partners, stakeholders and contractors associated with the Birmingham 2022 to observe the terms of this policy.

# 3. Objectives

By aligning itself both with the Commonwealth Games Federations' themes of Humanity, Equality and Destiny and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), Birmingham 2022 is committed to delivering a meaningful sustainable Games. We aim to influence, inspire or change the behaviours of those delivering, working with or attending the Games through making positive and lasting choices regarding the way in which we use the resources required to deliver the Games.

We will identify sustainability opportunities at the earliest occasion in order to optimise the sustainability decisions in terms of materials, performance and costs. Using a sustainability hierarchy, we will have a system which challenges the business requirement and the opportunities to avoid or reduce the material content, identify alternatives and rethink specifications in order to achieve more sustainable outcomes.

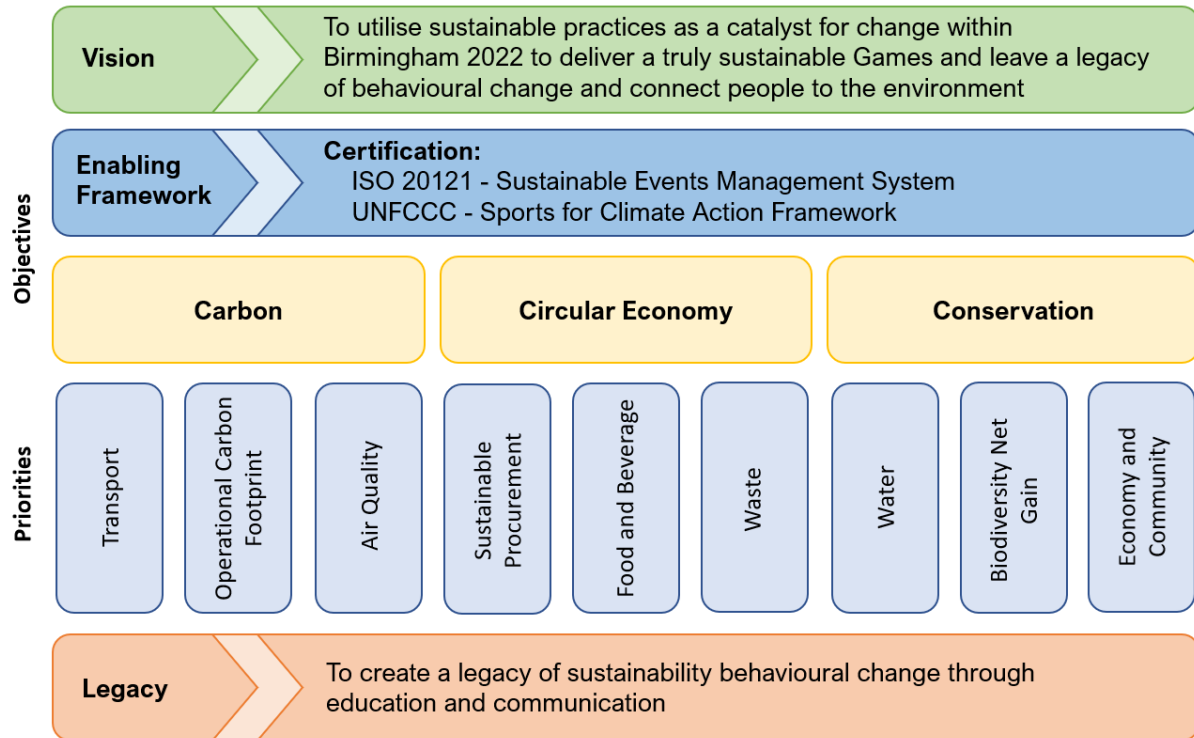
Through the implementation of a Sustainability Management System we will ensure that we as Birmingham 2022 identify the most appropriate solutions that meets the need of the Birmingham 2022, avoiding unnecessary production of materials. This will save costs and reduce the environmental and social impact of the materials that we use in delivering the Games.

Birmingham 2022's key sustainability objectives are:

1. Certification - To achieve ISO 20121 Event Sustainability Management System accreditation and implement a sustainability culture throughout the planning and operations of the Birmingham 2022.
2. Carbon - To develop a carbon management framework that challenges, manages and reduces the carbon requirements and impacts of the Games.
3. Circular Economy - To adopt a Circular Economy approach to the management of the resources we use, to gain maximum value while the resource or service is in use and ensure there is a recovery or regeneration plan for them at the end of their service life.
4. Conservation - To ensure natural habitats and environments are conserved wherever possible. Birmingham 2022 will ensure Net Biodiversity gain is

achieved on capital projects under its remit, whilst working with partner organisations and stakeholders to ensure the same is seen across their venues.

## Birmingham 2022 Sustainability Hierarchy



## 4. Definitions

### 4.1. Sustainability

Sustainability is an ongoing process to ensure environmental, economic and social aspects are considered in all key decisions. By balancing these aspects, we can meet the needs of our Games without compromising the needs of future generations.

### 4.2. ISO 20121

ISO 20121 is a management system standard that has been designed to help organisations in the events industry improve the sustainability of their event related activities, products and services. **Reference** [www.iso20121.org](http://www.iso20121.org)

### 4.3. Circular Economy

A circular economy is an alternative to a traditional linear economy (make, use, dispose) in which we keep resources in use for as long as possible, extract the maximum value from them whilst in use, then recover and regenerate products and materials at the end of each service life. **Reference** <http://www.wrap.org.uk/about-us/about/wrap-and-circular-economy>

### 4.4. Carbon: embodied/emissions

Embodied carbon energy is the sum of all the energy required to produce any goods or services, considered as if that energy was incorporated or 'embodied' in the product itself.

A carbon footprint is historically defined as the total emissions caused by an individual, event, organization, or product, expressed as carbon dioxide equivalent.

## **5. Responsibilities**

Sustainability is central to Birmingham 2022 decisions, procurements and the materials and resources we use. It will be embedded into the planning process in order to maximise the benefits and minimise the sustainable impacts. Multiple Functional Areas, partners and suppliers will contribute to achieving the objectives and priorities within sustainability.

### **5.1. Sustainability Manager**

The Sustainability Manager will be responsible for developing the policies for sustainability, integrating sustainability into Birmingham 2022 and Functional Areas, identifying risks and opportunities that arise throughout the planning phases and delivering training to Birmingham 2022 staff, contractors and volunteers.

## **6. Sustainability Commitments**

Birmingham 2022 and delivery partners have prioritised sustainability themes, which link back to the core objectives to demonstrate leadership through embedding sustainability within our delivery. Within these themes Birmingham 2022 will monitor performance, set benchmarks and report on our sustainability targets.

### **6.1. Transport**

By working alongside partners such as TfWM and stakeholders such as the University of Birmingham, we will strive to minimise the embodied carbon and emissions attributed to Birmingham 2022 through identifying opportunities to reduce our requirements and provide alternative solutions.

### **6.2. Operational Carbon**

Birmingham 2022 will monitor all carbon associated with the day to day operations of the Games. Information will be taken from previous sporting events and Games to aim to have an overall reduced carbon footprint. This will also inform any carbon offsetting schemes which may be undertaken post Games.

### **6.3. Air Quality**

Working alongside TfWM and other stakeholders to support local and national air quality objectives by using efficient transport and energy resources across Birmingham 2022 activities and venues that minimise the risk of impacts to health.

### **6.4. Sustainable Procurement**

Birmingham 2022's internal procurement team will work to encouraging the use of local supply chains, which will intern have a positive effect on local employment and economic growth. In addition to this, the Circular Economy approach will be undertaken to seek to use local resources and leave a positive legacy with our activities.

### **6.5. Food and Beverages**

Birmingham 2022 will employ a Catering, Cleaning and Waste Team, who will take overall responsibility for everything that falls under this remit. An aspiration for a Birmingham 2022 food charter will promote locally sourced produced and more sustainable options to all.

## **6.6. Waste (Resources)**

By working with the supply chain via our procurement activities, Birmingham 2022 will prioritise waste avoidance and reduction through embedding a Circular Economy principle. This will identify waste impacts and allow development of management plans that remove, reduce, reuse, recycle and redistribute responsibly.

## **6.7. Water**

Being water wise, Birmingham 2022 will work with stakeholders to ensure the efficient supply of clean water is available at all venues throughout the course of the Games. By working with Games partners, promotion of sustainable water consumption will be undertaken to ensure facilities can also be used post Games.

## **6.8. Biodiversity Net Gain**

Being aware of our operational footprint, Birmingham 2022 will work with capital build contractors to ensure minimal biodiversity impact during Games based activities and will work alongside Local Authorities to promote health and wellbeing via active travel and physical activities.

## **6.9. Economy and Community**

To deliver a truly sustainable Games, the local Economy and Community will be at the forefront. Local stakeholder engagement will take place, in addition to sourcing local volunteers, undertake schools' programmes and the development of the Community Brand through the LAB (Legacy and Benefits) Committee.

## **7. Ongoing Review**

In accordance with ISO 20121, these objectives and key priorities will be reviewed annually and where appropriate, targets will be set and reported.

## **8. References**

ISO 20121 - [www.iso20121.org](http://www.iso20121.org)

WRAP - <http://www.wrap.org.uk/about-us/about/wrap-and-circular-economy>