SSE’s vision, purpose and strategy

Our vision
Be a leading energy company in a low carbon world.

Our purpose
Provide energy needed today while building a better world of energy for tomorrow.

Our strategy
Create value for shareholders and society from developing, operating and owning energy and related infrastructure in a sustainable way.
Our goals are aligned to the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
They are fundamental objectives in realising our vision of being a leading energy provider in a low carbon world.

SSE’s 2030 Goals

Cut our carbon intensity by 60%
Reduce the carbon intensity of electricity generated by 60% by 2030, compared to 2018 levels, to around 120gCO₂/kWh.

Treble renewable energy output
Develop and build by 2030 enough renewable energy to treble renewable output to 30TWh a year.

Help accommodate 10m electric vehicles
Build electricity network flexibility and infrastructure that helps accommodate 10 million electric vehicles in GB by 2030.

Champion Fair Tax and a real Living Wage
Be the leading company in the UK and Ireland championing Fair Tax and a real Living Wage.
In addition to climate action, which is linked to the Group strategy, there are three other SDGs that are material to the business in terms of the environment.

These SDGs combined have influenced and informed our environment strategy, across three priority areas.

Our environmental priorities are the most material areas of environmental impact for our activities, and good performance in them is key to ensure we remain a successful business.

Our environmental strategy which is underpinned by an ethos of compliance, provides a pathway to engage our internal and external stakeholders by holding us accountable for our performance with targets and indicators measuring our success.
Providing solutions to the climate challenge by owning, developing and operating low carbon energy infrastructure and related services; reducing carbon emissions; whilst adapting to the impact of climate change.

SSE’s Group goals for climate action are:

- Reduce carbon intensity from electricity generation by 60% by 2030 based on 2018 levels
- Achieve EV100 commitment of 100% of vehicles up to 3.5t and 50% of vehicles between 3.5t and 7.5t to be electric by 2030
- Reduce non-generation greenhouse gas emissions
- Grow low carbon infrastructure development
- Adapt to climate change.
Promoting resource efficiency, environmental quality and managing waste in a sustainable way.

SSE’s Group goals for responsible consumption and production are:

- Substantially reduce waste by delivering a waste minimisation strategy, developing a baseline by the end of 2020 and set targets in 2021 onwards
- Use resources sustainably by assessing and reducing the life cycle impacts in decision making.
Supporting the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the world's land and water resources; and promoting the integration of amenity, ecosystem and biodiversity improvement into business activities.

**SSE’s Group goals for natural environment are:**

- Develop a target that positively contributes to the UN and Scottish Government Biodiversity strategies: overall ‘No Net Loss’ on new infrastructure projects gaining consent in 2020 onwards for Transmission and 2023 for Renewables and achieving ‘Net Gain’ on projects gaining consent in 2025 onwards for Transmission and Renewables.

- Develop broader commitments based on ISO 14001.
Our environment strategy priority areas and Group wide goals provide guidance for our seven businesses to use when undertaking their daily activities.

As each of our businesses has different interactions and impacts on the environment, they all have their own detailed environment plan and goals specific to their activities, which has been finalised by their own respective business unit SHE or Executive Committee.

This means their efforts are focused on the areas in which their most material environment risks and opportunities arise, and they have greatest potential to influence.

By having focused business unit environment plans, we have a greater chance of achieving our Group wide environment goals.
SSE has a set of reports that it publishes annually that show progress against its environment priorities and goals. One of those reports is our Biodiversity Report which focuses on a range of initiatives across the business that aim to protect, restore and enhance biodiversity in the areas it operates. From creating suitable habitats at operational sites, supporting salmon on their impressive migrations along Scotland’s rivers, to contributing to vital research- SSE’s businesses have been playing their part in working sustainably with local partners to improve biodiversity across the UK and Ireland.

Our Sustainability Report 2020 will set out the steps SSE is taking to achieve the environment priorities and goals set out in the Group environment strategy, with specific case studies on climate action, resource consumption and production and the natural environment.

...reports available soon
Want to know more?

UN Sustainable Development Goals
2019 Sustainability report