

Deloitte Guernsey – Green Committee

Background - our green ambitions

Deloitte Guernsey is an office of around 80 people and is a branch of Deloitte's UK firm. In 2020, we launched an initiative to create a Green Committee. The purpose behind this committee was two-fold – to improve our green footprint through the use of ESI Monitor's system and to engage the staff on a level where everyone felt included and able to make a difference.

The ESI Monitor accreditation is a locally-developed methodology and will assist us in understanding our organisation's impact on the environment through various metrics in waste, energy, water, travel, procurement, and supply chains. It will assist us to recognise areas where we may be able to reduce our carbon footprint and provides regular bench marking data to assess our carbon footprint.

We also wanted to be aligned with the wider green objectives within Deloitte. Deloitte globally has committed to net-zero emissions by 2030 and to operate "green" as a business which means aligning our internal policies and actions across our organisation to achieve our climate ambitions collectively.

So how are we doing this?

This will be achieved in various ways:

- Reducing business travel, sourcing renewable electricity, electrifying their car fleet, requiring two-thirds of our global suppliers to set carbon reduction targets and investing in offsets for our residual emissions.
- Embedding consistent sustainability standards in policies and practices across our firm by designating a senior leader to be responsible and accountable for climate in each country, prioritising discussion of climate change on executive and board agendas and embedding sustainability in all operational processes and decisions.
- Engaging our people to support the cause and get involved.



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Why am I involved?

I have personally been involved with the Green Committee from the start as it is a subject that I am extremely passionate about and hope that I can make a small difference in the huge task ahead. Addressing climate change is a global problem and the quicker we are to respond to the challenge at hand the more hope we have of making an impact.

Growing up in South Africa, I was constantly surrounded with wildlife and spent many a holiday in the wilderness or at the seaside. It is heart breaking to see how mankind has taken so much of the earth for themselves without considering the impact on the environment.

It is a bleak future ahead with many species becoming extinct and the landscape of the earth changing forever. With a young child at home I am hoping that in some small way I can make a difference that will make the earth a better place and not the barren landscape imagined if we carry on in the same manner.

What have I done?

I have helped to organise several initiatives as part of the Green Committee over the last few months such as a travel challenge, lunch and learn activities, introduction of additional recycling bins and a box for Bags-for-Life to be used and replaced by staff. We recently provided staff with new reusable coffee to celebrate World Earth Day and encouraged staff to use these when collecting their coffee from the local coffee shop.

I have also circulated several ideas and suggestions on ways to reduce our personal impact on the environment on topics such as:

- Meat-free Monday recipes
- How to have a green Christmas,
- 10 green New Year's resolutions
- 10 ways to reduce your carbon footprint during lockdown.

The Travel Challenge

Our travel challenge was held over a week in summer. We asked staff to consider the way in which they get to work and whether small changes could reduce their carbon footprint. As everyone likes a bit of competition this was judged on a departmental basis with an average carbon footprint reduction being calculated based on method

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of travel before and during the challenge. All staff members were issued with a preloaded bus card and encouraged to speak to other members of staff if car-pooling could be possible.

What went well?

This challenge was well received by staff who enjoyed the challenge of considering their own carbon footprint as well as ways to improve it. For many it was an actual realisation of unnecessary use of a car when a bus ride could instead be caught. Also, we were able to reduce our office's carbon footprint and help people to think about transport.

Lessons learned

One point we had not taken into account was that a large number of our staff walk to work and therefore the challenge did not have as much of an impact for these individuals.

We have several upcoming initiatives in the pipeline including a guest speaker from Guernsey's Waste Prevention and Recycling Centre which will include a **virtual tour** of Guernsey's very own **Waste Transfer Station** and the **Household Waste and Recycling Centre**.

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