



## **Sustainability RetailTalk**

# **How Abel & Cole became a triple bottom line business**

**Ben Reardon – Chief Operating Officer**

**Stefanie Sahmel – Head of Sustainability**

**Ed Ayton – Sustainable Sourcing Manager**

# Introducing Abel & Cole



Your weekly shop all in one place



Organic and sustainably wild food



Discover farm-fresh, seasonal produce



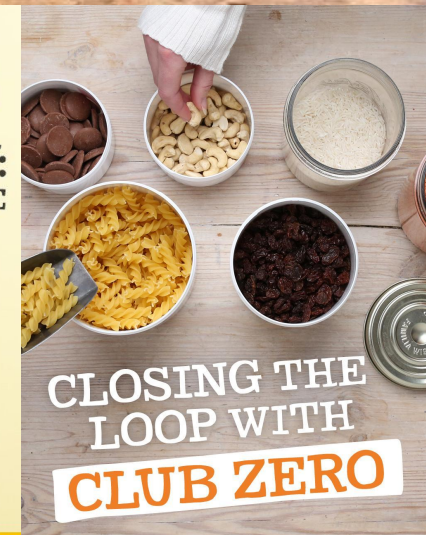
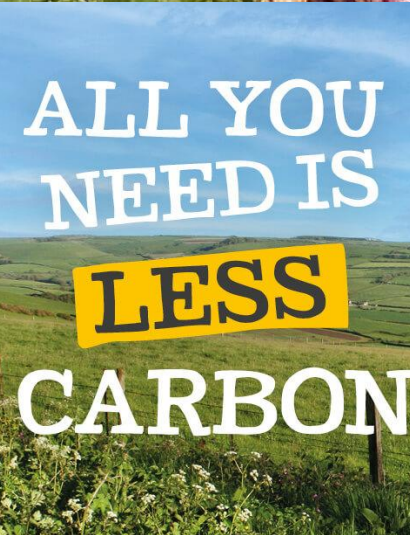
Support organic farming and UK producers



Less packaging and lower food miles



Enjoy carbon-neutral home deliveries

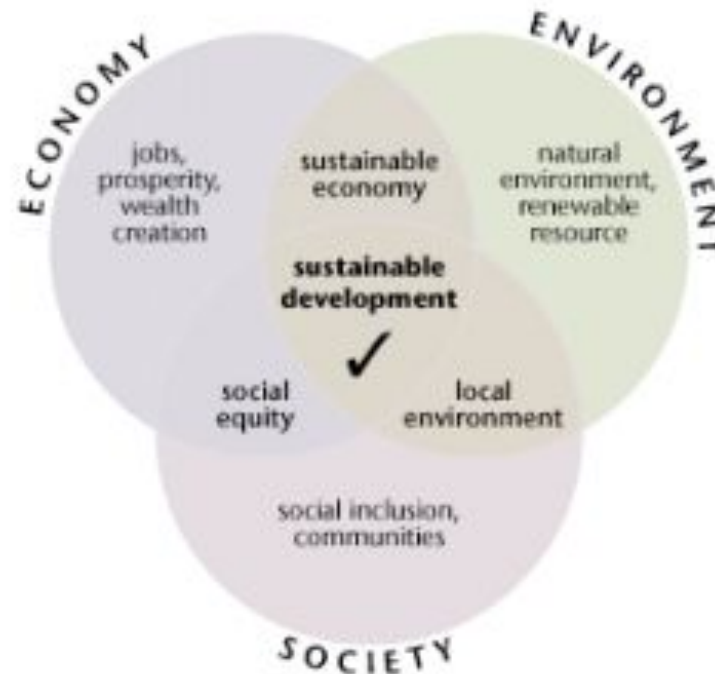


## About us

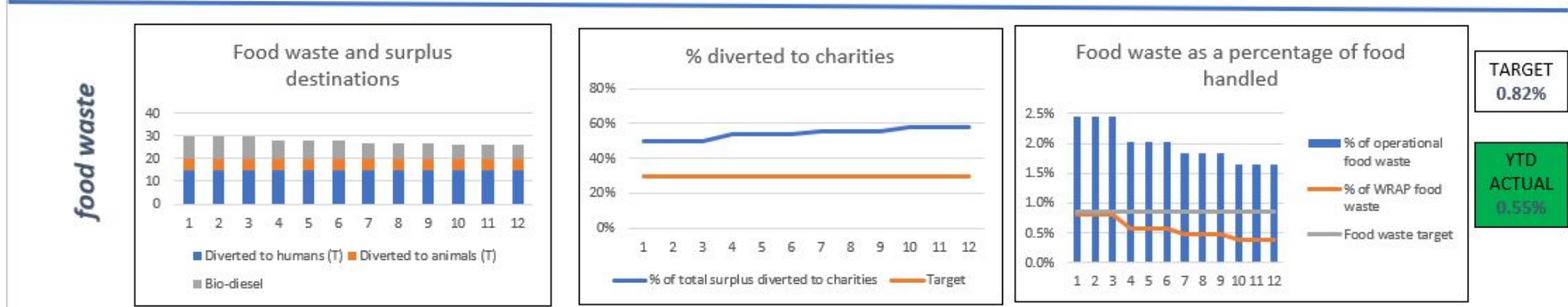
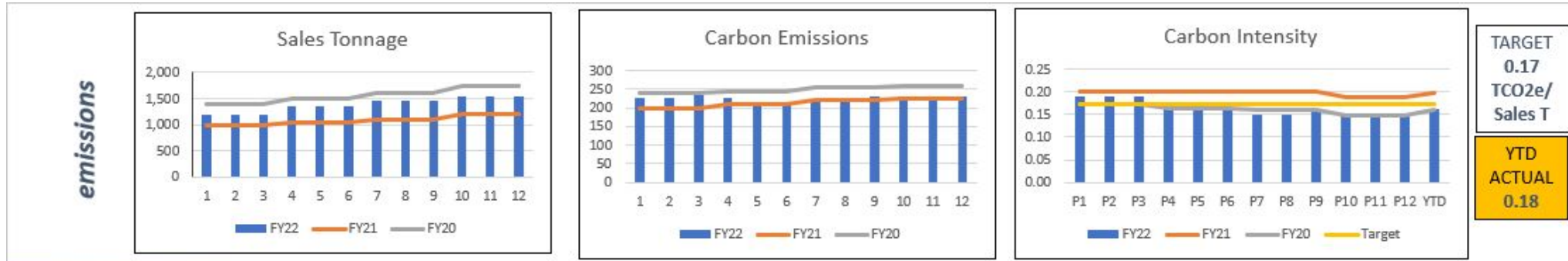
Since 1988, we've believed that food has the power to save the world. We're on a mission to make shopping sustainably simple, putting people and our planet first every step of the way.

# United Nation's Brundtland Report, 1987

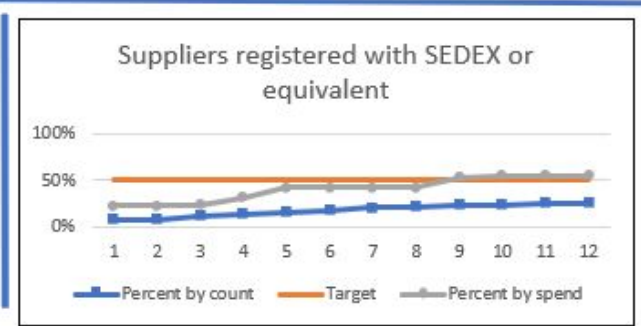
*Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present (generation) without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own*



# KPI Scorecard



Cash donated	£xx,xxx
Fundraising	£xx,xxx
Volunteer days	
FY23 Target	YTD
xxx	xxx



Traceability Audit success rate	87%
Traceability compliance	100%

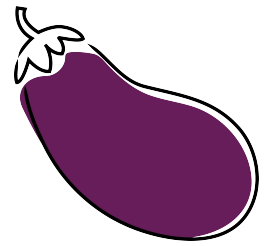
**plastics - YTD**

Reduce single use plastic	Yes
Increase recycled content	+7T
Increase recyclability/reusability	Yes
Packaging audit	In progress

community

ethical sourcing & traceability

plastics - YTD





# **Carbon Targets & B Corp**

# The Team



**Hugo Lynch**  
Sustainability  
Project Manager



**Ed Ayton**  
Sustainable  
Sourcing Manager



**Ania Gancarz**  
Food Guardian

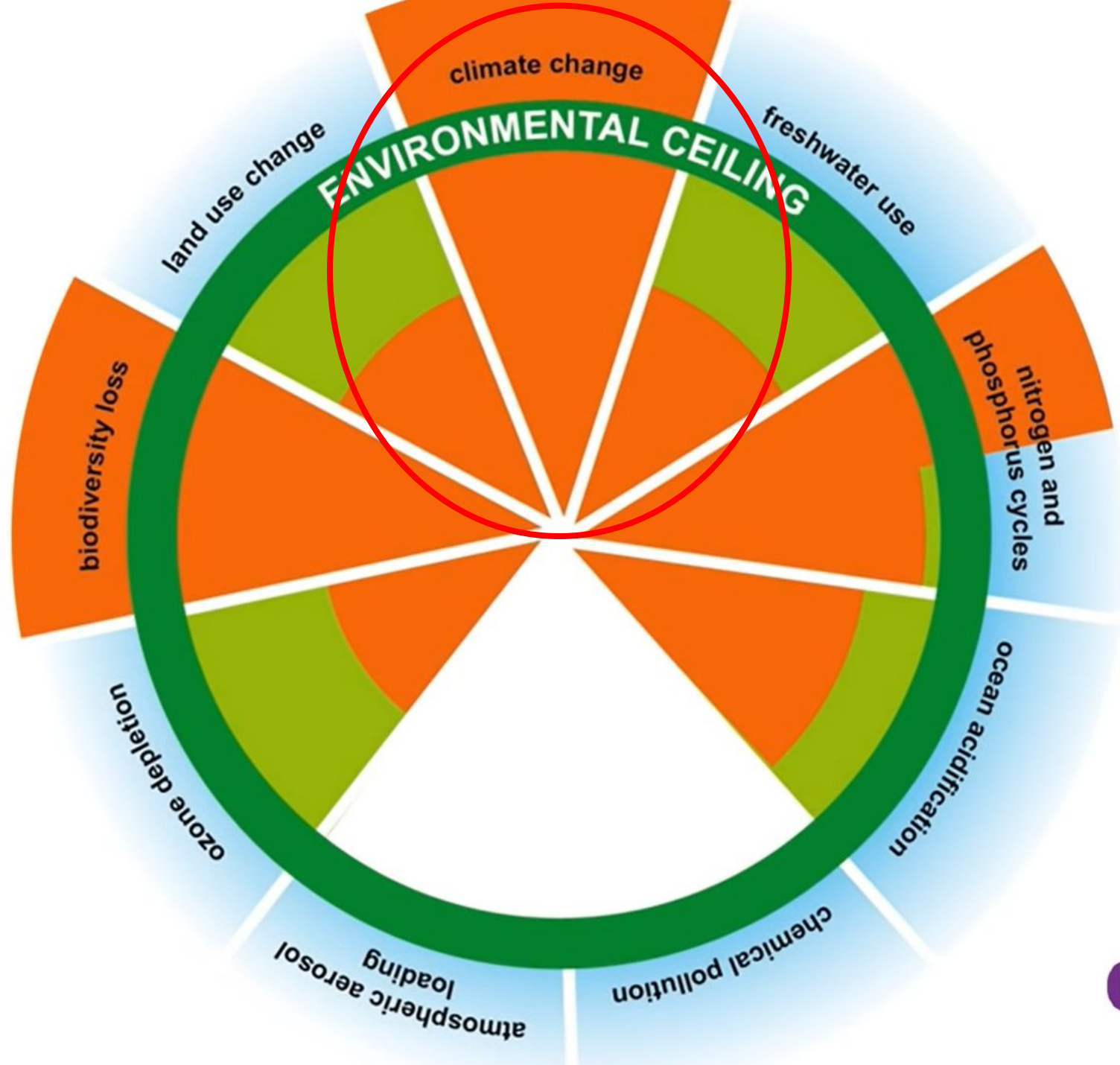


**Stef Sahmel**  
Head of Sustainability

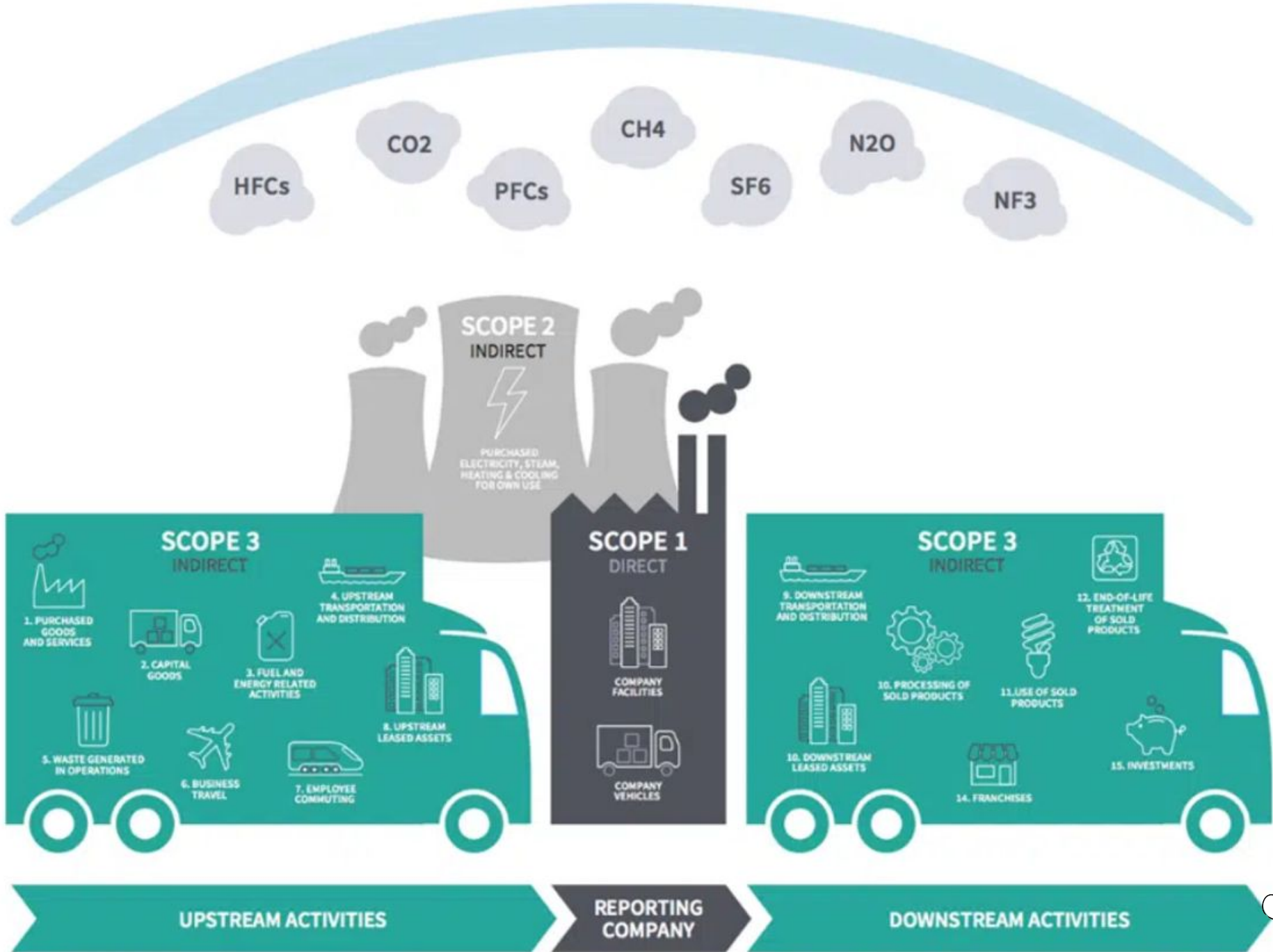


# NINE PLANETARY BOUNDARIES

SOURCE  
ROCKSTRÖM ET AL 2009



# What makes up a Carbon Footprint?

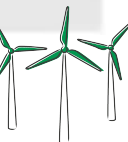




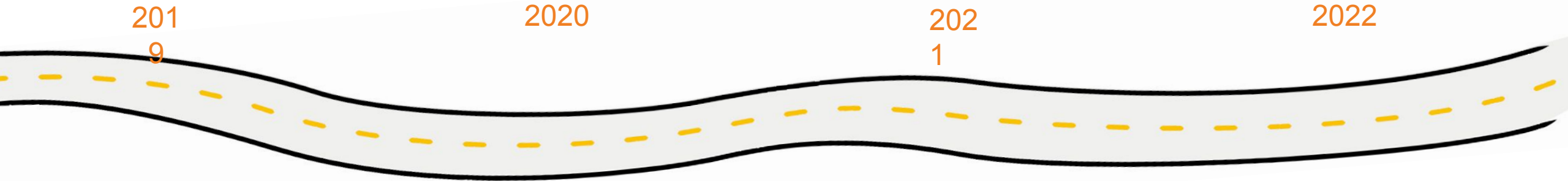
# What is Net Zero vs Carbon Neutral?

- A 'carbon-neutral' business has committed to **not increasing** its emissions and has reduced, or balanced, these through offsetting.
- A 'net-zero' business has made changes **to reduce** its carbon emissions to the **lowest possible amount**.

	Carbon neutral	Net zero carbon – best practice
Defined by	PAS 2060 standard	Standard developing
Measurement: Scope 1 and 2	Required	Required
Measurement: Scope 3	Not required	Required
Carbon reduction target: Scope 1 and 2	Reduction plan required	Zero (Reduce as close to zero as possible)
Carbon reduction target: Scope 3	Not required	Reduce as close to zero as possible
Offsetting/GHGR	Buy offsets equivalent to total carbon footprint	Residual (Scope 3) emissions compensated by GHG removals



# What have we been doing?



2019

2020

2021

2022

Dedicated Sustainability Team

Carbon Footprint Measured

Launch of Responsible Supplier Program

Launch of 'Club Zero'

Switch to renewable energy

Eco Labelling Trial (Mondra)

- Introduction of Carbon budget  
- SBTi targets submitted

Carbon Neutral, offsetting 1-3

HVO Fuel Introduced

Sub-51

Plastic Pick Up

Eco Labelling Pilot (Mondra)

SBTi targets validated



# So ... what are our SBTi targets?

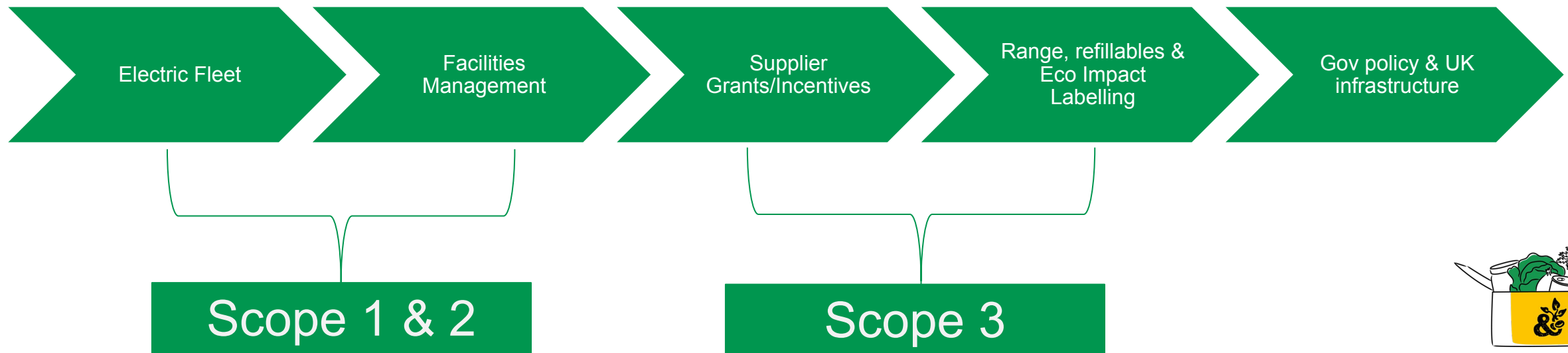
Setting our Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)  
Targets



This year we've made a commitment to hit net zero by 2040.  
By 2030 we have pledged to:

- 50% reduction in Scope 1 & 2 in absolute figures
- 53% reduction in scope 3 carbon intensity

How will we get there?

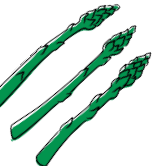


**WE'RE A**

**Certified**



**Corporation**



# What are B Corp and B Lab?

**B Lab is the non-profit network  transforming the global economy  to benefit all people,  communities  and the planet. **



# 1. The Business Impact Assessment (BIA)

## Overall B Impact Score

Based on the B Impact assessment, Abel & Cole earned an overall score of 103.5. The median score for ordinary businesses who complete the assessment is currently 50.9.



- 103.5 Overall B Impact Score
- 80 Qualifies for B Corp Certification
- 50.9 Median Score for Ordinary Businesses

Governance

Workers

Community

Environment

Customers

### Governance 14.6

Governance evaluates a company's overall mission, engagement around its social/environmental impact, ethics, and transparency. This section also evaluates the ability of a company to protect their mission and formally consider stakeholders in decision making through their corporate structure (e.g. benefit corporation) or corporate governing documents.

Mission & Engagement 2.2

Ethics & Transparency 4.9

+ Mission Locked 7.5

**What is this?** A company with an Impact Business Model is intentionally designed to create a specific positive outcome for one of its stakeholders - such as workers, community, environment, or customers.

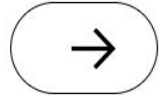


# 2. The Community

'good

Let's use business as a force for good

Let's use







## Want to meet the B Corp Community?

The UK B Corp community is growing faster than ever. There are now over 1,300 B Corps in the UK, across 58 industries with over 59,000 employees. Find B Corps you can buy from, work for, do business with and invest in.

Visit the B Corp directory →



### 3. The Legal Requirement

In addition to measuring and managing  your impact through the  B Impact Assessment, B Corps  are also required to make a legal  change in order to complete certification.





# How did we do?

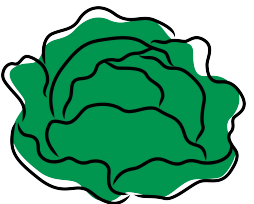
We've successfully increased  
our B Impact score

From 88.3 in 2018  
Rated 'Great'

To 103.5 in 2021  
Rated 'Outstanding'

A fantastic 17.08%  
improvement

We couldn't have done it without the support  
of our green community



**Sustainable Sourcing  
&  
Ethical Supply Chains**

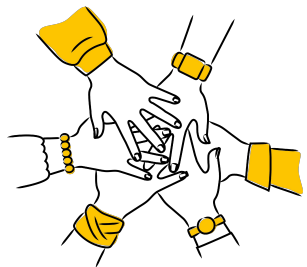
# Sustainable Sourcing

How – Collaboration. The transaction has to work for everyone.

Who – Motivations. Purpose.

Why – Above and beyond. Impact. Values.

What – Organic, biodynamic, Fair for Life, POIG.



# Sustainable Sourcing

## Policies:

No air-freight

No GM

Palm oil must be RSPO/equ. Segregated or higher

Seafood must be MCS 1-3

Animal welfare

## Collaborations:

Refillable options

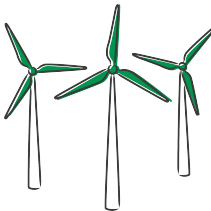
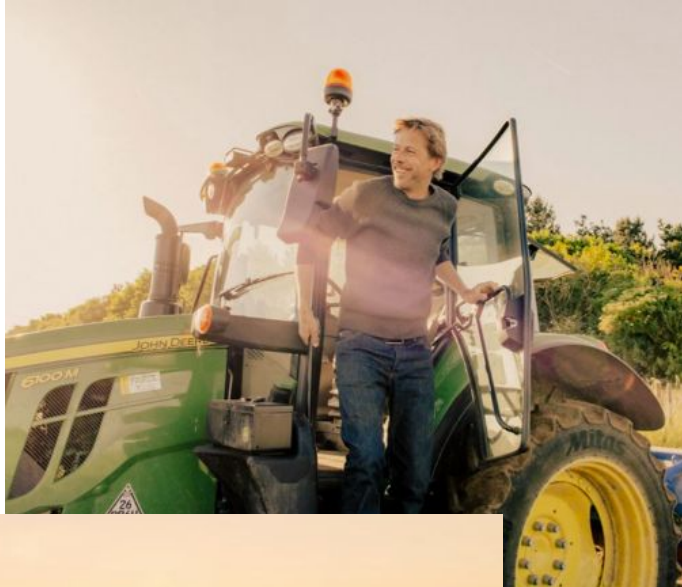
Phasing out compostables

Eradicating Modern Slavery

Reducing Scope 3 emissions



# Sustainable Sourcing



**Thank you for your time!**

