Resource efficiency

Reducing waste by building better

We have an environmental and fiscal responsibility to manage our resources effectively and efficiently. In all areas of the company, we aim to minimise waste (measured in tonnes per home built) and, where waste is unavoidable, reuse and recycle as much as possible. Our Better with Bellway strategy will help us to achieve or surpass our waste reduction goals in the years to come.

Our ongoing and future initiatives

Construction Waste Reduction Target

Our headline target under the Resource Efficiency business priority is a 20% reduction in construction waste per completed unit, aiming to hit a Group average of 7.1 tonnes by 2025. We are pleased to report that FY24 saw a final figure of 7.06 tonnes per unit, hitting our target 12 months early. We can attribute this improvement in performance to an ongoing education campaign, engagement with divisional site teams, the introduction of a waste based divisional bonus scheme, and the continued roll-out of waste broker Ecofficiency across the Group.

Reducing and reusing

We are undertaking work with our supply chain partners to reduce packaging engaged with key suppliers to implement alternatives to plastic for transit packaging. We have also asked suppliers to ensure that there is at least a 25% reduction in the use of single-use plastic packaging.

Informing and educating

As part of our standard operating procedure, we monitor and report all site waste. We will also be publishing a best practice guide aimed at reducing the volume of waste we generate. This will include site case studies, workshops, and training for our colleagues.

Collaborating to decrease waste

Our partnership with Community Wood Recycling, a network of social enterprises that collects and reuses waste wood, rescued 873 tonnes of wood from the waste stream in 2021.

Transitioning towards electric

We are currently reviewing our company car allowance with a view to having 40% either electric or hybrid by 2025. In FY24, over 70% of cars leased through our salary sacrifice scheme were 'zero emission' electric vehicles.

Our key targets for the future

- Build a third of our homes in timber frame by FY30.
- Work with divisions to promote a site-based league table tracking waste per completed unit on a monthly basis, recommending an incentive scheme for best performance each month.
- Identify a 'waste champion' in each division working in a construction role.
- Increase awareness of the link between lost and damaged items and overall waste figures.

Headline target

Reduce waste per completed unit by 20% by July 2025

Targets	Progress to date
 Reduce waste per completed unit by 20% by July 2025 (achieving 7.1 tonnes of waste per completed unit). 	• FY24 performance is at 7.1 tonnes (FY23 – 8.6 tonnes).
Achieve landfill diversion rate above 99% year-on-year.	• FY24 performance at 99.2% (FY23 - 99.5%).
• Reduce construction site water usage (measured in m ³ of water per 1000 m ² of completed homes) against a base year of FY21 by July 2025.	 FY24 saw construction water usage increased by 16.7% to 270.3 m³/1000 m² against the prior year 231.7m³/1000 m², but was lower against the FY21 baseline of 301.8 m³/1000 m² of completed homes.
• 20% of homes commenced by July 2024 to be in timber frame.	 In FY24 12.2% of plots were completed in timber frame (2023 – 11.4%). This target has been extended to FY30.
 Undertake three plot studies on waste generation and identify opportunities to reduce in FY24. 	 2024 Graduate business project saw three plot studies in North London, Essex and North West Divisions.
• Develop longer-term action plan to reduce waste at all stages of our developments, full life cycle to include earthworks, demolition materials, embodied waste in materials we buy, packaging waste and construction waste on-site by July 2026.	 2024 Graduate business project reviewed Green Construction Board's Zero Avoidable Waste Roadmap to select most relevant actions for long-term action plan.

Headline Target